

ABOUT LAW

MISSION

THEIR LEGACY, YOUR HERITAGE, OUR STORY,

At Living Archaeology Weekend, we challenge stereotypes about American Indians and Pioneer people through lifeways demonstrations based on real archaeological evidence. We explore the contributions our ancestors made to our lives today, and we honor their legacy by preserving their technologies for future generations.

Building bridges to the past through technology since 1989

Living Archaeology Weekend is an award-winning, immersive experience in Kentucky's famous Red River Gorge, home to many nationally significant archaeological sites and historic properties.

From flintknapping to pottery making, cooking to weaving, dancing to gaming, our event uses archaeological and other evidence to inform diverse demonstrations of the region's Native and Pioneer technologies and lifeways. By watching experts and trying hands-on activities, visitors of all ages learn about the area's rich cultural traditions and gain insights into past people's lives and experiences, and how they continue to influence us today.

This free event is held every year on the third weekend in September at the Gladie Visitor Center, and we are thrilled to celebrate our 35th anniversary in 2023. Friday is reserved for pre-registered school groups and Saturday is open to the public. Our wide range of supporting educational materials, including a new video series featuring LAW demonstrators, is available online to promote learning year-round.

Until 2007, the United States Forest Service sponsored the event with the help of state agencies and local organizations. Since 2007, LAW has been co-organized by the US Forest Service, the Kentucky Organization of Professional Archaeologists, and the Kentucky Archaeological Survey. A Steering Committee composed of members from these three organizations, and the Kentucky Heritage Council, plans the event and prepares the supporting educational resources.

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