

Wakulla Springs State Park
Dive Reservation Form
Emerald Sink and Clear Cut Sink
Fax # (850) 561-7282
Phone (850) 561-7276

Date of dive requested _____ Return Fax # _____

Please Check the site you are requesting: Emerald Sink _____ Clear Cut Sink _____

Name Printed	Signature	Emergency Contact Info*
1. _____ Dive Team Leader	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____

It should be fully understood that the Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation and Parks DOES NOT:

- a) Endorse diving as a recreational activity.
- b) Accept any responsibility for the diver's safety.
- c) Assume any responsibility for the equipment a diver should or should not possess.
- d) Accept any responsibility for diving conditions or other hazardous conditions the diver may encounter at any given time.

I acknowledge and agree to abide by the requirements in this document and the Emerald Sink and Clear Cut Sink Cave Diver Qualification Procedure. I know that cave diving is inherently dangerous and that diving in Emerald Sink and Clear Cut Sink may be even more dangerous and I assume all liability for my injury or death from participating in this activity. I will not hold the Department of Environmental Protection or any of its employees or any member or volunteer of the Emerald Sink Diver Qualification Review Panel liable in any way for any personal injury or death that might occur as a result of this diving activity.

I have read this policy, fully understand it, and will abide by the interim policies below.

Dive Start Time _____ Dive End Time _____

State Park Permit Type and Number

(Fam) (Ind) _____ (Fam) (Ind) _____

(Fam) (Ind) _____ (Fam) (Ind) _____

*Please Include an emergency contact name and telephone number for each team member.

Approved Park Manager or Designee

Date

Wakulla Springs State Park Emerald Sink and Clear Cut Sink Dive Interim Policies

All dives must comply with the following interim policies established for Emerald Sink and Clear Cut Sink, until the Department adopts rules in accordance with chapter 120, Florida Statutes. Failure to comply with these policies will result in the diver being prohibited from future dives in Emerald Sink and Clear Cut Sink.

Reservation Procedure:

1. A reservation request form can be completed and faxed to (850) 561-7282 or completed, scanned, and e-mailed 3 days prior to your dive date to both Bonnie Allen at Bonnie.Allen@dep.state.fl.us and Brian Fugate at Brian.Fugate@dep.state.fl.us. Phone-In and same day dive registrations may be made at the Wakulla Springs State Park Ranger station. All dive team members must be on the Emerald Panel Approved Divers List for dive request approval. The approval is to be visibly displayed on the vehicle dashboard of the team leader or other team member if the leader has no vehicle.
2. All persons shall possess a valid Family or Individual Florida State Park Entrance Permit or pay the Daily State Park Admission Fee. Permits can be purchased at the Park.

Dive Requirements/Restrictions:

1. ****All divers must receive dive authorization from the Emerald Sink and Clear Cut Sink Diver Qualification Review Panel.** Divers must provide a copy of any documentation of their dive qualifications or experience requested by the Review Panel.
2. No training dives are permitted.
3. The depths of the Emerald Sink and Clear Cut Sink system approach 200 feet and should be considered a deep dive. Due to the depths all divers must be Trimix certified.
4. A minimum of two divers are required on the dive (no solo dives).
5. Dive teams shall consist of a minimum of two divers and a maximum of four.
6. No more than two dive teams shall be in the water at the same time.
7. No DPV (scooters) are permitted.
8. Entry and exit into Emerald Sink shall be via the steps and landing area built for that purpose.
9. Entry into Clear Cut will be from the shoreline until the steps are built. Care should be taken to prevent creating erosion issues. Dives into Clear Cut may be limited if erosion occurs.
10. All plants, animals, artifacts, minerals, and other wildlife or materials are protected and may not be harmed or removed from the Sink. No collections are permitted without first obtaining a Collections/Research Permit from Park Management.
11. Cheryl and Split Sinks are for emergency exits only. Divers are not permitted to enter or exit (except for emergencies) the system at these or other locations or to be on the slopes of the sinkholes.
12. When conditions are unfavorable for diving (such as dark water) it will be the divers' discretion to cancel or abort the dive.
13. Divers assume all responsibilities for their safety including equipment and conditions of the cave system and shall sign a release form releasing the Department and the Emerald Sink Diver Qualification Review Panel from any liability. The Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation & Parks does not endorse diving and does not assume any liability with the activity. Divers will be required to acknowledge in the release that cave diving in this Sink may result in permanent injury or death and they accept this responsibility.

Check-in procedures:

1. For pre reserved dives at least one member of the team must check in at the Wakulla Springs State Park Ranger Station where all required Certification Cards must be turned in and retained until the dive is complete.
2. For phone-in or walk-up same day registration dives, all members of the dive team must check in at the Ranger Station.
3. The gate key for Emerald Sink or Clear Cut Sink will be picked up from the Ranger Station at check in.
4. Divers shall lock the entrance gate after entering and exiting the site.
5. Care should be taken when driving to Clear Cut Sink. You will be driving on a designated hiking trail and may encounter hikers and bikers. Speed limit is 5mph and you must yield to hikers and bikers. Diving at Clear Cut is a pilot program and will be re-evaluated based in part on shared use issues. Divers driving to Clear Cut sink are only permitted to drive to there only and not to drive to any of other sinkholes on the park hiking trails.
6. Vehicles must be parked in designated areas. Parking at Clear Cut is limited to two vehicles at any given time.
7. Divers must turn in the gate key and pick up their certification cards immediately after their dive is completed. Divers shall report any unusual incidents or injuries at that time to the Park. Dives cannot extend beyond the time designated on the Permit and must check out before the Ranger Station closes.
8. Emerald Sink and Clear Cut Sink is designated as Carry In – Carry Out Trash Free site; all divers shall comply.