

Wakulla Springs State Park
 Dive Reservation Form
 Emerald Sink
 Fax # (850) 561-7282
 Phone (850) 926-0700

Date of dive requested _____ Return Fax # _____

	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 Cave Diver Qualification Procedure. I know that cave diving is inherently dangerous and that diving in Emerald 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 Dive Interim Policies

All dives must comply with the following interim policies established for Emerald 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.

Reservation Procedure:

1. A reservation request form shall be sent by fax at least 5 days prior to your dive date to Wakulla Springs State Park, Attn: Bonnie Allen or Brian Fugate at (850) 561-7282. The request must be approved by the Park Manager or her designee before your dive. 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. Request for dive reservations are to be submitted by fax a minimum of five days in advance.
3. All persons shall pay a one time \$15 Daily Diving Fee.

Dive Requirements/Restrictions:

1. ****All divers must receive dive authorization from the Emerald 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 system approaches 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. 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.
10. 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.
11. When conditions are unfavorable for diving (such as dark water) it will be the divers' discretion to cancel or abort the dive.
12. 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. 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. The gate key for Emerald Sink will be picked up from the Ranger Station at check in.
3. Divers shall lock the entrance gate after entering and exiting the site.
4. Vehicles must be parked in designated areas.
5. 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.
6. Emerald Sink is designated as Carry In – Carry Out Trash Free site; all divers shall comply.