



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Join us for Smokey Bear's Birthday at the Cradle of Forestry

Pisgah Forest, NC, 7/31/26: FIND Outdoors and the U.S. Forest Service invite families and visitors of all ages to celebrate one of America's most beloved conservation icons for **Smokey Bear's 82nd Birthday Celebration** at the Cradle of Forestry in America.

Taking place **Saturday, August 8th**, this special **free event** offers a full day of activities honoring the enduring message of wildfire prevention while celebrating Smokey Bear's legacy with games, stories, gifts, crafts, food, and of course, birthday cake!

Special thanks to Brevard Insurance Agency and First Citizens Bank for their generous support that made Smokey Bear's Birthday possible!

The celebration begins at **10:00 a.m.** when the Cradle of Forestry opens, with official festivities kicking off around **11:00 a.m.** Guests will have the opportunity to meet Smokey Bear, take photos with him, and hear the inspiring true story of the orphaned bear cub who became the nation's symbol for wildfire prevention.

Activities during Smokey Bear's Birthday Party are held in front of the Forest Discovery Center. Throughout the day, families can enjoy hands-on activities including Smokey Bear mask crafts, a fire rescue obstacle course, and a temporary tattoo station, all designed to teach about forest stewardship and fire safety.

Visitors can also enjoy delicious food from Brit's Sweet Treats, serving soft-serve ice cream, Smokee's Pizza Food Truck, and the Cradle Café, which will be open throughout the day. Of course, guests are also welcome to enjoy cake, which will be cut by Smokey at **2:00 PM**, after singing the beloved bear 'happy birthday'.

Admission to the Cradle of Forestry is free for the entire day, making it the perfect opportunity for families to explore the historic site, museum exhibits, Trails, and enjoy a birthday celebration unlike any other.

For more information about the event and the Cradle of Forestry, visit FIND Outdoors' website at www.gofindoutdoors.org or follow FIND Outdoors on social media.

FIND Outdoors is a 501(c)(3) outdoor recreation nonprofit that centers forest education and stewardship. Based in Pisgah Forest, FIND Outdoors has been stewarding public lands for over 50 years, with a vision to create a lasting community of appreciation for the outdoors. Learn more about FIND and ways you can be involved at www.gofindoutdoors.org/about.



