

# FACT SHEET

Living Archaeology Weekend is a free, two-day public outreach event held in the historic Red River Gorge of the Daniel Boone National Forest. It is one of few public archaeology education programs of its magnitude in Kentucky. LAW offers demonstrations of American Indian and Pioneer technology and lifeways, archaeological interpretation, and site preservation.

## HISTORY

**annual event since 1989**

- developed by **US Forest Service** with help from Red River Historical Society and Kentucky Heritage Council
- co-organized by **three groups** since 2007 - US Forest Service, Kentucky Organization of Professional Archaeologists, and Kentucky Archaeological Survey
- LAW **Steering Committee** plans event and prepares supporting educational resources

## AUDIENCE

**54,000 visitors hosted over 35 years**

- annual Friday attendance is **1,000 fifth-grade students** plus 120 teachers and chaperones from 30-35 pre-registered schools and home school groups
- **target counties** for school registration are Bath, Breathitt, Estill, Lee, Menifee, Morgan, Powell, Rowan, and Wolfe; also serving schools from Elliott, Fayette, Madison, Magoffin, Montgomery, and other counties as space allows
- event is one of few opportunities for **high-quality “outdoor classroom” experiences** in eastern Kentucky, fostering knowledge of and pride in local heritage
- annual Saturday attendance is **800-1,200 public visitors** from across Kentucky; from adjacent states like Ohio and Tennessee; from other states like Georgia, North Carolina, and Illinois; and from Germany and other countries

## HONORS

**Signature Site for National Public Lands Day**

- USFS Southern Region's **Interpreter and Conservation Educator of the Year Award** (2007)
- nominated for Society for American Archaeology's **Public Education Award** (2008)
- Preservation Kentucky's **Bingham Excellence in Preservation Education Award** (2014)
- Ida Lee Willis Memorial Foundation's **Service to Preservation Award** (2015)

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