



**Topic Name: Where you spend time**

**Idea Title: We love the elk and bison prairie!**

Idea Detail: Would it be possible to build a wooden observation tower near the areas where the elk and bison are likely to be seen so we could sit outside to watch for them?

Idea Author: Sandy L

Number of Stars 35

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: We love Hiking the trails and exploring the forest**

Idea Detail: LBL offers great hiking opportunities for the family. We love hiking on the trails, exploring the woods, playing in the creeks, and watching the wildlife.

Idea Author: Christopher T

Number of Stars 31

Number of Comments 0

Address: Woodlands Trce 42055, United States

**Idea Title: We need more information on the hiking/biking/jeep trails**

Idea Detail: We know about the main bike trail, but understand there more in the LBL area. We love to ride our bikes, hike and jeep old log roads when we come, but have trouble location info. on all of the trails/roads available for our use. Could you supply more info. on those to the welcome centers?

Idea Author: Sandy L

Number of Stars 30

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Elk and Bison Prairie**



Idea Detail: Wildlife viewing. Birding. Wildflowers.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Stars 29

Number of Comments 1

Address: KY-453 42211, United States

Comment 1: We buy the 3 pack because we don't always see the Elk. Bison are seen about 60% of the trips and elk about 10%. Wish there was way to increase chance of seeing elk. |  
By Tom S

**Idea Title: Activities: Visiting the Elk & Bison Prairie**

Idea Detail: Whenever we have visitors to the lake, this is one activity that seems to be on everyone's list - even my teenagers enjoy going multiple times a year. We've captured some incredible pictures!

While in the area, we nearly always stop at the Visitors Center when it's open. Haven't made it to the Planetarium shows yet, but we're hoping to catch one in August, along with a Summer Star Party. They're on the calendar!

Idea Author: Kim D

Number of Stars 27

Number of Comments 0

Address: Woodlands Trce 42055, United States

**Idea Title: Activities: Homeplace 1850s Farm**

Idea Detail: We've visited the farm several times in the past three years and each time, it's been interesting and fun enough to justify the visit. However, the number of animals available has been pretty light all visits except for one and that has impacted how interested the younger set is in going back whenever I bring it up.

If there is a way to let folks know on the website or FB what animals will be out that day, it



would definitely increase my crowd's interest in coming to the Farm. If that already exists, please share so we can be there!

Idea Author: Kim D

Number of Stars 27

Number of Comments 1

Address: Bear Creek Rd 37058, United States

Comment 1: Kim, Thanks for your suggestions about Facebook/Website. We are continuing to look for ways to keep the most current information available to help folks plan their visits. At Homeplace each of the animals has a place on the farm and should be viewable each day. The chickens and ducks free range so you never know what part of the farm you'll find them using. Sorry you may not have gotten to see some of the animals- might have been a veterinarian check-up day. | By Darrin S

**Idea Title: Homeplace 1850s Farm**

Idea Detail: Programs and events

Idea Author: John P

Number of Stars 27

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Love the Woodlands Nature Center**

Idea Detail: No ideas to add

Idea Author: Amy L

Number of Stars 25

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Love the hummingbirds. Great to sit on benches and watch for an hour. | By Tom S



**Idea Title: RV Camping**

Idea Detail: Continue to support family oriented camping at Piney.

Idea Author: Peter S

Number of Stars 25

Number of Comments 0

Address: Piney Campground Rd 37058, United States

**Idea Title: Golden Pond Recreation**

Idea Detail: Develop a learning seek and find game in the vicinity of the Observatory that would teach about the solar system and the planets which make it up.

Idea Author: Jim T

Number of Stars 22

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Love this idea! | By Kim D

**Idea Title: Nature Station**

Idea Detail: Visit all the animals and go to the festivals

Idea Author: John P

Number of Stars 19

Number of Comments 0

Address: 42055, United States

**Idea Title: Upgrade the wifi connection at Hillman Ferry Campground.**

Idea Detail: Personally, I would pay a little extra for good wifi connection. I realize camping is



not a time when people should be sitting around on their computers or phones. But, it is nice to have wifi if needed. One good example is to check weather conditions.

Idea Author: PHYLLIS O

Number of Stars 18

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Wifi in the other campgrounds would be good too. I have no phone or data service at Piney. | By Chad G

**Idea Title: Kenlake State Park Campground**

Idea Detail: We camp, kayak and swim right by the campground. It would be great if you add more camping spots with balconies overlooking the lake and extend the campground season (maybe only for a few spots and maybe use an honor system if you can't afford to keep a host onsite) Many of us love to camp in the late fall/early winter and hike in the area during those times.

Idea Author: Sandy L

Number of Stars 18

Number of Comments 1

Address: 824 Kenlake Marina Ln 42048, United States

Comment 1: Agreed!!!!!!! | By Kim D

**Idea Title: We spend a lot of time at wrangles campground**

Idea Detail: I believe that it needs to have more full hook ups in the campground I'm sure u could keep all of the rented all season we have meet several people there and most of them come back the same time each year we love that connect with them but some of us have a hard time getting full hook ups and we like to stay around 21 days

Idea Author: Deanna V

Number of Stars 18



Number of Comments 1

Address: Woodlands Trce 42055, United States

Comment 1: Deanna V. - Thank you for letting me know of the need and desire to have more full hookups at Wranglers. I will share this with our Recreation Program Manager and with the Wranglers Facility Manager. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Activities: Hiking**

Idea Detail: So far, we've spent most of our hikes launching from either Nickell Branch or doing the North Welcome Station (Canal Loop). Working our way south.

Idea Author: Kim D

Number of Stars 16

Number of Comments 0

Address: 42055, United States

**Idea Title: Publicize the small, local businesses!**

Idea Detail: This year we discovered Belew's Drive-In near Aurora and Maggie's Jungle Golf and Jungle Run near Gilbertsville while we were in the area. It would be great if more information about the local businesses could be shared at the welcome centers.

Idea Author: Sandy L

Number of Stars 16

Number of Comments 1

Address: Kentucky Lake Dr 42055, United States

Comment 1: And on the website...Most of the links that presently are on there that direct to the tourist bureaus or Chambers for the surrounding areas don't make it very easy for people who just have a limited time and lots of other options to see themselves coming here if they don't already know the area. I think Sandy's idea to make it easier to let people know how to make a weekend - or better yet - a week! - in the area could be low-cost, but helpful. I suspect you could get some volunteers to help you create some sample itineraries if you put out the call.



I'm raising my hand!

| By Kim D

**Idea Title: Woodland Nature Station**

Idea Detail: Hiking and birding. Visiting animals and events. Wildlife viewing. Kayaking and canoeing.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Stars 16

Number of Comments 0

Address: Woodlands Trce 42055, United States

**Idea Title: family reunions**

Idea Detail: meet at the homeplace to have our family reunion. Allow temporary camping adjacent to the front parking lot with cooking at the grills by the picnic tables

Idea Author: William J

Number of Stars 15

Number of Comments 0

Address: Road 202 B1 37058, United States

**Idea Title: More gravel hike and bike trails.**

Idea Detail: I'd love to see additional gravel trails such as the Central Hardwood Trail between Wranglers and Fenton. Especially a long, 8+ mile loop system somewhere.

Idea Author: Christopher A

Number of Stars 15

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Improvements Needed at Piney Campground**



Idea Detail: Piney Campground needs some MAJOR improvements. The streets in the campground are coming apart. There are potholes everywhere, there are many places the streets are too narrow, and the culverts are filled up with dirt. The campsites need new gravel or better, they need to be concrete. There needs to be Many more full hook-up sites. I have camped up there since 2016 many, times. I have NOT been camping there this year because I cannot get a full hook-up site for more than 1 or 2 nights! There needs to be at least 25-50 more full hook-up sites. Just run water and sewer to the sites already there. Make these sites 50 amp electric also. Make the rates comparable to the Corps of Engineers Campgrounds. I can stay at a COE campground 3 nights for less than what it costs to stay 1 night at Piney! Both are government campgrounds so Why such a difference in the rates. The COE campgrounds are much NICER! Get a manager that does not play favorites and give the RA's the prime full hook-up sites!

Idea Author: C Kelley S

Number of Stars 14

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Hunting**

Idea Detail: Hunting LBL has been a special experience for me over the years

Idea Author: Lance P

Number of Stars 14

Number of Comments 0

Address: Woodlands Trce 42055, United States

**Idea Title: Reclaim Lost Crop Ground in Pryor Hollow**

Idea Detail: The access road to the fields has been lost into Barkley. Repair road so that the fields can be share-cropped and decent access maintained into this area.

Idea Author: DANIEL N

Number of Stars 14



Number of Comments 0

Address: Woodlands Trce 42055, United States

**Idea Title: Overlanding**

Idea Detail: As an avid backpacker and camper I have always enjoyed having LBL to visit. My family and I also visit Big South Fork as well. Now that I'm older and can travel a bit more it seems like Overlanding is becoming very popular. I guess in a way that's what we've been doing for years at LBL and never knew it. I know in Colorado around Silverton and Ouray the old mining roads have been opened up to exploration in 4wds and the small towns benefit from the tourist. I would like to see LBL move in that direction and draw in tourist looking to explore the land and water. Maybe sell a special permit besides the backcountry camping to help with the cost associated with it.

Idea Author: zeke V

Number of Stars 13

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: The only bad thing I can see from this is when people turn the roads into defacto mud bogs. Perhaps some special permit for this could be used to repair and fix drainage on problem roads. | By DANIEL N

Comment 2: This idea is interesting because it turns the problem of "tough access" to some parts of the area that would be great to get to into a positive. The special permit idea helps with potential safety issues of knowing who's on site too. It's neat to have some many interesting ideas popping up! | By Kim D

**Idea Title: LONG CREEK WILDLIFE PRESERVE+++**

Idea Detail: Running and biking the trails and roads

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Stars 12

Number of Comments 0

Address: Woodlands Trce 42055, United States



**Idea Title: Honker Lake**

Idea Detail: Wildlife viewing, kayaking, birding, hiking.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Stars 12

Number of Comments 0

Address: 42055, United States

**Idea Title: Hematite Lake**

Idea Detail: Hiking, birding, wildflowers, wildlife viewing

Idea Author: John P

Number of Stars 12

Number of Comments 0

Address: Woodlands Trce 42055, United States

**Idea Title: Develop an observation game**

Idea Detail: Develop a system of describing a series of views or conditions at the EBP (example Mother and Calf together, select flower in bloom, 4 Elk together, etc) for pictures to be taken and when presented to Golden Pond rangers recognition prizes could be won.

Idea Author: William J

Number of Stars 11

Number of Comments 1

Address: FD-0100A 42211, United States

Comment 1: Fun! | By Kim D



**Idea Title: more food sources for wildlife**

Idea Detail: I hunt and years ago there was corn and beans planted in more locations and more wildlife

Idea Author: david E

Number of Stars 11

Number of Comments 0

Address: 42055, United States

**Idea Title: Activities: Kayaking the bays**

Idea Detail: (Please orgive the multiple posts, but I couldn't get a pinpoint to stick in more than one area and that would significantly underrepresent our interactions with LBL. Kudos to anyone else who figured out how to do it! :)

Kayaking the bays is an amazing experience. Just this past week, I spent two afternoons paddling around first Bobcat Point from Honkers Bay & then explored Honker Lake. Both days once the dam was out of sight, I was completely alone except for the numerous wildlife who seemed as curious about me as I was about them, despite the crazy heat.

Saturday I tried to put in on the Eddyville/Kuttawa side of Barkley at several areas close to my house, but there were too many people so over the bridge I drove again! Dropped into a couple different bays near the north end of the Trace and had a blast!

Idea Author: Kim D

Number of Stars 11

Number of Comments 1

Address: 42211, United States

Comment 1: Make energy lake no motor. Had issues with wake from a motor boat last time we were there. | By Tom S

**Idea Title: Primitive campsites**



Idea Detail: My friends and family love to primitive camp in Ibl. We have done this since 1981 almost every year. Always visit the 1880 homeplace, golden pond, elk range and nature station. Spend a lot of time hiking, fishing etc. I have used area 8-10 over 30 yrs there is very limited lake access and what exist has become crowded and overused. Would like to see a couple more lake access roads for primitive camping in this area besides prior bay and fords bay. Not boat ramp access.

Idea Author: Anthony A

Number of Stars 11

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Agreed...While there is some overlap, the needs of the folks who are looking for primitive camping are different than the ones looking for full-hookup sites, whose needs are completely different from those just coming in for the day to drop into a lake, hunt or visit with grandkids. The interests of each type of potential user first will need to be considered in isolation and then the overlaps identified to achieve sustainability. | By Kim D

**Idea Title: I visit Piney Campground on a regular basis**

Idea Detail: Absolutely love the campground, facilities and staff. If I could change one thing I would like to see more full hookup RV sites added.

Idea Author: Joe P

Number of Stars 10

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I agree! And it would be great if they would trim the brush along the water front sites so you could actually see the water. | By Jerry C

**Idea Title: The Homeplace is a great place to learn!**

Idea Detail: The Homeplace is a wonderful place to learn about the past. Children and adults alike enjoy the simple way of life as depicted by interpreters. Homeplace interpreters work very hard to compile historical information for their programs. To share this unique setting with a wider audience there needs to be additional advertising of The Homeplace special events. I have discussed events with people, such as The Pickin' Party, Independence Day, etc. and



they had not seen or heard any information about the special event. Maybe there are some new publications or forms of media that can be utilized for additional advertising.

Idea Author: Jan G

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: more food plots for deer turkey**

Idea Detail: years ago when you had more farm fields in crops there was more wildlife farmers left a few rows of crops in the field for wildlife to eat through the winter and there was more wildlife

Idea Author: david E

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 0

Address: 42055, United States

**Idea Title: More frequent demos**

Idea Detail: We never arrive at times to catch demos

Idea Author: Amy L

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Amy L. - I will pass your comment on to the Nature Station. Do you receive the weekly email from Land Between the Lakes that provides a schedule of events, demonstrations and other happenings at the Woodlands Nature Station, Homeplace 1850s Farm, the Golden Pond Planetarium and other places? If not, you can send an email to [lblinfo@fs.fed.us](mailto:lblinfo@fs.fed.us) and ask to be added to the email list. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Improve Beach**



Idea Detail: We've camped at Energy Lake about 10 times. Sometimes beach is fine. Other times it is filthy. More picnic tables needed. Fire ring needs work. Bath houses are excellent. Trail needs work. Perfect projects for boy scouts or Eagle project. Camp site are excellent. Managers are excellent.

Idea Author: Tom S

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 1

Address: Energy Lake Rd 42211, United States

Comment 1: Tom S. - Thank you for the input. I will share this with the Recreation Program Manager. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Fantastic View**

Idea Detail: The view from this bluff provides a view of Kentucky Lake that is indescribably beautiful. One of the best views I've seen anywhere.

Idea Author: Nickolaus W

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 0

Address: Bear Creek Rd 37058, United States

**Idea Title: Turkey Bay OHV- great place to ride!**

Idea Detail: Turkey Bay and LBL in general would benefit from a few things. Most notably, designated campsites that offer electric, possibly reservable. We have several people that live hours away that would love to come experience what Turkey Bay has to offer, but without the option to have a site when you arrive, it can deter people from even making the trip. Also, having electric sites up front would greatly decrease the emissions from generators, not to mention eliminate the noise for the wildlife and other patrons. Personally, we would pay the extra money to not have to fuel and lug a generator with us to Turkey Bay. I know several others that would as well. If you gave the option to have electric sites, they would be full all the time, just like Piney and Hillman's Ferry.



Idea Author: Julie W

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 1

Address: Woodlands Trce 42055, United States

Comment 1: As an avid turkey bay camper I think it would also benefit from a showerhouse. I love the idea of having electrical sites. | By Kristen B

**Idea Title: Turkey Bay OHV Park**

Idea Detail: Have been going to Turkey Bay and riding since I was 8 years old. Now I'm 22. I love camping and enjoying my time on the trails with close friends and family!

Idea Author: Kristen B

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Squirrel hunting**

Idea Detail: My wife and I enjoy squirrel hunting in LBL in both the north and south sections. We live in Canton which makes it easy for us to enjoy many different places. We would like to see the squirrel hunting season expand to the whole month of October or fall in line with the state-wide season. October is the best month to enjoy the beauty of the woods and the mosquitoes and ticks aren't a worry then.

Idea Author: Alan C

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Coyote hunting**

Idea Detail: While squirrel hunting we see coyotes or hear them in the woods, so we know there there at LBL. We would like to be able to hunt them during the summer time when they are preying so heavily on the young deer. Currently there is no hunting of coyotes during the



peak summer months when they're easy to call.

Idea Author: Alan C

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: north end mainly i hunt squirrels ,deer turkey and mainly fish**

Idea Detail: more food sources for wildlife when more farming was done there was more wildlife

Idea Author: david E

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Primitive camping**

Idea Detail: Develop existing roads in areas to get closer lake access for small campsites.

Idea Author: Anthony A

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

Address: 42211, United States

**Idea Title: Keeping horse trails clear important.**

Idea Detail: Thanks to LBL there is a place for wagon team enthusiast to enjoy nature rides in the woods. They are the best place in the USA for teams. Very important to keep this available.

Idea Author: Gerald A

Number of Stars 6



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Wranglers Cabins**

Idea Detail: We've been coyote hunting there the 1st week of February for years. You've jacked the prices of your cabins up so high we can get a fully furnished motel cheaper now. So I guess we'll be spending our money elsewhere.

Idea Author: Edward L

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

Address: FD-0407A-80 42211, United States

**Idea Title: Nature Watch Hiking Trails**

Idea Detail: Great wildlife viewing

Idea Author: Arrienne B

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

Address: Woodlands Trce 42055, United States

**Idea Title: Idea: Adventure Obstacle Runs?**

Idea Detail: I heard about annual marathons and I think I read that there may be a ropes course at the group camp, but wondered if there is an Adventure Obstacle Race annually?

Could be a win for several reasons, among them:

- Such events play up the natural features available in the targeted area
- LBL is unique in that it's already a contained area with some very interesting features - both natural and manmade - so it could offer opportunities for an interesting course
- Courses can be scoped as big or as small as appropriate and can be set up to be fun for the serious contenders, teams, kids...depends on how it's themed.
- Great way to introduce a population likely to find a lot of value in LBL - Racers, volunteers & spectators



- These courses can bring in major money...\$50-\$80 for single tickets is pretty common, depending on the size of the course. Teams are encouraged...
  - Easy no-cost media attention before, during and after!
- Link shows one that's 200 obstacles across 20 miles!

Idea Author: Kim D

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Re-Open the grill in Wranglers Grocery Store**

Idea Detail: Having a hot meal and socializing in the Restaurant/Store was something to look forward to. Now its just a store.

Idea Author: Nancy R

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Woodlands NS**

Idea Detail: I bring family and friends to Nature Station every time they visit.

Idea Author: Arrienne B

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

Address: 42055, United States

**Idea Title: Kayak**

Idea Detail: Great place to spend time on the water

Idea Author: Arrienne B

Number of Stars 3



Number of Comments 0

Address: 42211, United States

**Idea Title: Wildlife Viewing**

Idea Detail: Great in winter for birding

Idea Author: Arrienne B

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

Address: 42055, United States

**Idea Title: Kayaking**

Idea Detail: My family and I learned to kayak on Honkey Lake and we enjoy hiking around the Woodland Walk trail.

Idea Author: Nickolaus W

Number of Stars 2

Number of Comments 0

Address: 42055, United States

**Idea Title: Wranglers Campground**

Idea Detail: Trail riding out of Wranglers campground would be much improved if the park would let volunteers help with trail maintenance and building new trails for horseback riders.

Idea Author: Paula T

Number of Stars 1

Number of Comments 2



Comment 1: How about adding new camping sites for horses and riders? | By Paula T

Comment 2: Consider teaming with Back Country Horseman groups to improve trails. | By Paula T

**Idea Title: An organized hike with a naturalist.**

Idea Detail: I'd like to see an occasional organized 3-4 mile hike at LBL led by a naturalist or the Forest Service and supported by volunteers. A hike could be organized with different interests such as birding, tree identification, historical information, etc. I have seen these types of activities offered at National Parks and other outdoor facilities.

Idea Author: Jan G

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Running and biking all the roads**

Idea Detail: Once again, I have to say - this tool is so contradictory I feel lost before I begin. First "where do you spend time" But wait, then it states " Add your Idea in this Topic" what Topic - it was a question, or at least I thought it was. And finally - another question, no two questions "Where do you recreate and what types of activities do you do?" HUH?

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Mary E. - I am sorry that the headings seem contradictory. Some of this is due to the template that the MindMixer platform has set up. The "Where you spend time" is a very short heading which allows users to quickly gain a basic idea of what that question (or topic) will be about. "Topic" and "Idea" are terms that MindMixer uses in their template also. When you see "Add your idea in this Topic", we are asking you to provide your response to the question (Topic). | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Squirrel Hunting Season Extension**

Idea Detail: Extend Squirrel season to coincide with the statewide season as long as it does not interfere with quota deer hunts.

Idea Author: DANIEL N



Number of Comments 0

Address: Woodlands Trce 42055, United States

**Idea Title: Geocaching**

Idea Detail: There are several geocaches within the vicinity of St. Stevens Church.

Idea Author: Nickolaus W

Number of Comments 0

Address: Saint Stevens Church Rd 42055, United States

**Idea Title: Geocaching 101**

Idea Detail: My family and I frequently geocache all throughout Land Between the Lakes, in too many sites to count.

Idea Author: Nickolaus W

Number of Comments 0

Address: 214 Visitor Center Dr 42211, United States

**Idea Title: Shooting Range**

Idea Detail: My family comes here every time they visit.

Idea Author: Arriane B

Number of Comments 0

Address: Woodlands Trce 42055, United States

**Idea Title: Paddleboard**

Idea Detail: Great place to be out on water



Idea Author: Arrienne B

Number of Comments 0

Address: 42211, United States

**Idea Title: Guided expert naturalist programs for viewing wildlife**

Idea Detail: Guided experienced naturalist lead programming is great such as Eagle tours. It almost makes the public feel like they getting a backstage pass.

Idea Author: Brooke G

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Hematite Lake and other trails.**

Idea Detail: I spend most of my time on land at the LBL walking the trail around Hematite Lake, at the Nature Station, and on the trails near the Nature Station. I may not have identified the location correctly on the map and this entry has some duplication, because the earlier entry was inadvertently submitted.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0

Address: Woodlands Trce 42055, United States

**Idea Title: Piney Campground**

Idea Detail: Camp and Fish

Idea Author: James K

Number of Comments 0



## **Topic Name: Meaningful Experience**

### **Idea Title: Went to homeplace 1850s to learn**

Idea Detail: I went to the Homeplace 1850 to learn about folk medicine years ago. Wonderful place. I could wander around the log cabins and a ranger in period clothing would come by to see if I needed any help. They were so caring and so interested in helping me to find answers to my questions. I enjoyed the way they wandered around helping people who were visiting.

Idea Author: William J

Number of Stars 20

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: William J. The description of your visit to the Homeplace is really touching. The interpreters and clerks who work at the Homeplace are employees of the Friends of Land Between the Lakes. I will be sure to pass your comments on to them. | By Jeff L

### **Idea Title: Solitude**

Idea Detail: Came to lbl in 81 with family to bow hunt deer. The camping experience in lbl ensured this to be a tradition with family and friends every year and is still being carried on, some have passed on and replaced with the children and grandchildren. It's one of the few places you can experience the stillness and solitude of nature undisturbed from the chaos of the world. Night time under the stars in lbl is something everyone needs to experience!

Idea Author: Anthony A

Number of Stars 18

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Anthony A. Thank you for sharing your special experiences with us. I am glad that your children and grandchildren are now creating these experiences and memories also. | By Jeff L

Comment 2: Amen! | By Kim D

### **Idea Title: Hiking Across LBL**



Idea Detail: Your scenic hardwoods trail is very nice. How about developing some hiking clubs to compete as to the number of miles and number of hikers brought out during a 3 month period and celebrating the highest numbers with publicity and a leader board posted in public at Golden Pond.

Idea Author: William J

Number of Stars 16

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Jeff: Thanks for this info. I didn't know that group existed until I saw your post!  
| By Kim D

Comment 2: William J. Thank you for the input. There is currently a Meetup group called "Land Between the Lakes Outdoor Adventures" that leads hikes, paddling trips and other types of outdoor activities at Land Between the Lakes and surrounding areas.  
<https://www.meetup.com/Land-Between-The-Lakes-Outdoor-Adventures/> | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Camping and fishing, exploring the old home places.**

Idea Detail: I think there needs to be some sort of record(example: photos) of the old home places for people to find when researching their ancestors. I know myself it would be nice to know where my great grandparents lived and to know where I came from. There should also be some way for people to have some sort of wifi at the campgrounds!!!

Idea Author: Belinda N

Number of Stars 15

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Hello Belinda, if you email me the names of your great grandparents, I would be happy to look through our records for them. Cthornock@fs.fed.us | By Christopher T

**Idea Title: It's a great family oriented place to take ur children**

Idea Detail: We have been coming to the lake for over 17 years we started when my husband worked for Larry Meeks owner of PKC at that time and they would have the world hunt and super stakes with coondoga there then after that we started going to wrangles campground to



ride the mules and horses and we go at least twice a year some times more and stay for several weeks we love the whole picture down there the lake the riding the people have always been so friendly that works there we spend our anniversary there every year and love taking our grand kids

Idea Author: Deanna V

Number of Stars 10

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Deanna V. - Thank you for sharing your experiences and memories with us. The Forest Service wants to ensure that you, your kids and grandkids can continue to make these memories into the future. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Nature Station**

Idea Detail: I started as an apprentice in February 1997. The weather was amazing. I came from a very cold place. Wildlife, like birds, frogs, and wildflowers, were already getting active. It won me over right away. The Nature Station was a very open, warm, and inviting place. And I liked their mission in serving the public. And I love the wildlife exhibits and all the hundreds of hummingbirds. I love the way the Nature Station interacts with kids and getting them excited about the outdoors. It's also been a great place to spend the day, whether birding, kayaking, hiking; it has everything.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Night Skies and Observatory**

Idea Detail: The very dark skies and the staff at the observatory made the skies come alive. It was so much easier to see the shapes when shown on the telescopes in the very dark skies that you have there.

Idea Author: William J

Number of Stars 8



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The beavers at Hematite Lake**

Idea Detail: My family regularly visited Hematite Lake for picnics and walks. The boardwalk was a wonderful place to show wildlife in it's natural habitat. This hike and boardwalk is still promoted on the website yet it has not been available for over 2 years. I strongly recommend attention to what public information is available, how current it is, and how easily accessible it is. There is nothing in the Hematite Trail paragraph that tells me the boardwalk is closed. I have to know to look for the 'latest' albeit over 6 months old update in the Alerts and Notices.

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: I really admire and appreciate all the work that the team does daily to make the area available for the rest of us. And I appreciate the opportunity to be part of this discussion, as it does allow those of us who care about the area but aren't working beside your team directly to support you in some small ways, such as Mary has done.

There are a few other examples where publications/website/long-term reality don't quite line up that may be useful for those of us who care to share with you in a productive way. Jeff, is there an email address or some other way we could pass along things like that we may notice moving forward? It's important info for your team, but inside baseball for the public as a whole, which is why I'm suggesting a different and long-lasting submittal process than this tool.

Mary's point is really important and its potential impact is far-reaching from the standpoints of credibility and PR. As someone who travels to a lot of national and state public areas, such things matter tons to me and my friends while we're figuring out where to go. Then once we are there, we become dependent on them. If I run into info that is clearly out-of-date or conflicts with other information I've seen, I'm cautious and have been known to select someplace else that seems to be more reliably current. If I get someplace and the info I depended on was inaccurate, I may warn folks on the blogs and forums I'm part of so no one else has the same issue. As more and more women are adventuring solo, the quality and reliability of information become an early influencer on where they are willing to spend their time and money, so I'd be glad to pass along any of these little things I've come across in recent years if it would be helpful. | By Kim D

Comment 2: Mary E. Thank you for bringing this to my attention. The information about the partial closure of Hematite Lake is on our Alerts page, and we will update and place this



information in other places on our webpage. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Visiting the Planetarium**

Idea Detail: It was right off the freeway exit and the people their were welcoming and friendly. They told us of all the things we could do in Land Between the Lakes.

Idea Author: Claire S

Number of Stars 7

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Backwoods camping**

Idea Detail: I started backwoods camping at LBL when I moved to Tennessee when I was 12. I came from Chicago,IL.

I had never seen so much nature in one place, so pristine, and so untouched.

to be sourended with so much nature, and nothing else, no generators, no radios, no overwhelming sounds form the roads or other campers.

I am 44 years old today, and I deeply value being able to get away from it all once in a while and experance just nature and nothing else.

Idea Author: tim K

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Family**

Idea Detail: Brought our children to LBL, now grandkids.

Idea Author: Amy L

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I have been visiting LBL for over 30 years**



Idea Detail: LBL has become a very special place to me. I camped and deer hunted at LBL as a child and now I have a family of my own who enjoys the area as much as I did as a kid.

Idea Author: Joe P

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: You mentioned you deer hunted at LBL as a child. Do you hunt here now? | By Christopher J

**Idea Title: Volunteering at the Homeplace**

Idea Detail: I really enjoyed volunteering at the Homeplace during a busy festival event. Got to meet lots of folks and also had some excellent conversations.

Idea Author: Jim T

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: My first hunt in Kentucky**

Idea Detail: While I was at Murray State University I wanted to find somewhere in Kentucky to hunt since I was a life long resident of Tennessee, and I wanted to try something new. LBL provided that opportunity for me

Idea Author: Lance P

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Our first trip is what hooked us.we loved it.**

Idea Detail: We had a great camp site,with plenty of shade.There was lots of things to see and do.There was plenty of wildlife to see,the old homestead was great,and the planetarium was special.A greatful to see.



Idea Author: Patrick L

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Camping at Hillman's Ferry**

Idea Detail: I remember many summers of camping with my family as a kid. Now that I have children of my own I have brought them to Hillman's to get the same experience.

I have even taken time to bring my nephews on a special camping and fishing trip.

Idea Author: DANIEL N

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Daniel N. Thank you for sharing. It is great that you have been able to share camping and fishing with your children and nephews. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: I grew up in this area...**

Idea Detail: My family lived in Dover TN for much of my early life. I cannot count the number of times my father brought us up to go hiking, or back woods camping, or to visit the Homeplace. I feel like this land is in my blood, like its a part of my family. I've been roaming some of these hills since I was a kid. I positively love this place.

Idea Author: Nickolaus W

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Camping, Fishing, Boating**

Idea Detail: We started camping at Energy Lake, then Hillman's Ferry, then Piney. As our children grew older, we now spend all of our time at Turkey Bay OHV, riding with friends and enjoying the beautiful scenery and wildlife.



Idea Author: Julie W

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Volunteering at LBL has been my most meaningful experience.**

Idea Detail: I've been volunteering at LBL for about 10 years and it has been a rewarding experience. Meeting and working with the dedicated employees of FLBL and the Forest Service has shown me how much they care about LBL and how dedicated they are about sharing their knowledge with visitors to the area. Every time I visit LBL I learn something new that I can share with others. It's a great place that we need to preserve for future generations!

Idea Author: Jan G

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Elementary Field Trip**

Idea Detail: I've often thought fondly of one of my elementary teachers in Evansville, David Hulett, and the day he told our class we'd be going on an overnight field trip to one of the Midwest's most beautiful, but best-kept secrets - the Land Between The Lakes. I don't remember exactly how old I was, though math suggests it must have been during the mid-70s.

The weather was glorious that early Spring weekend and as we prepared to step off asphalt into a sunny meadow, Mr. Hulett, who understood instinctively that learning should be fun for all involved, suddenly stopped us. Looking very serious, he challenged each of us to remain very still and just look & listen for a moment...a tough order for our goofy group.

"This place was a gift to your generation."

His words were out-of-character enough to stick with me through the lifetime it took for me to finally return. And once I found my way back, that gift inspired me to buy a home near so I never again would spend much time away.

Idea Author: Kim D

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Kim D. - Thank you for sharing that powerful story with us. | By Jeff L



**Idea Title: Boating and learning to ski on Lake Barkley, Blue Springs**

Idea Detail: I loved horseback riding and camping at Wranglers. I have also camped at numerous campgrounds. The negative to Trigg County side of LBL is bad or none, AT&T service!! There also are not any grocery stores close by!! Everyone is losing out on creating better business and revenue because of it!!The new four lane will bring more traffic over the Barkley Bridge!!! The Asian carp are ruining the fishing at Barkley Lake!!!

Idea Author: Sue E

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Sue E. - Thank you for your ideas. AT&T is currently working to complete planning to install additional cell towers and transmitters in several locations throughout Trigg County and in Land Between the Lakes. Verizon is also working with the Forest Service to investigate the need for more cell transmitters at Land Between the Lakes. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: My first quota hunt.**

Idea Detail: I remember when it was still a big deal to see a deer out in the state I got drawn for the youth deer hunt at LBL. We saw a few does and spooked off a buck. It was a big deal back then.

Idea Author: DANIEL N

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Wranglers is a wonderful place to horse camp and ride.**

Idea Detail: Increased regulations have made it more difficult to camp and ride from Wranglers horse camp than it was 15 years ago when I first camped there and fell in love with horse camping.

Idea Author: Paula T

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Environmental Education Center**

Idea Detail: Back in 1972, I was lucky enough to be teaching in Paducah. They began a big



push on training teachers to lead kids for a weekend in LBL. We got to take our inner city kids for a weekend to live in the dorms and teach them about all kinds of environmental issues and history about the area. Unfortunately, the programs were cut. A few years back my husband and I drove back past Honker Bay where this facility was located and sadly it's been completely torn down. Great memories!

Idea Author: Dee C

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Thanks for sharing that! Youth Station was a great experience for lots of kids and adults as well! We are fortunate to have Brandon Spring Group Center to continue similar types of experiences even though the location is different. Nice memory I'm sure. It was a beautiful spot. | By Darrin S

**Idea Title: I grew up in the Dover area..**

Idea Detail: My parents would frequently bring my brothers and I up to the Homeplace. I grew up walking the Ft. Henry trails. One of the first dates I took my future wife on was taking her to the Homeplace and going for a hike here in Land Between the Lakes.

Idea Author: Nickolaus W

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: My first trip to Wrangler Campgrounds**

Idea Detail: It was late summer in 1999, I towed my trailer up from AL to meet my brother and some friends for a long weekend. I had never been to Wrangler so didn't know a place like it existed.

A feeling of pure joy and amazement came over me when I turned into the drive and saw the campground full of horses, campers and people! The 5+ hour one way drive didn't deter me from frequent visits to Wrangler over the next few years. And I shared the experiences with all my friends.

The Lake and the creeks are absolutely gorgeous! Love the large creek rocks and the clear as glass water - in the wet months :).

Things change, and I haven't been able to visit in the last 4 years & really miss my trips.

Wrangler Campground always felt like home, I cant wait to get back; even if it is hot as hades



in late summer!

Idea Author: Nancy R

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Nancy R. - Wranglers is an amazing place. Thank you for sharing your experiences. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Good People**

Idea Detail: Before even coming permanently to this area, the staff at various facilities (especially Environmental Ed) felt like family. They were happy to see you, happy to talk, happy to teach. That is what encouraged me to actually move here.

Idea Author: Arriane B

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: My family fished from Colson Hollow before Barkly Lake**

Idea Detail: As a boy, we would drive to Colson and Turkey to fish and camp. Sometimes we would take a canoe across Kentucky Lake to Anderson Hollow. As a teenager, I enjoyed Lake Barkley. It was not until after I married that my family began to explore the LBL. The first important place was a quiet bay for swimming. The second was the Home Place, a place with a powerful ambiance of history.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0



**Topic Name: Only place I can go to....**

**Idea Title: pull off the road, just about anywhere, and camp.**

Idea Detail: Or park and hike down into the woods and strike a camp if I desired. As long as you stay out of the developed areas, away from The Trace and out of the cemeteries (who wants to camp in a cemetery?) you can hike and camp pretty much anywhere. You aren't supposed to do that in national parks (Mammoth Cave, Smokies) but you can at LBL.

Idea Author: DANIEL N

Number of Stars 20

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I sincerely appreciate your comment. I find that many people don't understand the differences between the Forest Service and the National Park missions. As you correctly point out, Land Between the Lakes isn't a National Park. The Forest Service manages cultural resources for preservation but most other management objectives are geared towards conservation. Therefore, hunting and dispersed camping are valued recreation opportunities that are far less available on National Park units. | By Christopher J

**Idea Title: have a vacation in one place that includes tranquility, exp**

Idea Detail: location, history, a great nature center, endless kayaking, great camping, ect.

Idea Author: Diana E

Number of Stars 17

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Great points. Plus, LBL is one of the only places in the western Kentucky/western Tennessee area that is large enough to enjoy a wilderness experience. LBL is also one of the only places in this area to view the Milky Way in the night sky. LBL also offers opportunities to view wildlife that is rare in this region including, pygmy rattlesnakes, elk, bison, Henslow's sparrows, as well as other rare species. | By Ryan C

Comment 2: Great points. Plus, over 200,000 acres of lakes, some of the best wildlife diversity in the eastern United States, and, some of the best stargazing in the western Kentucky/western Tennessee region. | By Ryan C



**Idea Title: wander in solitude here in western Kentucky**

Idea Detail: The weekday use of the area is so minimal, I can go for miles and spend hours on the gravel roads and trails and see no other human being.

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Stars 16

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Agreed - it is magnificent! | By Tim R

**Idea Title: see a large timbered area that i can roam enjoy hunting fish**

Idea Detail: lbl is mid America playground I love it as it is please don't destroy it cutting timber

Idea Author: david E

Number of Stars 14

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Amen brother! Let nature be natural! | By Tim R

**Idea Title: get away from society.**

Idea Detail: L.B.L. It is a quiet place, and reverts back to yesteryear.

Idea Author: Jim S

Number of Stars 14

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Jim S. Can you tell me more about what you mean by "yesteryear?" Are there specific qualities at L.B.L that transcends the years? | By Christopher J

**Idea Title: relax and enjoy family its a safe place for kids.**



Idea Detail: I love Land Between the Lakes.

Idea Author: Joyce H

Number of Stars 13

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Have a good place to ride my Jeep off roaring.**

Idea Detail: Just take a peaceful ride in the country and in the woods Go for walks or hikes. Kayaking, fishing

Idea Author: Michael C

Number of Stars 13

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: My family loves doing this! Put the windows down (or take the top off if you have a fancy jeep) and let the fresh air in. Smell the leaves in the fall. Awesome stuff. | By DANIEL N

**Idea Title: return every year and camp with a large group of friends.**

Idea Detail: ....including kids and grandkids.

Idea Author: Barb W

Number of Stars 10

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: spend a day with nature alone.**

Idea Detail: Because of its size and lack of development, people can spend a day with nature and encounter few people (or many) if one chooses to. I can hike, bike, ride my horse, drive and picnic within the LBL boundaries for a full day or more, simply enjoying nature and all that it offers.



Idea Author: Terry D

Number of Stars 10

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Enjoy nature locally relax and unwind !**

Idea Detail: The Elk and Bison range is so enjoyable, love it especially in the fall when the Elk start to bugle .The water from both lakes provide awesome beauty and tranquility as wellas another chance to observe wildlife.The fishing is great !

Idea Author: Steve C

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: get away**

Idea Detail: I can drive to LBL within a half hour of my house, and once I cross the bridges, I feel like my problems are in a different world. The lakes are not only a physical barrier between the national lands and private lands, but a mental one, too. Because LBL is so large, but not very wide, I can get to a shoreline anywhere along the Trace. Getting from one facility or welcome center to another takes a long time, but it's a scenic drive, and part of the enjoyment of the place.

Idea Author: Monica W

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Camp and relaxation**

Idea Detail: I love to go camping there and I am relaxing most of the time. It is a great place and my whole family loves it

Idea Author: Robbie C



Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Investigate those the actually lived between the rivers**

Idea Detail: So much history! The ONLY place to visit the cemeteries of those that had homes and lives here. That means so much. Investigating the old sites of towns, schools, homesites of the people that lived and died there. Then to be hungry to learn more.. about them, their lives, the land, the way of life.. THIS is what our children need, we need! A catalyst to want to learn more, ask questions. The area is rich in so much beauty and nature, but also history. Which makes it so much better, imo, for camping, fishing, picnicking etc.. I feel it is a honor and privileged every time I visit there and can't wait to go back again!

Idea Author: Peggy H

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Peggy. Thank you for your comments. It appears clear that the history of Land Between the Lakes is very important to you. Do you have any suggestions on how we can introduce visitors to the rich history of Land Between the Lakes? | By Christopher J

**Idea Title: Add additional horse campgrounds.**

Idea Detail: Consider making additional campgrounds that are horse friendly.

Idea Author: Paula T

Number of Stars 7

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Visit with old friends**

Idea Detail: Land Between the Lakes collects good people. Miss you guys. :)

Idea Author: Brian T

Number of Stars 7



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: experience true wilderness camping, without going to Canada**

Idea Detail: With the vast number of square miles of true wilderness.....the opportunity to come to LBL...by land and/or water to enter the wilderness is absolutely impressive

Idea Author: Robert G

Number of Stars 7

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: bike from shoreline to shoreline**

Idea Detail: It is always spiritually uplifting to bike along the tree and wildflower lined roads to eventually open up at the water.

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: trail ride with our friends.**

Idea Detail: While LBL is not the only place to off road, it is certainly the BEST place to ride. Turkey Bay is a phenomenal area, we go every chance we get. Just about every time we ride, we see deer, owls, hawks, and sometimes bald eagles flying above. The landscape is beautiful and fun, and we always have a good time. You can get down to the lake and fish or take a dip on a hot day. We are lucky to have a place like Turkey Bay, and we cherish it.

Idea Author: Julie W

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: and actually drive through an elk and bison range.**



Idea Detail: My family loves the elk and bison range, especially in the fall when the elk are starting to bugle. Definitely a unique experience that you can't find elsewhere in the area. The kids like to pretend we're driving through Jurassic Park.

Idea Author: Scott B

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Enjoy horse trails wide enough for wagons.**

Idea Detail: When I can use the wagon on the trails then I can invite more family and friends to experience the outdoors.

Idea Author: Gerald A

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Hidden crossroads**

Idea Detail: LBL's uniqueness compared to other public land is its geography. LBL is such a large complete piece of public land, not surrounded directly by suburbs, urban sprawl, overwhelming gateway community growth. Its 300-miles of undeveloped shoreline give the visitor the ability to dive into nature and be surrounded, a bit rare in a populated Eastern US. I can disappear into a bay, hike the N/S trail, find a hidden corner and enjoy the incredible wildlife diversity of the area.

LBL is a crossroads for western prairie & eastern forest, northern species meeting southern species, uplands mixing with lowlands. Perfect!

Idea Author: John P

Number of Stars 4

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Great comments! | By Ryan C



**Idea Title: See Bison and Elk roamong together**

Idea Detail: See bison and elk roaming together

Idea Author: Tom S

Number of Stars 4

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Camping, boating, Learn about the history**

Idea Detail: Learn more about this unique place and why it is there, the main focus of it!

Idea Author: Jan W

Number of Stars 4

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: participate in many enjoyable outdoor acctivities.**

Idea Detail: The variety covers so many of the things I am interested in.

Idea Author: Diana E

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Feel a Complete Sense of Wonder**

Idea Detail: In working with people who have been to LBL for a residential week, consistently they say, they feel a sense of peace and calmness. They have other places they may visit, but they choose LBL...and having a residential experience. It is aligned with the research in Louv and others about the value of nature to physical and emotional well-being. These persons are not necessarily "nature geeks" but regular citizens who have found LBL to be a place where they not only can be awed, have a sense of wonder (Rachel Carson), but feel a part of the natural world. When teachers and others that have stressful lives can make the linkage to LBL, nature and wellness, there is an obvious benefit to them, their children, their colleagues and to us. As one person shared post-evaluation after a week at LBL - "As I drive from Brandon to the



north-south road, I cry because the peace I found was so profound. I worry that opportunity to have such a rich experience will not be there in the future."

Idea Author: Joseph B

Number of Stars 2

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Joseph B. - As you have said, Brandon Spring Group Center provides a residential facility and experience that is used by school groups, teachers, special needs groups and families. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Quickly access a peaceful natural environment**

Idea Detail: Most of our parks are overcrowded with heavy human footprints via concession stands, etc... unless one travels a long way and spends a lot of money. The LBL provides easy access to anyone living near western Kentucky with lots of recreational options that people can enjoy on their own terms with relatively low costs.

Idea Author: Randall H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Have a wilderness experience in the west KY/west TN region**

Idea Detail: LBL is one of the only places where I can go have a wilderness experience in the western Kentucky/western Tennessee region. This is mostly a result of the large size of LBL. LBL is also one of the only places to experience quality star viewing and to have a chance at viewing the Milky Way in this region. LBL also offers the unique opportunity to view rare wildlife such as elk, bison, henslow sparrows, pigmy rattlesnakes, and other species that are rare in this region of America.

Idea Author: Ryan C

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: to swim in solitude.**

Idea Detail: My family likes to boat to a quiet bay in the LBL to swim and rest. We seldom share the bay with other people. We almost always see wildlife. There are no houses and no



roads.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Get away from the fast pace lifestyle the world has become.**

Idea Detail: It is great place to visit attractions, camp, fish, hunt and visit with friends when camping.

Idea Author: James K

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Be in nature and away from daily stress.**

Idea Detail: my phone doesn't work

Idea Author: Harry A

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: see unspoiled nature in this area.**

Idea Detail: I love that my family can park the boat along the shoreline and enjoy a picnic lunch (and I am not in someone's back yard) or take a long hike on a nature trail. The scenery is great!

Idea Author: wendy L

Number of Comments 0



## **Topic Name: Benefits**

### **Idea Title: Economic Benefits, Educational Benefits**

Idea Detail: Our community benefits from LBL in many ways. I think LBL has a definite economic impact in our surrounding communities, by bringing in tourists of course, but also in the type of commerce in our surrounding areas. By that I mean, if it weren't for LBL, we probably wouldn't have as much access to stores that cater to hunting, camping, fishing, and off roading, and those particular businesses wouldn't thrive like they do. LBL also offers vast educational opportunities for our local schools and anyone that visits.

Idea Author: Julie W

Number of Stars 17

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Thank you for sharing your insights. | By Jeff L

### **Idea Title: Reopen Rushing Creek Campground**

Idea Detail: For over 25 years my family, friends and I have camped at Land Between the Lakes. The Rushing Creek Campground in particular was the most ideal spot for relatively primitive tent and small RV Camping. The playground, the open-air shower houses and the overall layout and design of this Campground was an excellent place for children and adults. The lack of massive RVs, golf carts! And overall congestion of the larger campgrounds was not present at this location I truly wish that you would consider reopening this wonderful facility that existed as most of the infrastructure remains present.

Idea Author: Ray H

Number of Stars 17

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: Thank you for your comments concerning Rushing Creek and the golf cart use in other campgrounds. Can you provide more information on your specific concerns with the golf carts?

| By Gary H

Comment 2: We absolutely need more tent camping with water supply and showers and no



golf carts!! | By Nancy B

Comment 3: This is an excellent idea!

| By Rose H

**Idea Title: Stress reduction via the beauty of the natural world**

Idea Detail: As we get tied up in the "rat race" we lose perspective and get frustrated by various conflicts at work or home. Going out on the lake, or hiking, even with some of the same people that have frustrated us in other environments, can commonly bring a more positive perspective and make the conflicts seem less important. It also can inspire people to work on other projects, like their fishing or birding skills, that helps them develop better work / life balances and better relationships with those that are close to them. It also helps develop more appreciation for the natural environment and the need to take care of it.

Idea Author: Randall H

Number of Stars 12

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Randall H. - Your words are so true. Getting out in nature is a positive and calming experience. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Attractions**

Idea Detail: The attractions, such as the day-use EE facilities, allow for my family to come out frequently and enjoy several days of educational entertainment. It definitely draws me and my family members to the area. The diverse wildlife management at LBL allows me to enjoy many of my hobbies closet to home, such as wildlife viewing, hiking, photography, and kayaking. It is a very accessible location.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: John P. - Interpreters, information clerks, and other staff work very hard to provide a wide variety of environmental education experiences for families and individuals. The Woodlands Nature Station, Homeplace 1850s Farm and Brandon Spring Group Center each



provide a unique set of programs and activities throughout the year in order to provide meaningful education experiences to as many people as possible. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Education & tourism**

Idea Detail: Honestly, I live in Big Rock because of its proximity to LBL. If it weren't for LBL, we would live elsewhere. But WE LOVE LBL! I volunteer at the EBP and Nature Station. My husband and I love to kayak its waters and to go tent camping on its shores. We love the Homeplace, the Planetarium... We have a Jeep and love to play at Turkey Bay. We have several friends with RVs and pontoons at Piney. Many, many happy memories are made there each summer.

I'm from Oklahoma and my talk of LBL is what entices people to come visit us in Tennessee. We are considering building an Airbnb on our property to market to LBL tourists.

LBL is especially meaningful to us because it is where my husband and I had our first date: on a Sunset Canoe Trip led by the Nature Station staff on September 6, 2015. (The guides in photo.) We married this March. We both love the outdoors and LBL is our favorite place to get outside.

I'm running out of space so I'll incorporate the rest in subsequent answers.

Idea Author: Shannon H

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Wow. What a powerful experience. Thanks for sharing. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Land Between the Lakes draws tourists to the area**

Idea Detail: The tourists that come to the area spend money locally in our hotels, restaurants, and other businesses. That money helps the local community and provides revenues to local government to further enhance public facilities in the area.

Idea Author: Scott B

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 1



Comment 1: Horse camping draws people from out of state, money for barn rentals, etc, because they stay for a week. | By Fern S

**Idea Title: recreation, walk in the woods hunting opportunity, camping,**

Idea Detail: a place to go walk in the woods beautiful trees hunt all sorts of game.,camp,fish

Idea Author: david E

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Provides an immeasurable source for learning..**

Idea Detail: Speaking as someone who grew up on 50 acres of land just south of Land Between the Lakes, I can tell you that this place has offered me the opportunity to teach my daughter about wildlife, nature, and about enjoying the outdoors. Between shoreline cleanups and geocaching, I have spent hundreds of hours out here roaming the beautiful countryside with my friends and family. I cannot even begin to measure how many happy memories I have roaming these hills.

Idea Author: Nickolaus W

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Help to local business**

Idea Detail: I think it's great that not only does the use at LBL help local business, it is great that they make it a priority to spend money at local business and try to not compete with the local business owners. That is a huge help to keep job here in our community.

Idea Author: Jason O

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 1



Comment 1: Jason O. - One of the purposes in the Land Between the Lakes Protection Act includes "to help stimulate the development of the surrounding region and extend the beneficial results as widely as practicable,". | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Would like to see Rushing Creek reopened**

Idea Detail: My family and friends had been going to Rushing Creek for many years, before it was closed. We all loved the casual atmosphere of the place. No big RV's or roaming golf carts, outdoor bath house, quick access to the lake. We have been going to Piney the last few years but it is not the same. The smaller more rustic campground makes you feel more connected to nature. Rushing Creek is a beautiful, peaceful place.

Idea Author: Tracey L

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Agree completely! | By Barb W

**Idea Title: Exporing**

Idea Detail: It is beneficial to be able to go out and explore without the worry of being on someone else's land.

Idea Author: Belinda N

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Fantastic Learning place**

Idea Detail: It is really important for people to have access to a green space. With cities and urban development always changing and growing and expanding...it is incredibly important to offer people a place to get away from the hustle and bustle of the rest of life. Land Between the Lakes not only offers that...but we have several thousand acres of green space. People have a plethora of ways in which to unwind, relax, and otherwise enjoy all that nature has to offer.

Idea Author: Nickolaus W



Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I love the trail system and solitude.**

Idea Detail: I love the ability to camp in the back country without having to register for specific back country camp sites. The freedom and solitude are worth their weight in gold.

Idea Author: Tim R

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Stewart County Schools benefits greatly**

Idea Detail: Our school system enjoys annual field trips to the Homeplace . There are programs in place for each grade level that attend Pre-K-2nd Grades, 6th-8th Grades also. Land Between the Lakes is a perfect distance which our Administrators encourage. I personally enjoy the Nature Station as well with my children and grandchildren.

Idea Author: Melissa P

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I second that, as a Henry County, TN kid. I remember visiting the Homeplace and Nature Station as an elementary student. And I think now, more than ever, getting kids outside and giving them hands-on education in history, wildlife, and nature is invaluable. | By Doug P

**Idea Title: Tourist**

Idea Detail: Land Between the Lakes is certainly valuable to the surrounding communities in bringing in tourist. Money is spent in these local communities in fuel, food, over night stay, as they visit LBL.

Idea Author: Michael B

Number of Stars 6



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: It is a great place to get away and relax**

Idea Detail: You can swim, fish, camp & just get away from the busy life of work and school.

Idea Author: Terri F

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Unique Experiences**

Idea Detail: Land Between the Lakes offers tons of unique experiences for the community and people from all over Kentucky. A specific activity I enjoyed was the solar eclipse 2017. My fiancée and I attended the event at the Nature Station, and we experienced several awesome things as the eclipse happened, like the bats beginning to chatter as if it were night, and the hummingbirds feeding as the eclipse began to prepare for their evening of rest. Staff members also pointed out things like shadows cast by the leaves being a reflection of the solar eclipse and the shadow bands that appear just before totality. My experience during the eclipse would have been much less fascinating without the Nature Station and their amazing staff.

Idea Author: Heather T

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Heather T. - The 2017 eclipse was an awesome occurrence. I am glad that you were able to experience it at the Nature Station. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: The L.B.L. is one of the last untouched areas.**

Idea Detail: God intended for us to enjoy what God created.

Idea Author: Jim S

Number of Stars 6



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Access to a large recreational area**

Idea Detail: LBL provides locals and tourist access to a recreational area that suits the needs of multiple outdoor hobbies.

Idea Author: Jerry P

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I benefit from camping and hunting.**

Idea Detail: I enjoy backwoods camping and hunting in LBL. Lately we have noticed a problem with wild hogs destroying woodland habitat at LBL. This worries my family and friends.

Idea Author: Danny T

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: I agree that once the hogs get established that they are almost impossible to remove. But we would hate to encourage those who illegally dumped the hogs on the unit to bring more in by allowing them to be hunted. We are currently partnering with APHIS on hog eradication and they are beginning to have an impact on the numbers on the unit. Thank you for your comment. | By John W

Comment 2: I agree. I recently moved here from Alabama and I can tell you that once the hogs get established, they will wreak havoc on the land. TWRA's policy of not hunting or trapping hogs will come back to haunt them. | By Tim R

**Idea Title: LBL is very important to this community**

Idea Detail: LBL offers many different ways to spend quality time with our family and friends. My family visits often for camping, boating, hiking and ATV trail riding.

Idea Author: Jason W



Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Recreating**

Idea Detail: I love taking my dog for walks along the trails. I go kayaking. I love going to the Nature Station, Homeplace and the Elk and Bison Prairie. I benefit by attending special events like the rodeo at Wranglers Campground and the Snapapple storytelling.

Idea Author: Janet L

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Campgrounds**

Idea Detail: Update the campgrounds with more 50 amp and more water hookups. Campers are getting bigger with more electrical and water needs. Campgrounds that don't keep up will eventually have to shut down.

Idea Author: Jerry C

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: One of the challenges in managing an area like Land Between the Lakes is to recognize that different people desire different types of camping experiences and working to try and balance what is provided with those different desires and needs. Thank you both for weighing in on this subject. | By Jeff L

Comment 2: Not everyone pulls a house to camp in. Some of us still enjoy the simplicity of tent camping, even in our sixties. | By Barb W

**Idea Title: The Land Between The Lakes is my Country Club**

Idea Detail: I truly believe that we build on our history. In the future young people will not know how we evolved if we do not preserve some of our heritage. We are not like other areas of the United States. We represent West Kentucky, and North West Tennessee.



Idea Author: Jim S

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: History**

Idea Detail: I had relatives who lived between the rivers.

Idea Author: Don W

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Camping at piney**

Idea Detail: When I'm there it's A piece of mind stress free Love me and outdoors in all the nature

Idea Author: Rhonda N

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Vacations and-getaways**

Idea Detail: Working full time and pastoring a church it is great to have a wildlife facility to relax enjoy trails and meet people with the same hobbies

Idea Author: Gerald A

Number of Stars 4

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I love recreating there.**



Idea Detail: I walk my dog. I go geocaching. I kayak. I enjoy the variety of opportunities to learn about culture, animals and history. Thank you for such a great place to recreate safely.

Idea Author: Janet L

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Opportunities for Improved Physical Well Being**

Idea Detail: The LBL is a wonderful place to road bike surrounded by nature.

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: exploring**

Idea Detail: A place where you can get out and explore without the worry of being on someone else's land.

Idea Author: Belinda N

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Expand field trip grant program.**

Idea Detail: Current geographic eligibility is 100 mile radius. I feel this should be expanded to 300 mile radius, coupled with increased outreach efforts to attract schools within this enlarged boundary (speakers bureau, LBL "ambassador"), and a coordinated campaign to fund the grant program. Introducing the area to young people and school representatives from other areas is positive for so many reasons, but future generations need to be connected to this wonderful place...there aren't many places like it anymore and young people (in fact, all people) need experiences in nature more than ever!



Idea Author: Susan A

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Serenity**

Idea Detail: Born and raised in hills of eastern KY kinda takes me home

Idea Author: Danny D

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Tourism**

Idea Detail: The tourists that come to visit Land Between the Lakes often come into neighboring communities and spend money. It is great for the economics of the area.

Idea Author: Brooke G

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Growth to the Economy**

Idea Detail: Many folks who visit Land Between the Lakes visit other localities around the area such as Paducah, Cadiz, and Hopkinsville. Those visitors may bring their dollars into the area giving communities that surround Land Between the Lakes an economic boost.

Idea Author: Brooke G

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Brooke G. - I appreciate your comments. One of the purposes of Land Between the Lakes is to help stimulate the development of the surrounding region. | By Jeff L



**Idea Title: The Nature Station**

Idea Detail: The Nature Station, great educational resource.

Idea Author: Gross M

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Gross M. - Thank you for your comment. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Recreation/ history/hunting and fishing**

Idea Detail: We enjoy Hillmans ferry campground each year and our son has turkey hunted at least. We took our children to the Homeplace when they were young, also took visiting relatives.

Idea Author: Teresa B

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Recreation/history, sportsman activities**

Idea Detail: We camp at Hillmans ferry and have taken our children and visiting relatives to the Homeplace

Idea Author: Teresa B

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: LBL Helps Local Business**

Idea Detail: It nice to see that it is a priority for LBL to spend their money at our local businesses and does not try to compete to put them out of business. Every little bit helps to keep jobs in our area.



Idea Author: Jason O

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Local Revenue**

Idea Detail: Many small business are benefited by the location of Land Between the Lakes and the number of people that visit the area.

Idea Author: Rickey D

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: We are able to engage with nature. Destress. Kids love it.**

Idea Detail: More an more research documents the value of nature to the physical, emotional, and spiritual health of people. LBL provides a large expanse of nature that can be enjoyed in a wide variety of ways by people of all ages and abilities. At the same time LBL provides habitat for diverse plant and animal species that are representative of our geographic area and the native history of Kentucky/Tennessee. Those native species are beneficial to healthy functioning of the environment and to the humans that enjoy hiking, wildlife viewing, hunting, education their kids, etc. Students are able to study diverse habitats, management practices that benefit native species, and a whole host of science topics in the real world.

Idea Author: Terry D

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: for work and pla**

Idea Detail: As the Editor-in-Chief of DUN Magazine, a fly fishing magazine, we utilize the LBL for photo ops, for fly fishing, for personal use when family comes in, for camping, for the boat launches, etc.



Idea Author: Jen R

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The peacefulness of the property when we visited in the fall**

Idea Detail: was wonderful and has had me wanting to come back ever since. My husbands health has been improving so the possibility of that happening is looking up.

Idea Author: Diana E

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: There are SO many benefits from the LBL**

Idea Detail: There are many educational, recreational, and financial benefits our area receives through the LBL. Personally, my grandson and I have benefited the most from visiting the Nature Station. My grandson began visiting with me when he was 3. We visited at least once a week, often 2 or 3 times, until he began school. He was excited about learning about and observing the animals. The staff at the NS was SO welcoming, patient, caring, and informative - he (and I) learned so much and thoroughly enjoyed our visits. After he began school we visited regularly in the summer and on weekends during the school year. My grandson is now entering high school and still maintains his enthusiasm with the NS. The past 5 years, we have been volunteering at most of the scheduled events and several times during the week. I cannot overstate the value of the NS Staff and their leader John Pollpeter in helping him develop confidence and in developing a desire to learn.

Idea Author: David M

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: Great places, great people, and great things.**

Idea Detail: At LBL, there is something for everyone. Whether you want to enjoy nature, spend recreational time on the water, hike, bike, fish, learn about nature or the local history, you can find it at LBL. The staff and volunteers are also friendly, knowledgeable, and helpful. It is just a great place to hang out!! :)

Idea Author: Julie H

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Thank you for recognizing the volunteers who work at Land Between the Lakes. They are the backbone of many of your facilities. | By Gary H

**Idea Title: What a wonderful historical place to visit**

Idea Detail: As a former child that grew up in LBL this is a place of history and a place to see the beauties of pure nature. Please leave the land for future children to visit and learn about its history of the war fought , the hard working farmers and a time when life was simple and good.

Idea Author: Debbie M

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Hello Debbie, thanks for the comment. Do you have any thoughts on how we might go about promoting learning about the history of this area and culture? | By Christopher T

**Idea Title: Camping and day hiking**

Idea Detail: Love camping on the beautiful land

Idea Author: Becky W

Number of Stars 3



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Students**

Idea Detail: Because LBL is so large and spans so many counties, it has a huge impact on the local education community. Schools can plan field trips for all ages (pre-K through college), at facilities with specialized programming or on their own. I have seen a pre-K class visiting a facility for a field trip the same morning a college ornithology class came out to go birding. Alternative spring break groups from colleges all over the county come down to volunteer all over LBL, which exposes non-locals to what we have here while providing some sorely needed help on different projects. Homeschoolers can come do activities at the Nature Station and Homeplace during each facility's Homeschool month and Homeschool day, as well as come out for public programs or do activities on their own. College graduate students come out here all the time to do research or to get volunteer hours for classes.

Idea Author: Monica W

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Monica W. - I appreciate your observations that so many different ages and levels of students utilize lands and facilities for learning and research. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Tourism with Expansion**

Idea Detail: With tourists coming through we now have a McDonald's and other businesses that are looking to starting up.

Idea Author: Belinda N

Number of Stars 2

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The more our EE Community Use It...**

Idea Detail: The more they love it. The community of environmental educators, teachers who have had an experience, a summer institute there at LBL, often want to return. They love it, they have found reasons to return and one of the facility managers has told me, they have many persons using Nature Station because of their experience with us. One builds a respect



and love for a place in which they have learned and connected to as a citizen, as a parent, a grandparent, a teacher and so on. We only love and return to places in which we have had positive experiences. I cannot tell you how many people have said to us...we want to return to LBL. It provides something that gives us solace, that gives us good energy, and makes us think outside of ourselves.

Idea Author: Joseph B

Number of Stars 2

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: fishing**

Idea Detail: The public land offers me protected environment for fishing and brings lots of outside anglers to the area. Yesterday i fished with three people from Maine here for the high school bass tournament.

Idea Author: kurt K

Number of Stars 2

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Need more full hook up campgrounds.**

Idea Detail: Need more full hook up campgrounds. Too hard to find places to stay. Could be self supporting.

Idea Author: Steve H

Number of Stars 2

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Thank you for the input. Do you have any campgrounds in particular you would recommend more full hook sites | By Gary H

**Idea Title: Boy and Girl Scout troops**

Idea Detail: Both Girl and Boy Scouts have multiple ways to do activities and earn badge



components at LBL. They can sign up for private programs at the facilities, such as hikes and other programs. They can also do over-night trips, like a Boy Scout troop that recently completed a 50 mile kayaking trip along the shoreline. They also can go to special events especially for them, such as Girl Scout Day and Boy Scout Day at the Nature Station. They can complete multiple badge components in one visit (one stop shop), and sometimes get exposure to things troop leaders may not be able to do themselves, such as guest presenters from the community.

Idea Author: Monica W

Number of Stars 2

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Camping**

Idea Detail: Camp sites are large

Idea Author: Charles M

Number of Stars 1

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Teachers and students to use LBL as living, learning site.**

Idea Detail: Training teachers increases use of LBL learning lab because they know: (1) how to use LBL to connect to their students; (2) how to provide opportunities and experiences that allow them to understand how to connect to subject areas taught and tested; (3) how to take advantage of the numerous resources at LBL as a result of their training; (4) how to provide a perpetual set of activities for subsequent students and subsequent school years thus having a multiplier effect, i.e. one teacher trained at middle school level impacts 180 students per year x over 10 years = 1,800 students reached.

Additionally students are more inclined to ask their parents to visit LBL facilities as a result of having purposeful experiences via their classroom and teacher. Thus increasing user ship.

Idea Author: Joseph B

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: It's one of the best places to take my family for the day.**

Idea Detail: Public lands are very important. Families have a great place to go to enjoy nature.

Idea Author: Richard R

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: It is such a special place it gives a person ideas you can**

Idea Detail: bring home to your own community.

Idea Author: Diana E

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Education, friendships, and life experience**

Idea Detail: Visiting and working at Land Between the Lakes has showed me many things I didn't know about history and local wildlife and plants. It's also a great place to meet great people.

Idea Author: Brian T

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Schools**

Idea Detail: Because LBL is so large, its influence on the local schools is huge. It provides field trip opportunities for all ages on multiple topics. And that's just if they only go to the three facilities. With over-night options at Brandon Spring and college course research and volunteer opportunities, as well as homeschooler options, LBL provides learning experiences to all students. I have seen pre-K students go exploring on the same day a college ornithology class came out to go birding.

Idea Author: Monica W

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Scouts**



Idea Detail: Both Boy and Girl Scouts have multiple ways to do activities and badges. Special events at the facilities like Girl Scout Day and Cub Scout Day at the Nature Station let scouts complete multiple badge components with one stop ("one-stop-shop"). Hiking trails allow scout leaders to plan trips outside of facility hours that works well with the troop's schedule. Some even plan overnight trips, like a recent Boy Scout troop that did a 50 mile kayaking trip along the shoreline, which included a stop at the Nature Station. In addition to all of that, troops can schedule private programming from the facilities to complete badge requirements.

Idea Author: Monica W

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Great benefit to the community**

Idea Detail: We take for granted that we have such a wonderful resource so close. The Forestry Service and its staff and the volunteers do a very good job of providing services. The list of benefits is long. People hike, bike, hunt, watch birds, camp, picnic, boat, bird watch, and volunteer. Many people who are not outdoor oriented will drive the Bison Prairie or visit the Home Place or the Nature Station. The lakes are unique because one have of the waterfront faces a national recreational center. We had visitors from Holland who had traveled the U.S. and who said that the lake experience here was the best of all. Each year we take many out of state guests for boating on Lake Barkley with an emphasis on swimming in a quiet bay and observing wildlife such as osprey or the occasional eagle. In the evening we take guests to the planetarium or to visit with the astronomy club. Allmost all people in the area can to relax in the LBL. Economically, tourism and retirement.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0



## **Topic Name: Citizen Engagement**

### **Idea Title: Implementing ideas and suggestions made by those citizens...**

Idea Detail: These public forums and meetings are the best way to engage the public, but it doesn't need to stop there. You need to implement suggestions to let the public know that you hear them, and you're listening to them. I have been gathering surveys and data for over a year now from people that frequent Turkey Bay, because that is where I spend almost all of my time. People are interested in seeing improvements and change, and are willing to participate to make it happen. But they will lose interest if they don't see their efforts come to fruition. I can't go ride without someone asking me when are they going to see something happen. I know change and improvements take time, but something has to be done so people don't feel like their efforts are going unnoticed. The quickest way to lose public interest and involvement is to not do anything with their suggestions.

Idea Author: Julie W

Number of Stars 17

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Thanks for that reply, Jeff. By doing these forums and holding public meetings, that's a step in the right direction. I'm excited to see where it goes from here.... | By Julie W

Comment 2: Julie W. - I am really hearing your comments on hearing and then implementing. The second stage of this planning process is to work directly with representatives of stakeholder groups so that these groups can work together to develop specific items that can be implemented to help overcome the current challenges. | By Jeff L

### **Idea Title: Join the Friends of Land Between The Lakes!**

Idea Detail: I think that all taxpayers should enjoy the beauty of the Land Between The Lakes, but all of the extras (Turkey Bay, Wranglers, etc.) should want to join the friends group as members.

Idea Author: Jim S

Number of Stars 15

Number of Comments 2



Comment 1: Daniel, here is the website: <https://friendsoflbl.org/>  
and here is the Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofLandBetweenTheLakes/>  
| By Christopher T

Comment 2: I went here actively searching for this idea. If a Friends of group exists it is not well publicized. Is it out on Facebook or somewhere with a broad reach? | By DANIEL N

**Idea Title: A panel of citizens and descendants of those relocated**

Idea Detail: By having descendants on a panel, future generations will know how the past was effected.

Idea Author: Teresa B

Number of Stars 14

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: This would be very interesting | By Mary E

**Idea Title: A venue/event to interact with those who wish to help.**

Idea Detail: I think it would be helpful for management at LBL to become acquainted with those who care enough about the present and the future of LBL to get involved.

Idea Author: Susan A

Number of Stars 13

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Just thinking out loud here...

Maybe a "Meet & Greet" with LBL representatives in local communities with the goal of forging a stronger relationship/partnership between the two for the benefit of the area we all love. So many people I know care deeply about LBL. I just think it would be beneficial to align needs with resources. What help is needed? What volunteer opportunities exist? How can people help? What can we do to support LBL management? Yes, it all needs to be thought out, and it would require a marketing/community outreach initiative (a great collaborative project for Murray State business students that would give them some real world practical experience!), but I just believe the whole region benefits when LBL succeeds. | By Susan A



Comment 2: Susan A. - Can you tell me a little more about what type of venue/event could be held that would help many people to get better acquainted with each other? | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Reaching out to Murray State**

Idea Detail: I think it would be great to try to get an open line of communication with a few of the fraternities and sororities associated with Murray State and try to get them involved in volunteering out here at Land Between the Lakes. It would be great PR for them, and it would be nice for us to get younger generations involved out here.

Idea Author: Nickolaus W

Number of Stars 11

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Visiting local schools and having seminars**

Idea Detail: Increasing the number of programs at local schools (pre-school through college) and to the public in the area towns should draw more interest in visiting and supporting the LBL. Obviously, animals from the Nature Station excite the kids, but other facility presentations, such as, the Planetarium, Home Place (in period clothing) , Elk & Bison Prairie, Brandon Springs, outdoor activities, ... could introduce people to the many attractions that the LBL offers. Having animals along with other presentations might bring more people to the programs.

A weekly column about the LBL in local newspapers could be valuable. I imagine the newspapers would be receptive. The Murray Ledger and Times has several weekly columns by local people. Photos of visitors and volunteers enjoying LBL activities could be included. The Nature Station features on WPSD-TV are always good. Perhaps the station would provide more opportunities for showcasing the various facilities if asked.

Idea Author: David M

Number of Stars 11

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I concur with the 'thru college as this discussion / mindmixer tool being used is missing input from the college age thru mid thirties generation. | By Mary E



**Idea Title: Just continue to keep the land as it is.**

Idea Detail: Take care of the land and it will take care of you as it has for many centuries

Idea Author: Debbie M

Number of Stars 11

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Education, Education, Education**

Idea Detail: Providing for formal and non-formal groups of persons to learn about the land, the water, the air...how they connect to it and who they share it with is a critical means to increase usership. When people feel a kinship with a place, they are more inclined to use it over and over again. At the same time they will be more inclined to protect it as well. At the same time, when people feel at ease through education about and for LBL, they will share this with friends. This not only increase use, but also assures sustainability.

Idea Author: Joseph B

Number of Stars 10

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: I had shared this in a different post but I copied and pasted to spread it to this discussion.

A possible addition to EE teaching could be Expeditionary Learning. Its basically teachers accompanying professional technicians, scientists, etc. and receiving hand on experience and education while actively working on things like water pollution, honey bee shortage, etc. All of that learning and experience is then brought back to the classroom. A bonus would be the whole class participating in the field work, and even exposure to admin work such as bird count spreadsheets. The benefit is that the exposure to any given topic is almost exclusively local in scope. | By Greg V

Comment 2: Yes, the more we know the more we can share with others | By Mary E

**Idea Title: Volunteer activities**

Idea Detail: Volunteer activities like collecting up trash along the roadways would both bring



the community together as well as help Land Between the Lakes.

Idea Author: Rickey D

Number of Stars 10

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Keep asking what we think is needed**

Idea Detail: This is a good way to keep people involved and also by having meetings where people that don't have the internet can come and express their views!

Idea Author: Belinda N

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: advertise**

Idea Detail: Put LBL activites on TV, in the newspapers.

Idea Author: becky M

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Reach the younger generation**

Idea Detail: o to the local colleges and universities and get profs engaged....to make assignments to classes to reach young people. There is Austin Peay State University, UT Martin, Murray State, Western Kentucky Technical and Community College, Hopkinsville Community College, Southern IL University. There are programs in communications, recreation, even outdoor recreation, environmental education, forestry, wildlife biology, planning, and more at these colleges. To reach 18 to 22 year olds, LBL needs to talk to 18 to 22 year olds to find out how they are getting their information and what motivates them to be involved in activities. (My guess is if it does not involve a cell phone on whatever app is popular to them now you don't have a chance of getting their input.) Have an event that includes food - but you still have to get the word to them about the event. Go to their clubs,



student activity centers? The future users of LBL do not use a website.

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Continue with the website**

Idea Detail: To continue with the mindmixer website and to also have the community meetings- so that people who do not have the internet can still express their concerns and views!!!

Idea Author: Belinda N

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Local culture**

Idea Detail: History of the area before and after lakes formed and how the culture has changed since

Idea Author: Danny D

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Keep cost low and offer volunteer opportunities**

Idea Detail: Making activities affordable while giving responsibilities for getting involved might be key.

Idea Author: Gerald A

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: Friends of LBL Membership**

Idea Detail: Have a smaller tier in the membership and also have one for non-profit groups that could donate some less a year but could be more money in the future. More out-reach programs presented in the schools, especially the Nature Station with the animals.

Idea Author: Melissa P

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Melissa P. - I will pass your thoughts on to the Friends of Land Between the Lakes and the Nature Station staff. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Citizen Science**

Idea Detail: I know of that Land Between the Lakes participates in the 4th of July Butterfly Count, Monarch Tagging, and the Christmas Bird Count. I think programming such as these few examples as well as maybe periodically having a Bio Blitz gets more individuals exploring Land Between the Lakes and may give them more of an awareness of what flora/fauna resides in the area. If these opportunities present themselves and are hands on, visitors may have more of an investment in the area as well as surrounding communities.

Idea Author: Brooke G

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Sell plants for people to plant at LBL**

Idea Detail: Sell native plants for people to buy and a place for them to be planted. People could come back year after year and watch their plants grow. Also sell birdhouses and have birdhouse erecting events. Or put in more monarch waystations. Have butterfly identification cards around the lodges next to the pollinator gardens/monarch waystations.

Idea Author: Suzanne V

Number of Stars 8



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: This is all our land**

Idea Detail: The best way that citizens can be engaged is by taking an active interest in our public lands. Not only volunteering and helping keep it clean, but to report others that try to litter or drive off road ways. This is all ours and we have to make an effort to keep it the way it is. Thanks for listening LBL

Idea Author: Jason O

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Expand your marketing**

Idea Detail: LBL is a hidden treasure. I am continuously surprised by how many people in Clarksville and on Fort Campbell have never been there. LBL needs to market more strongly to these surrounding communities. It also needs to market more nationally. LBL is of a caliber such that it attracts tourists from out of state to travel here to visit it. It also attracts public like me to move to this area so we can live near it.

As far as sustainability efforts go, keep doing what you are already doing: provide outstanding education. Our sustainability practices are better because our you.

Photos: turtle education station at the Nature Station

Idea Author: Shannon H

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Shannon H. - I will make sure that our Public Affairs Officer and Communications Department are provided with your input on marketing. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: LBL meetings in the area**

Idea Detail: There is a meeting this afternoon in Dover that no one in the area is aware of,



also one in Benton next week. When I called the local newspaper and radio stations they had no idea what I was talking about. This meeting is on the “mindmaker” to get community input on sustainability for the LBL. I believe that any meeting the LBL has which affects the surrounding communities should be advertised in every local surrounding newspaper and radio stations. Alerting locals to be involved and attend any and all the meetings around the area would be a plus!

Idea Author: Jo P

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: YES use the Radio Stations | By Mary E

**Idea Title: Put together a river/lake clean-up**

Idea Detail: A river or lake clean-up event would be great. In addition, educating the citizens on conservation efforts such as catch and release and fish habitat education would be great.

Idea Author: Jen R

Number of Stars 7

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Communal gardens in the lower 35 acres**

Idea Detail: I think we could have communal gardens in the lower 35, and maybe a plant tree day for the upper 38.

Idea Author: Jon W

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Very interesting | By Mary E

**Idea Title: Public Input**



Idea Detail: Engaging the citizens, via their input, is the best place to begin.

Idea Author: Don W

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Internet and facebook!!!**

Idea Detail: Sharing all the activities they have going on at LBL.

Idea Author: VINCENT G

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: More hiking and camping**

Idea Detail: More hiking and camping

Idea Author: Becky W

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Becky W. - Are there any specific areas that you would like to see more hiking and camping located in? | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: This is doing it...**

Idea Detail: I certainly feel you guys are on the right track for citizens to participate through volunteer activities, keeping us posted on all activities, joining Friends of LBL, and letting us have an input.

Idea Author: Michael B

Number of Stars 5



Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: This is so NOT doing it. The stats from the last round show that more than 70% of respondents are over 45 years of age with 25% over 65. The future of LBL is in those with 40 plus years to left to enjoy it...those younger than 45 years of age. Without their input you are missing everything that is sustainable. | By Mary E

**Idea Title: Keep up the good work in keeping the campground clean**

Idea Detail: Keep up the good work in keeping the businesses in Grand Rivers.

Idea Author: Terri F

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Public interaction**

Idea Detail: It is human nature for people to feel important and "needed" in decision making and maintenance and development of public lands will flow more smoothly and efficiently if the public feels they have a say-so. As frustrating as they may be, public forums with input from those interested in the topic at hand seem to be the best way to engage the public.

Idea Author: Tim J

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Tim J. - Thank you for your comments. I hope that you and others can join us at one of our open houses. The first open house is Aug 1, from 3:30-6:30 pm at the Stewart County Visitor Center in Dover, TN. You can come and go anytime during the open house and talk with Forest Service staff and others who are at the open house.

The second open house is on Aug 7, from 3:30-6:30 pm at the Joe Creason Community Center in Benton, KY. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Wrong question - How should USFS be engaged**



Idea Detail: Ladies and Gentlemen: This clearly demonstrates to me that once again the government wants to place the responsibility for engagement in their planning on the "stakeholders." It is time for the government to understand they are the ones to must be engaged. Engaging any member of the public meaningfully requires developing workable, sustainable and collaborative (wonderful buzzword and appropriate if done correctly) relationships. "Cold" technology such as this is on approach to get input BUT to get engagement I recommend some of your folks get trained and use collaborative informed consent and the various tactics taught by our professional organizations IAP2 and the NCDD. Until the USFS employees responsible for the development of "collaboration" build and sustain workable, meaningful and trustworthy relationships the "citizens" will not be engaged in a meaningful way.

Idea Author: Leland Darryl A

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: outreach**

Idea Detail: Magazine, tv, print, digital. Tell people about the LBL and the opportunities here. Sponsor fishing and hunting shows to bring celebrity fishers and hunters to the area to inform the public about the opportunists that exist here. Advertise in magazines like DUN Magazine to get more info to the public. A combination of regional and national efforts need to be made it get more people here.

Idea Author: kurt K

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Day use fee**

Idea Detail: I have always thought that a day use fee for entering LBL was a fair idea to help with the costs of maintaining and improvements needed.

Idea Author: Roxie T

Number of Stars 5



Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: There are fees to access recreation on Crab Orchard NWR near us and I think it has greatly reduced use. No daily fees. | By Barb W

Comment 2: I recently moved here from Alabama. Day use fees are common there. I hated them because they nickel and dime you to death. I'd rather pay a yearly fee and be done with it. | By Tim R

**Idea Title: More activities for our school children and parents**

Idea Detail: The kids are the future and the parents can have ideas and input for funding opportunities. LBL needs to be kept whole and maintained by any means necessary.

Idea Author: Jason W

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Go where the visitors are**

Idea Detail: As the camping season nears it's end, LBL might go to the campgrounds and ask them what they think. Just like Anthony Bourdain sat around people's tables to get to know them, go sit around a few campfires.

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Stars 4

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The Land Between The Lakes is my Country Club**

Idea Detail: The Land Between The Lakes belongs to God first, and then all of the people.

Idea Author: Jim S

Number of Stars 4

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: Let citizens adopt areas to maintain for wildlife**

Idea Detail: My friends and I thought it would be cool if we could adopt part of an area to plant food for wildlife. Or mow fields that have been abandoned due to budget cuts.

Idea Author: Danny T

Number of Stars 4

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: This is a great idea and we would welcome the conversation to see how we could make this idea a reality... | By John W

**Idea Title: Further Education of Management Practices**

Idea Detail: It blows my mind how people want to stop all logging without ever taking the time to understand it's purpose. A forest needs to be management to ensure it stays healthy. Simply "leaving it alone" is what has currently hurt the forest and resulted in the large populations of invasive and non-native species, but so much of the public fails to understand that. There are great benefits to logging, and will help the local wildlife populations as well, but again the public doesn't understand that. I say start with BASIC education, try to get the message across about the necessity for forest management, and let them know that logging is nothing more than an additional tool to help maintain the property. Logging really isn't any different than the 1,000s of acres being farmed, or the hay that is regularly cut; it isn't about "commercialization" as so many like to say, but rather about "management" and making that point well known is a critical step.

Idea Author: Scott B

Number of Stars 4

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Thank you for your perspective on this issue. We, through this process, are attempting to educate and inform the public of the benefits of multiple management tools. But more than that, we are committed to getting more input from those like yourself who feel a connection to this place. | By John W

**Idea Title: regular mail is good email ok**



Idea Detail: I like snail mail

Idea Author: david E

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: David E. - Thank you for the input. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Focus groups**

Idea Detail: I think having focus groups of the different visitor/user groups would be very valuable. For instance, at the EE facilities, homeschoolers or scouts or teachers. I also think making these surveys more accessible to people who have trouble with computers by having more meetings and non-gateway communities like Murray, Clarksville, Paducah, and Hopkinsville. Also allow paper versions of surveys to be available at all facilities or downloadable.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: John P. - Paper versions of these questions are available. The paper versions are available through the Nature Station or by calling me (Jeff Laird) at 270-924-2023. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Engaging people through Experience**

Idea Detail: I think including people in new and fun activities that directly tackle environmental issues is a great way for them to learn and share experiences with their communities during big events or efforts.

For an example issue to center such events on, we can use the issue of water pollution like the one in the Little River (or at least the portion running through Cadiz, KY). The more common problems here are results from ground and surface water affected by the agriculture in the same watershed (nitrates, phosphates, etc.). One way to combat these issues could be placing bioreactors made from wood chips (to remove nitrates) and casings containing steel byproducts like metal shavings (for removing phosphates) underground at strategic locations.



Or to fight off bacteria and algae, UV light could be an option, too. On the pondguy.com, for \$1,727.36, a 200 Watt, 120V UV pond bulb treatment system can sterilize 2,900 gallons per hour. Continued in comments.

Idea Author: Greg V

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: \*Coninued from my original post above:

Those items are relatively cheap to purchase and maintain as the bioreactors don't need maintenance for about 10 years and UV bulbs can easily be replaced.

Some ways to include the community with these possible solutions are to set up events that allow people to be directly apart of the efforts. A "Ditch Dig" for setting the bioreactors or a "Cosmic Float" for employing UV treatment in the waters are some examples of events that people could be invited to. Bringing donations or supplies along with time and effort would be encouraged. I think people would normally be skeptic to donate time or money but if they know exactly what, why, how, etc. they would be more inclined to participate in some way. They would then bring back their knowledge and experience and hopefully that would lead to a snowball effect for more participants in future events. With the Little River portion running through Cadiz, KY directly connected to Lake Barkley, these events could eventually effect all LBL waters.

Reference articles:

EPA (2018, February 20). Nutrient Pollution. Retrieved from <https://www.epa.gov/nutrientpollution>

EPA (1999, September). Wastewater Technology Fact Sheet, Ultraviolet Disinfection. Retrieved from <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-06/documents/uv.pdf>

Kentucky Division of Water (n.d.). Little River Watershed Health Report. Retrieved from <http://water.ky.gov/waterquality/TMDL%20Health%20Reports/Little%20River%20Watershed%20Health%20Report.pdf>

Science Daily, National Science Foundation, & Ecological Engineering (2010, November 2). New Way of Removing Excess Nitrogen from the Environment. Retrieved from <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/11/101101151853.htm>



Science Daily & South Dakota State University (2015, September 23). Protecting Lakes, Streams by Removing Phosphates as well as Nitrates. Retrieved from <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/09/150923134444.htm>

| By Greg V

**Idea Title: Social Media for each facility**

Idea Detail: Have each facility have social media accounts that they can update with their events, things of interest, etc. That way, if someone prefers one facility over another, they won't be bombarded with information on the other facilities all the time. They may start to ignore updates and won't be as involved. Also include multiple kinds of social media. Facebook and Twitter are now mostly used by 30+ year olds (i.e. parents and grandparents), but Instagram and SnapChat are more used by younger ages. Talk to any college-aged/High-school staff (i.e. interns) to see what they think. Social Media changes so quickly that it's important to seriously consider advice from younger staff.

Idea Author: Monica W

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Meetings and Conferences/Internet Surveys**

Idea Detail: There should be continuous meetings with the public because not all citizens have the Internet, this way they can speak and voice their ideas and opinions. This survey is helpful to those who have the time and Internet to sit and enter their ideas and opinions.

Idea Author: Belinda N

Number of Comments 0



## **Topic Name: Uniqueness**

### **Idea Title: The fact that it is NOT developed!**

Idea Detail: To look out at the lake and LBL, and to not see the shoreline dotted with condos...to see animals in their natural habitat and not in zoo enclosures...to see the stars on a clear night or a full moon shining on the lake instead of commercial lights or neon or whatever else.

Idea Author: Susan A

Number of Stars 14

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I agree. The fact that you can recreate in the lake and not be in someone's back yard is worth everything. I have been in many other lakes and always feel that I am being watched or I am encroaching on someone's property. | By Chad G

### **Idea Title: LBL has something for everyone...**

Idea Detail: LBL offers so many different activities, there is something for everyone. Indoor activities like at the planetarium or nature station; outdoor activities abound like any type of camping, fishing, hiking, hunting, off roading, wildlife viewing, and the list goes on. This is what makes LBL unique.

Idea Author: Julie W

Number of Stars 14

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: More information on good wildlife viewing areas would be a wonderful thing to add to current information. I realize this may be counter productive to the peaceful setting for the wildlife as it has been for the eagles in the past, however, appropriate markings and signage could deter (not stop) the encroachment. | By Mary E

### **Idea Title: Heritage, freedom of exploring, wildlife**

Idea Detail: So much to do and enjoy, whether it's hiking, biking, watching nature at its finest, or just relaxing in a back bay in a kayak. LBL has so much to offer that is either free or cost



very little. So many do not take advantage of what we have in LBL. I get amazed at how many people I can talk to that have never been to LBL. Yes, we all miss Empire Farm, The Silo Overlook, but time took its toll on these. Perhaps one day they will make a comeback. I personally would like to see a fire tower moved to the Welcome Center and even if its only 50 feet restored, but have it on display where visitors could actually climb and see what it was like to be a lookout.

Idea Author: Michael B

Number of Stars 12

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Micheal B. - You touched on several ways that people can enjoy Land Between the Lakes and ways that people have enjoyed Empire Farm and the Silo Overlook in the past and provided a potential idea for the future. Thank you. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Mixture of recreation and national forest.**

Idea Detail: I've been to countless parks that restrict access to various areas to protect the wildlife or the land. I've been to several museums that limit kids abilities to actually interact with history. Whereas here at Land Between the Lakes...within reason, very little of it is off limits. With something as simple as a backpacking pass, or a dispersed camping pass...people can hike, bike, ride horses, hunt, or really just about any kind of recreation that they want. All while still appreciating the breath taking scenery that this land has to offer. I myself (and my family) are avid Geocachers...and after dealing with countless issues of safety and accessibility problems of living in a big city, it is absolutely amazing to simply wander the wilderness of LBL with nearly unlimited access. That to me is incredibly unique. I've never heard of another setup quite like ours.

Idea Author: Nickolaus W

Number of Stars 11

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: LBL is full of hidden historical gems.**

Idea Detail: LBL is one of the few places you can wander off the beaten path and find multiple homesteads, cemetaries, and even Civil War fighting positions that tell the unique story if the area.



Idea Author: Johnny S

Number of Stars 11

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Thank you for the comment Johnny. The landscape is full of interesting stories of the unique heritage of this area and I'm glad that you've been able to discover some. If you have any thoughts on how we could or should tell those stories better, please let us know. | By Christopher T

**Idea Title: Able to photograph and view many variety of wildlife.**

Idea Detail: In Nov 2017 I was able to photograph a Golden Eagle at Duncan Lake! Fantastic Sight!

Idea Author: Randy G

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Randy G. - Thank you for sharing. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Quality of education & diversity of recreation**

Idea Detail: LBL is breathtakingly beautiful. Every inch of it is a treasure. Where else do you find an expanse of wildness that you get to play in and learn about in all of these different ways? When it comes to recreation, LBL has something for everyone. It's diversity of offerings also make LBL unique. I have traveled extensively, visiting many National Parks, and LBL is top notch.

To me the very best asset that LBL has is its education program. Throughout LBL, the outstanding staff and volunteers are providing education to visitors that is much higher quality than the norm.

LBL staff also support teachers far above and beyond. I teach Biology and Earth & Space science at Fort Campbell High School and the exceptional staff at LBL are a tremendous asset to me as I plan lessons. The quality of education that my students receive is higher because of the guidance that I receive from LBL educators. As a result my students become not only more



aware, but also better stewards of the earth.

Idea Author: Shannon H

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Shannon H. - The Forest Service and Land Between the Lakes Association environmental education and interpretive staff love working with teachers to ensure that education offerings here fit in with state curriculum guidelines. We want teachers and kids experiences here to be useful as a part of your ongoing curriculum, as well as being a fun experience. Thank you for being a teacher. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Interests a Broad Range of Interests and Activities**

Idea Detail: At LBL you can camp in a modern campground, you can camp at a primitive campground, you can backcountry camp. You can hike, you can fish, you can hunt. There are two opportunities to see buffalo and a place to see elk, you can off-road at Turkey Bay. You can bring and ride horses. You can explore historical sites and visit The Homestead. There is a planetarium and nature center. You can ride boats and ski and tube. You can just ride the roads and explore.

Idea Author: DANIEL N

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Multiple opportunities...**

Idea Detail: LBL has so many opportunities, actually more in one place, than any other place in the entire Forest Service. The need to tell the story: We are here and close to your home...join us for several hours to several days. We have much for you to do...

Idea Author: Joseph B

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 2



Comment 1: Thank you for this helpful comment Mary E. I think that developing Heritage location maps could be a great way to help people learn and connect with the unique history of this area.

| By Christopher T

Comment 2: The story of the original landowners is very interesting such as is at the Golden Pond exhibit. It is unfortunate that is not accessible by vehicle. There are also concrete markers throughout that identify where schools and churches once stood. A map that included these would be a way to maintain and share the historical record of the land. | By Mary E

**Idea Title: its beautifull forest the big trees its history**

Idea Detail: all the people that were forced to leave to make it posibleand it is suppose to be a playground for everyone just the natural beauty of all the large trees and places to fish

Idea Author: david E

Number of Stars 7

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: David, I have a question for you. One of the challenges we face is access. We've heard from the public in this process that they value lake access for shore fishing. I've also heard people say they like areas that are more natural. Given those conflicting values, can you expand on your statement? Can you let me know what you'd like to see that might accomplish both of those conflicting values? | By Christopher J

**Idea Title: History/Heritage**

Idea Detail: My husband has childhood memories of his home in LBL, hunting-basically the only place to be able to hunt. I do not have any memories of my great-grandparents home but I have been told where it was. For those who are doing family histories, it would be AWESOME to have pictures with where houses were located at those particular sites.

Idea Author: Belinda N

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Hello Belinda, thank you for the comment. I would be happy to provide you with



any information we might have on your family. Please email me at [cthornock@fs.fed.us](mailto:cthornock@fs.fed.us) . | By Christopher T

**Idea Title: Wild**

Idea Detail: Keep it as wild as possible but with more road access to lakes

Idea Author: Danny D

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: When you say more road access to lakes what are you envisioning that to be? | By Gary H

Comment 2: Danny D. - Thank you for your comments and input. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: One Stop Shopping!**

Idea Detail: It is the perfect place to recreate. You can camp, canoe, kayak, go horse back riding, go to the OHV, backpack the North/South Trail, go wildlife viewing (it's a birding hotspot), take your family to the planetarium or Nature Station or the Homeplace. Plus you are not that far away from other places such as Paducah, Mammoth Cave, or Civil War Historic Sites. It truly has a little bit of everything for everyone.

Idea Author: Brooke G

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: It is as God intended it to be.**

Idea Detail: There is no other place in our area that is not developed, or plans to be developed.

Idea Author: Jim S

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: Recreation Infrastructure**

Idea Detail: While providing access to recreation infrastructure, I do believe some areas could be improved upon, of interest to our family is the Turkey Bay OHV area. Access to RV hookups in this area would be a great start. Adding to the boundary lines to create additional miles of trails would be an improvement as well.

Idea Author: Jerry P

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Thank you for the idea. I will discuss this with the facility manager | By Gary H

**Idea Title: civil war history**

Idea Detail: My house backs up to the LBL and the idea that the civil war happened in my backyard is very exciting to me. I also love exploring the old homesteads and the cemeteries in the area. Aside from the the access to the LBL is awesome, you are not limited to the trails you can park and explore. I love how wild it is.

Idea Author: kurt K

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: LBL is a large recreational area.**

Idea Detail: LBL is not confined to one city, county, or state. It is in both Kentucky and Tennessee and contains a large area. The recreational activities available are high in both quality and quantity. If you want to learn about the history and heritage of the area, you can find that at the Homeplace and other locations. It is a peaceful place to be at one with nature as well as an enjoyable place to recreate on the water. The planetarium is far enough from city lights that you can see a sky full of stars and planets at night. The variety of plants and animals is both abundant and diverse. And if you want to know how to find all of these things, there are people that can let you know how to get there.

Idea Author: Julie H



Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The abundance of outdoor activities**

Idea Detail: Camping, hunting, fishing, swimming, hiking, mountain biking, and boating are just some of the many activities. The most outstanding feature is that you have two incredibly large lakes on each side of the property, making for a large amount of opportunities to enjoy those lakes however you see fit.

Idea Author: Scott B

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Scott B. - thank you for your comments. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Diverse activities for all ages**

Idea Detail: The beauty of LBL is phenomenal which is something people of all ages can appreciate. There are activities available for everyone from the historical aspects to fishing and hunting to learning about wildlife and fauna to just playing, swimming, hiking, etc. There is always something to learn.

Idea Author: Kathy M

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I agree. I have been working here 18 years and I still often learn something new about the history of the area | By Gary H

**Idea Title: Best location for camping, fishing, swimming and canoeing.**

Idea Detail: We've camped a several locations around the state and found the camp sites at LB: to be the best. Facilities are great. close to swimming, canoeing, and fishing and great bath houses.



Idea Author: Tom S

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: That so many people had to relocate.**

Idea Detail: By relocating all of the families who sacrificed their homes and livelihood, we have all been able to enjoy LBL. We should never forget their sacrifices and should always keep this property as it was intended to be.

Idea Author: Teresa B

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The wide range of features and accessibility**

Idea Detail: The wide range of features and the accessibility to those features is unique to our area. We are also blessed with staff and volunteers that have a love for what they do. It is rare to find such personable, caring, and knowledgeable staff. I have been to many other outdoor facilities where the staff seems to avoid contact with the visitors. At every facility in the LBL, guests are met by enthusiastic staff who engage the visitors in conversation and make the visitor feel welcome. Along with the excellent staff. The 140,000 acres of varied outdoor opportunities provide hiking, fishing, educational, ... opportunities for almost every interest

Idea Author: David M

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Reopen Rushing Creek Campground**

Idea Detail: This campground was a great place for families. No golf carts, nice playground for kids, open air shower house and boat ramp.



Idea Author: Rose H

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Thank you for your comments concerning Rushing Creek and the golf cart use in other campgrounds. Can you provide more information on your specific concerns with the golf carts?

| By Gary H

Comment 2: We have had to use Piney Campground since the closure of Rushing Creek. I find the golf carts to be more than annoying, but potentially dangerous. I would like to see golf carts banned from the tent camping loops. | By Rose H

**Idea Title: The history of this land and the tranquility**

Idea Detail: A wonderful place to visit . The heritage of this land is not nearly displayed enough. The sacrifices of war, the sacrifices of hard working families. The land along with its Ky lake , the creeks and foliage as well As the many types of wildlife is a place that all generations should be given a chance to experience. The camping areas are the best , giving people a chance to escape from all the pressures of life. We love LBL

Idea Author: Debbie M

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Hello Debbie, thank you for the comment. How should we go about displaying the unique and important heritage better? | By Christopher T

**Idea Title: Definitely the history and tranquility**

Idea Detail: Seeing the old houses and school sign is very educational to myself and my children

Idea Author: Becky W

Number of Stars 5



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The Balance of Wilderness and Ability to Access**

Idea Detail: For as wild and rugged as LBL is, it is remarkably easily accessed. Despite the access to most areas you are still able to get way "off the beaten path" if you choose. You can literally go and not see or hear another person for days on end if you choose.

Idea Author: DANIEL N

Number of Stars 4

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Daniel N. Thank you for the comment. One of the challenges we face in managing public lands is access. Some people value quiet recreation while others want to be able to drive to destinations anywhere on public lands. Its always complicated balancing those two values that don't exactly compliment each other. Thanks for this feedback! | By Christopher J

**Idea Title: Natural setting**

Idea Detail: I enjoy running along the gravel roads to nowhere in particular and coming across a cemetery reminding me of the history of the land before it was taken away from the people who resided there.

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The reason is because of the history/heritage**

Idea Detail: My husband has early childhood memories of his home and also of hunting- basically the only place that you can hunt anymore. My suggestion is that it would be AWESOME to have the homeplaces of where people used to live with pictures of their houses. I don't have any memories of where my great-grandparents lived. I have been told where they lived but those that are doing family histories would benefit from it also.

Idea Author: Belinda N



Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: America's Largest Inland Peninsula**

Idea Detail: It's my understanding that Land Between the Lakes is America's largest inland peninsula and I think that unique feature has a lot to do with why it's so easy to feel like you've escaped into a much quieter, calmer and peaceful dimension as soon as you enter the area. I typically come in from the north - Grand Rivers - entrance and no matter how stressful the days before were, a unique sense of calm always envelopes by the time I pass the North Welcome Station. The controlled traffic access created by limiting N/S access to a single road makes it easy to slip away from whatever was left on the other side of the lakes. It's my own refuge.

Idea Author: Kim D

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Kim D. - Thank you for your comments. I am glad that Land Between the Lakes is a calm, peaceful place for you. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Unique Things about LBL**

Idea Detail: I feel what's most unique about LBL are all the environmental educational opportunities that LBL has to offer, in both cultural and natural history. I think it offers quite a bit for visiting families. Although LBL does not have charismatic mega-fauna, I believe it is one of the most diverse places I have ever been to, and offers a lot for the wildlife viewing public. Finally, I think it is important to recognize LBL's most unique feature is it's 300 mile undeveloped shoreline.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: trails with the water views,Eagles and other wildlife**



Idea Detail: Historical sites, great views, and trails large enough for wagon enthusiasts make LBL the only one of its kind.

Idea Author: Gerald A

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The natural and historical history is important.**

Idea Detail: Land Between the Lakes is a place like no other. It is a great place for fishing, camping and holds a personal connection to many people in Stewart County and the surrounding counties. I have a family cemetery location in LBL. It is important to preserve the local history of the residents that lived.

Idea Author: Melissa P

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The people at the campgrounds are really nice and helpful**

Idea Detail: You can see some wildlife. you can go boating pretty easy. just sit by the fire and enjoy the quiet & peacefulness of the campgrounds.

Idea Author: Terri F

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: A Destination**

Idea Detail: The best thing about LBL is that everyone can find something to do. I can bring my whole family camping. I can invite friends from long distances who aren't campers but love environmental facilities like the Nature Station, Homeplace, and Planetarium. I have local friends who LOVE Turkey Bay. Everyone who visits me loves the bison range. I can escape my life and disappear to observe wildlife on a woodland trail, or a water trail. The variety of and



access to different activities is astonishing, and should be embraced. LBL is a real gem in this part of the country, if not the entire country. How many places exist where you can do all these things in one place?

Idea Author: Arrianne B

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Arrianne B. - Land Between the Lakes is truly one of the jewels of public lands. Almost everyone can enjoy the area and the many activities that they can experience here. |  
By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Let's go back in time**

Idea Detail: The Land Between The Lakes is just like it was before it was settled. The display of wild animals, and the vegetation is similar to what it was hundreds of years ago.

Idea Author: Jim S

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: It is as God intended it to b**

Idea Detail: It is our heritage.

Idea Author: Jim S

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Nature**

Idea Detail: I love being out in nature.

Idea Author: Don W



Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The sheer amount of public land available**

Idea Detail: The vast amount of public land and water available for fishing, hunting, and camping is impressive. Adding in the historic value makes this area even more noteworthy.

Idea Author: Jen R

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: We are now raising 2 grandsons and I think the quality/quant**

Idea Detail: ity of the recreation infrastructure along with the history and heritage is something I would want them to be a part of.

Idea Author: Diana E

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I have two twin granddaughters. I hope when they get a little older to share it with them as well | By Gary H

**Idea Title: LBL is very important for local children**

Idea Detail: My children have grown up going to LBL to learn its history and view and enjoy its abundant wildlife and stunning natural beauty!

Idea Author: Jason W

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: The peaceful quiet of the extensive woodlands**

Idea Detail: Just wondering down some of the long hiking trails or dirt roads that are surrounded by healthy forest is a very peaceful experience. Wildlife of many different kinds is abundant and beautiful.

Idea Author: Randall H

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Options**

Idea Detail: There is a huge variety of options for visitors. The three facilities provide experiences for visitors based on their areas of interest. They can spend all day at each facility, or can split the day between the three. They can go boating with many boat ramps all over LBL, both for recreation or hunting. Visitors can go hiking all over LBL, including the entire length of the peninsula with the North/South trail. Wildlife viewing opportunities are everywhere, both with hiking trails and with the NatureWatch area. They can stay overnight at Brandon Spring or at the many campgrounds, some of which are open year round. Those who want to go off-road with OHVs have a dedicated section of the Recreation Area with miles of trails to explore. Many visitors can spend an entire week doing activities and still have more than can do.

Idea Author: Monica W

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Large area of undeveloped land in the center of the country**

Idea Detail: We are far from the parts of the country where there are large blocks of undeveloped, public land. Giving people the opportunity to camp in less developed areas is an important component and should be increased, not reduced.

Idea Author: Barb W

Number of Stars 2



Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Barb W. - The undeveloped blocks of land at Land Between the Lakes is special to many people like yourself. Thank you for the comments. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Camping**

Idea Detail: We enjoy camping at Piney campground.

Idea Author: Jerry C

Number of Stars 1

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Thank you for being part of the Piney family | By Gary H

**Idea Title: The history, and the fact it is almost surrounded by water**

Idea Detail: If you're into inland peninsula's then Land Between the Lakes is the best. Seriously though, it's an amazing place for camping, swimming, water sports, wildlife, and education.

Idea Author: Brian T

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: A wild place bordered on three sides by water**

Idea Detail: The area is unique with the geography of a relatively narrow strip of land which is bordered by two large lakes.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0



## **Topic Name: Partnership**

### **Idea Title: partner with Boy Scouts**

Idea Detail: Scouting leaders look for opportunities to have "cross country" hiking and camping opportunities. Develop alliances with regional councils who will involve their leaders in training opportunities at Brandon Spring. As a result they will train leaders on how to use LBL resources, trails, inland water ponds etc for their merit badge and experience programs at the troop level.

Idea Author: William J

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 0

### **Idea Title: Parter with technology company**

Idea Detail: People need to escape from the busy world when getting into nature but sometimes for some people they must maintain a link ... and at LBL that is all but impossible.

Find a way to partner with someone to allow hikers to have an emergency link to the world with their cell phones. Too many places there is no cell connection possible and hikers are subject to snake bites, broken legs, becoming lost with no connection for help.

Idea Author: William J

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: William J. Both Verizon and AT&T have asked the Forest Service for permission to install additional cell transmitters in different locations at Land Between the Lakes. The Forest Service is working with both of these companies as they are preparing their plans and proposals for review. | By Jeff L

### **Idea Title: Partner with Paving Company**

Idea Detail: I read about need to fix roads at Piney ...

Partner with regional paving company(s) in region for project paving where they receive credit



and possibly free access for owners and employees as well as publicity for their paving work .

Idea Author: William J

Number of Stars 4

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Another neat idea...is this something that already has been tried and ran into obstacles or would this be new? It seems like it potentially would fit under the annual community and partnership goals.

I'm asking knowing that corporations and businesses often look for annual "give back" projects. I've been on both sides of that equation and making it happen often is just a matter of 1) making the need known; 2) identifying and connecting project managers from all the involved parties; 3) identifying the benefits, risks and expectations of all involved, and 4) (most importantly) making those connections early enough that the businesses haven't already promised their resources to another worthy project. Starting discussions 13-18 months in advance is not unusual when there are businesses involved that can afford to "donate" sizable amounts of resources and volunteers because of all of the stakeholder signoffs needed. Lots to it, but let me know if there's a way we can help! | By Kim D

**Idea Title: Partner with other federal or state agencies**

Idea Detail: Select other Federal agencies or state agencies to partner with to deliver the services current delivered for example:

- partner with National Park Service in managing trails and Homeplace
- partner with US Fish and Wildlife in managing EBP and south range
- partner with KY Fish and Wildlife in managing wildlife programs

Make partnership a joint visibility with the public so we (citizens) see our tax money at work without reduction in what we have come to love about campgrounds, nature station, planetarium, homeplace, buffalo, and hiking.

Actively FIND partners to help with funding and ask for more funds from congress ... do not take our wonderful experiences away from us.

Idea Author: William J

Number of Stars 3



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Partner with Outdoor Organizations**

Idea Detail: Develop Fishing contests which would include camping opportunities at desired locations for greater use of LBL.

Consider partnership with FLW to create world class contest event.

Idea Author: William J

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Partner with 4 Wheel Vehicle Manufacturer**

Idea Detail: Actively involve 4 wheel vehicle manufacturer in a partnership relationship to develop Turkey Bay include sponsorship of camping facility investment ... multi year.

Idea Author: William J

Number of Stars 2

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Never partnered**

Idea Detail: Never partnered

Idea Author: Tom S

Number of Stars 2

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I work at the Nature Station.**

Idea Detail: In short, Yes I have. I've worked in a variety of places around Land Between the Lakes. Front Desk clerk and Gift Shop Clerk at both the Nature Station and Golden Pond



Visitors center. As the Assistant Volunteer Coordinator through Friends of Land Between the Lakes, and now as a Naturalist at the Woodlands Nature Station. I have helped in doing everything from Bison Roundups and the resulting auction, to scheduling trash cleanups in various bays, to now teaching various people about native wildlife. The best experiences I've had are simply being around, working with, and talking to all of the various people who come through Land Between the Lakes. From as far away as Japan, to as near as Aurora, we get tens of thousands of wonderful people visiting us each year. That is my favorite part of working here.

Idea Author: Nickolaus W

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I currently work for Friends of Land Between the Lakes**

Idea Detail: I've been an Employee of Friends of Land Between the Lakes for nearly 4 years now. I have loved every minute of it. From my first days as a gift shop clerk at the Nature Station, all the way to now being a Naturalist at the Nature Station. I've helped in everything from pointing out interesting things on the map to visitors, to helping in several shoreline cleanups. I even had the opportunity to help in one of our Bison Auctions. Many of the people that I've worked with are equally passionate about this land and about all of the things this land has to offer. Whether they are passionate hunters, hikers, bikers, or just tourists. Everyone seems to fall in love with one thing or another around here.

Idea Author: Nickolaus W

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I have been a volunteer with the Friends for many years**

Idea Detail: My best experience was working, perhaps as much as fifteen years ago, with an LBL committee, county judge executives, and state officials to plan for a bike path across the bridges and the LBL. My worst experience was when misguided officials blocked the way for citizens to view the barge which struck Kentucky Lake Bridge.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0



## **Topic Name: Sustainability**

### **Idea Title: Keep the park as it is**

Idea Detail: To be sustainable, the park needs to be able to maintain it self.

Ideas could be during Halloween, have a haunted woods, or Zombie hunt, these attractions draw crowds who will pay money.

Put the guard shacks up at the entrances, and charge people money per bike or carload to enter the park, plus keep a yearly pass available. Many people like to just cruise the trace, charge them to do it and use the money to keep up the park.

Have some movies in the park, host several of them to appeal to various groups, 1. You could put a screen on a barge and show movies on the lake, 2. set up a screen at turkey bay to show movies off road, and lastly show movies at the camp ground. Charge a small fee to come and watch.

Partner with local schools so that kids can come and clean up the park for extra credit at school, Free labor buddy, and kids get out for a while.

Capitalize on the recent fad of adventure with challenge bridges, set them up in some trees, and charge admission.

Idea Author: tim K

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Tim K. - Thank you for the ideas.

The Land Between the Lakes Protection Act, under which the Forest Service Manages the area, specifically prohibits charging a general entrance fee to enter Land Between the Lakes.

For a copy of the Protection Act you can paste the following link into your web browser.

[https://www.landbetweenthelakes.us/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/ProtectionActPUBLIC-LAW-105277OCT-21-1998-112-STAT-2681326\\_Pages-311-327.pdf](https://www.landbetweenthelakes.us/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/ProtectionActPUBLIC-LAW-105277OCT-21-1998-112-STAT-2681326_Pages-311-327.pdf) | By Jeff L

Comment 2: Great ideas, Tim! (Love your pix with your son too!) | By Kim D



**Idea Title: Maintain a way of life forever**

Idea Detail: Using our resources in a way to lamination our way of life for ever.

Idea Author: Tom S

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Find ways to maintain and preserve the parks**

Idea Detail: Finding ways to maintain and preserve the beauty and nature of the lbl so that our children and grandchildren and their children can enjoy the simple things of life in he way we all have had the opportunity to do we love being able to go with our kids and grand kids to wrangles campground and enjoy the beautiful scenery

Idea Author: Deanna V

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Develop maps/brochures of trails, telling stories about the area**

Idea Detail: Emphasize the historical facts of the early pioneer experience. Have music shows of music the pioneers might have played, listened to. Have storytelling events based on experiences of actual residents, or stories of that time. Examples of stories: ghost stories, Indian contacts, animal encounters, pirates of the rivers, ferrying the rivers, etc.

Idea Author: Carol W

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Neat ideas, Carol...This type of thing works really well in other areas so the proof of concept is done and there's not really any similar competition of any scale nearby...Lots of volunteers would be critical for success though, given the already limited funding sources. Plus we could expand our partnerships even deeper into the colleges and arts organizations that are within a couple of hours drive to help with such, as such partnerships would benefit all



involved... | By Kim D

**Idea Title: partner with Fish and Wildlife**

Idea Detail: Give Kentucky Fish and Wildlife name recognition at Woodlands Nature Station for their partnership in helping to off set expenses (they pay some of your expenses for their name above the door at facility). Operations continue as presently operated but their payments to reduce costs for Forestry Department.

Idea Author: William J

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Maintenance-roads**

Idea Detail: The roads in LBL need to be maintained to the highest ability. There should not be potholes the size of a tractor tire in the roads. Grade them, put some gravel, and keep them maintained, especially the roads that lead to the water. The reason people come to LBL is because they want to spend time with their families and doing things within their budget. Having picnics and going swimming are things done within a small budget for anyone. Don't make it expensive and keep the prices low so that many people could enjoy all of the things LBL has to offer. We have spent all spring and most of the summer waiting on a tile to be put in on Piney road. Ridiculous!!!! If there is a road that goes to the water, MAINTAIN IT!! Don't put up a gate like you did at Rushing Creek!! You should open it up and keep it a back country camping. Gatlin Point-fix the water line, don't just pull up the spikots!!!!

Idea Author: Belinda N

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: I have to agree. We are a group of hunters that have been going to LBL annually since about 1992 and can definitely see that the road maintenance is not the same as the TVA owned days. Seems easiest to just gate it off, or remove it from the MVUM and let it go. | By Chad G

Comment 2: Belinda N. Thank you for your input. We are working to prioritize and catch up on grading that has been set back due to the very wet conditions over the last few months. Is



there a specific road that you know needs attention? | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Having a place that offers amenities and services in an area**

Idea Detail: Without activies, cell phone service, grocery stores with produce and other items needed to camp and live in the area, makes vacations less desirable!!!

Idea Author: Sue E

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Details**

Idea Detail: It was our past and it will certainly effect our future

Idea Author: Cynthia R

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Sustainability=Long Term**

Idea Detail: One idea to add sustainability to LBL would be to develop a reservable campground in the middle of the Trace, which would bring more traffic in off the newly renovated 68/80. People would only have to exit the Trace and drive a few miles, rather than to either end of the Trace (Piney to the south or Hillman's to the North). Developing Colson Hollow to a reservable campground would generate economic sustainability, and if you built a connecting trail to Turkey Bay, that campground would always be full. Giving Turkey Bay users the ability to reserve a campsite and an option for water and/or electric would be a financial game changer for LBL.

Idea Author: Julie W

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Julie W. - Thank you for your ideas. This is an interesting idea that will be



considered. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Health of the resource is first priority**

Idea Detail: Hunting opportunity has to be managed in a way that provides the wildlife the maximum benefit to flourish. The fluctuations must be parallel.

Idea Author: Lance P

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Keep Investing in Environmental Education**

Idea Detail: Land Between the Lakes has a number of wonderful facilities. Those facilities need to be maintained to attract visitors to the area. Places like the Homeplace and Nature Station are huge draws to families visiting our area from all over the world. I think the Nature Station's focus on the natural world combined with the cultural history of the Homeplace is the perfect combo of worthwhile entertaining and educational experiences.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Starting Conversations about Sustainability**

Idea Detail: Teaching the visitors about their impacts both inside and outside Wildlife areas. Talking about small steps everyone can take and how much of a difference it can make.

Idea Author: Claire S

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: To Preserve**

Idea Detail: When I think about sustainability the first thing that comes to mind is the struggle



we face with sustaining modern ways of life while preserving our history and environment.

Idea Author: Joe P

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Affordable**

Idea Detail: Sustainability to me is the idea of maintaining as much as you can within a range that you can afford financially.

Sustaining the environment (for instance) doesn't have to be expensive and complicated, there are tons of financially affordable, easy to do things that people can do to help sustain our local ecosystem.

Idea Author: Nickolaus W

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Nickolaus W. - Thank you for sharing with us. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Sustainability means to me....**

Idea Detail: Maintaining the EE and rec facilities and allowing them to grow to continue the 1.5 million people visiting LBL. Without these attractions, I fear LBL will be less attractive to visitors, lowering the number of campground visits, back country visits, and recreational visits. It is the whole picture we need to focus on.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Partner with QDMA, QF, NWTF, etc. to improve wildlife habitats.**

Idea Detail: Old fields are either not being cropped or have been sown in fescue which has little value to wildlife. Spray and sow NWSG on fescue fields. Set back succession as needed on fallow ground to expose dirt. Plant low maintenance food plots such as clover where



practical. Create more and better small game habitat, in particular edge habitats. Hinge cutting trees along field edges is a low cost, low maintenance solution.

Burn off the nwsq areas out Eddyville Ferry Rd to set it back some and open it up.

Manage interior areas for ducks and geese to provide wade in hunting opportunities.

Idea Author: DANIEL N

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Sustainability to me..**

Idea Detail: Sustainability to me would mean continuing to provide a meaningful environment (whether for learning, or hunting, or hiking, etc.) while being both economically and environmentally mindful. While I would love to believe that we could care for the land, provide recreation, and do all of the other amazing things we do...and that we could do it affordably, I understand that all of these things cost money. To pay workers, to fix structures. Life requires money. But we can strive for sustainability in regards to environmental, economic and recreational options. Keep things in working condition for years, while doing what we can to keep things affordable for visitors.

Idea Author: Nickolaus W

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: It means to give longevity to the existing state**

Idea Detail: To me it means to keep things going, and retain its value. The beauty at LBL is unmatched, and variety of areas that have a focused interest is really unique.

Idea Author: Nancy R

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Balance**

Idea Detail: Sustainability means living or providing services in such a way that it can be continued long term without harm to all affected parties. It means providing education, ease of access, involvement, and understanding about topics (environment, management, etc) while making sure those opportunities are available for years to come.



Idea Author: Arrianne B

Number of Comments 0



## **Topic Name: Sustainable Activities**

### **Idea Title: We are members of Friends of LBL and volunteer**

Idea Detail: My wife and I, and our daughter's family, are members of Friends Of LBL and encourage other families and businesses to join and participate in activities. We have taken friends with us on the members Eagle Cruises, with some becoming members. We have encouraged friends to attend the Hummingbird Fest and Dinner, again with some becoming Friends of LBL members. My grandson and I have been volunteering regularly at the Nature Station for 5 years and have recruited several other volunteers.

Idea Author: David M

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: David, we cannot thank you enough for the time and effort you donate to Land Between the Lakes as a volunteer. You obviously care about what happens here and it shows. There are so many activities offered at LBL that would not be possible without volunteers. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts! | By Darrin S

Comment 2: Those cruises and the dinner were obviously popular as I ended up on a waiting list for both. | By Mary E

### **Idea Title: Engage teachers as a prominent group of participants**

Idea Detail: Teachers, when trained as leaders and with the use of LBL, can be a group to increase usership at LBL. First, once they feel comfortable with the sites and opportunities, how to use them...they will be more inclined to use them in subsequent years with new groups of students. Then you connect children and their parents by having strong experiences at LBL. I have found this to be the case with our teacher training in EE. Since it does not occur currently at Murray State, LBL will have to take it upon themselves to train teachers to have a perpetuating group coming to Land Between the Lakes over time.

Idea Author: Joseph B

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 3



Comment 1: Illinois has a program where people are trained as Master Naturalists and then they volunteer with different groups doing EE. LBL would be a good place to start a similar program. | By Barb W

Comment 2: A possible addition to EE teaching could be Expeditionary Learning. Its basically teachers accompanying professional technicians, scientists, etc. and receiving hand on experience and education while actively working on things like water pollution, honey bee shortage, etc. All of that learning and experience is then brought back to the classroom. A bonus would be the whole class participating in the field work, and even exposure to admin work such as bird count spreadsheets. The benefit is that the exposure to any given topic is almost exclusively local in scope. | By Greg V

Comment 3: These places have to be kept open. My childhood experience of sheep at Empire Farm is no longer an option. We need to impress how important these places are so they can be funded and available for when children grow up, move away and come back. | By Mary E

**Idea Title: Trash Removal**

Idea Detail: I have a habit of picking up litter anywhere along my travels. It is always an interesting conversation when I return from a long run with empty beer cans, cheetos bags and a empty boxes of chicken nuggets.

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Mary, thanks for taking that extra time to make a difference! It's those little efforts that add up! We try to make trash and recycling containers available at as many locations as possible. Hope more folks will follow your lead! | By Darrin S

Comment 2: Mary E. - thank you for helping to keep Land Between the Lakes clean. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: We partner with "Friends of LBL".**

Idea Detail: What are other ways to support LBL?

Idea Author: Susan A

Number of Stars 3



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: We recycle and plant trees**

Idea Detail: Recycle and plant trees. Support our parks.

Idea Author: Tom S

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: A variety**

Idea Detail: My family and I are involved in everything from native gardening, composting, renewable energy systems, waste reduction, recycling, community cleanups, and a variety of ways to reduce overall carbon footprints. We also do what we can to support green initiatives by buying products from companies that are conservation minded.

Idea Author: Nickolaus W

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Nickolaus W. - Thanks to you and your family for all that you are doing. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Local & National Non-Profit**

Idea Detail: For the last 5 years I have served as Treasurer for LakeLand FNRA out of Murray. We are part of a non-profit that raises money to fund grants for youth shooting sports, police, sheriff's departments, Women on Point, and various other programs across Kentucky and the nation. In years past we have been able to allocate thousands of dollars to local organizations in Calloway, Marshall, Trigg, McCracken, Lyon, and other local counties. Grants from this organization also were used for the shooting range at Land Between the Lakes.

Idea Author: Julie W

Number of Stars 3



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Turkey Bay**

Idea Detail: My family and I have camped at Turkey Bay OHV Park and Hillman's Ferry Campground for years. We have volunteered numerous times at Turkey Bay for their Clean-up day and also building their "Turkey Trot Trail" for children to ride.

Idea Author: Kristen B

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Thank you for volunteering at Turkey Bay. | By Gary H

**Idea Title: Community Gardens**

Idea Detail: I am an active member in developing community garden. Our mission is to improve the health of our community through sustainable gardening where members have the ability to grow their own fresh fruit and vegetables. We have partnered with organizations such as our local Extension Agency.

One thing that I have learned in all of this, is the power of asking. What is the worst people could do? Say no? Or they could say yes. I currently work at a nature center and we have a strong partnership with our local Girl Scout Council. They have helped our business by advertising our programs and often have opportunities to help show case our work.

Idea Author: Brooke G

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Brooke G. - Thank you for your work with community gardens. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Teaching partnership**

Idea Detail: As a teacher, education is the primary way that I contribute to sustainability - in partnership with LBL educators.

Idea Author: Shannon H



Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Volunteering with Friends of LBL**

Idea Detail: My husband and I have been going to LBL since we started dating. About ten years ago we became Friends of LBL, and six years ago, we decided to volunteer to help out at special events. We enjoy being in the LBL area so much that we got ourselves a seasonal campsite in Grand Rivers so we could spend half of our time in Kentucky and the other half at our home in Tennessee.

Idea Author: Julie H

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Julie H. - Thank you for volunteering and for being a part of the Friends of Land Between the Lakes. So much of what is provided at Land Between the Lakes could not function without the generous help of the many people who volunteer throughout each year. |  
By Jeff L

**Idea Title: We are seasonal campers at piney**

Idea Detail: I encourage all families to experience the simple pleasures of LBL

Idea Author: Debbie M

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: cell phone service**

Idea Detail: At the campgrounds, it would be great to be able to have good cell phone service.

Idea Author: Belinda N

Number of Stars 1



Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: The Forest Service is working with Verizon and AT&T on the possibility of adding cell sites to improve coverage.

| By Gary H

**Idea Title: i have bought a hunting and fishing licens a**

Idea Detail: for 60 years I have bought hunting fishing licens. lbl permits

Idea Author: david E

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Thank you David. I got my first Kentucky turkey hunting on LBL this spring. I appreciate people like you that have supported wildlife conservation through the years. | By Christopher J

**Idea Title: Litter pick up**

Idea Detail: I always pick up trash along the gravel roads and paths during or when I complete my run. Trash containers at parking areas or at least at the toilets may reduce the amount of litter I find along the roadways.

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Service for cell phones**

Idea Detail: It would be great to have good cell phone service at the campgrounds and throughout LBL.

Idea Author: Belinda N

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: I go to LBL to unplug from my computer/tv/cell phone. We have camped for years before cell phones. Try it, it might add to your experience. | By Barb W



Comment 2: The Forest Service is working with Verizon and AT&T on the possibility of adding cell sites to improve coverage. | By Gary H

**Idea Title: Not really**

Idea Detail: We enjoy camping and fishing and trails

Idea Author: Danny D

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Little steps**

Idea Detail: Yes, I take little steps to make a big difference. I try to work hard to recycle. I try to conserve energy and water at my home through Energy Star products. I use native plants and restore micro-ecosystems. I enhance my backyard through backyard wildlife habitat and nest boxes. I write my congressman about subjects that I am strongly passionate about. And I vote my values.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: John P. - Thank you for your individual efforts towards sustainability. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Activities for young and old**

Idea Detail: We are offering community picnicks with kickball etc. or outdoor movies on Sunday afternoons

Idea Author: Gerald A

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Gerald A. - What organization is offering these picnics and movies? | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: The Carson Four Rivers Center, Market House Theatre**

Idea Detail: Anytime you bring arts into a community it is a valuable asset to that community. I participate in both organizations as well volunteering to help with festivals in Paducah.



Idea Author: Michael B

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Camping**

Idea Detail: We try and camp every summer. We go into Grand Rivers, visit the Lighthouse landing marina, the little grocery store, and Craig's Dairy Dream. We enjoy the friendly people.

Idea Author: Terri F

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Terri F. - It is great that when you camp at Land Between the Lakes, that you also visit other local venues and businesses in the area. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Yes, we package food that helps people in need.**

Idea Detail: Through grants and donations and then the help of clubs and groups we have packaging days.

Idea Author: Jim S

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Do What God tells us to do!**

Idea Detail: Through the Murray First United Methodist Church, grants, donations, and volunteers we help to take care of the less fortunate.

Idea Author: Jim S

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Jim S. - Thank you and the Murray First United Methodist Church for your work that helps sustain the community. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: We try to help those in need!**

Idea Detail: We operate a food pantry and distribution center along with volunteer work.



Idea Author: Jim S

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: The food pantry is such an important service to your community. Thank you | By Gary H

**Idea Title: Stewart County Historical Society**

Idea Detail: As administrator of our Facebook page I promote LBL and its events very often.

Idea Author: Don W

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Thank you for your support. | By Christopher T

**Idea Title: fly fishing**

Idea Detail: I have the opportunity to speak about fly fishing all over the country, and the LBL and its assets are always talked about. The problem i see, is that very few people from outside the area have ever heard of the area. The LBL needs to do a better job selling its self. and provide information to people who are talking about the area

Idea Author: kurt K

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Trout Unlimited and conservaton efforts through the mag.**

Idea Detail: The magazine dedicates 100 hours per year to conservation efforts. Our magazine itself is recycled paper and vegetable ink because of our commitment to conservation. I have fished and been a part of conservation efforts around the nation and it pains me that some of the boat ramps, etc., are so poorly cleaned and taken care of.

Idea Author: Jen R

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Doing our part!**



Idea Detail: We do our part to reduce landfill waste, as much as our county offers. We also have encouraged a wetlands on our property as well as natural grasses and lots of milkweed for the monarchs and other pollinators. We encourage blue bird nesting with our special made bluebird box.

Idea Author: Roxie T

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Roxie- that's great! It sounds like you've discovered an easy way to participate in sustainability efforts at home. Land Between the Lakes is part of a regional cooperative with local counties to reduce landfill waste also. Keep up the good work with your habitat management- awesome! | By Darrin S

**Idea Title: My time is now limited but we still plant native plants. We**

Idea Detail: also participate in community service through 4-H at a local nursing home.

Idea Author: Diana E

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Very nice! We try to have examples of native plants at as many locations as possible. Everything from large scale habitat management to ideas for creating hummingbird/butterfly/pollinator gardens at home. Keep up the great effort! | By Darrin S

**Idea Title: We have been involved with Navarion Nature Center where**

Idea Detail: around 3000 students each year are given insights into nature. We also are part of the Wild Ones organization which is involved in keeping native plants growing in our area. I was pleased to have Monarchs lunching on one of our plantings this year.

Idea Author: Diana E

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Diana E. - That looks like a wonderful nature center. Others can check it out at <https://www.navarino.org/>  
| By Jeff L



**Idea Title: Tree plantings and wildlife food plot growing**

Idea Detail: My family plants a lot of trees for wildlife, as well as wildlife food plots to provide forage for wildlife and to enhance hunting opportunities as well. It sure would be nice to see more food plots set aside for wildlife within LBL, along with establishment of native fruit bearing trees like persimmons, apples, native pears, and even a variety of nut trees like beech, pecans, and chestnuts. In years prior, it was not uncommon for portions of the row crops planted on LBL to be left standing for wildlife rather harvested; I don't believe I've seen any row crops left standing since the US Forestry Service has taken over. With such large row crop fields on the property, leaving just small percentages would go a long ways in helping wildlife. I would also like to see more partnerships between the US Forestry Service and groups like the National Wild Turkey Association (NWTF). You used to see areas where the NWTF had completed some projects, but not anymore.

Idea Author: Scott B

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Thank you for your comment. We are currently involved with the National Wild Turkey Foundation thru various contracts that include their assistance in the maintenance and upkeep of several hundred acres of Openlands (including food plots). We are also currently looking into our practices as it relates to the amounts of planted crops left in the fields for wildlife during the winter months. | By John W

**Idea Title: We camp at pay sites and I buy annual passes to Turkey Bay**

Idea Detail: We mostly camp at Piney campground but have camped at several places over the years and we enjoy ATV riding at Turkey Bay on a regular basis.

Idea Author: Jason W

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I am a forest service volunteer which I find very rewarding**

Idea Detail: As with any large park there are lots of challenges that the weakly supported employees can not manage without more help. Hiking and fishing are great but it can be even better when you can get out in the outdoors and make a contribution to maintenance of the natural environment as you do so. It is also very enjoyable to interact with the forest service employees and develop a better appreciate for their dedicated service to the larger community.



Idea Author: Randall H

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Randall H. - Thank you for volunteering your time and skills to support Land Between the Lakes. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Growing a garden**

Idea Detail: Growing a garden

Idea Author: Becky W

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Recycling and more**

Idea Detail: My family regularly recycles, both the "regular" options that Murray offers (aluminum, paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, etc) as well as the electronic recycling whenever we can. We currently rent our home, but I am trying to plant native plants around the property. We try to reduce our electricity needs by putting up plastic on the windows in the winter and installing a ceiling fan. Our house still does not hold heat or cold well, so it is an on-going project. We have moved multiple times in the past years, and instead of using cardboard boxes every time, we invested in plastic storage tubs, which in addition to being reusable also keep out water and pests.

Idea Author: Monica W

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Recycling, energy, and others**

Idea Detail: My family recycles both with the local options (paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, etc) as well as electronic recycling whenever we can. We currently rent our home, so while we would like to plant native plants or grow food, our options there are limited. We are constantly working to reduce the amount of electricity we use. Our house is old, so it doesn't hold heat or cold well, but we use plastic on the windows in winter and have installed a ceiling fan to try to improve air circulation.

Idea Author: Monica W



Number of Comments 0



### **Topic Name: Recreation Participation**

#### **Idea Title: Have up to date information on conditions on access roads**

Idea Detail: Often I have a destination in LBL. Roads are frequently flooded or deeply rutted making all but off road vehicles unable to reach the destination.

Idea Author: Sharon B

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Could not agree more !!! | By Mary E

#### **Idea Title: More paved bike paths**

Idea Detail: Biking with the family is becoming more popular with all the paved hike bike trails being added alongside highway projects. The addition of some paved trails thru the woods would be a real treat.

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Stars 7

Number of Comments 0

#### **Idea Title: Expand Turkey Bay land use!!**

Idea Detail: Turkey Bay OHV land use should be expanded at least another 1,000 acres of more new trails!!

The OHV society and industry is growing by the minute!!!

Idea Author: Kelly B

Number of Stars 7

Number of Comments 0

#### **Idea Title: Turkey Bay ORV- use pass fees to build RV campsites w/electr**



Idea Detail: 4 generations of my family have enjoyed Turkey Bay. It would be better with RV campsites with electric, water, & sewer. Utilize dollars collected from 3 day & yearly passes to help support the idea. Nominate a committee to do a study on others doing this like St. Joe State Park in Missouri. Shower houses and flushing toilets should be considered.

Idea Author: Kevin G

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Maintenance of what it offers.**

Idea Detail: As funding is cut LBL is less and less able to maintain trails, roads, campgrounds, conservation and education programs, and other facilities/activities. It needs to at least maintain what it has.

Idea Author: Terry D

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Improve Turkey Bay OHV**

Idea Detail: There are several ways you can generate economic sustainability, and if you read my ideas at all you probably noticed I keep bringing up Turkey Bay. But, this is where my family and friends spend all of our time. We watch as other areas of LBL receive upgrades and improvements, while it seems Turkey Bay never benefits. There would be so many more year-round visitors if Turkey Bay offered electric campsites, reservable camping options, and more trails. The other way to generate more visitors would be to develop Colson Hollow into a campground similar to Piney or Hillman's. If you took it a step further and offered camping to Turkey Bay riders at Colson Hollow, with a connecting trail to Turkey, then you wouldn't have to change Turkey Bay at all- just develop Colson Hollow and keep it open year round. Yes, this would be a huge undertaking, but anything worth doing requires hard work. Ever seen "Field of Dreams"? If you build it, they will come....

Idea Author: Julie W

Number of Stars 3



Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: When the decision was made to begin charging fees to ride at Turkey Bay, we were promised improvements to campsites and facilities. While trail maintenance costs a significant amount, I believe most long term users would agree that the fees collected have not benefited Turkey Bay to a reasonable extent. I think Colson can be used for camping, but fear the users would start riding there as well. It is just too tempting. It would have to stay camping only, OHVs/ORVs would have to stay on the trailer. Expanding the riding area, cost of additional trail maintenance and the environmental impact are non-starters. | By Bill P

Comment 2: Julie W. - I appreciate your ideas and interest in Turkey Bay. We will be exploring these ideas in the fall/winter. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: I would love to see a complete guidebook**

Idea Detail: I would love to see a nice, complete, update guide book or catalog of the LBL. Currently I switch between trail maps (that are not real detailed), the hunt book, and other maps depending upon where I am and what I am doing. I'd gladly pay \$20 for a nice, color, spiral bound LBL Master Guide. Nice, detailed maps, descriptions and details for each camp ground and back country area, etc. Being new to the area, there is no one single go to source for information on LBL.

Idea Author: Tim R

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: The hunt area maps (that they no longer publish) were about the only map we had for a long time. The bigger folding map and the Motor Vehicle map I know use together like you. There doesn't seem to be a concise yet comprehensive map to use. We even have some old USGS topo maps we break out for hunting. | By DANIEL N

**Idea Title: Safe for people who are regular citizens**

Idea Detail: Sure...LBL is a place where people inclined to go, naturalists, recreation person will go because of the multitude of opportunities it has for them. Regular citizens, those who are not inclined to go to LBL need to learn how they can gain from having experiences there. You do not have to be an environmental geek to love LBL. Provide workshops for those who are not geeks to explore in a safe way LBL.(i.e. workshops in photography, in art, in history, in



writing...natural landscaping using indigenous species, butterfly gardens....and using LBL for a peaceful and safe place for R & R. (Tai Chi, dance, sculpture using natural objects..... Once you have these people hooked on LBL...they will come back with other people...and will return themselves.

Idea Author: Joseph B

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: People are also very health conscious these days. Inspiring people to come to LBL to hike, bike, and to walk the trails throughout the year, would also be attractive to many people from different backgrounds. | By Ryan C

**Idea Title: Don't close any more roads or trails!**

Idea Detail: Those little backwoods dirt roads are great for those of us trying to get away from it all. Roads get closed for no reason- they just put up a roadblock for months (or longer) and never post on the roadblock why it is closed and for how long or who to contact. Calling never seems to provide a reasonable answer either. Road 350 is one of those. If it is a legal road and I have a 4x4 that can navigate it, then let me use it. If I get stuck, then I pay the tow to get out. Anyway, access to remote areas are what the little roads do for us that explore the outdoors and hunt. It seems that if a road doesn't go to a place or a cemetery or something 'meaningful' then it doesn't matter. That is absolutely wrong! No, you may not have funds to maintain them all, but that doesn't mean they have to be closed. You could just mark them like other places do out west-- with difficulty level signs

Idea Author: Fester C

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Road Improvements/Increasing Public Awareness**

Idea Detail: After volunteering, working, and visiting LBL for over 20 years, I have really noticed something about the visitor usage of LBL. Most tourist and visitors to LBL never see or enjoy most of LBL. Most visitors to LBL only visit the main LBL attractions such as the Nature Station, Homeplace, Visitors Center, Elk/Bison Prarie, the major campgrounds etc. Lack of public awareness of other places to see in LBL is a big issue. Also, a lot of LBL backroads are



often difficult to access, this prevents people from experiencing and enjoying many of the more remote areas of LBL.

Idea Author: Ryan C

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: Mr. Joyner, thanks for the response.

1.) I use the LBL Website, the Friends of LBL Facebook page, I also subscribe to the LBL E-Newsletter. These are typically good sources for current LBL information, information regarding special events etc.

2.) I think visitors receive information about LBL from several sources. Many visitors use the LBL website, Friends of LBL Facebook page, etc. Many people also may just listen to advice or information regarding LBL from their friends, relatives, and others. I also think many visitors simply drive to LBL and begin exploring, some of these people may have little knowledge or information regarding LBL prior to visiting.

I feel that most visitors only visit the main attractions in LBL. Perhaps, the more rural areas and roads of LBL could be better promoted to increase visitor usage of those areas. Perhaps designated scenic drives could be established as well. Many National Wildlife Refuges have designated scenic drives that are successful.

3.) The LBL website and the LBL E-Newsletter are great sources. The Friends of LBL Facebook page is informative as well. The Friends of LBL does good work promoting LBL also through outreach programs, social media, and special events.

Increasing the number of outreach programs would be great, attending more boat, hunting, fishing, camping, travel shows, and conferences could be beneficial.

Having a Youtube channel could be beneficial as many people are visual learners. Writing weekly or monthly articles in local newspapers and/or appearing on weekly or monthly segments on local television news stations could be beneficial.

More citizens science projects could inform people about LBL. Interpretive signage and more informative/informational kiosks could help educate and inform LBL visitors. Also, promoting the current communication methods such as the LBL E-Newsletter, at LBL campgrounds, and attractions could be beneficial.



- Ryan T. Clark  
| By Ryan C

Comment 2: Mr. Joyner, thanks for the response.

1.) I use the LBL Website, the Friends of LBL Facebook page, I also subscribe to the LBL E-Newsletter. These are typically good sources for current LBL information, information regarding special events etc.

2.) I think visitors receive information about LBL from several sources. Many visitors use the LBL website, Friends of LBL Facebook page, etc. Many people also may just listen to advice or information regarding LBL from the friends, relatives, and others. I also think many visitors simply drive to LBL and begin exploring, some of these people may have little knowledge or information regarding LBL prior to visiting.

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More citizens science projects could inform people about LBL. Interpretive signage and more informative/informational kiosks could help educate and inform LBL visitors. Also, promoting the current communication methods such as the LBL E-Newsletter, at LBL campgrounds, and attractions could be beneficial.

- Ryan T. Clark  
| By Ryan C

Comment 3: Ryan. I was permanently hired on as the Public Affairs Officer at Land Between the Lakes in late June. I'm very interested in your comment. 1. How do you get information about Land Between the Lakes? 2. How do you think visitors get information about the unit? 3.



How do you think we could better communicate information to visitors? | By Christopher J

**Idea Title: Maintain what we have**

Idea Detail: LBL, over the past 100 years from KY Woodlands, TVA, to Forest Service have built a infrastructure and facilities that allow great access and learning opportunities to me as the visiting public. I think the best thing LBL can do is maintain and not lose what we have. Slow down on creating new, until we can maintain what we have. For example, Hematite Lake Trail is a gantastically popular trail. It is a loop, 2.2 mile trail, known for wildlife viewing and scenery. Perfect for families. It is crittical for the future health to get that trail back open. Places like Nature Station & Homeplace bring tourism dollars and provide services to local communities that may be overlooked in large cities, but cherished in Western KY/ TN, could use updating, playgrounds, attention. Honker Lake, once a great fishing lake and perfect for wildlife viewing is choked with aquatic weeds, virtually unusable for boaters, fishermen, and wildlife viewing during large portions of the year. Maintain.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Stars 2

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Update- John. Along with two staff members, we visited Honkers yesterday and I was able to see what you write about. Indeed, there are a lot of obstructions. Thank you for letting us know Honkers is important to you. | By Christopher J

Comment 2: John. Thank you for the very specific input. I've sent your comment to various members of our staff. | By Christopher J

**Idea Title: Provide more bathhouses at campgrounds**

Idea Detail: Hillman Ferry is probably the most used campground in LBL, and I believe that to be because it is the most improved campground with it's bathhouses. With small kids, it's very tough to tent camp in a campground with no bathhouses. We camp at Smith Bay quite a bit, but after 1 night we're pretty well done. We like to be able to take a shower at night and be clean when we go to bed, and I don't think we're alone with that mindset considering how packed Hillman Ferry normally is. Sure we can bathe in the lake, but that's not fun when it's cool out in the spring and fall. If you could create duplicates of Hillman Ferry in other parts of LBL, it would be great! Not only are the bathhouses at Hillman Ferry great, but all the other amenities, activities, bands, etc. are wonderful!



Idea Author: Scott B

Number of Stars 1

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: beter wildlife management,beter road maintenance**

Idea Detail: the secondary roads are not maintained properly .more could be done to increase the wildlife lots of boat ramps need work especially honker lake gravel needs to be hauled fill in the large holes in the road going to honkers a back hole could clean out the ramp t6o where you could get your boat off the trailer

Idea Author: david E

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Spend more time outside in the LBL in lieu of the computer**

Idea Detail: This data call is keeping me from my hike.

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Handicap accessible wildlife viewing locations**

Idea Detail: I am thinking of a boardwalk out into and a bench in Long Creek Wildlife Refuge as one example. I could sit there with my father.

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: That's a great spot for wildlife viewing. It's easily accessible from the main highway as well. | By Ryan C

**Idea Title: Add a water hydrant and pit toilet to lake access sites**

Idea Detail: Camping at these areas dropped more than half when TVA removed the water hydrants and the portable toilets that were once there (before the USFS took over



management). Returning these would greatly increase usage and provide small campgrounds for those that don't need lots of services.

Idea Author: Barb W

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: There are 31 Vault toilet buildings in many camping and picnic facilities across LBL. What areas would you like to services added too. | By Gary H

**Idea Title: Bring some of your nature exhibits to Navarino Nature Center**

Idea Detail: in Shawano County, WI for us to enjoy locally as it is hard to get to you again.

Idea Author: Diana E

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Provide traveling classrooms for folks who live far away**

Idea Detail: to be able to participate in what you have to offer.

Idea Author: Diana E

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Diana. I'm interested in hearing more about your suggestion. | By Christopher J

Comment 2: Diana E. - Can you tell me more about the idea of traveling classrooms? What types of learning would you like to see from a traveling classroom? How far away would be reasonable to plan these types of activities for? | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Maintenance and assurance that the lands will not be privatized**

Idea Detail: Maintenance on the existing facilities and roads so that access can be made to even more areas. I am willing to pay a bit more for permits to help maintain that this remains always accessible to the public and not released for golf courses otes and hotels and restaurants.

Idea Author: Peggy H



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Allocate more resources toward wildlife habitat enhancements**

Idea Detail: Controlled burns to provide a better mix of natural environments & avoid potential for large area fires in the future.

Control invasive, non-native, species that threaten native populations of fish, trees, etc...

Idea Author: Randall H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: pass option**

Idea Detail: besides the three day pass to camp and the annual pass, offer something like a week long pass to camp in LBL in the wilderness areas.

Idea Author: Robert G

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Road Improvements and Increasing Public Awareness**

Idea Detail: Maintaining roads would help visitors better access different parts of LBL. I spent several years working in LBL, one thing I noticed was most tourist and visitors to LBL, never really see most of LBL. Most visitors to LBL only visit the main attractions such as the Nature Station, Homeplace, Elk/Bison Prarie, the major campgrounds etc. A lot of this is likely a result of lack of public awareness regarding other places to see and visit in LBL. Improvements to some of the LBL roads may also assist visitors in viewing other parts of LBL that are often farther away from the main attractions.

Idea Author: Ryan C

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Open skunk hollow to backwoods camping**

Idea Detail: We hope to skunk hollow regularly. The area is paved has picnic tables and would be great for backwoods camping if the gate across the road was open. Now it is just growing up and is a wasted area



Idea Author: Michael C

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: That's a very nice area. There's a lot of great wildlife viewing opportunities in that area, It's easy to access as well. That area has some great potential to generate revenue for LBL if it is used differently moving forward.

| By Ryan C

**Idea Title: My idea is to make back roads more bike friendly.**

Idea Detail: There are several "back" roads which are picturesque and great for bicycling. Bike lanes would be great, but even signs to watch for bicyclists would be nice.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Public involvement, nicer employees, road maintaince**

Idea Detail: Need more environmental education and outdoor recreation!

It is an embarrassment at the moment, the roads are horrible...back country camping is just about gone. Mowing is embarrassing!!

Piney campground manager is horrible, all people need to adhere to the rules if you are going to have the rules!

Idea Author: Jan W

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Where do you feel the mowing is not what you feel it should be. | By Gary H

Comment 2: I consider being the Piney Campground Manager a highlight of my career with the U.S. Forest Service. I am disappointed to read I let you down. Can you please let us know how we've failed in connecting you with the recreation opportunities at Land Between the Lakes? Please respond here in the event others experienced similar dissatisfaction or email me directly at Rickeyddaughtery@fs.fed.us and let me know how I can improve. | By Rickey D

**Idea Title: More hunting areas.**

Idea Detail: My husband and son would like to see more hunting opportunities in LBL. Of



course, we would not want species to be over-hunted.

Idea Author: wendy L

Number of Comments 0



## **Topic Name: Social, Environmental, and Economic Issues**

### **Idea Title: Enforcement Presence.**

Idea Detail: LBL is a huge area, perhaps an understatement. It is also lightly staffed (also perhaps an understatement) so I do not feel that it is adequately patrolled. Many times I have seen evidence of where people have driven back closed roads and damaged fields and even the roads themselves. An increase in enforcement of the rules and overall presence of forest service personnel could help curb this.

Idea Author: DANIEL N

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 0

### **Idea Title: debate less, clean up my own messes**

Idea Detail: personal responsibility for all we do is the only real answer I can come up with because leading by example is the only influence I can hope to have on others.

Idea Author: shirley S

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

### **Idea Title: stop cutting trees plant some more crops make everyone pay eq**

Idea Detail: hunters have to pay to hunt I think everyone should have to buy the same priced permit even if its just to drive around.then you would have enough money to take care of the roads the right way more crops need to be planted for more wildlifeles timber harvest the forest is lbl caling card

Idea Author: david E

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: Add additional horse campgrounds.**

Idea Detail: Consider adding additional campgrounds that are horse camping friendly.

Idea Author: Paula T

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Any thoughts on where and what services you would like to see them with? | By Gary H

**Idea Title: Issues/ Solutions**

Idea Detail: Your questions asks what is most relevant to me, and my answer here would be what happens at Turkey Bay, as that is where we spend the majority of our time. The social issues would be that there needs to be upgrades made comparable to other areas in LBL, such as Wranglers. Those would include a more streamlined entrance when it is busy (like using both sides of the guard shack), and campsites with electric. The environmental issues would include keeping riders on designated trails and opening up some of the trails that used to be available, to sustain the longevity of the trail system. Of course the economic issues are probably most prevalent, because improvements cannot be made without the funding to do so. However, the off road community will step up and raise funds if they knew that these improvements were even on the table.

Idea Author: Julie W

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Houses being built, the lack of green spaces**

Idea Detail: It seems as there is no regard for tomorrow, or how everybody will be fed.

Idea Author: Jim S

Number of Stars 3



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Remove the Ferrell hogs at the south end**

Idea Detail: We like to hike th ft Henry trail systems. I have ran upon these hogs. Scarry

Idea Author: Michael C

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Michael. We are working with trappers and are making progress. Just this month, we have caught and dispatched approximately 20 wild hogs. We continue to make progress. I'm curious if there are specific spots on the Fort Henry trail system that you see hogs. Do you have a GPS or specific details on where you've seen them? Feel free to email direct information to christopherjoyner@fs.fed.us. I will ensure that information is relayed to our trapper. | By Christopher J

**Idea Title: Low impact access. Paved/chipped gravel bicycle paths.**

Idea Detail: Reality: LBL is a vast natural area. Access to it is extremely minimal. Locals and visitors ride around the few roads maybe once or twice and visit the Nature Center, then don't go back. It seems that the Government purposely restricts access to protect the resource. It's a shame, because low impact access could significantly increase utilization of this incredible resource, while still maintaining the integrity of the environment. In addition, tourist dollars could be used to improve the ecosystem, provide Environmental education and create Stewards for our Natural Resources. Most U.S. citizens own bicycles and look for places to get exercise, especially in Natural areas. Evaluate the Rails To Trails Conservancy. The current bicycle paths are mainly for Mountain bike use and not for family use, with the exception of the paved path along Hwy 68, which does not provide much of a natural experience. However the path itself is very nice. There is one other 2 1/2 mile nice path.

Idea Author: Kent N

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Provide less expensive programs, ways to get to the water**

Idea Detail: By clearing the roads that lead to the water and keeping them maintained for example:filling the deep potholes. Provide programs that include a combo package with



something extra for visitors-for example buying for the Homeplace and get the Elk/Bison for one price. Make it a good deal!!!

Idea Author: Belinda N

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Education is the key.**

Idea Detail: In my 20 years living in the area, I find that strengthening education in is key to future success for the community. Stronger education leads to less economic disparity, better health, better social mobility, and a stronger connection of the world around them. I feel LBL helps provide this in two ways: 1: by example thru wise natural resource management, multi-use sustainable recreation, sustainable activities such as recycling, 2: by offering both children and adults high quality educational experiences, the same opportunities that children and adults may have in larger cities. LBL services 1.5 mil visitors, who can learn a little bit more about the natural world, how the solar system was formed, or where we came from thru living history. Such learning opportunities can lead to more open doors and better ideas.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Getting children outdoors.**

Idea Detail: The multi-state area that surrounds LBL has a high poverty rate. Many children may never get the chance to come experience LBL. Programs for school groups would be a great way to bring all income children to the area. What would really be great is if there was a program that also got them on the lake, either in canoes or kayaks. Cypress Creek National Wildlife Area in southern Illinois has offered free canoe trips on the Cache River to school groups for many years. Perhaps a similar program would work at LBL.

Idea Author: Barb W

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Barb W. - One of the purposes of Land Between the Lakes is to provide recreation and environmental education programs. The Friends of Land Between the Lakes and the Forest Service partner each year to provide school field trip grants to help schools be able to bring students to environmental education programs and facilities. These grants help bring under-served children to the area to experience nature through hands-on programs



designed to enhance classroom teaching. We will also look at other ways, including you idea of using canoes or kayaks, to provide outdoor experiences to more children. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Please grade access road to Gatlin Point and fix water!**

Idea Detail: Roads leading into Gatlin Point are TERRIBLE..Stayed there in April 2018, rained a lot, roads were almost impassible!! New T@G , first trip in it!! Won't return until roads are fixed!

Idea Author: Glenn B

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Recently there has been some significant work done on the road. if you have time, please let us know what you think | By Gary H

**Idea Title: Collaborative informed consent stakeholder building process**

Idea Detail: You space doesn't allow for a complete explanation.

Idea Author: Leland Darryl A

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Can you send me your complete explanation? christopherjoyner@fs.fed.us | By Christopher J

**Idea Title: Prevent environmental damage, build sustainable use**

Idea Detail: LBL can continue to education people of all ages on the importance of maintaining a healthy planet with its diversity of life. It can maintain and promote conservation of habitats and organisms. LBL can also promote sustainable products and practices on its property.

Idea Author: Terry D

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Getting more lonely seniors involved in volunteering. Keep**

Idea Detail: ing the rural atmosphere we have. Keep improving the education for our youngsters so that they will stay here to fill the job vacancies instead of this becoming a retiree



area.

Idea Author: Diana E

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: That is a complicated question**

Idea Detail: If we could find a way to continue to improve the symbiotic relationship between Land Between the Lakes, and local communities and business, that would be amazing. Help each other to bring in repeat visitors, and thus business, for years to come.

Idea Author: Brian T

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The communities surrounding LBL rely heavily on tourism.**

Idea Detail: The communities surrounding LBL rely heavily on tourism generated not only by the lakes but by LBL as well. The biggest issue is getting people to come to town all year long; plenty of people in the summer, but the rest of the year is fairly light on tourists. To continue to grow the year-round tourism, the fall/winter/spring activities need to continue to be enhanced and expanded. Many people come from miles around to deer hunt LBL, however that has declined in recent years due to the declining deer herd in LBL. We could see a decline in current fishermen as well as the Asian Carp continue to consume large quantities of plankton and displace the baitfish vital to survival of other species like bass; less bass means less fishermen. Migratory bird populations visiting the area are declining, in my 18 years of duck hunting LBL, it gets worse each year. If LBL could do more wildlife plantings for migratory birds to lure them to the area, it would certainly help.

Idea Author: Scott B

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Scott B. - As you stated, hunting and fishing are popular activities here and there are some challenges in continuing to provide these activities into the future. I will make sure to provide your comments to our environmental stewardship staff. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Wilderness camping**

Idea Detail: Just providing the opportunity for a true wilderness camping environment in the



middle of the US is an amazing service that I hope LBL continues to promote and offer.



Idea Author: Robert G

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I live in Murray, KY. Lack of jobs is an issue**

Idea Detail: Land Between the Lakes can continue to offer volunteer, internship and apprenticeship opportunities. LBL can also start putting more of an emphasis on hiring from the local communities and from local colleges. Many local residents and local college students are very familiar with LBL, as they often spend a lot of time and money in LBL throughout their lives and/ or during their time at local colleges. This would greatly help local residents and students get jobs in the environmental education and outdoor recreation career field.

Idea Author: Ryan C

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Hire local residents and college students to work in LBL**

Idea Detail: LBL needs to consider hiring more local workers. A lot of local residents and college students are very knowledgeable about LBL. Hiring more local residents and college students from Kentucky and Tennessee would give these people an opportunity to work in LBL, a place they have often supported for most of their lives.

Idea Author: Ryan C

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Keep cost low and safe for all people!**

Idea Detail: By keeping the cost as low as possible more people can afford to enjoy the things you have to offer! Keeping the lakes and surrounding areas safe so people can enjoy more freedom and relax better. I know it would be hard but there needs to be a lifeguard on duty closing the beaches when there isn't one there!

Idea Author: Robbie C



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Global warming, water and light pollution, connecting youth**

Idea Detail: As global warming raises potential catastrophic consequences, it is at the top of my list. I think people are not aware of light and water pollution issues. I think at the planetarium there could be a discussion of light pollution. On water trips, the guide could address water quality. One of our volunteers told me that he thought there might be world peace if everyone lived on the lake. That may be an overstatement, but it is important for the health of the society that people, particularly young people connecting with nature.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Camping, LBL History, Roads Community Involvement**

Idea Detail: Needs to be kept up, roads...Lakes, environment, etc

Idea Author: Jan W

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I am worried about development.**

Idea Detail: My husband and I bought a second home in the Grand Rivers area. We come here to get away. I think nature is what makes this area special. The people who gave up their land to make this area should never see others profit from it. Keeping this a family-friendly area with access to the natural world is important to me, and I think camping, fishing, hunting, hiking, biking, should be the focus, and a place for wild species to exist!

Idea Author: wendy L

Number of Comments 0



## **Topic Name: Environmental Education Participation**

### **Idea Title: Workshops for Those Who are Not Nature Geeks**

Idea Detail: Provide opportunities...invite people who do not ordinarily go to natural places...provide activities that would be a great setting for writing, art, history.... Engage those persons who know how to do this....in conjunction with LBL...since staff at LBL are overworked. So provide incentives for persons with skills and constituencies to have workshops there at LBL and cost share with them...

Idea Author: Joseph B

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I love that idea about art activities. I am thinking painters outside the facilities to attract people to the hobby. | By Mary E

### **Idea Title: Provide accurate up to date information**

Idea Detail: Last post on the blog was July 16th. Clean up the website - just to note a few bits below:

1) Page not Found <https://www.landbetweenthe lakes.us/seendo/camping/backcountry/>

2) Group Page from 2014 <https://www.landbetweenthe lakes.us/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/2014LBLGroupProgramGuide.pdf>

states "Pre- and post-trip activities for some Homeplace and Woodlands Nature Station programs (will be posted soon)"

3) and has a link to another Page not Found :

<https://www.landbetweenthe lakes.us/seendo/environmental-education/>

4) Misleading dropdown to Webcams from Nature Station with only one webcam at the webcams link and it is not working. Also the dropdown for Homeplace to Civil War? Easy to not even try the Homeplace link itself and miss out on all that info.

5) And it might be me but I cannot find a 'what is happening now' link for what events are going on this weekend - like the calendar of events brochure.

Idea Author: Mary E



Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Mary E. Thank you for bringing this to my attention. Your comment reflects a need for greater attention on our website. I'm addressing these items now. If you see other website errors, please bring them to my attention at [lblinfo@fs.fed.us](mailto:lblinfo@fs.fed.us). It looks like you're referencing the .pdf file for the 2014 Group Program Guide. The last one produced was in 2014 and many of the linked pages are no longer used. We removed pages 1 and 3 linked from that guide.

In item 5 you mention the calendar of events not available. We have it in the middle of the page, but it sounds like it might be more intuitive to put a second link under "See and do."

Your comment is well received. Some of our changes aren't intuitive. I welcome your feedback and if we make a change that complicates how you receive information about Land Between the Lakes, please let me know that information.

I'm hopeful we will continue to improve on our responsiveness and information availability.  
| By Christopher J

Comment 2: Mary E. Thank you for bringing this to my attention. Your comment reflects a need for greater attention on our website. I'm addressing these items now. If you see other website errors, please bring them to my attention at [lblinfo@fs.fed.us](mailto:lblinfo@fs.fed.us). | By Christopher J

**Idea Title: Signage**

Idea Detail: Create more signage to explain habitat, native animals, climate, ecosystems. plant species and identification graphics.

Idea Author: Kent N

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: To go along with the signage thought, the numerical road signs are not present on all the roads. This makes navigating and utilizing the back country difficult, especially for newer visitors. | By DANIEL N

Comment 2: Interpretive signage would be great in a lot of places in LBL. Interpretive auto tours featuring informational kiosks could also be something LBL could consider in the future. |  
By Ryan C



**Idea Title: Investment**

Idea Detail: By investing in the EE facilities, even though budgets are low, we bring dividends. "Build it and they will come" So many communities or larger populations are at least an hour away, make it worth those families time and travel to come to the EE facilities, strengthen the day use by giving people reasons to stay longer. Playgrounds, loop trails, picnic areas, food availability, are all potential items to strengthen ee facilities and lure families seeking high quality activities for their kids.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Too much of what I've seen is geared towards kids**

Idea Detail: Places like the nature station seem to aim most of their programs towards kids, or at least that level of learning-- simple, basic stuff about the animals. I would like to see activities geared for older people (age 20-60) that really show us stuff about nature and animals. Not like sticking your hand into a bag of snakes but more like doing activities like the University of TN Smoky Mountain Field School offers. They are pretty neat and show us things we seldom see without such a guide. People pay that fee, so that can make bringing in outside experts do-able.

Idea Author: Fester C

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I'd like to hear more about your idea. Can you share some examples or specifics regarding the type of experience you would enjoy? | By Darrin S

**Idea Title: Publicize its needs and offerings.**

Idea Detail: There is some publicity but if there are other avenues that provide specific information that would be helpful.

Idea Author: Terry D

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Terry D. - Programs at Land Between the Lakes are publicized in a number of



ways including email lists, press releases, website calendar of events, and ads in a number of publications. Are there ways that you receive information from other entities that we should also be sending information through? | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: distance, which you can't fix**

Idea Detail: I'm a retired educator in the advanced biological sciences, including ecology....and after teaching for more than 25 years, joined the Indiana Department of Natural Resources as an Environmental Biologist...quite frankly I would love to be involved...but I'm about 4 hours away.

Idea Author: Robert G

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Activities in different parts of LBL**

Idea Detail: I feel that offering guided hikes, stream, pond, and lake studies, as well as other fun environmental education based activities in different parts of LBL would be great. Offering these types of activities more often at LBL campgrounds and other LBL locations would help more visitors experience quality educational programs, it would also help more visitors experience different parts of LBL.

Idea Author: Ryan C

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: I wanted to add, LBL does currently offer guided hikes, guided canoe, and kayak trips, as well as stream, pond, and lake studies at places such as the Nature Station and Brandon Spring Group Center. There is also some programming that takes place at some of the LBL campgrounds and other LBL facilities.

However, I feel that offering more guided hikes, nature studies, and other environmental education activities at LBL campgrounds, nature watch areas, and other areas of LBL, would be a very popular attraction.

I also feel that putting more of an emphasis on fish and aquatic ecosystem-based programs would be popular, as many tourist visiting LBL are on fishing trips or vacations to the lakes. These people are often interested in fish and aquatic habitats. Plus, two of the largest lakes in America border LBL, both lakes offer some of the best fishing and aquatic recreation in America. I would really enjoy seeing larger live fish displays/aquariums at places such as the Nature Station. I think that would be an attraction that would help showcase the fish and



aquatic diversity found in Kentucky Lake, Barkley Lake, and other aquatic ecosystems in the LBL region.

| By Ryan C

Comment 2: I wanted to add, LBL does currently offer guided hikes, guided canoe, and kayak trips, as well as stream, pond, and lake studies at the places such as the Nature Station and Brandon Spring Group Center. There is also some programming that takes place at some of the LBL campgrounds and other LBL facilities. However, I feel that offering more guided hikes, nature studies, and other environmental education activities at LBL campgrounds, nature watch areas, and other areas of LBL, would be a very popular attraction. | By Ryan C

**Idea Title: Hay rides!**

Idea Detail: I have camped where rangers would make a loop pulling a trailer, kids would load up and he would drive them around and talk about the trees, birds... it was nice.

Idea Author: Brook R

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Thanks Brook, We offer a day of hayrides at the Fall Festival at Nature Station. The trip goes from Nature station, out to Honker Lake, and back. Staff talk about wildlife and lead some activities as we drive the loop. Trips typically leave every 45 minutes. This year's event is November 3rd. | By Darrin S

**Idea Title: Provide a phone number**

Idea Detail: If you try to call the LBL to get information, it seems hard to connect with a person. A phone number with a knowledgeable person to answer would be a big boost for environmental education and a big encouragement for anyone traveling to the LBL.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Broader programing...more public relations!**

Idea Detail: Involve the surrounding communities More

!Here is an idea, teach more about the history of LBL and why and how it is there. I am a former resident, how about making all things free to the former families that their lives were sent in an upheaval!!



Idea Author: Jan W

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I would participate if asked.**

Idea Detail: I think many people want to help the natural world, but we don't know how or where. If programs were planned and advertised, I think people would turn out. High school clubs are often looking for ways to engage teens in community service, for example. Litter clean up days, or tearing out invasive species are examples of things I might help with if an event was organized.

Idea Author: wendy L

Number of Comments 0



## **Topic Name: Adapting**

**Idea Title: Campgrounds should evolve to serve different populations.**

Idea Detail: Those coming to LBL for quiet camping and fishing should have choices where golf carts are not intruding on their peace and quiet. Separate areas for those who wish to use motorized and electric vehicles would make it safer for everyone. Special needs populations should have areas where accessibility barriers are minimized.

Idea Author: Rose H

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: That's a great idea!!!! | By Kelly B

**Idea Title: Enhance websites with easy recreational information access**

Idea Detail: Younger generations access the majority of recreational information via their phones or computers. They also are more likely to look for different recreational options with more focus on biking, kayaking, bird watching, photography, versus older generation more narrowly focused on fishing and hunting. For sure the fishing and hunting interests will continue to be the most important attractors to the LBL near term and must be strongly supported. However, there will continue to be a need for balance and separation of activities zones so jet skis do not upset fishermen, OHVs do not upset hunters or bird watchers, etc... Conflicts can be avoided by providing easy access to information / maps reflecting where people can enjoy the recreational options they like most.

Idea Author: Randall H

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Better access road maintenance**

Idea Detail: I would like to see many access roads to popular areas that are gravel to be paved and widened. Not everyone owns a truck or 4x4. Some people like to explore LBL in there daily driver.

For example the access road to Pisgah bay is terrible to drive on especially in a car. Or if your



pulling a boat and there is an on coming vehicle coming from pishah bay it's near impossible to pass by each other without having to pull way off the road and chance getting stuck or damaging the vehicle from hitting trees.

Another road is Turkey bay main access road is always washed out near ditches and it's narrow too. The ditch near the water house is impossible to drive across when pulling a trailer or RV without dragging ground real bad and damaging the underside of the trailer or RV. My last trip there in Aug 2018 I nearly destroyed the bottom rear of my RV and the plumbing. That potentially would ruin a good trip and make people not come back.

Just my thoughts!

Idea Author: Kelly B

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Diversity**

Idea Detail: America is becoming a more racially diverse country each year. However, many racial minorities are not participating in outdoor recreation and environmental education programs and activities at the rate that Caucasians are. Why is this? Factors such as pop culture, the media, advertisements, lack of money, lack of resources, and lack of public awareness all contribute to the reasons that many racial minorities are not engaging in outdoor recreation and environmental education programs and activities. Moving forward outdoor recreation and environmental education centered areas such as LBL need to better reach these racial populations through increased outreach programs in minority schools, increased grants that allow underserved youth to attend LBL events, increased social media marketing, increased citizen science projects, etc.

Idea Author: Ryan C

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Adaptation means adapting**

Idea Detail: Many facilities have stayed the same...ie BS has a wonderful activities bldg where the petition doors have not worked for years. New ones that provides not only a barrier but a sound barrier as well would allow a better sharing of this space. Previous business plans



called for allowing business, industry and education groups to have conferencing and team building opportunities would increase usership. It would also attract more adult groups. If BS is to have higher occupancy then the constituency must be diverse...not only church groups but business, higher education, and industry. This kind of planning and facility upgrades would assure a broader constituency. Under the Trust Fund...using this funding for upgrades and seed funding of adult groups would be an incentive for greater use and for a broader-based use.

Idea Author: Joseph B

Number of Stars 2

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: stop un nesery logging help provide food plots for more game**

Idea Detail: only cut dead or storm damaged trees. get farmers to plant more crops crops and leave a part of it in the field as they used to do. provide better maintenance on secondary roads.get some kind of law enforcement up there its discouraging for some to obey the law and others do as they please

Idea Author: david E

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: provide information for geneology research (pics of houses)**

Idea Detail: Provide pics and maps of where people lived before LBL took over!!!

Idea Author: Belinda N

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Accept tech & still offer the "wild" experience**

Idea Detail: LBL needs to accept tech more, by offering a more user friendly website that focuses on the visitors needs and experience as well as offer free wifi at our day use facilities so people can be drawn to them and still feel connected. info kioask outside welcomestatons for after hours. But, we also need to recognize that folks, especially children need to be able to get away from crowded and tech situations and recreate in the 'wild". In a FS study, the top 4 out of 5 growing recreation tends in the country were related to wildlife viewing and nature



tourism, more people go to zoos than ball parks in this contry. Our national parks are busier than ever, we need to continue offering opportunities to experience the outdoors.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Beginners camp program**

Idea Detail: Set up a beginners camping program where city people who have never camped can camp for 2 to 3 days. Have all equipment, food, fishing gear, kayaking gear etc. there. Teach them to set up camp, cook over camp fire, fish and kayak. We have fewer people camping. Most are drive through visitors. See research on Yellowstone. Most don't get more than 25 yards from car. Too many people never get out of the cities.

Idea Author: Tom S

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Keep nature the theme**

Idea Detail: We will continually experience modern changes in our everyday life. It will always be nice to step back to nature. A walk thru the trees, or a ride thru the woods or around the water on my wagon changes me. Makes me able to deal with all the changes life throws at me. It's good to have the modern camping facilities, but it's out on the trails that I begin to breathe.

Idea Author: Gerald A

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Gerald A. - Being out in nature does help us to breathe and recharge. Your comment helped me to realize I had not taken a break most of the day. I went outside for a few minutes. Now I can breathe again. Thanks. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Limited virtual tours. Preserves area, beautiful/natural**

Idea Detail: Keep area preserved as is. It's natural beauty and history preserved. Offer a virtual tour of anyone's choosing from different areas and past history. Keeps area as is but encourages persons to visit and experience first hand its Glory.



Idea Author: Clayton H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Find that "happy medium"...**

Idea Detail: Future generations seem to be focused on technology and the newest, hottest trend. Not to say those things aren't important, but that is not the essence of LBL. While LBL can make some adaptations to be more current in some regards, the draw of LBL is the chance to get away from the fast-paced techno lifestyle. LBL can "get with the times" by having WiFi hot-spots and more cellular coverage, I guess, but in reality there are several cellular dead spots in rural communities all across America. I think the cell coverage LBL has is already impressive, considering the area. LBL has a website and a volunteer organization that is informative and seems up to date, so from a technology standpoint it seems like you're doing what needs to be done to keep up with the Jones, so to speak. So the happy medium is somewhere between trying to stay up -to-date on technology, and also keeping the heart of LBL what it is now, a nature park that people can enjoy in their own way.

Idea Author: Julie W

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Facilities should be updated**

Idea Detail: Residential facilities should be updated for adults and/or have separate ones for adults to stay and have conferences. This would mean upgraded technology, internet access, conference projector(s) and food for adults. Adults would like to stay at BS if they had adult amenities and where they could have presentations and speakers

Idea Author: Joseph B

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Forests can't change, just your information and services**

Idea Detail: Keep up with current science for managing the forests, but I doubt you can develop a GMO adaptation for trees to grow USB ports for visitors. Just keep visitation areas-visitor centers, campgrounds, etc fairly current with tried and true computer/phone sharing devices and information sharing connections. Visitors should be able to self-serve themselves to download LBL-specific apps and trail maps and self guided tours



Idea Author: Fester C

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Camping and facilities updated**

Idea Detail: The pay campgrounds must be updated to reflect the expectations of its customers, updated restrooms, WiFi throughout the campground, larger pads for large motor homes. Maintain primitive campgrounds, designating one or two campgrounds as no generators. Continue to seek ways to implement EO into existing sites, ie Homeplace, Nature Station, Elk & Bison Prairie. Improve cellular connectivity for smartphone use in hiking, geocaching, interactive displays, etc. Convince TVA to maintain summer pool levels through Labor Day to facilitate safer boating and water sports. Walking bridge over stream to access Fort Henry trails from available parking across from visitors center. Repair overflow and trail system around Hematite Lake, which has been discussed for over 7 years now. Improve the enclosures and trails at the Nature Station, enclosures not sized properly to reflect the size needs of the animals contained, trail is not handicap accessible.

Idea Author: Bill P

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Agree with several of the points mentioned above. Especially with improving/continuing to maintain at a high level the more primitive campgrounds. As the more "amenity focused" campgrounds see more and more improvements and use, it is important to still offer opportunity to have a "no frills" camping experience. I had not thought of the no generator concept but like the idea. Also, some more enforcement presence to make sure that areas are used appropriately and not "loved to death."

Hematite needs a little love. Perhaps work with Fish and Wildlife engineering to build the lake surrounds and overflow to include the ability to manipulate water levels to encourage use by migratory waterfowl. Sort of two birds with one stone type of approach. It already is a de facto refuge, build it so it is more attractive to wildlife.

Not sure I can get on board with the keeping water levels up in the lake though. According to Paul Rister some of the issues effecting the lakes regarding erosion of the islands and disappearing buck brush/button ball bushes relates to the increased time that the lakes are held at summer pool. If the level is held longer then I would propose they get to summer pool later. | By DANIEL N

**Idea Title: Focus on sustainability**



Idea Detail: As more and more of our resources are depleted and our natural spaces are destroyed, it is imperative that natural expanses such as LBL implement sustainable practices that not only conserve the natural resources at LBL but they must also advertise their sustainable efforts and programs and work to educate the huge number of people that visit LBL every year.

Idea Author: Terry D

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Keep up with hiking trails and campsites.**

Idea Detail: Also more details around the area about the history of the area.

Idea Author: Crystal H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The best change is no change at all!**

Idea Detail: You surely know the old saying..."if it ain't broke, don't fix it!" Well, that certainly fits here....as soon as you start messing with LBL, you change its very identity of a wonderful haven of real wilderness right here in the midwest.....there is just nothing like it. And like lots of people smarter than I am have said multiple times....some people just need wilderness.

Idea Author: Robert G

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Robert G. - I appreciate your comments on not changing the wild nature of Land Between the Lakes. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Demonstrate that the forest is a sustainable resource**

Idea Detail: Tree harvest, controlled fire, and food plot development all help show that the forest is a sustainable resource when properly managed.

Idea Author: Don D

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: Secure a line item for the budget and secure funding**

Idea Detail: When TVA created the ire of local residents by proposing commercial development, a part of the solution was transfer to Forestry and a line item in the budget. With no public discussion, Forestry changed this part of the arrangement. Efforts should be made to correct this and to lobby for adequate funding. Formerly there was an annual trip to Washington by staff to insure that funding was protected. This should happen again.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Get involved with educating youth**

Idea Detail: My other comment was about how important it is to maintain programs. Some of my other comments are about connecting youth with nature. I think a good place to start is by collaborating with public schools to involve youth in LBL programs.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Ban the display of the Confederate flag at campsites.**

Idea Detail: This flag was the battle flag of a group of states that wanted to leave the Union over the issue of slavery. (Some say it was over state's rights, but, let's be honest, the main right they were fighting about was the right to own people.) It has also historically been used by groups of people to exclude other groups of people. Much like the Swastika was adopted by the Nazis, this flag has been adopted by hate groups such that the display of this flag is offensive to others. The continued display of this flag at the campgrounds will only serve to alienate minorities.

Idea Author: Chris B

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Better cell phone coverage/wireless access**

Idea Detail: It's a fine line between unhooking from technology and being in nature. I think there could be a happy medium between the two



Idea Author: Greg J

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Increase wi-if access**

Idea Detail: For news, cell phone reception, email

Idea Author: Jodi S

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Get programs in your schools**

Idea Detail: Go into your surrounding schools where kids sit . Get a program in Discovery Park at Union City

Idea Author: Gretta P

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Better services with a well trained staff with public input.**

Idea Detail: Suggest planning annual meetings with the public in multiple locations to seek ideas on what services the public needs or wants. I have attended meetings in the past where people have made great suggestions on improving areas of LBL, but it seems to fall on deaf ears. No action was ever taken on the suggestions of the public. There is a perception of many people that the meetings are held just to appease the public. I have been a seasonal camper at Piney for about 18 years and have seen the campground conditions worsen and fewer campers since the reservation system was started several years ago.

Idea Author: James K

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: It doesn't need to change.**

Idea Detail: It needs to be updated and maintained. When the government/TVA took this land from private land owners in the 1960's, they had a vision for a national recreation area. This vision needs to remain as promised.



Idea Author: James K

Number of Comments 0



**Topic Name: Vision**

**Idea Title: Hopefully in 15 years LBL will still be one of a kind...**

Idea Detail: When you look at other state parks or nature locations around America, LBL is so unique. There are so many different activities that people can partake in, if you don't like one just try another. The Forestry Service gives the public the freedom to enjoy LBL and mother nature in whatever way speaks to them, while preserving it for future generations. That is a tough task. Some people like hiking, or back packing, or camping, or fishing, or off roading, or horse back riding, or target shooting, or hunting, and LBL has it all and then some. Hopefully in 15 years I will still feel as lucky as I do now, that we have LBL in our backyard to enjoy.

Idea Author: Julie W

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: No commercial development**

Idea Detail: More area like the Homeplace would be great. Some type of wildlife area/sanctuary would be incredible as well.

Idea Author: Greg J

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: No major changes, just more Forest management, It'sToo thick**

Idea Detail: Would like to see more Forest management, the woods are closing in and are too thick. Its not growing much at ground level for animals to survive! LBL needs to stop catering SO MUCH to limited-focus groups (some old timers and tree huggers can be like that) and remember their initial mission to grow trees, healthy forests, for people of all types to enjoy through various widespread activities (hike, bike, ATV, Jeep, Hunt, Fish, camp, etc).

Idea Author: Fester C

Number of Stars 3



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Increased Collaboration and Wildlife Management**

Idea Detail: In 15 years I would like to see LBL continue to build relationships with local schools, clubs, and organizations. Increased communication with local citizens helps build a quality relationship, helps foster diversity, innovation, and creativity, and helps local residents feel as though LBL is a place they are part of. I would also like to see LBL continue to offer internships and apprenticeships for those interested in a career in outdoor recreation, environmental education, wildlife management etc.

I would also like to see LBL start doing more work for species like Bobwhite Quail and Ruffed Grouse. Quail are rare in LBL as a result of habitat conditions. Ruffed Grouse numbers used to be fairly healthy in parts of western KY and western TN decades ago. Maturing forest and habitat loss have impacted their numbers during the past 20 years. I would like to see LBL reintroduce Ruffed Grouse and manage habitat for them moving forward. It would be a great wildlife viewing opportunity.

Idea Author: Ryan C

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Decreased road access**

Idea Detail: Provide more backpacking/hiking activities by increasing the amount of available land through fewer roads.

Idea Author: Don D

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Resotation & Renovation**

Idea Detail: I see LBL continuing to restore and manage al the different habitats in LBL like barrens, shortleaf pine, river cane and maintain oak hickory forest. I see LBL adapting to the future of climate change and maintain the habitat for an ever shrinking wildlife diversity as a refugia. I see LBL growing in poularity as the population increases and the demandad for



wildplaces increases (national park type crowding). I see day use , visitor centers, and campgournds mondermodernized and renovated to meat the next generation of users. I see an ever increasing demand for the facilities day use and recreatonthat LBL now offers. I also see more use on the water with an increase in the water trail usage. I see LBL with a wild population of elk, hopefully.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Stars 2

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: That would be wonderful to have a wild population of elk in LBL. As you know eastern Kentucky currently has over 12,000 wild elk roaming free in the mountains. Tennessee, Missouri, and many other eastern states have also reintroduced wild elk during the past 15 to 20 years.

I also believe that it's possible that black bear may be found in LBL in the future. The black bear populations are really growing and expanding in Missouri, Arkansas, Eastern Kentucky, and Eastern Tennessee. As this expansion continues it's certainly possible a few black bears may wander into LBL. | By Ryan C

**Idea Title: as its going not good**

Idea Detail: no crops much to grow the wildlife.roads very slowly maintainedtoo much timber being cut

Idea Author: david E

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: To be a great place for all to recreate, relax, & enjoy!**

Idea Detail: I hope in 15 years for Land Between the Lakes to still be a place for all to come and enjoy. Everybody can enjoy numerous recreation and educational activities and also get to enjoy nature at the same time. Land Between the Lakes is already doing an amazing job caring for the land and serving the people and I see no end to that in the years to come.

Idea Author: Anna W

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: Focus on what the visitors want-not some pencil-pusher**

Idea Detail: Keep doing surveys like this one and open seminars for the older folks that don't have internet. Keep the roads to the water open, cell tower close to campgrounds for better service,

Idea Author: Belinda N

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: To be a model for environmental stewardship.**

Idea Detail: As world trends continue toward over development, I would like to see LBL hold out so as to become the premier model in the US for what has not been developed, and for what preserves access to nature as it was intended to be. I believe exposure to environments like LBL will be increasingly recognized in the future as being vital and necessary for the well being of all people...a refuge from the chaos many people deal with in their daily lives!

Idea Author: Susan A

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Don't make the camp grounds Galmore camps.**

Idea Detail: Don't make it a glamor spot. I've been tent camping for 50 years. Sound of generators and motor homes does not make for a peaceful vacation.

Idea Author: Tom S

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Update but preserve structures & trails.**

Idea Detail: Keep structures safe and in good order. Leave integrity of area as is.

Idea Author: Clayton H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Improved maintenance**



Idea Detail: LBL offers so much right now. What has changed in the past decade or so is its ability to support all that it offers. As funding decreases, so does maintenance of roads, facilities, and programs to conserve plant and animal species. I hope to see a reversal in that trend so that LBL better maintains what it offers.

Idea Author: Terry D

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Maintaining the natural environment with easy access for all**

Idea Detail: One of the best parts of the LBL is that it has not been commercially developed so we can peacefully enjoy the natural environment. People are accessing the environment in different ways so we need things like more bike paths to accommodate this change. However, in doing so we must not disrupt the natural features that support the wide range of wildlife and unspoiled natural beauty of the land. Things like above ground electric lines need to be reduced and replaced by more native prairies. At the same time we need to add some disabled person observation stations so that everyone can enjoy watching wildlife.

Idea Author: Randall H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: No changes.**

Idea Detail: Like I said previously, I don't know how you go about changing wilderness, without ruining it.

I'm sure there is a certain crowd that would love to be running 4 wheelers, and ATV's all over it, but then you ruin the very wilderness setting you have created. I suppose there are options that could be explored at the already open sites.....but to change the wilderness is to ruin it.

Idea Author: Robert G

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The promise made to residents for recreational use is kept**

Idea Detail: When the land was taken, it was to be used. We are using the resource for recreation, (camping, hiking, horse riding, biking, wildlife watching, etc.). If we do not fully use the resource we break our promise to use the land which was taken. Services should be



maintained and possibly expanded. Access to nature in all of her glory is important for our citizens.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The planetarium will be here and be improved**

Idea Detail: One resource of the LBL is that it is dark. The astronomy club sessions in the summer are very informative. The planetarium is a great resource.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: A bike trail along The Trace.**

Idea Detail: A parallel hike/bike trail would allow hikers and bikers to take a shorter route, would get bikes off of The Trace which is dangerous.

Idea Author: Susan F

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Keep it as pristine as it is!**

Idea Detail: It's absolutely heaven as it is - just maintain it

Idea Author: Jodi S

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: That our parks are updated , kept cleaner, better roads**

Idea Detail: That it thrives

Idea Author: Gretta P

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: A place where the public can visit and have a great time.**

Idea Detail: A lot of the areas and facilities need to be updated, provide more opportunities for the school age children and provide more educational programs. Hopefully this would give the younger generation more choices other than a life of crime and drugs.

Idea Author: James K

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: To remain as a recreation area as promised when it was taken**

Idea Detail: Maintain the vision as promised 50+ years ago.

Idea Author: James K

Number of Comments 0



## **Topic Name: Engaging Youth Through Environmental Education**

**Idea Title: Increase outreach to schools in larger metropolitan markets.**

Idea Detail: Develop presentations/programs that would be presented to school audiences in surrounding metropolitan markets (STL, Nashville, Memphis, Louisville). Perhaps something along the lines of a speakers bureau or LBL Ambassadorship program.

Idea Author: Susan A

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Totally agree with this! | By Amy H

**Idea Title: i dont know**

Idea Detail: I don't know

Idea Author: david E

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: encouragement and ease**

Idea Detail: We need to encourage more teacher and school districts to bring their students to LBL. In some places, nature centers, musuems have set up contracts to use their facilities as larger learning centers where the interpreters and teachers work together on curriculum to a mutally benefical model. I think having preset itentaries f or teachers where they are encouraged to visit multiple locations , but it fits into their teaching curriculum. Planned outtrips. I also like the school field grant program.

I feel we need to make the day use facilities which are located 45 minutes from large towns more Day Use. I think we need to add amenities so it is worth a family to travel that distance multiple tines maybe even in a week. Fore instance at Nature Station a playground or natural play area,tree house. At HP playground and a 1-mlle loop trail. With trails, picnic areas, playareas, and the facility itself especially geared towards early childhood and elementary, we can increase the exposure

Idea Author: John P



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Sponsor more school groups**

Idea Detail: Enlarge the nature center so you have classrooms that can hold 30 to 40 students. Produce online courses for school teachers to use that are about LBL. Most Americans will never come to LBL.

Idea Author: Tom S

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Send info & learning materials directly to science teachers**

Idea Detail: Kids own interests will drive them to what they want to do and learn more about at home. TV commercials and online commercials and social media will typically plug them into other things so LBL needs to engage them somewhere else. IF a teacher can easily include some optional curricula into their science and biology classes that highlight neat things they can only find in the outdoors, then some sparks may ignite in a few kids that will make them want more. Nature Station is your only real child engaging site for learning about nature. LBL needs more murals, displays, posters, exploration sites, statues, and things to put the children in the scene. There are pitifully few displays on LBL and most have little on them. Most National Parks seem to have a better grasp on this type of learning and how important this tactile and visual experiences are to children to hold things in their little minds.

Idea Author: Fester C

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: As a Murray State University Doctorate of Education student, I agree that increased collaboration with local teachers is a wonderful idea. Also, perhaps more trails with interpretive signage would also help educate school groups and youth visitors that come to LBL. I have hiked the entire North/South Trail, all of the trails around the Brandon Spring Group Center, every trail around the Nature Station, as well as other LBL trails, and interpretive signage is very rare from what I have seen. | By Ryan C

**Idea Title: Use technology**

Idea Detail: Kids are always on their phones, improve cellular coverage or add WiFi spots to allow hiking tours that are smartphone guided with components of EO interspersed within the information provided. Add grade appropriate questions about habitat and species identification



that could be worked into school trips or done individually. Add historical info at relevant points through scannable signage or pop-ups on a trail app.

Idea Author: Bill P

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: see previous answer**

Idea Detail: see previous answer

Idea Author: Terry D

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: There is increased recognition of the importance of nature for youth development. Therefore the facility provides an important service. Also, if budgets are tight, it is a "cause" which might attract private donors. | By Winthrop H

Comment 2: Another idea is to promote Brandon Springs | By Winthrop H

**Idea Title: Hands on.**

Idea Detail: Kids will get more out of getting down and dirty, in trail work or conservation projects than any classroom activity can ever muster.

Idea Author: Robert G

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Increased Activities and More Collaboration with Schools**

Idea Detail: I think it should be a goal that every single student in the schools within a 50-mile radius of LBL should camp, hike, and attend LBL programs multiple times throughout their childhood and teenage years. This can be done through increased field trips with local schools. This may also involve LBL offering specific programs to match and/or complement the curriculum of local schools. For example, if local school history classes are learning about history than they could come to LBL to be taught about history at the Homeplace or by other LBL staff, if local students are learning about science, wildlife, wildlife adaptations, or botany, they could come to LBL to learn about those subjects, to be guided on interpretive hikes, and to engage in citizen science projects. Instead of LBL appearing to be a place students only go



occasionally, LBL could be more of an extension of the classroom for local schools, a place where local school teachers go regularly to assist in teaching their students.

Idea Author: Ryan C

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I would also like to add that it would be interesting if all local schools taught the history of LBL as part of their curriculum. It would be interesting if local schools also taught students about the wildlife and natural resources of LBL as part of their science curriculum. These actions would better educate local students about LBL and potentially inspire them to become more involved with LBL for the rest of their lives.

- Ryan Clark | By Ryan C

**Idea Title: One idea is to collaborate in project based education**

Idea Detail: A trend in education is an idea called "project based education." The idea is that if you apply what you learn in a project or if you learn in order to do a project, you will learn more and remember more. Some schools have a summative project as a requirement for graduation. Some have students engage in a "coop" job for a semester. Some have students work in the community during spring and fall break. The LBL is a perfect place for student work. Projects in biology, history, aquaculture, wildlife management, sociology, tourism, engineering, forestry, etc. are easily conceived. Students acquire an in depth knowledge of an aspect of the LBL. The LBL wins with a life long friend, some unpaid labor, and better educated youth.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: This certainly helps build relationships with the local schools and communities in the region as well. In the P - 20 model of education schools collaborating with organizations, agencies, and employers is a top priority. This collaboration helps students better understand different career opportunities, learn skills, and network with potential employers. This benefits students and society. LBL needs to continue to offer internships and apprenticeship opportunities as well. | By Ryan C

**Idea Title: Create a camp**

Idea Detail: Have a camp, similar to camp curry. Even if its just one weekend a month, where



the kids can sign up, and go to a camp like activity while camping a weekend with parents.

Idea Author: Amy H

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Brandon Spring Group Center in the Tennessee portion of LBL provides a camp experience for thousands of students each year. I used to work there. Brandon Spring Group Center offers dorms, a cafeteria, hiking trails, an amphitheater, an activity building, a beach, a low ropes course, canoeing, basketball courts etc. Staff at Brandon Spring also teach dozens of different environmental education programs, wildlife programs, and outdoor recreation programs each week.

- Ryan Clark | By Ryan C

**Idea Title: Day camps and overnight camps.**

Idea Detail: Test water quality, catch water insects, crayfish, minnows. Learn toad and frog ID and calls, insect sounds, bird calls and ID. Kayak trips.

Idea Author: Susan F

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Brandon Spring Group Center in LBL has most all of these activities and it provides a camp experience in the southern portion of LBL.

Several well-known youth organizations in the area provide day camps which can often be a very good experience for youth. Brandon Spring Group Center in LBL offers an overnight camp experience, but perhaps the idea of day camps in other parts of LBL such as certain LBL campgrounds could work as long as there are adequate staff and financial resources available.

| By Ryan C

**Idea Title: Go into your schools**

Idea Detail: Have a real employee go into the schools maybe 4th, 5th or 6th grade levels and have programs where they can have opportunities to have printed materials to take home and tell parents that a certain activity is happening have rewards program if they participate such as free kayaking lesson or admission to Home Place or Nature Station .Once there allow children to speak to public about there favorite thing about that place or the program u offer or just allow kids to interact make them feel important . You get kids attention you get parents and



grandparents time and money.

Idea Author: Gretta P

Number of Comments 0



## **Topic Name: Practice Sustainability**

### **Idea Title: What about announcing volunteer trash cleanup days?**

Idea Detail: Have trash clean up days and provide garbage bags. Announce where and when to meet to clean up litter. Give out mugs or cups as swag to people who show up.

Idea Author: Tim R

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: These are good comments. One great way to stay informed about LBL volunteer events and cleanup events is through the Friends of LBL newsletters, and by signing up for the LBL E-Newsletter.

You should be able to find a link to the LBL E-Newsletter on the LBL website. It is generally sent out once per week to subscribers, it features information about LBL special events, volunteer opportunities, and other LBL information. | By Ryan C

### **Idea Title: Make it connect to citizens and sustainability**

Idea Detail: The essence of sustainability is having people be a part of it in their everyday lives. LBL can and should be a place to connect people to sustainable living in their everyday lives. Being a model, providing education about how to do it...how LBL is dealing with it...the challenges for LBL and for citizens as well. Being partners in sustainability is a sure way to create new friends that see a connection to their home and what they can do in partnership with LBL.

Idea Author: Joseph B

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

### **Idea Title: Convert as much as possible to solar energy.**

Idea Detail: Add solar panels to as many facilities as possible.

Idea Author: Barb W



Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Forest Watch Program**

Idea Detail: Start a program similar to neighborhood watch called Forest Watch, where people are trained to report incidents as they see them, like violations and litter control. There has to be some seniors that would do this while they fish, bird watch, or enjoy camping

Idea Author: Jason O

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Better Education About Practices and Management**

Idea Detail: Most people seem to take a position of one extreme or the other with ideas. Most of the time, the reality lies somewhere in the middle. Logging, for example is often seen as bad for the forest and wildlife. And while clear cutting can have detrimental effects, thinning has great benefits and allows for the diversification of flora and fauna. Folks need to have access to information, with sources from outside of LBL, on the actual risks and benefits of various projects and management techniques. Without clear, unbiased, information, it won't matter how good the ideas are. My thoughts.

Idea Author: Brian T

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Certain habitat management practices can certainly be beneficial as you suggest. As you suggest, different habitat management practices help create habitat diversity. As I often say, habitat diversity creates wildlife diversity! | By Ryan C

**Idea Title: Add more sponsored hikes like the wildflower one**

Idea Detail: The hikes could include historical information on the land and it's previous inhabitants like the National Park Service does at most of the parks. It is always infectious to



have someone share their own interest in things. If these could be available often so visitors would happen upon them as opposed to having to make reservations well in advance it may have more participation since it is more of a place where people wander.

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Stars 2

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: engage the younger generation**

Idea Detail: Find a way to reach those under 30 years of age

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Focus on what the visitors want-no some pencil-pusher**

Idea Detail: The visitors know what they would like to see in LBL, not some pencil-pusher who has never been there. It may look good on paper but continue to focus on those who give feedback and the visitors who travel to LBL.

Idea Author: Belinda N

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: What would you like to see | By Gary H

**Idea Title: Lead by example**

Idea Detail: I think a essential and important role for LBL is to lead by example. Green buildings, recycling, sustainable natural resource management that can be duplicated by the private land owner. Strong environmental education to help explain the costs and benefits of such practices. Reaching out into the community to not just talk about the economic value or recreational value of LBL, but the smart practices LBL is doing to manage such a large and diverse property.

Idea Author: John P



Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: John P. - As you have stated, there are many aspects to sustainability. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Investment+Improvements=Long Term Sustainability**

Idea Detail: Sustainability comes in many forms, sure. We all know that the environmental sustainability is important, but it's hard to practice sustainability without the almighty dollar. While it is always good to hear ideas and ways to improve, implementing those ideas usually requires funding in some form or fashion. So the basic principal here is, how can we generate more revenue in order to implement these sustainability ideas? LBL offers so many things to people, like hiking, biking, water sports, fishing, wildlife viewing, hunting, off-roading, horseback riding, and the list goes on. Out of all of these activities, the only ones that bring in money are camping (Hillman's/Piney/Energy Lake, not backwoods), Wrangler's, and Turkey Bay. If these areas are successful enough financially to sustain all the other free activities that LBL offers, would it not make sense to expand or improve on these core places? Namely Turkey Bay, which has seen no improvement like all these others have.

Idea Author: Julie W

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: You write, "improve these core places... Namely Turkey Bay, which has seen no improvement like all these others have." What improvements to you want to see at Turkey Bay? Do you want to see more trails, better trails, more space, more camping, better camping opportunities, more support amenities, etc? We would like to know specifically what you mean by improve. | By Christopher J

**Idea Title: Seems pretty sustainable now. No logging, controlled hunts,**

Idea Detail: If the public is becoming a problem, such as too many of them doing something, one good way to regulate that is by adding higher fees or limiting use somehow. Since almost nothing ever gets logged the trees will get old crowded and die of disease... that may be unsustainable. Hunting needs to be regulated or people will kill off all the deer and turkey... so that is working OK for now. Some sustainable stuff is just tree huggers talking and some is meaningful. This subject would need to be broken down into specifics for me to give a useable answer

Idea Author: Fester C

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: Educate about sustainability**

Idea Detail: I think many people do not know what sustainability is in its many forms. LBL could provide education programs in schools, the university, at its facilities, through ranger talks, etc.

Idea Author: Terry D

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Nothing easy about this one**

Idea Detail: As times goes on, we are losing more and more of our young people's connection to the out of doors....and they are our future. If we don't find a way to get into the schools and connect with those kids that have at least an interest in the out of doors.....we are going to become the dinosaurs of our time.

Idea Author: Robert G

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Teach the public about sustainability**

Idea Detail: Teaching the public about sustainability and Leave No Trace, may help the visitors to LBL better respect and keep LBL clean. This could be done through presentations at campgrounds and other popular places in LBL, increased signage at LBL facilities and campgrounds, teaching the concepts of sustainability and LNT on the LBL website and on LBL social media etc.

Idea Author: Ryan C

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Kayaking tours**

Idea Detail: It would be fun to set up a time to meet and kayak as a group while we are camping.

Idea Author: Brook R

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: Consider global warming.**

Idea Detail: The National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration just issued a draft statement in which the figure for global warming was a seven degree increase in temprature by the end of the century. While there is some disagreement about this, I carry house insurance even though it is extremely unlikely that my house will burn. One suggestion is that LBL officials consider the carbon impact in the course of administrating the recreational area. A second is that people start to consider how to protect the environment if tempretaures do increase.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: PR, community involvement!**

Idea Detail: More programming, more facilities to visit, better roads, better forest maintenance, NO cutting timber!!

Idea Author: Jan W

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Jan W. - Can you tell me more about what types of programming and facilities you would like to have at Land Between the Lakes? I would also like to hear more about your concerns and ideas for roads and forest maintenance. You can provide more information here or you can email me directly at [jlaird@fs.fed.us](mailto:jlaird@fs.fed.us) | By Jeff L



## **Topic Name: Volunteering**

### **Idea Title: Give ideas on how to volunteer**

Idea Detail: I've never considered what I might lend myself to in a work time frame. Would like to know some possibilities.

Idea Author: Gerald A

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

### **Idea Title: We believe in giving back.**

Idea Detail: As a family, we believe in sustaining whatever activities we are involved in. We help with the Turkey Bay clean up days, and we always pick up trash when we see it. We have full time jobs and our son is in school, so sometimes our time is limited. But we volunteer for whatever activities we choose to be involved in. When our son was on the 4H Shotgun team, we helped raise money. When he played football, I organized drinks and snacks for the players and organized parents to volunteer. We believe that you should give back to whatever activities you are a part of, which for us is Turkey Bay. We are instilling in our son the importance of keeping Turkey Bay enjoyable for future generations. We hope when he is a parent, he remembers how much fun we had there, and he will continue with his kids.

Idea Author: Julie W

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Julie W. - Thanks to you and your family for volunteering with the communities and organizations that you are involved with. | By Jeff L

### **Idea Title: Yes...when I can...**

Idea Detail: Most people who volunteer are those who normally would. Engaging others who would not normally do so is what is needed. For instance - Brandon had several landscape beds that were in terrible condition - weeds, etc. Many of the landscape practices were not sustainable...and often the bushes were overgrown and were trimmed in such a way they made them vulnerable to disease. When a Monarch Butterfly garden was suggested...the



teachers at BS learned about how to do it, did the spade work using indigenous species and helped the landscape beds and went home and created their own...and some at their schools. These are people who do not ordinarily volunteer...but having a dual purpose helped engage these people in helping LBL as volunteers and helped them with ideas for their own home and community. These kinds of things can be done on a regular basis...and would help usership as well as create a new pool of interested citizens.

Idea Author: Joseph B

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: yes and yes**

Idea Detail: I said YES.

Idea Author: Mary E

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: feasible and undstood projects**

Idea Detail: Yes, I volunteer on my off time. I volunteer quite a bit of hours. I do so because I care about the environment and I enjoy making a difference. I volunteer to census wildlife, I volunteer to plant trees and restore natural areas, I volunteer to create wilife habitat. I volunteer to pick up trash. I volunteer to educate the public. I do so because the mission and organization is clear. The objectives and goals are menaiful and the results are present. People need to understand the importance and they need to not only be rewarded by results, but a simple thank you, which I believe LBL does pretty well.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: John P. - thank you for all that you do to volunteer here at Land Between the Lakes. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: No. How much of a commitment is it to be on that 'list'**

Idea Detail: I may pick up trash when I see it, but volunteering seems more like something you



see students and church groups doing. what would a volunteer do on state or public land? Seems like too much bureaucracy would be involved. I might help with the right project if a group of people I know signed up for something involving the outdoors

Idea Author: Fester C

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: No. Lack of time and info**

Idea Detail: It would be helpful to have information about volunteer opportunities, especially those that are short events.

Idea Author: Terry D

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Terry D. - Please email the volunteer coordinator at the Friends of Land Between the Lakes and she can add you to her email list so that you can be notified of volunteer opportunities in the future. Her email address is [volunteer@friendsoflbl.org](mailto:volunteer@friendsoflbl.org) | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: I was a volunteer until my husband and I, who are in our 70'**

Idea Detail: s began raising 2 grandsons. Run out of time and energy.

Idea Author: Diana E

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Time**

Idea Detail: Right now I juggle a full time job, a college class, as well as other responsibilities. Most of the time volunteer days happen on Saturdays, which is my day of rest. I realize that is not an issue for most people in this area as Sabbath keepers are few and far between, so this may not help overall.

Idea Author: Brian T

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Not often. Lack of time.**



Idea Detail: I work most weekdays and Saturdays are difficult for me. I guess more evenings and Sundays, with a goodly amount of notice.

Idea Author: Brian T

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: distance**

Idea Detail: see previous responses

Idea Author: Robert G

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Yes**

Idea Detail: I am currently earning my Doctorate Degree in Education and Community Leadership at Murray State University. I want to use my Doctorate Degree to teach others about environmental education, conservation, sustainability, and outdoor recreation.

I have also worked and volunteered for over 15 years at environmental education and outdoor recreation based organizations and agencies, including LBL.

Idea Author: Ryan C

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Yes! We all should!**

Idea Detail: I always volunteer while I camp, weather it be crafts, the haunted house, or hiding Easter eggs. Our rangers are amazing, but when its full, they can always use some extra help.

Idea Author: Brook R

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I volunteer**

Idea Detail: I volunteer and find it worthwhile.



Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: As long as no families will be moved!!**

Idea Detail: The above says it all!!

Idea Author: Jan W

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I'm not sure I understand your comment. Can you please explain further? | By Christopher J



**Topic Name: What else should be considered?**

**Idea Title: Get rid of Asian Carp**

Idea Detail: Educate about Asian Carp damage. Hold Asian carp tournaments every month.

Idea Author: Tom S

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Repair Boardwalk @ Hematite Lake Trail**

Idea Detail: My wife and I were so disappointed to find the Boardwalk is gone/in disarray, and requires considerable repair. We understand you have limited resources, but when is the estimated repair completion date so we may return?

Idea Author: Alan B

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: rentable boat slips**

Idea Detail: We have a boat, but we never bring it because of the inability to keep it in the water throughout our stay

Idea Author: Amy H

Number of Stars 2

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: listen to the people folks were robbed of there land to make**

Idea Detail: develop it for a beautifull place to be in with plenty of wildlife to hunt

Idea Author: david E



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Maintain infrastructure**

Idea Detail: Road infrastructure must be maintained to continue to be a viable park. A lot of roads are washed out and culverts damaged or disappeared. There seems to be less and less accessibility to various parts of the park.

Idea Author: Chad G

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Keep up the good work**

Idea Detail: I have been associated with LBL for 21 years. I love the area and the place. The main reason I love the place is what it offers to folks and the dedication of the individuals who work there. I have met some great people who have made some great sacrifices to maintain and keep the Land Between the Lakes a top destination and a destination that offers so much for this area. It lives up to its name as a national recreation area and has become one of the major driving forces in tourism and economic development in the area, I do not want to lose that. We need to make people understand the importance of LBL and all it offers to folks not directly benefiting from it. Without the maintaining of what we have, means we will lose so much not just for Land Between the Lakes, but the communities that are served and depend upon its success.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I thought you were already sustainable? but recreation..**

Idea Detail: I'm guessing this is back to what you are calling 'sustainable recreation' The previous questions did not seem to hone in on recreation specifically so I answered based on other forest-specific things. Everything LBL does regarding land management is done to keep the land viable/usable/sustainable except for the recreation and historic aspects of it which can't help but drain the environment. BUT if people don't go out into the forest to enjoy it eventually no one will care about protecting it. Double edged sword issue with this subject. Just watch and control erosion, overcrowding/overuse of sites, limited access where needed without full shutdown (seasonal access restrictions). For example, instead of closing a backcountry site, or trail or road, just have it open for limited times of the year and rotate use



periods between several similar low-use backcountry sites. Let the grass and weeds grow and the animals roam between use periods to save money and maintain habitat

Idea Author: Fester C

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Can you help us identify specific areas where less grass can be mowed, where erosion control is needed, and where you have seen overcrowding? | By Jeff L

Comment 2: I like your idea of letting the grass grow in certain areas in LBL. It would save money, as well as provide food and habitat for wildlife. Grassland habitats are extremely important. In fact, the lack of grasslands in most states has had an extremely negative impact on Quail, Rabbit, Insect, and other wildlife populations over the past few decades. In my opinion, LBL should set an example for the public by allowing more grass, plants, and flowers to grow along the LBL roads to provide wildlife habitat moving forward.

I understand mowing down grass and weeds within a few feet or within a vehicle length of main roads, signs, and intersections is necessary for safety and maintenance purposes. However, the grass, plants, and flowers are often mowed back 25 to 50 plus feet off the roads in many areas. I would like to see this change to allow more grass, plants, and flowers to grow for the benefit of wildlife moving forward. | By Ryan C

**Idea Title: I don't know of anything**

Idea Detail: I don't know of anything specific

Idea Author: Terry D

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Keep golf carts out of tent camping loops.**

Idea Detail: Golf cart traffic is a hazard and a nuisance.

Idea Author: Rose H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Educate people about tools needed to manage the environment**



Idea Detail: As most of us want to maintain the natural environment many jump to the conclusion that this can be done without tractors and pesticides. Sadly this is not true or practical. However, careful planned use of modern agricultural tools can be done in ways that do not carry the negative side effects that are periodically reported associated with misuse of pesticides. Controlled burns are also a critical component of good long term land management that support more wildlife and avoid large more damaging fires during droughts.

Idea Author: Randall H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I wouldn't change a thing!**

Idea Detail: With the possible idea of developing a true youth program. It would seem to be a natural fit for scouting, tho, it too is going thru some difficult times. Maybe your own Youth Ranger program.

Idea Author: Robert G

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Robert G. - Thank you for the idea. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Continue to Solicit Feedback**

Idea Detail: Continue to solicit feedback from the public regarding plans, policies, initiatives, etc.

- Ryan Clark

Idea Author: Ryan C

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Greater involvement for prior residents**

Idea Detail: I think that prior residents or their descendants might have much to offer in the way of guidance and support for the LBL.

Idea Author: Winthrop H



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: A map of where old towns and homesteads were.**

Idea Detail: There are old maps, they could be updated and overlain with the LBL roads. Many people are interested in the communities that were in LBL, the history. It could be a source of income. I have hiked much of northern LBL and would enjoy knowing more of the past history of where I am hiking. If there are any old native Indian pointer trees or artifacts that could be of great interest.

Idea Author: Susan F

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: An area of native plants, perhaps some rarer orchids, etc.**

Idea Detail: A protected area people could see a greater diversity of native forbs, trees and shrubs. Orchids, etc., most likely would need to be protected from digging.

Idea Author: Susan F

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: More advertising**

Idea Detail: Create a "packet" of info/maps that could be given out at school a few weeks before fall/spring breaks

Idea Author: Greg J

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: KEEP interacting with your visitors.**

Idea Detail: Make the people that visit feel important that their opinion matters. Make campgrounds people friendly, hire people that care about our land and what happens to it. Fix what is broken immediately. Get a grip on spending on things not really needed in a campground. Give people clean restrooms, paved roads.

Idea Author: Gretta P



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Keep campgrounds in good shape repair roads**

Idea Detail: Piney is the best for fishing and family time, has a good staff and the people come as it is, but if you were to add more seasonal sites more would come. I know from camping there that it is one of the best campgrounds around and I drive 2 hours every weekend to get there, BUT it could use a kid friendly clean pool, better walking piers and courtesy dock in Black Oak needs upgrade ,make more parking for seasonal campers boats, and repair loading areas there is a horrible hole on Sweet Gum boat ramp.

Idea Author: Gretta P

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Add additional seasonal campsites at Piney Campground.**

Idea Detail: For the past several years there have been 20-30 families leave the annual campsite drawing without a site. At the current \$3100 campsite fee, LBL is loosing 60-90,000 dollars that could be used to upgrade and maintain facilities. I would challenge LBL staff to research past data to determine how many campsites with electric only within the campground brings in \$3100 a year. Since LBL implemented the reservation system the daily customer usage has dropped off significantly. Before the reservation system started, the campground would be full a week before any holiday weekend when it was first come first serve. I'm not suggesting to stop the reservation, but equal it out with the first come first serve. It is the local surrounding areas that keep the campground going, not the people that come two or three times a year on the holidays.

Idea Author: James K

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Keep atv out of piney**

Idea Detail: keep ATV, UTV and four wheelers out of piney

Idea Author: Harry A

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Harry A. - Are you seeing ATV, UTV, four wheel use in Piney Campground? Golf



carts are currently allowed in Piney but these other vehicles are not allowed. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: More educational programs may be considered.**

Idea Detail: Few people understand how much pressure humans are putting on the planet. If LBL can help in the fight to raise awareness about protecting endangered plants and animals, or to educate the public about pollution, global warming, over population, and other environmental issues, that would be very worthwhile.

Idea Author: wendy L

Number of Comments 0



**Topic Name (Instant Poll): Environmental Education Topics**

**Idea Title: Recreation Activities (camping, using trails, viewing wildlife, paddling, etc.)**

Number of votes: 33

**Idea Title: Animals**

Number of votes: 27

**Idea Title: Cultural History**

Number of votes: 26

**Idea Title: Plants**

Number of votes: 20

**Idea Title: Hunting and Fishing**

Number of votes: 18

**Idea Title: Land Management Activities (prescribed fire, farming, timber management, etc.)**

Number of votes: 17

**Idea Title: Recycling/Sustainability**

Number of votes: 15

**Idea Title: Are there other topics that would benefit you, your family or organization?**

Number of votes: 8

**Comments**

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: I would like to see more education regarding trash and cleanup activities at LBL.



There could be displays with photos of the amount of trash collected in areas throughout LBL. These displays could be located at visitors centers, used in short educational programs at campgrounds and for visiting groups. The public needs to see how the trash effects wildlife and also to understand how it impacts the image of LBL to out-of-state visitors. Information about the location of LBL dumpsters and garbage would also be helpful to visitors. | By Jan G

Comment 2: I would love to see more things that highlight life as it was around 1800 when the pioneers came to this area. A wilderness campground perhaps with covered wagons, a group experience where people could sign up to walk trails behind cover wagons, carrying food on the wagons, setting up camp, meals jointly prepared over campfires. There should be the availability of renting/purchasing period clothing and souvenirs. Demonstrations of skills the early pioneers would have had. This would be a family or individual experience covering a few days so that those participating could get a small taste of what life was for them. | By Carol W



**Topic Name: Share a picture**

**Idea Title: Bison in nature**

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Happy | By Jim T

**Idea Title: LBL is a wonderfully forested area**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Bobcat Point is great to visit**

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Inspired | By Jim T

**Idea Title: Cedar Pond is so relaxing for a picnic.**

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Happy | By Jim T

**Idea Title: Great Western Furnace view**

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Inspired | By Jim T

**Idea Title: Jonathan and our horses**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The Partains ... valuable colleagues from years ago.**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Volunteers at the HP**



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Great times with friends**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Wildlife all over!**

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: How cool!

| By Kim D

Comment 2: Happy | By tim K

**Idea Title: What a majestic place! This shot looks out over Kentucky Lake to see the sun coming up over LBL.**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: The peacefulness and serenity of being in nature in the winter...**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Fall in western Kentucky...**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Sunrise coming up over the bridge.**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Solitude on the water...**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: An amazing sky and sunset!**

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: Backwoods camping with my son**

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Proud, Happy | By tim K

**Idea Title: Camping in the backwoods with son.**

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Proud, Happy | By tim K

**Idea Title: Nature Station Bobcat: Brings families to connect with the land and ecology of LBL.**

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Happy | By Nickolaus W

**Idea Title: Hummingbirds at NS: Inspiration and awe at the numbers of birds. It gets people excited about the outdoors. Very fun!**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Bats at NS: Encourages people to make their property wildlife friendly. Great opportunity to see bats.**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Sunset Kayak Trip at NS on Honker Lake: Great opportunity to see tons of wildlife. Perfect time of day. `**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Woodlands Nature Watch: Best place in LBL to see a huge diversity of wildlife. Easy to access and find good views.**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Eagle and Winter Wildlife viewing trips - one of the best times of the year to get good views of tons of wildlife. W/ NS**



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Cool Critter Day at NS: Great fun day for kids to learn about global biodiversity. Learn about bats!**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Hummingbird Fest at Nature Station: my favorite event. Quite the spectacle!**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: This is a photo of a trail I hiked in the Fall of 2017. I love the beautiful colors and cool fall breezes.**

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Inspired | By Arrianne B

**Idea Title: Naugural camping trip with grandson, hoping to instill a love of the outdoors**

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Amy L. - The picture that you added is a powerful picture of love and of sharing the outdoors with our grandchildren. Thanks. | By Jeff L

Comment 2: Adorable! | By Kim D

**Idea Title: Grandkids at lbl wrangles campground**

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Love Wranglers Campground We are from Il and have been coming down for a week every spring and fall for 15 years with 4 other trailers. Lots of trails to ride and barns to keep our horses! Its great to be able to make reservations at campsites near the barns! if the weather is bad one day we can visit the Homeplace or check out many other activities available and know our horses are resting in their stalls. Love the large campsites! We always see all the changes made. Being from out of state it is so important for our group to set a date, and make reservations ahead of time with stalls close-by for our horses | By Fern S

Comment 2: Those smiles say it all! | By Kim D



**Idea Title: Sunset from backcountry campsite**

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Happy | By Jan G

**Idea Title: Hammock view from a campsite in Piney Campground, October 2017.**

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Inspired, Happy | By Joe P

**Idea Title: Tobaccos barn**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: 15 years of tradition with friends. Make this trip every year to bow hunt with friends.**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Sunset at Piney Campground 4-23-2016**

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Inspired | By Earl H

**Idea Title: This is a picture of my daughter and I, and some friends all bonding during the 2018 Heritage Geocache Challenge.**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Sunset Kayak Trip on Honker Lake. One of the prettiest times to be on the water.**

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Proud, Inspired, Happy | By Nikolaus W



**Idea Title: Moonlight kayak trip on Honker Lake. We heard coyotes howling, we saw several beaver and osprey on the lake. Beautiful sight.**

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Proud, Inspired, Happy | By Nikolaus W

**Idea Title: Nothing beats riding around at Turkey Bay, cresting a hill, and seeing Kentucky Lake.**

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Happy | By DANIEL N

Comment 2: Proud, Inspired, Happy | By Julie W

**Idea Title: Turkey Bay with my husband!**

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Kristen B. - Thank you for sharing the picture. | By Jeff L

Comment 2: Happy | By DANIEL N

**Idea Title: Wrangler Campground's beautifully clear creeks. Where else can you find creeks as pretty as these?**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Jason & Kayla sitting on a picnic table at Hillman's Ferry Campground**

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Small mushrooms taken in the Nature Watch area**

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Inspired | By Nikolaus W

Comment 2: Inspired, Happy | By Arrianne B





## **Topic Name: Engaging Youth in the Outdoors**

**Idea Title: mentored hunting programs take kids fishing need beter fish**

Idea Detail: I don't know a little more

Idea Author: david E

Number of Comments 0

### **Idea Title: Summer Camps**

Idea Detail: Summer Camps (eco, forestry, fishing, sailing, farming, wildlife, plant biology, general fun). Successive sessions throughout the summer. Target markets include local areas, STL, Nashville, Louisville, Memphis, etc. Local summer camp guides published in the spring. Accomplishes: exposure to current and future generations; parents of campers are introduced to the area, summer jobs as camp counselors, interns that develop camp curriculum, and MSU/WKCTC student can gain real world work experience in areas of assistancemarketing/promotions/outreach/graphic design/ community relations/economic development/early childhood activities/camp curriculum.

Idea Author: Susan A

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: I brought a group of 6th graders to the area several years ago (my son's class) and visited Brandon Spring Group Center at that time in anticipation of their visit. I felt it was rather worn down and might not make a good impression on them, so I ended up making other arrangements. I have not visited Brandon Springs in a long time, so I am not familiar with its current condition. It has served well in the past, but perhaps it might be time to start dreaming of a new and improved facility to house student visitors/educational groups/summer campers. Easier said than done, I know.

As far as areas of LBL that could be utilized, I think all of it should be explored at each camp session so that campers get a sense of all that LBL has to offer. I think there are interesting experiences to be found from one end of the Trace to the other.

Personally, I believe the area nearest the Visitor Center (Hwy. 80/Trace) has the potential to make the greatest impression on visitors to the area because of the new bridge, trails, and other infrastructure improvements. | By Susan A

Comment 2: This is an interesting idea. In your opinion what area of LBL do you think would be



good for this? I know Brandon Spring Group Center offers a camp experience in the Tennessee portion of LBL. | By Ryan C

**Idea Title: First introduction leading to self-exploration and discovery**

Idea Detail: To get kids connected with the outdoors and the environment, you need learning facilities like Nature Station, Brandon Spring etc. to offer the parents and students their first introduction into the woods. So many kids nowadays are disconnected and have no reference to the outdoors, growing up in very controlled environments. These discovery learning centers will allow these families to begin to explore, begin to cast away their apprehension of an unfamiliar environment and hopefully begin to self explore LBL either through recreation activities as hiking, camping, fishing etc. These places break down the barriers for diverse user groups who may have not had the experience growing up near a wild place to become a common user and supporter.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Bring back summer camps with virtual activities**

Idea Detail: Offer virtual camps that incorporate nature and outdoor activities. Share and share alike.

Idea Author: Clayton H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Keep doing what you're doing...**

Idea Detail: I hear about LBL partnering with schools quite a bit to bring education and interest to our young people. That is fantastic! Our youth are crucial in sustainability plans, because who will carry on when we're gone? We have always instilled our love of LBL in our own kids and now grandkids, in hopes that they will pass it on to their kids. It sounds like through the grants and partnerships you are fostering with local schools and groups now, you are doing your best to get our youth to participate in outdoor activities. Don't get discouraged- just remember, you can lead a horse to water but you can't make it drink. But if you reach just one kid that decides they want to be a part of LBL, that is the first step to sustainability.

Idea Author: Julie W



Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Youth need their parents to be interested and involved**

Idea Detail: Youth can't drive themselves out to LBL and will not enjoy the visit if their parents are not involved as a family activity somewhat regularly. Yes, it is great to have school groups doing things but keep activities for parents to share with their kids or flutters of distracted interests will die on the vine as kids move on to the next fun activity elsewhere. Don't gear too much to be kids-only activities. Have apps or booklets to give parents to be the family guide to explore LBL and its woodlands on their own. Self-guided tour and activities. Stop 1= hike from A to B and see the following things...; Stop 2= drive this back road and see the following things...; Stop 3= rent canoe and paddle from here to there and see the following things; Stop 4, etc Even have labels and signs with QR codes to ID trees, plants, eagle nests, etc along the way

Idea Author: Fester C

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Allocate funds to programs for kids**

Idea Detail: Assist local schools with travel for students to LBL. Develop a variety of programs that are appropriate for different ages of students and are available to classes upon request. Continue your special days where you offer educational activities for children. Any program designed for kids that gets them engaged in the outdoors would be beneficial.

Idea Author: Terry D

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Terry D. - The Forest Service and the Friends of Land Between the Lakes currently partner, each year, to provide grants to schools and classes so that they can visit facilities and areas at Land Between the Lakes. For the 2017/18 school year, \$26,359 was raised and was used to bring 2,455 students from 18 schools here to experience Land Between the Lakes. We will continue to do this and also look for other ways to get kids outdoors. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Maintaining family friendly campgrounds.**

Idea Detail: Areas where vehicle traffic is restricted to those camping in the "loop" would make it safer and more inviting for families. Early evening ranger programs offered to engage



youngsters in the campgrounds would be appreciated. Star gazing on the water at LBL would be a fun activity for families who are boating.

Idea Author: Rose H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Start with the schools.**

Idea Detail: If you want to have any lasting effects, there have to be LBL/school collaborations. Certainly there are many day trips that are already being done with the most local schools, but reaching out further.....even into the big cities, like Nashville and Louisville really need to be explored.

Without building something of a base with the youth.....long term prospects of increased attendance seem dim. You just can't depend on us oldtimers forever. I first started coming to KY Lake in the 50's, and then LBL shortly after that.

Idea Author: Robert G

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Robert G. - I agree with you that we must engage the youth and that overnight or multi-day trips are a great way to do that. Brandon Spring Group Center is constantly working to host youth from large cities like Nashville. In 2018, Brandon Spring hosted 76 different groups, which consisted of 5,215 individuals. These individuals spent a total of 13,198 nights at Brandon Spring in 2018. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Outreach and Increased Public Awareness**

Idea Detail: There are a lot of ways to engage youth in outdoor recreation and environmental education. LBL needs to continue to offer grants that make it more affordable for schools to attend field trips to LBL. Increased outreach programs can also help local students meet LBL staff, ask questions, and learn about what LBL offers. Citizens science projects are great as well. Helping a school or class plant their own garden, build bird boxes and bird feeders, plant flowers and trees, conduct pond, lake, and stream studies, and conduct bird/wildlife counts, are all great ways to educate and engage children in environmental stewardship. Perhaps LBL could help schools and classrooms with these types of projects in the local area.

Idea Author: Ryan C

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: Integrate student education programs with the LBL**

Idea Detail: Project based learning is a growing trend in the schools. LBL is a wonderful resources for educational projects from engineering and making repairs to surveying wildlife or streams. Both secondary school and college students can benefit. The Friends Association is working on this effort now. It is win to have students here as they learn, they provide a service, and they bond with the LBL. At other levels, the Homeplace, Nature Station, Brandon Springs, and the Bison and Bison and Elk prairies provide first hand opportunities to observe.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: A youth outdoor/survival camp entertain them.**

Idea Detail: Starting fires, catching fish, building a shelter, first aid. Snake ID.

Idea Author: Susan F

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Kayak rental along with canoes**

Idea Detail: I think kayaking/rock climbing (if available) would attract more youth

Idea Author: Greg J

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Greg - We have added a few kayaks that can be rented at Energy Lake Campground. | By Jeff L

**Idea Title: Offer classes & clinics to capture their imagination**

Idea Detail: Archery, running, volleyball, fishing, kayaking, how to build a campfire & cook, etc. wildlife walks & discussions. Teach them how to play outdoors!

Idea Author: Jodi S

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: Get a regular at least once a month programs in your schools**

Idea Detail: Interact with school children with rewards programs.

Idea Author: Gretta P

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: LBL should partner with the local school systems.**

Idea Detail: Need to get the public involved at an early age. Hopefully they will continue to come back as they get older. I have been camping at LBL since the mid 1970's and continue today. It is like home to my family.

Idea Author: James K

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Need to get the local school and church groups involved.**

Idea Detail: I have been visiting LBL since the 60's, camping there since the mid 70's and continue today. If you can get the youth involved at an early age maybe this will help take some of the crime and drugs off the street.

Idea Author: James K

Number of Comments 0



### **Topic Name: Sustainable Living**

**Idea Title: dont cut the forest. more food for the animals fix the roads**

Idea Detail: that's all I know

Idea Author: david E

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Demonstrate, so we imiatate**

Idea Detail: I feel the best way to get messages across to people about sustainability is to demonstrate proper practices. Have a robust recycling program, demonstrate renewable energy and conservation options, show sustainable forest and habitat practices, maintain backyard demonstration activities like native pollinator gardens, wildlife at home, and citizen science projects like at the Nature Station. Showcase sustainable agriculture at HP, teach energy conservation/ weather/ climate science at Brandon and Planetarium to show a larger picture and connection.

Continue teaching fun programs that encourage involvement. I always think of a scale I learned of getting people involved: Awareness, knowledge, appreciation, Support, and finally Stewardship.

Idea Author: John P

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Recycling bins**

Idea Detail: I know it costs more to recycle as our work place loses money on 50% of the items we recycle. Having said that, installing recycling bins are key spots in park.

Idea Author: Tom S

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: There are numerous organizations that already cover this**

Idea Detail: Stick to your specialty, which is Forests, Wildlife, etc. Sure you can chime in on the sustainable living shtick and how forest management works that way, but keep your main selling points on track. Firewood= less electricity used= get yours from LBL. Hunting= fewer



cows raised on pasture, they replenish themselves= hunt at LBL. Cutting trees= more wildlife habitat as forest opens up= come to LBL to see the wildlife. Camping= ok well modern camping is wasteful duplication of resources... but there are several things that LBL 'helps' with to contribute to sustainable ventures.

Idea Author: Fester C

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: educate me**

Idea Detail: I am not sure what I could do to be more sustainable. If you provide educational materials and perhaps programs, then I could choose to learn more through their use.

Idea Author: Terry D

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Recharge time**

Idea Detail: I still do wilderness canoeing in Canada at least one trip a summer on northward flowing rivers .....but from TN that's a three day trip to get to the wilderness.....here I can do it in three hours.

I understand I'm a bit of a throw back, but the recharge I get from being out in true wilderness is real, and likely quantifiable. Would be interesting if there were some way to test....maybe blood pressure before and after a wilderness experience...laughing!

Idea Author: Robert G

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Promote Sustainability**

Idea Detail: By promoting and teaching the public about sustainability, conservation, environmental stewardship, recycling, and Leave No Trace at LBL facilities, during outreach programs, on social media etc. By doing this LBL can inspire and educate the public on how to live a more sustainable life.

- Ryan Clark

Idea Author: Ryan C



Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I would also like to add that I would like to see LBL put an emphasis on limiting light pollution moving forward. LBL offers some of the best stargazing in the western Kentucky/western Tennessee region. LBL is also one of the few places left in this region where the Milky Way can be seen in the night sky. LBL should be proud of this and work to make sure the night skies above LBL stay dark.

- Ryan Clark | By Ryan C

**Idea Title: Perhaps sustainability could be a part of the discussion**

Idea Detail: Perhaps more could be done to discuss sustainability concepts. At the nature station, a discussion of an animal might include a discussion of the natural habitat, how the species is faring, and a discussion of humans on the habitat. At the Home Place visitor center, there could be materials about how to use older concepts to cook and preserve food. Students who do educational projects could be encouraged to address sustainability.

Idea Author: Winthrop H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: unsure**

Idea Detail: I dont think theres much more, I love the campground the way it is

Idea Author: Amy H

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: CLEAN CAMPGROUNDS**

Idea Detail: At Piney our boat ramps have terrible drop offs , our docks are dangerous to walk on and our parking lots need to be paved, holes are up to our ankles on the Sweet Gum side.

Idea Author: Gretta P

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Update, upgrade and maintain existing facilities.**



Idea Detail: I have been a seasonal camper at Piney Campground for the past 18 years and camped there since the mid 70's. The campground sites, electrical systems and roads need major repairs and upgrades. There also needs to be additional parking added at the boat launch areas.

Idea Author: James K

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I already try, but nature is a great reminder!**

Idea Detail: Places like LBL remind me, and hopefully others, of what is really important.

Idea Author: wendy L

Number of Comments 0



## **Survey: Satisfaction with Environmental Education**

**Question: i. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with environmental education programs offered at Land Between the Lakes?**

**Very Satisfied : 15**

**Somewhat Satisfied : 1**

**Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied : 2**

**Somewhat Dissatisfied : 0**

**Very Dissatisfied : 1**

**Question: To what extent do the environmental education services, facilities and offerings at Land Between the Lakes meet your needs?**

**Fully Met : 12**

**Somewhat Met : 3**

**Neither Met nor Not Met : 2**

**Somewhat Not Met : 1**

**Not Met : 1**

**Question: iii. Overall, how would you rate your level of enjoyment while visiting Land Between the Lakes?**

**Very Enjoyable : 16**

**Somewhat Enjoyable : 3**

**Neither Enjoyable nor Unenjoyable : 0**

**Somewhat Unenjoyable : 0**

**Very Unenjoyable : 0**



**Question: iv. How likely are you to recommend Land Between the Lakes as a destination for environmental education to your peers, friends, and family?**

**Very Likely : 17**

**Somewhat Likely : 1**

**Neither Likely nor Unlikely : 0**

**Somewhat Unlikely : 0**

**Very Unlikely : 1**

### **Comments**

Number of Comments 5

Comment 1: I understand that there are budget constraints. I also understand that local schools do not fully take advantage of LBL programs. | By Winthrop H

Comment 2: Outdoor recreation without environmental education is like a pot roast without salt or spices. It's edible, but there's an entire world of flavor that's missing. And eating the leftovers (i.e. visiting the site again) will become more and more tasteless until you give up all together because it's like eating cardboard. With environmental education, it enhances the resource by adding "flavor", or depth to each experience. It's a completely different approach to education, which means it reaches a huge audience, some who don't benefit from standard education as much. Because it is designed to be hands-on and experiential, it is particularly accessible to those with special needs or homeschoolers. LBL provides so many different kinds of environmental education opportunities, but so many people don't know they exist, which is why I'm glad there's topic about community engagement. | By Monica W

Comment 3: The last time I was in Land Between the Lakes the every day programming at the Homeplace was not very interactive with youth. It would be cool were the kids could participate in chores to see what kind of chores children would have at that time period, or what school. Maybe have an artifact discovery for kids, where children could guess what an item was used for during the 1850's and then find out what that item was actually used for. Many kids have no idea what some of our more modern technology is such as type writer so I think that this would be great added feature. The history needs to be more interactive. I am sure adults would have fun with it too. | By Brooke G



Comment 4: The programs at the Nature Station, Planetarium and the Homeplace have diverse educational elements to interest visitors of all ages and backgrounds. Visitors are fascinated by the programs and information provided by LBL employees. There's always something new to learn! Visitors enjoy the "hands on" demonstrations and like to share their own stories of wildlife encounters, past memories of the area and how it relates to their own lives. | By Jan G

Comment 5: I feel Nature Station and Homeplace are perfectly complementary to each other and add a fulfilling visit for all visitors. They draw people to the area as a large attraction. Important for tourism in the LBL region. | By John P



## **Survey: Satisfaction with Recreation**

**Question: i. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the outdoor recreation experiences offered at Land Between the Lakes?**

**Very Satisfied : 19**

**Somewhat Satisfied : 10**

**Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied : 1**

**Somewhat Dissatisfied : 2**

**Very Dissatisfied : 0**

**Question: ii. To what extent do the recreation services, facilities and offerings at Land Between the Lakes meet your needs?**

**Fully Met : 16**

**Somewhat Met : 12**

**Neither Met nor Not Met : 1**

**Somewhat Not Met : 3**

**Not Met : 0**

**Question: iii. Overall, how would you rate your level of enjoyment while visiting Land Between the Lakes?**

**Very Satisfied : 19**

**Somewhat Satisfied : 10**

**Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied : 3**

**Somewhat Dissatisfied : 0**

**Very Dissatisfied : 0**



**Question: iv.How likely are you to recommend Land Between the Lakes as a recreational destination to your friends and family?**

**Very Likely : 28**

**Somewhat Likely : 4**

**Neither Likely nor Unlikely : 0**

**Somewhat Unlikely : 0**

**Very Unlikely : 0**

### **Comments**

Number of Comments 8

Comment 1: I would like to see the silo overlook reopened. I would like for the fire tower to be renovated and opened on weekends. | By Winthrop H

Comment 2: Jan G. What length do you see trail being at South Welcome. | By Gary H

Comment 3: The Forest Service is working on a project to replace the old Boardwalk with a structure that can better stand up to the frequent fluctuations in the water level in the lake from the recent storm events in the area. Watch our website at [www.landbetweenthe lakes.us](http://www.landbetweenthe lakes.us) for updates | By Gary H

Comment 4: How about adding a shorter hiking/walking trail at the south end of LBL? Possible near the South Welcome Station. | By Jan G

Comment 5: I really miss Hematite trail. I would really love to see it fixed soon. One of the most popular hiking trails of LBL. | By John P

Comment 6: Brooke, my company holds a special use permit and we do outdoor courses in the southern end, within the area of the Fort Henry trail system. We recently added an intro to backpacking course that includes a wilderness first aid certification. All of our courses are excursions. Check us out at [tmetraining.org](http://tmetraining.org) | By Johnny S

Comment 7: I would like to see a new campground added to the property, one that would draw more tourists and encourage more people to actually spend the night in LBL rather than be just



a daytime destination. The offering of primitive camping areas is excellent, but as society has changed with fewer and fewer people owning a tent and opting for a camper instead, campgrounds need to be changed/updated to keep up with modern times with good bathhouses, more available sites with electric and water, and a greater offering of activities. The key is to get more people to LBL, so they can discover all the additional offerings that many simply don't know about. I would offer the similar O'Bannon Woods State Park in Indiana as an example, people flock to the campground with their RVs and campers for the pool, but then discover all the additional things offered in the park and come back to enjoy them later in the fall, winter, and spring when the pool is closed.

<http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/2976.htm> | By Scott B

Comment 8: It would be awesome to get in contact with outdoor stores like Hooper's or such to design outdoor excursion trips. Land Between the Lakes in a great place for the beginner backpacker. It would be great if a class were offered at Land Between the Lakes for the beginner backpacker and/or have the materials for newbies to rent for a weekend. | By Brooke G