

NATHAN AND OLIVE BOONE HOMESTEAD SHS

Q: What recreational activities and facilities, if any, do you feel are missing and should be added to this park or historic site to enhance the visitor experience?

enhance the visitor experience:							
			More pavilions/picnic areas, 5.08%	Camping	Camping, 5.08%		
		Playground, 5.08%	Garden/rec. agriculture, 3.39%			Bike trails, 1.69%	
New office/visitor center/museum, 16.95%	Hiking/expand trails, 15.25%	Paved roads, 5.08%		Fishing, 1.69%	Dog wal	king,	



Comments/suggestions regarding Nathan and Olive Boone Homestead SHS:

- 1. It's fun and informative to have interactions with people truly knowledgeable about the site's historic significance. There was less to for fun in nature--interpretive trail about original plants and animals encountered by indigenous and European settlers, for example.
- 2. Love them all, keep them open
- 3. I don't know anything about this park or any really. Hoping to get more involved in our parks. I would like to see big plaques with descriptions of what we see, describing what would have been. It's probably a money thing, but our parks and historical sites are not well known.. or maybe it's because of vandalism?
- 4. I visit them frequently and hope to visit this one soon
- **5.** Wi-Fi at state parks to be included in camping fees. I have visited other state parks and this is so helpful when looking for groceries, tourist sites, info about surrounding area, and maps. I love the MO state parks and historic sites.
- **6.** I've been out of the state for 11 years and haven't had the chance to reconnect. I worked for the park system for 25 years.
- 7. Some of the cleanest well managed parks I have camped in.
- 8. I really enjoy them!
- **9.** The State Parks are doing a real good job.
- **10.** I really appreciate that you opened the trails for use even when the homestead is not open

- 11. I would like to see the hiking trails expanded. It seems like they were reduced since 2015 and some trails were converted into fire roads/trails. An expanded visitor center with more displays/artifacts and a film to introduce the story of the Boones. Overall, the park staff do a great job -- they need a larger budget and more of them. Parks like Nathan Boone and Current River State Park are unknown gems of the state park system. They deserve more funding for staffing and needed repairs and improvements.
- **12.** My grandchildren love going to Nathan Boone hot beverage and craft to take home
- **13.** Love them all.
- 14. As a history teacher, I say leave them fairly simple. Dummy clutter them up with attractions. I love being able to visit the Boone homestead and just stand there and hear/see nothing but nature as Nathan and Olive did. I have been dozens of times as an escape from the modern and frivolous world.
- 15. I miss the old barn! I wish it could be recreated. I also wish they still held Homestead Days out there like they did years ago when there would be a blacksmith set up, a few animals, tents, cooking, games for kids, rope making, etc. Anything and everything relating to the time period that could draw more visitors for the day and grow it into a larger festival. I feel like that has dwindled in recent years. Maybe something added to the property closer to the little creek, open field area just to enjoy that space. A table, swing, etc. I probably have a different perspective, Nathan and Olive are my 5th great grandparents, but I love being out there just to enjoy the ancestry and peace and quiet and I would be all for anything that keeps that



alive for years to come so I can continue taking my sons out there to enjoy it as well.

- **16.** We were completing our passport books, a program that should just be ongoing. Ongoing passport stamps
- **17.** Just to take care of them. Once they are gone... gone forever!
- 18. Heard the night program was excellent but I didn't attend; I have some difficulty walking. Thought the programs that were planned at the Boone Park this spring and summer were excellent but the virus stopped most of them. This has been a big improvement in the Boone Park in the last few years. It is being well maintained. The park supervisor is fantastic! Interesting programs draw a crowd but people are staying home right now.
- **19.** I would love to see the passport with stamps return in some form or another.
- **20.** Missouri has the best parks in the country. Keep up the outstanding job.
- 21. Great trails
- **22.** You guys already do lots of cool stuff. Sometimes I kinda wish there were more or different hours. But I know you all do your best.
- **23.** Love them
- **24.** My family has camper. We love to go camping in your parks. It's normally our first choice, but lately we have had to look elsewhere. We find many older campgrounds need some changes for bigger rigs and more amenities like sewer and water. Your parks that have that

- are getting harder and harder to book these days with more people camping. Basically would love to see more modern campsites.
- **25.** I really enjoyed our trip to this site. We homeschooled and it was wonderful to be able to come and discover actually history.
- **26.** The state of Missouri has so many beautiful parks. They need to be promoted more.
- 27. I love that they are free to all visitors
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- **29.** Really enjoy when a park is kept beautiful, freshly mowed, and has some wide open spaces, pastures
- **30.** Would appreciate additional information on lives of Boone slaves during this period. What, if any, individual freedoms did they have; how and where they lived, learned and raised their families on the farm.
- **31.** Keep them open! Let people know where these places are. Maybe do a feature every month in the Missouri Conservationist magazine or something.
- **32.** 100 year centennial passport program. Visited all 88 (at that time) Missouri State Parks and Historic Sites. Spent all summer (2016) doing it and many miles on my car making memories with my Husband and visiting/touring many great images in Missouri. Stayed in a few States Parks along the way. We also try to visit and camp in at least 5 different State Parks every year to earn our Camper award. Missed it



n = 59 (# of respondents)

by one last year (2019) as I had to spend most of my summer (camping time) taking care of my Mother after she fell and broke her hip twice in less than 2 weeks. I stopped in on a Sunday (2016) for only a brief time so I can't for sure say what it needs. But I will like to come back and's visit a little longer. Maybe offer a few camping sites?! I understand the reason and need for making reservations to camp this year, but I wish you would allow some first come- first serve, walk-in camping Sites again at a few campgrounds like it used to be.

33. Lovely day trip! Learned a lot in the facility museum