

MT. NEBO SITE GUIDE

(HANG GLIDER and PARA GLIDER)

INTRODUCTION

The Central Arkansas Mountain Pilots works closely with The Arkansas State Park to establish rules to fly Mt. Nebo. The purpose of this guide is to inform pilots of their responsibilities while flying at Mt. Nebo State Park. This is essential to insure maximum safety and protect access to the site for the entire flying community.

EVENTS

- In March or April, the club has its annual spring fly-in and club meeting. This meeting is where the last of the club dues is collected, new officers are elected and all of the business for the year is conducted.
- The weekend preceding Labor Day weekend is when we have the Mt. Nebo summer fly-in. Some pilots come and stay the whole week and then go to the Mt. Magazine fly-in on Labor Day weekend.

The dates for both events will be announced on the State Park Web Site.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Mt. Nebo State Park Visitor Center Opens at 8:00 am and Closes at 5:00 pm (Later in the summer). The park closes at 10:00 pm. Flying activity is permitted from sunrise until sunset. Vehicle retrieval should be completed prior to park closing at 10:00 pm unless the pilot is a guest of the park.

SITE DESCRIPTION

Mt. Nebo is an ideal site for hang gliding due to its smooth and easy launches. Intermediate and advanced pilots have enjoyed high altitude thermal flights since the late 1970's. Flights from 30 to 50 miles are common but there have also been many flights approaching 100 miles. the longest flight to date was made by Mark Poustinchian who ended up near Haywood Oklahoma for a total distance of 154 Miles. Mt. Nebo has three launches each of which is approximately 1250 feet above the landing fields. The state park is well maintained with a paved road to the top and all around the mountain. Very nice cabins are available for rent along with camp sites with running water and electricity. This is a good place to bring your family. Go to the Arkansas State Park web site for more information on the state park.

The original launch site is at Sunrise point. This is where the east and south launches are located. Sunrise point has a large shaded set-up area and picnic tables. There is also plenty of room to set up next to the launch but that area is not shaded.

The Northeast launch is directly behind the visitor center. It is a slot launch with trees directly

below that seem to grow quickly. Be prepared to bag the glider and not fly if the wind direction and velocity is not adequate.

There are several landing fields that we regularly use. The three landing fields closest to the southeast launch and the road up the mountain are owned by Mr. Crowl. Mr. Ware owns the landing field closest to the visitor center launch. Mr. Weslie owns the landing field on Bethel road.

PILOT REGISTRATION (at beginning of calendar year)

All pilots must fill out and sign the registration form which will require:

- Contact information
- Proof of at least \$50,000 personal liability insurance from USHPA or equivalent.
- Proof of membership in the USHPA and at least an intermediate pilot rating.

All pilots must fill out and sign the waiver of liability form. The waiver of liability must also be signed by a parent or legal guardian if the pilot is less than 18 years old.

REQUIREMENTS TO FLY

All pilots must register at the beginning of the year and sign in at the visitor center every day that they fly. There are no restrictions on ADVANCED pilots flying Mt. Nebo. INTERMEDIATE pilots with less than 5 hours air time from Mt. Nebo or less than 10 flights from Mt. Nebo must be accompanied by a SITE MONITOR. After obtaining 10 flights and 5 hours from Mt. Nebo, INTERMEDIATE pilots are not required to be accompanied by a SITE MONITOR but that practice is strongly encouraged.

SITE MONITORS AND INSTRUCTORS

Advanced rated pilots may become SITE MONITORS in order to sponsor Intermediate pilots off of Nebo. ADVANCED Pilots who wish to become monitors should add their name to the list which is maintained by the state park. There is currently no restriction on ADVANCED pilots becoming SITE MONITORS.

A SITE MONITOR or INSTRUCTOR providing instruction at Mt. Nebo must do so on a voluntary basis only. Receiving monetary rewards for instruction is not permitted.

VEHICLE OPERATIONS

SUNRISE POINT: Parking is permitted in the glider set-up area at sunrise point. It is also permitted in the loop closest to the launches. Please limit the number of cars in the loop though because that can make carrying the glider to launch more difficult.

VISITOR'S CENTER: The state park has asked us to limit the cars in the visitor's center parking lot. There is plenty of parking across the street. You will probably want to unload your glider though before driving the car to the other side of the street.

ACCESS ROAD AND GATE LOCKS

There are no gate lock which restrict access to any of the launches at Mt. Nebo. The private pastures that we land in do have gates but they are generally not locked. Do not drive into the pastures. Instead, carry the glider to the gate to load the glider onto the car.

VIOLATIONS

Central Arkansas Mountain Pilots has not established any rules to punish violations. The State Park officials have the authority to enforce the state and federal laws. Please be a good visitor to our Arkansas State Park.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Several types of emergencies may arise in connection with flying at Mt. Nebo. These include:

- Glider accident involving injury,
- Vehicle accident involving injury,
- Fire arising from vehicle or other causes, and
- Medical emergency.

In case of an injury accident or illness requiring first aid, call 479-229-3650 or 479-229-3655 and ask that a Park Ranger be dispatched. If the injuries are serious then 911 should be called. The following additional steps should be taken:

- Give first aid to victim.
- Leave someone in charge to preserve the accident site for investigation.

FLYING AND SITE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

All flying at Mt Nebo State Park will be conducted with safety as the first priority. Aside from obvious direct benefit to pilots, accident prevention is imperative to prevent loss of the site for hang gliding and paragliding due to the high public visibility of Mt. Nebo State Park. If unsafe conditions are observed by any pilot, then he/she has the responsibility to raise the required pilot skill level to launch or close the site to all flying for the duration of the adverse conditions. Do not assume that the launch is properly maintained by the state park or other pilots. The state park does not keep the trees below launch cleared and is not responsible for mowing the grass. The pilot who launches is responsible for verifying that the launch is satisfactory before attempting to fly. The following safety requirements are specifically required to fly Mt. Nebo:

- Pilot wearing an emergency parachute.
- Pilot wearing a helmet.
- Glider certified by the Hang Glider / Para Glider Manufacturers Association.

MOUNT NEBO SITE COMMITTEE

The Mt. Nebo Site Committee is elected by the membership of C.A.M.P. The site committee is responsible for communications with the state park and negotiating changes to the site procedures.

PROCEDURE CHANGES AND INFORMATION

The Mt. Nebo Hang Gliding Site guide is revised and updated as required by the Mt. Nebo Site Committee subject to approval by the Mt. Nebo State Park Department. Information about the procedures and the site may be obtained from from the Mt. Nebo Visitor Center.