



**Spotlight:**  
**Kentucky Firefighters Help with Alaska Wildfires**  
*Crew heads west to fight fires*

Less than 24 hours after receiving a request for firefighter support, 21 Kentucky Division of Forestry (KDF) firefighters were on their way to Alaska.

The 16 full-time and five seasonal KDF firefighters left from Knoxville, Tennessee, earlier this week and headed to Alaska, where they will be assigned to a fire. There are currently seven large fires burning in Alaska. KDF firefighters volunteer for this duty, take leave from their regular duties and join the United States Forest Service for their 14-day assignment.



KDF received the request through the Kentucky Interagency Coordination Center of the Daniel Boone National Forest, which coordinates the mobilization of federal and state resources to incident needs throughout the United States. KDF firefighters will join with federal personnel from the Daniel Boone National

Forest, Land Between The Lakes National Recreation Area, Great Onyx Job Corps and Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area to form two crews.

Although wildfires have not posed a problem for Kentucky this summer, forestry officials want to remind private landowners, public land managers and homeowners to help prevent wildland fires.

To find out how you can prevent a wildfire from striking your home, visit the Kentucky Division of Forestry website at <http://forestry.ky.gov/>. For more information about national wildfires, visit <http://www.nifc.gov>.

**New Hotline Helps Kinship Relatives Caring for Children**

*Caregivers can get answers, support from toll-free phone line*

Today families are blended in all sorts of ways with grandparents, aunts, uncles or others caring for children. That's the reason behind the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) launching a Kinship Support Hotline.

**"We developed this hotline to support the many families who have opened their hearts and their homes to relative children."**  
 — Teresa James

The hotline provides kinship relatives the chance to address program issues, talk about problems or ask questions. Local office staff will answer hotline calls.

The Kinship Support Hotline is 877-565-5608.

Kinship care -- the care of children by relatives or close family friends -- is coordinated by the CHFS Department for Community Based Services, the state's primary social services agency that has offices in all 120 counties.

DCBS Commissioner Teresa James said the hotline will provide a direct link to services for relative caregivers.

"We developed this hotline to support the many families who have opened their hearts and their homes to relative children," she said. "Our goal is to help relative caregivers get the services they need to keep these children with their families and prevent moves to out of home care. We are committed to helping these families on their journey."

When children cannot stay in their home because of abuse, neglect or dependency issues, kinship care can be an alternative to out of home care and can often help ease the trauma of separating from birth parents by providing a safe, nurturing environment with familiar caregivers.

Terry Brooks, executive director of Kentucky Youth Advocates, said that the hotline shows DCBS' strengthening support of families.



"DCBS' new Kinship Support Hotline gives grandparents, aunts, uncles and other relatives an important resource that will ultimately benefit the relative children they care for," he said. "Kinship care is vital as we ensure that every Kentucky kid has a family, and this new tool provides support for relatives who are parenting again."

The hotline is managed by DCBS central office staff in Frankfort, with liaisons in each of the state's nine DCBS regions. Relatives who have a DCBS protection and permanency worker actively involved with the child placed in their home will continue to receive assistance through the active worker.

The hotline is staffed 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Caregiving relatives can also email [DCBSChildProtection@ky.gov](mailto:DCBSChildProtection@ky.gov) for information, resources or support for their families.

## Kentucky Kingdom & Hurricane Bay to be Featured on the Travel Channel

Recognized as a top waterpark

A Travel Channel crew shot footage of Kentucky Kingdom's Hurricane Bay last Labor Day weekend and it will air this Sunday, June 28 at 8 p.m. as part of the channel's Xtreme Waterparks show.



The episode premiering this Sunday is called "Getting Wet in New Zealand," but don't let the title fool you! Kentucky Kingdom – and particularly Hurricane Bay water park - will feature prominently as the "newest, tallest body slide on the planet" (Kentucky's own Deep Water Dive!).



According to Victoria Strange, assistant to Kentucky Kingdom president, the Travel Channel crew who filmed this episode deemed Hurricane Bay the best water park they'd visited all year.

[Click here](#) for a brief preview of the Kentucky Kingdom segment.

And in case you missed it, the Deep Water Dive body slide was also recently named by [USA Today](#) to its list of the top ten most thrilling theme park rides in the country! Kentucky Kingdom was the only theme park in the region named to this list and shares the number 10 spot with Disney's Summit Plummet body slide.

### REMINDER:

#### Fiscal Year End and Purchases

You are reminded that fiscal year 2015 ends on June 30, 2015 and various deadlines/requirements must be met for purchases. REMEMBER --- goods must be received by Tuesday, June 30 in order to be paid with FY15 funds.

[Click here](#) for more information and other important notes.

## News from Office of Equal Employment & Contract Compliance Annual Title VI Notice

The Finance and Administration Cabinet recognizes its responsibility to abide by and enforce the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 13166 (Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency), and the Kentucky Civil Rights Act (KRS 344.015).

The Cabinet affords all individuals the opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs and services receiving federal financial assistance (Note: examples of federal financial assistance include monetary grants, software grants, contracts and loans). Further, the Cabinet, its attached agencies and their sub-recipients, and all parties involved shall comply.

For additional information about [Title VI](#), please refer to the Cabinet's procedure on the intranet.

### Celebrate the 4th of July at a Kentucky State Park

Events planned at parks throughout the state

Get your red, white and blue on at Kentucky State Parks this July! Enjoy Fourth of July activities at a Kentucky State Park this year. Events include fireworks displays, picnics, entertainment and more.

Some parks are having weekend events, while others are hosting events earlier in the week. Kentucky State Parks have lodges, cottages, restaurants, campgrounds, historic sites, marinas, golf courses, hiking trails, fishing and many more recreational activities.

To make lodging or camping reservations or to learn more about Kentucky State Parks and events, visit [www.parks.ky.gov](http://www.parks.ky.gov)

Barren River Lake State Resort Park, Lucas  
Fireworks on July 4

Buckhorn Lake State Resort Park, Buckhorn  
Celebrate Independence Day Weekend, July 3-5

Cumberland Falls State Resort Park, Corbin  
Laser Light Show July 3

Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, Prestonsburg  
Fourth of July Weekend, July 3-5

Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park, Gilbertsville  
July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration

Lake Barkley State Resort Park, Cadiz  
3<sup>rd</sup> of July Celebration

Lake Cumberland State Resort Park, Jamestown  
Independence Day Celebration July 3-5

Levi Jackson State Park, London  
Holiday Celebration July 3-4

Paintsville Lake State Park, Paintsville  
Holiday Weekend Fun

Pennyrile Forest State Resort Park, Dawson Springs  
Independence Day Celebration July 4-5

Rough River Dam State Resort Park, Falls of Rough  
Rumble over Rough River, July 4

Taylorsville Lake State Park, Taylorsville  
July 3<sup>rd</sup> Fireworks

