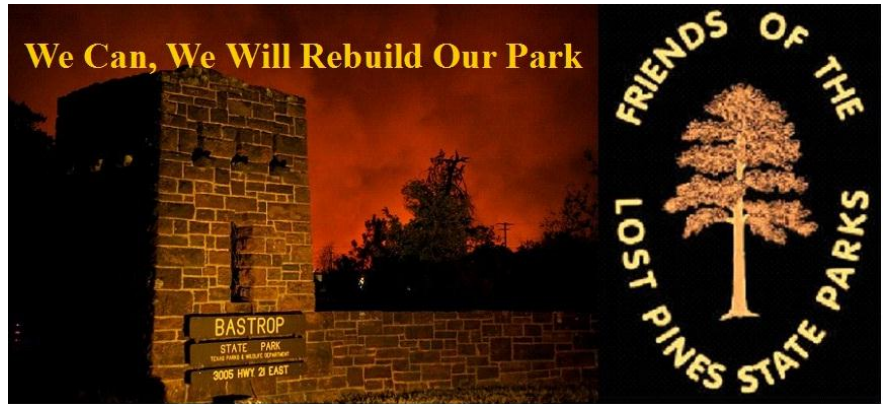


**We Can, We Will Rebuild Our Park**



# *The Pines Post*

## *January, 2012*

*The Next Meeting of the Friends of the Lost Pines will be January 19, at 7PM at Bastrop State Park's Barracks*



*Help turn our tree green again!*

National Historic Landmark

Things are really starting to move at Bastrop State Park and the recovery effort now. The Friends of the Lost Pines has been able to raise \$65,000.00 plus for our restoration project and more is coming in all the time. 100% of these donations go to the restoration of the Park.

To volunteer or donate, go to our website,

[www.friendsoflostpines.org](http://www.friendsoflostpines.org)

Or our Facebook page! Watch both of these for the latest news about our Parks. We can't do it without you.

*Friends of the Lost Pines State Parks*

Hello Friends,

Well it is Christmas in Bastrop and all through the house, not a creature is stirring, except at Bastrop State Park. Thanks to the staff and volunteers at Bastrop State Park, we have several visitors stirring about. We have had a great response to our soft opening on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. We have been accommodating campers back into Piney Hill and Deer Run campgrounds. The Group Barracks are open for business and have been occupied from time to time. Thanks to our AmeriCorps Trail Volunteers, who made quick work out of opening up the trails, most of the interior trails, inside of Park Road 1A, are open for new exploration. The recovery effort is still in full swing. The shearing project has cleared most of the boundary and park roads of hazardous trees. The salvage logging operation is underway and will help rid the park of excess fuel for prescribed fire. Volunteers have been hauling mulch (one bucket at a time) to the Houston Toad Habitat, to help improve the odds of survival after the toad's emergence. Americorps will start building bridges and tackling re-routes on the trail system.

New construction is still underway in the park. TxDot has repaved most of the campgrounds and parking lots, with more to come. The Golf Course Pro Shop is back up and running with new features and ADA accessibility. The cabins are completed on the inside and will be receiving new roof tops early in the new year. The Bathhouse and Refectory will also receive new roof tops in this project. We will be breaking ground for two brand new ICF Restrooms early in the new year also.

Folks have come from near (Bastrop) and far (Canada) to visit the park and to see and experience the devastation and beauty of the fire. I want to encourage you to come see the park for the first time, again and again. Every day, there are more things to see that was not there yesterday. Bastrop State Park has been forever changed and will continue to change, but one thing has not changed.....the spirit and determination of the Staff, Friends and Volunteers.

Here is hoping you and your families had a Merry Christmas and best of luck in the New Year!

Roger Dolle  
Bastrop State Park Site Manger



**Hello Friends!**

**I hope winter finds everyone well. Even though it's our slower season at the parks, we have been keeping busy with projects and events. Our volunteer workdays got off to a great start in December when 55 volunteers helped to spread mulch around Houston toad ponds at Bastrop State Park. Because so many people want to volunteer at the park, we have already filled up all of our volunteer workdays for the winter, scheduled for January 14, January 28 and February 11. Be sure to keep your eyes open for other volunteer opportunities at the park as we will continue to announce them!**

**Katie Raney  
Park Interpreter/Volunteer Coordinator**



*Volunteers in December spread wood chips around the Houston Toad ponds. There will be three more of these projects in the next couple of months. Although these work day slots are filled, check in with Katie about other opportunities in the near future.*

***Remember, this is a long term project and we will need your help!***

# Our First Volunteer Work Day

December 10, 2011



*Volunteer Workers Spread Mulch on the Houston Toad Ponds to stop erosion and give a chance for habitat to come back*



*50 Volunteers worked hard for several hours on a chilly December day to help Bastrop State Park restore habitat for the endangered Houston Toad. As you can see, all ages were welcome and did a great job of spreading mulch and wood chips. The next three sessions in January and February are full up, but there are going to be many more days you can help. Contact Katie to get on the list!*



# Free Fishing Clinics, 2012



**Bill Brooks, our Fishing Clinic Instructor started the new season with a well-attended cold December class. In spite of the cold, we had several students. As usual, the clinics are free to all. Bring your little one out this year!**



**March 10 - The first Saturday of Spring Break in Bastrop at Bastrop State Park**

**March 17 - The last Saturday of Spring Break in Smithville at Buescher SP**

**June 9 - Bastrop State Park**

**June 16 - Buescher State Park July 14  
Bastrop SP**

***For more information, contact  
Bill Brooks: 512-581-0377***

# Bastrop State Park Reopens

Open to the Public for the first time since the Fire



Lost Pines Complex Superintendent Todd McClanahan loads the last "Park Closed" sign up as traffic is allowed in the Park again on a wet and cold December 2, 2011



Except those areas still being cleared and where the chippers are working, Park Road 1A is open to the public. Everyone needs to come out and see how the Park is coming back!

## Friends of the Lost Pines Purchases Greenhouse for the Park



The Friends take delivery of our new Greenhouse for the Park  
A workday will be scheduled soon to assemble it. We will be asking for help when it is scheduled.



*Bastrop Site Manager Roger Dolle shows Lost Pines Board of Directors a storage room at the Swimming Pool at Bastrop as they consider operating a "Snack Room" for the Pool and Camping areas. This is in the planning stages now and more information will be forthcoming as soon as costs are accessed.*



**Help Us Turn our Tree Green Again...**

**100% of our Donations go to the Restoration Project!**