

OSPOTA 2023 - Final Results

Ohio State Parks On The Air



Tom, KB8UUZ
OSPOTA Chairman



The 16th annual Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) 2023 contest is in the history books. The weather was perfect and the teams and individuals that went out to the Ohio State Parks did a fantastic job. Activity on 40 and 80 was great and even 10 and 15 had some takers as well. 40 was the most active.



When I was on, I was busy spotting every one of the Ohio State Parks I heard to help increase the activity. Others were spotting as well. That's great since it does make other operators around the world realize that OSPOTA is on the air!!!

The OSPOTA contest committee did all the cross checking of logs and tallying via email to avoid having to sit in a room for 4-6 hours together.

I must say all went pretty good and we got everything sorted out and in the following pages, you will see all the results.



I was the one that initially received the logs and did some pre-checks and gathered info on the State Park, State or Country the log was from. Copied info on the Club affiliation, operators, loggers, helpers, and raw scores. The once the logs were in, I sent them to John, WG8X to run them through the log checking process (more on that in his article). Once they were done and sent back to me, I then updated my tally sheet, and wrote up the soapbox comments and photos we received. I estimated the total time for all the committee work was well over 90 hours.



One thing I did notice this year (more than in past years) that some participants that were in an Ohio State Park made contacts only to other Ohio State Parks. That's fine since Ohio State Parks are multipliers, but you missed out on a LOT of extra points by not making contacts to other stations as well. Think about that for next year. Your score would definitely increase by making more contacts. And, there seemed to be a number of State Parks activated, but no log was sent in. Next year, please send in those logs. We would all appreciate them.

The OSPOTA committee sends out a big **THANK YOU** to all that participated in this year's OSPOTA and we look forward to hearing you on the air again next year to have even more FUN..

73 from the OSPOTA Contest Committee

KB8UUZ, WG8X, W8PT, W8KNO and KB8UHN



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OSPOTA 2023 - Log Checking Information



John, WG8X
OSPOTA Log Master



OSPOTA 2023 Log Checking

Another year of OSPOTA log checking is behind us. I'll give two thumbs up this year, as the quality of the logs I saw has really improved. That's not to say there weren't some issues, but most were minor. A couple of you reached out for help preparing your logs; something I'm usually happy to provide. But, this year there was this one e-mail. . . . Well let's just say that if someone **demands**, rather than **requests**, I won't bother responding.

If there was any advice that I could give all of you, it would be to **Work Those Dupes!** If someone is contacting you again, it just might be that you're not in their log. Maybe they busted your call the first time. Besides, it takes less time to log the contact than it does to explain to the calling station that they are a dupe.

We don't give you credit for dupes, but we don't penalize you for them either. N3FJP allows you to work dupes. Just go to the Settings tab and check the option "Allow Duplicates". I'm sure that you can do the same with N1MM.

Some other notes

- Use phonetic letters whenever possible. I saw an awful lot of log errors this year that I believe were due to the lack of using phonetic alphabet.
- Unlike most contests, any OSPOTA contact that is not in the US should be logged as DX
- With paper logging errors can pop in, such as a "u" can become an "n" when transcribing the logs. We also heard stories of contacts logged without the complete info needed. I'm not saying you can't use paper logging; just be extremely detail oriented when writing down your contacts. Remember, someone has to later transcribe those contacts into a computerized format. Let's not make their job harder.

Lastly, Cabrillo files aren't hard to produce, and are not going away. If you have questions, or problems creating them, I always ask folks to reach out to me for help. I don't know of any other contest that does that.

So, that being said, I hope you'll make plans to join us on the air for OSPOTA 2024. Mark those calendars for September 7th, 2024.



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Ohio State Parks On The Air 2023 Final Results

16th OSPOTA 2023 General Information (based on logs received):

Top score this year - **31,218**

89 Logs submitted

50 Parks activated **63** Parks contacted **25** Parks not activated

13 Parks did not send in a log **11** Out of state logs submitted

47 Clubs represented

12 Logs were Gold Logs (no mistakes)

over **225** Hams took part this year



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47 Clubs Represented

Club Name	Station Call Sign
Allegheny Valley Radio Association (PA)	W3WC
Alliance Amateur Radio Club (2)	WG8X, KD8BBK
Amigos Radio Club Ashtabula	KC8OH
Ashtabula County Amateur Radio Club	K8CY
Athens County Amateur Radio Association	W8UKE
Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club	W8DGN
Bolingbrook Amateur Radio Society (Illinois)	W9GPB
Cambridge Amateur Radio Association	W8VP
Cambridge Area Maker Group	KY8C
Central Ohio Operators Klub Extra-Novice	N8CJ
Contest Group du Quebec (Canada)	VE2GT
CREAS-ARC	KE8JVX,
Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society	K8RGI
Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club	WA3JAT
Defiance County Amateur Radio Club	K8VON
DeForest Amateur Radio Club	K8GE
Diebold Amateur Radio Club	W8ATM
Drake Amateur Radio Club	K8UU
Fayette Amateur Radio Association	K8FAY
Fulton County Amateur Radio Club	K8BXQ
Hamilton Amateur Radio Club	W8AJT
Hocking Valley Amateur Radio Club	K8LGN
Huber Heights Amateur Radio Club	NO8I
Kentucky Contest Group (KY)	KO4UMQ
Koomer Ridge Contesters Club	K1CCN
Lake County Amateur Radio Association	N8BC
Madison County Amateur Radio Club	KE8RV
Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association (2)	KD8NZF, W8QLY
Marietta Amateur Radio Club (2)	K8RYU/R, W8HH
Medina County Amateur Radio Club (2)	K8FH, K8MD
Medina Two Meter Group	NF8O
OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society	K8SCH
Paulding County Ohio Amateur Radio Club	KE8FJX
Pedestrian Amateur Radio Club	K8PRC
Portage County Amateur Radio Service (9)	KB8UUZ, N8QE, WB9LBI, KD8CGH, KC8JC, KB8TUY, K3GP, KP4VZ, AD8IR
Preble Amateur Radio Association	N8XCC
Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club	W8BAP
Silvercreek Amateur Radio Association	AC8RH
Society of Midwest Contesters (Illinois)	WB9HFK
Steubenville-Weirton Amateur Radio Club	W8CWO
Stillwater Amateur Radio Club	KD8YPY
Sunday Creek Amateur Radio Federation	KC8AAV
Tennessee Contest Group (TN)	WA4JA
Union County Amateur Radio Club (2)	KE8ANU, KD8UFE
Warren Amateur Radio Association	W8VTD
West Chester Amateur Radio Association	W8O
Western Reserve Amateur Radio Club	W8WRC



Ohio State Parks



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16th Ohio State Parks On The Air Contest - 2023 - Final Scores



Overall High Score

K8BXQ operating from Harrison Lake - 31,218

MML : Multi Op - Multi Radio - Low Power - In a Park			
#	Call	Park Name/Team	Final Score
1	K8BXQ	Harrison Lake K8CAG, KE8QJF, KE8OKA, KE8QJU, KE8QJV, KE8SZL, KE8UTZ, AB8RC, KB8ELG, KD8KBU	31,218
2	W8ATM	Quail Hollow N8OH, W8VE, W8KEN, W8XY, KE8OWD	28,944
3	K8UU	Caesar Creek WE8N, KA8IIM, WZ8K, KD8VWF	21,438
4	W8VTD	Mosquito Lake K8CPG, KE8NSY, KE8TNW, N8HRZ, W8KDZ	20,384
5	K1CCN	Kiser Lake KB8UEY, K8GIB	17,300
6	KE8RV	Madison Lake N8CWU, WB8OSU, W8RAY	11,950
7	AD8IR	West Branch AC8QG, AD8IR, AD8FQ, KE8WVV, KE8ARB, KE8LWO, Dominic	9,632
8	N8BAP	Paint Creek N8BAP, N8CUB, W8SKJ, WA6WTF, KB8DOT, WD8LSN, KE8ORQ, KI5DQH	9,156
9	K8VON	Independence Dam WD8JVV, KD8JSP, W8SRD	6,270
10	KD8YPY	Sycamore KD8YPY, KE8HFM, KD8DRY	4,060
11	K8CY	Geneva N8YFF, N8NYI, KC8KEB, KE8JW, K8SAS, K3YP	3,752
12	K8SCH	Little Miami KD8OOB, N3VQW	3,432
13	KC8OH	Headlands Beach KC8RJO, KD8LHR, KE8PVL, KE8YQL, KC8LAR, W8IJC	2,904
14	W8WRC	Beaver Creek KC3GFU, WF8U, KE8VOB, KE8WPM	2,607
15	W8DGN	Buck Creek N8VMX, WS8M, KD8APT, KE8FWZ, KI5VNB, W8LRJ	1,920
16	K8GQB	Guilford Lake K8LDX, K8BXT, KE8VVB, KE8VMI, N4ROE, K8IKO	1,380
17	N8BC	Headlands Beach KB8BKE, WB8PHI, WB8ZGH, K8BL, AA8OY, KE8PP, N8WCL	1,050
18	NO8I	Sycamore AB8YK, KE8DOC, KD8UPX, KD8UZV, N8VAR	525
19	KB8EMD	Cowan Lake KB8EMD, W9PMZ, K8STU, KD8TVP, N8OI	Check Log

MMH : Multi Op - Single Radio - High Power - In a Park

#	Call	Park Name/Team	Score
		----- No Entries In This Category for 2023 -----	

MSH : Multi Op - Single - Radio - High Power - In a Park

#	Call	Park Name/Team	Final Score
1	KC8AAV	Burr Oak KC8QDQ, N8UVM, N8MWK, KE8SIQ, KE8WJJ, KD8KZG	Gold Log 17,108



Ohio State Parks



On The Air



/R : Rover - In Parks			
#	Call	Park Names	Final Score
1	K8RYU/R	Tar Hollow - Lake Logan - Hocking Hills	3,923
2	N8EU/R	Little Miami - John Bryon - Caesar Creek - Cowan Lake	1,482

MSL : Multi Op - Single Radio - Low Power - In a Park			
#	Call	Park Name/Team	Final Score
1	N8XCC	Hueston Woods N8XC, N8XCC	25,016
2	K8PRC	Portage Lakes N3JJT, N8IVJ, KE8IDH, KD8ENV	6,068
3	KY8C	Salt Fork KB3RDR, K8AL, KE8ZAA, N8WJ	5,143
4	W8HH	Muskingum River WD8JFT, KE8RBY	5,053
5	W8UKE	Strouds Run WD8RIF, WD8SCV, KC3EKE, KC8JRV	4,200
6	NF8O	Malabar Farm NF8O, N8FJR	3,268
7	KE8FJX	Independence Dam N8OXQ, KE8WAT	2,142
8	K8GE	Adams Lake KE8GAD, KE8TTQ, N8WYX, K8WEH, KB8OMG	1,312
9	K8LGN	Lake Logan KD8PSB, W8LGX	1,085
10	W8VP	Blue Rock W8FHF, N8IMW, KD8BYY, AB8P, N8BOZ, KD8ZMG, KE8CIN, KE8QYD, KE8QYB, KE8QYE, WD8SDH	1,000
11	W8BAP	Scioto Trail N8RKC, KE8SYZ, AA8KY, KD8CHP	529
12	W8CWO	Jefferson Lake N8GD, N8KRO, K6RBV, AB8DE	462
13	W8QLY	Lake Milton KB8GAE WB8YHD KD8NZF K8MSH	418
13	W8O	Little Miami N8VSI, N8MIQ	Gold Log 418
14	W8AJT	Hueston Woods WB8TCB, KE8BWQ, KE8WJO, N8SDR, KE8MVY, N8KYX, KE8TTU, KE8EXQ, KE1TLG	Check Log



INOH : In Ohio - Not In Park		
#	Call	Final Score
1	WB9LBI	1,989
2	KB8UUZ	1,716
3	N8QE	1,530
4	K8RGI	1,020
5	W8GTS	Gold Log 924
6	KP4VZ	870
7	KE8JVX	700
8	K3GP	342
9	KB8TUY	16
9	KD8NZF	16

OUT : Outside Ohio			
#	Call	State	Final Score
1	N3CU	PA	1,548
2	WB9HFK	IL	Gold Log 1,517
3	W9GPB	IL	529
4	WA4JA	TN	400
5	KA5VZG	TN	Gold Log 306
6	N9FAT	MI	224
7	KE8VKY	MI	Gold Log 169
8	KO4UMQ	KY	144
9	W8RD	FL	100
10	VE2GT	QC	Gold Log 25
11	KM4IAJ	VA	4



Ohio State Parks



On The Air



SH : Single Op - High Power - In a Park

#	Call	Park Name	Final Score
1	N8OCJ	Great Seal	Gold Log 3,397

SL : Single Op - Low Power - In a Park

#	Call	Park Name	Final Score
1	KY8U	East Fork	Gold Log 18,156
2	N8CJ	Dillon	17,225
3	KD8BBK	Jesse Owens	14,711
4	WA3JAT	Nelson-Kennedy Ledges	10,058
5	KN4COE	Stonelick	9,450
6	AC8RH	Barcamp	9,020
7	WG8X	Mt. Gilead	8,756
8	K8MD	Middle Bass Island	8,507
9	K8FH	Findley	6,288
10	KQ4YC	Cowan Lake	6,028
11	KZ3L	Deer Creek	5,355
12	K8FAY	Deer Creek	3,939
13	AF1K	Tinkers Creek	2,268
14	KC8RJS	Lake Milton	1,584
15	NF8U	Muskingum River	Gold Log 1,155
16	KC8JC	Salt Fork	1,053
17	K8CSR	Wolf Run	1,029
18	WB3AFS	South Bass Island	980
19	KE8ANU	Delaware	594
20	K8TSG	Delaware	506
21	KD8UFE	Alum Creek	408
22	KE8DRR	Headlands Beach	216
23	W3WC	Mosquito Lake	Gold Log 196
24	W8CX	Grand Lake St. Marys	Gold Log 156
25	KD8CGH	Punderson	80



Ohio State Parks On The Air



Ohio State Parks



On The Air





Ohio State Parks On The Air



Park Listing showing Activated and Contacted in 2023

Ohio State Park	ID	Activated	Contacted
Adams Lake	ADA	X	X
Alum Creek	ALU	X	X
A. W. Marion	AWM		X
Barkcamp	BAR	X	X
Beaver Creek	BEA	X	X
Blue Rock	BLU	X	X
Buck Creek	BCK	X	X
Buckeye Lake	BKL		
Burr Oak	BUR	X	X
Caesar Creek	CAE	X	X
Catawba Island	CAT		X
Cowan Lake	COW	X	X
Deer Creek	DEE	X	X
Delaware	DEL	X	X
Dillon	DIL	X	X
East Fork	EFK	X	X
East Harbor	EHB		X
Findley	FIN	X	X
Forked Run	FOR		
Geneva	GEN	X	X
Grand Lake St. Marys	GLM	X	X
Great Seal	GSL	X	X
Guilford Lake	GLK		X
Harrison Lake	HLK	X	X
Headlands Beach	HEA	X	X
Hocking Hills	HOC	X	X
Hueston Woods	HUE	X	X
Independence Dam	IDM	X	X
Indian Lake	ILK		X
Jackson Lake	JAC		
Jefferson Lake	JEF	X	X
John Bryan	JOB	X	X
Jesse Owens	JEO	X	X
Kelleys Island	KEL		
Kiser Lake	KLK	X	X
Lake Alma	LAL		X
Lake Hope	LHO		X
Lake Logan	LOG	X	X

Ohio State Park	ID	Activated	Contacted
Lake Loramie	LOR		X
Lake Milton	LML	X	X
Lake White	LWT		
Little Miami	LMI	X	X
Madison Lake	MLK	X	X
Malabar Farm	MAL	X	X
Marblehead Lighthouse	MHD		X
Mary Jane Thurston	MJT		
Maumee Bay	MBY		X
Middle Bass Island	MBI	X	X
Mohican	MOH		X
Mosquito Lake	MST	X	X
Mt. Gilead	MTG	X	X
Muskingum River	MUS	X	X
Nelson Kennedy Ledges	NKL	X	X
North Bass Island	NBI		
Oak Point	OPT		
Paint Creek	PTC	X	X
Pike Lake	PLK		
Portage Lakes	POR	X	X
Punderson	PUN	X	X
Pymatuning	PYM		
Quail Hollow	QHL	X	X
Rocky Fork	RFK		X
Salt Fork	SFK	X	X
Scioto Trail	STR	X	X
Shawnee	SHA		
South Bass Island	SBI	X	X
Stonelick	STO	X	X
Strouds Run	SRN	X	X
Sycamore	SYC	X	X
Tar Hollow	TAR	X	X
Tinkers Creek	TCK	X	X
Van Buren	VAN		
West Branch	WBR	X	X
Wingfoot Lake	WLK		X
Wolf Run	WRN	X	X
		50	63

Parks Activated = 50 (Log sent in)

Parks Contacted = 63 (13 parks did not send in a log)



Ohio State Parks



On The Air





Ohio State Parks On The Air



Ohio State Parks Activated during the OSPOTA Contests: 2008-2023

Page 1 of 2

Ohio State Park	ID	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Adams Lake	ADA					X	X	X		X	X		X		X		X
Alum Creek	ALU			X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
A. W. Marion	AWM	X	X	X				X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Barkcamp	BAR		X			X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X
Beaver Creek	BEA			X			X	X	X	X			X		X	X	X
Blue Rock	BLU	X		X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Buck Creek	BCK			X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X
Buckeye Lake	BKL	X	X	X	X	X	X				X		X		X	X	
Burr Oak	BUR	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Caesar Creek	CAE	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Catawba Island	CAT					X	X	X	X		X	X	X				
Cleveland Lakefront	CLE	X		X	X	X	N2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cowan Lake	COW	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X
Deer Creek	DEE		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Delaware	DEL	X		X	X		X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Dillon	DIL						X	X			X		X	X	X	X	X
East Fork	EFK				X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X
East Harbor	EHB			X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X	X	
Findley	FIN	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Forked Run	FOR		X	X	X			X				X		X	X		
Geneva	GEN			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Grand Lake St. Marys	GLM	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X
Great Council	GRC	N5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N5
Great Seal	GSL		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X
Guilford Lake	GLK	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	
Harrison Lake	HLK					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Headlands Beach	HEA			X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Hocking Hills	HOC	X		X	X	X						X	X			X	X
Hueston Woods	HUE		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Independence Dam	IDM				X	X	X		X		X		X		X	X	X
Indian Lake	ILK	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X		X	
Jackson Lake	JAC	X						X	X	X	X	X		X	X		
Jefferson Lake	JEF					X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
Jessie Owens	JEO	N4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N4	X	X	X		X
John Bryan	JOB	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X
Kelleys Island	KEL	X				X	X		X				X				
Kiser Lake	KLK	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Lake Alma	LAL	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	
Lake Hope	LHO	X		X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	
Lake Logan	LOG			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X

Ohio State Parks Activated during the OSPOTA Contests: 2008-2023

Page 2 of 2

Ohio State Park	ID	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Lake Loramie	LOR			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
Lake Milton	LML	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Lake White	LWT		X	X	X	X	X	N3	-	-	N3		X				
Little Miami	LMI			X	X	X	X	X			X		X	X	X	X	X
Madison Lake	MLK	X		X		X		X	X				X	X	X	X	X
Malabar Farm	MAL			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Marblehead Lighthouse	MHD					X	X	X			X		X		X		
Mary Jane Thurston	MJT	X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X			X	
Maumee Bay	MBY			X			X	X			X	X	X	X	X		
Middle Bass Island	MBI						X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X
Mohican	MOH			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
Mosquito Lake	MST	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mt. Gilead	MTG	X			X		X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
Muskingum River	MUS			X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X
Nelson-Kennedy Ledges	NKL			X	X		X	X			X		X	X		X	X
North Bass Island	NBI						X						X	X			
Oak Point	OPT							X			X	X	X	X	X	X	
Paint Creek	PTC			X	X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X
Pike Lake	PLK			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Portage Lakes	POR	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X
Punderson	PUN	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Pymatuning	PYM	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
Quail Hollow	QHL	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X			X			X	X
Rocky Fork	RFK			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Salt Fork	SFK	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Scioto Trail	STR		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X			X	X
Shawnee	SHA				X	X	X		X	X	X		X		X	X	
South Bass Island	SBI	X					X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X
Stonelick	STO	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Strouds Run	SRN	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sycamore	SYC	X		X	X	X	X	X		X				X	X	X	X
Tar Hollow	TAR			X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X	X
Tinkers Creek	TCK	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Van Buren	VAN				X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X		X	
West Branch	WBR	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Wingfoot Lake	WLK	N1	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
Wolf Run	WRN	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		X

36	20	57	50	60	63	64	55	50	58	35	64	47	58	60	50
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N1-Wingfoot Lake became a State Park in 2009

N2-Cleveland Lakefront was dropped as a State Park in mid 2013

N3-Lake White State Park was closed by ODNR - leaking dam 2014 - reopened 2018

N4 - Jessie Owens State Park became a State Park in 2018 - Was available for OSPOTA in 2019

N5 - Great Council State Park became a State Park in 2024 - Will be available for OSPOTA in 2025

Not all activated parks sent a log in for scoring

Ohio State Parks On The Air



Activated Parks 2008-2023

September 2023



Thanks goes out to the 225 stations, ham radio operators, loggers and helpers that submitted logs for the 2023 Ohio State Parks On The Air contest

AA8KY	KB8BKE	KD8YPY	KE8WEH	N8OI	W8TAM
AA8OY	KB8DOT	KD8ZMG	KE8WJJ	N8OXQ	W8TCB
AB8DE	KB8ELG	KE1TLG	KE8WJO	N8QE	W8UKE
AB8P	KB8EMD	KE8ANU	KE8WPM	N8RKC	W8VE
AB8RC	KB8GAE	KE8ARB	KE8WVV	N8SDR	W8VP
AB8YK	KB8OMG	KE8BWQ	KE8YQL	N8UVM	W8WRC
AC8QG	KB8TUY	KE8CIN	KE8ZAA	N8VAR	W8XY
AC8RH	KB8UEY	KE8DOC	KI5DQH	N8VMX	W9GPB
AD8FQ	KB8UUZ	KE8EXQ	KI5VNB	N8VSI	W9PMZ
AD8IR	KC3EKE	KE8FJX	KK8SCH	N8WCL	WA3JAT
AF1K	KC3GFU	KE8FWZ	KM4IAJ	N8WJ	WA4JA
Dominic	KC8AAV	KE8GAD	KN4COE	N8WYX	WA6WTF
K1CCN	KC8JC	KE8HFM	KO4UMQ	N8XC	WB3AFS
K3GP	KC8JRV	KE8IDH	KP4VZ	N8XCC	WB8OSU
K3YP	KC8KEB	KE8JVB	KQ4YC	N8YFF	WB8PHI
K6RBV	KC8LAR	KE8JW	KY8C	N9FAT	WB8YHD
K8AL	KC8OH	KE8LWO	KY8U	NF8O	WB8ZGH
K8BL	KC8QDQ	KE8MVY	KZ3L	NF8U	WB9HFK
K8BXQ	KC8RJO	KE8OKA	N3CU	NO8I	WB9LBI
K8CAG	KC8RJS	KE8ORQ	N3JJT	VE2GT	WD8JFT
K8CSR	KD8APT	KE8OWD	N3VQW	W3WC	WD8JVV
K8CY	KD8BBK	KE8PP	N8BAP	W8AJT	WD8LSN
K8FAY	KD8BYY	KE8PVL	N8BC	W8BAP	WD8RIF
K8FH	KD8CGH	KE8QJF	N8BOZ	W8CWO	WD8SCV
K8GE	KD8CHP	KE8QJU	N8CJ	W8CX	WD8SDH
K8GIB	KD8DRY	KE8QJV	N8CUB	W8DGN	WE8N
K8LGN	KD8ENV	KE8QYB	N8CWU	W8FHF	WF8U
K8MD	KD8JSP	KE8QYD	N8EU/R	W8GTS	WG8X
K8MSH	KD8KBU	KE8QYE	N8FJR	W8HH	WS8M
K8PRC	KD8KZG	KE8RBY	N8GD	W8IJC	WZ8K
K8RGI	KD8LHR	KE8RV	N8IMW	W8KEN	
K8SAS	KD8NZF	KE8SIQ	N8IVJ	W8LGX	
K8STU	KD8OOB	KE8SYZ	N8KRO	W8LRJ	
K8TSG	KD8PSB	KE8SZL	N8KYX	W8O	
K8UU	KD8TVP	KE8TTQ	N8MIQ	W8QLY	
K8VON	KD8UFE	KE8TTU	N8MWK	W8RAY	
KA5VZG	KD8UPX	KE8UTZ	N8NYI	W8RD	
KA8IIM	KD8UZV	KE8VOB	N8OCJ	W8SKJ	
KB3RDR	KD8VWF	KE8WAT	N8OH	W8SRD	



OSPOTA 2023 Photos and Soapbox Comments

AD8IR - West Branch State Park

From West Branch
Ohio State Park

Team AD8IR:
AC8QG, AD8IR,
AD8FQ, KE8WVV,
KE8ARB, KE8LWO,
Dominic



AF1K - Tinkers Creek State Park



Things got off to a slow start but I made up for it with a pileup on 40M from 12:00PM to 1:30PM EST! Then around 2:30 I had to vacate from the Liberty Park / Tinkers Creek shelter for a group that had reserved it. Hmmm, the "Reserved For" sign was blank when I got there to set up at 8AM. I then attempted to relocate to a fold up table I brought in case of something like that happened. But, there were kids running around and wind was picking up. So, I decided it would be best to tear down and go home. Oh well! It sure was fun while it lasted though. Conditions were great and I expect there will be many record breaking scores this year! I hope to do it all over again in 2024. Here's a shout out THANK

YOU to all the OSPOTA organizers and PCARS for the work they put in to make this such a great continuing success!



KE8MD - Cowan Lake State Park

Team: KE8EMD, N8OI, KD8TVP, K8STU, W9PMZ



This was my last OSPOTA, health reasons make getting around too hard. I want to thank the Portage club for running the OSPOTA. I know in the past planning the outing for myself and "our" group goes on from one ending to the start of the next. What new antennas will we bring, will 20, 40 or 80 meters work best. Wondering if we can get the same shelter house as last year, seems the "Hilltop" shelter at Cowan Lake SP is a popular spot. This year there were three other Hams wanting to use the shelter. Our group this year like several in the past had a new member Carl W9PMZ, Carl brought his trapped 40-80 meter dipole and his adjustable fiberglass mast. Stu K8STU joined us for his second OSPOTA with us, he adds a lot to a successful outing. Another addition this year was Glen KC8LA who drove an hour and a half just to meet the people whom he talks to almost every morning on the "rascal" early morning net on the NO8I repeater in Huber Heights Ohio. Then there is the BIG three Jerry KD8TVP, Gary N8OI and myself Larry KB8EMD. Jerry and I have been to all of our (if memory serves) eleven OSPOTA outings. Many other hams have visited or joined us over the years. I have tried to pick the best outing but there has been so many I just can't single one out. I would like to offer an invitation to all to come see and enjoy COWAN Lake SP truly one of the good ones. Thanks goes out to everyone who I've met or talked to during the past years, I miss it already - LARRY BAKER KB8EMD

N8XCC - Hueston Woods State Park

Another great year from Hueston Woods! 80 meters didn't stay active nearly as long as last year but 40 held up great to the very end. Too much DX on 20 and 15 but still made a few on 20. 10 meters seemed dead but lots of RF noise from the generator made it impossible to work anyway. The W8AJT Hamilton Club made a gracious invite (on 40 meters) for us to stop by across the lake for some after action barbecue that was super delicious! Thanks guys!! Already looking forward to next year. 73's de Tean N8XCC: N8XCC Diane and N8XC Jesse



W8UKE - Strouds Run State Park

W8UKE Team Members: WD8RIF, WD8SCV, KC3EKE, KC8JRV. Club member turn-out was less than we had hoped but the rig remained busy for most of the OSPOTA period. 80m seemed significantly less productive than in previous years. Still--a good time was had by all who participated and we're looking forward to next year! 73, W. Eric McFadden, WD8RIF President, Athens County Amateur Radio Association



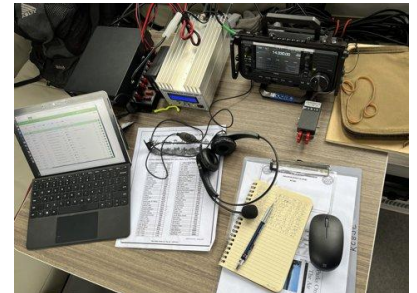
KC8JC - Salt Fork State Park



Last year was the first time that I'd ever participated in OSPOTA. I was still quite new to POTA but I was getting better at my portable operations. I spent my weekend at Salt Fork State Park K-1989 or SFK



both last year and again this year. It's a nice park with a good, technical trail that my wife likes to take on with the dog while I'm in the camper running my mouth for a few hours. I will freely admit that I am not a natural contester. Sitting in the chair for hours making contacts is fun for a while, but I run out of steam after about 4 hours. Knowing this going in and feeling a lot more comfortable with my gear and



technique, Nacho The Radio Beagle and I had a LOT of fun. I fired up the station on Saturday right in time to start the contest. My very first OSPOTA contact was my buddy N3VEM. I was really happy to get him in the log! The most exciting log entry was, of course, the Editor In Chief of the PCARS Radiogram, Tom KB8UZZ! Great to get other PCARS members in the log when we can. The bands were a mixed bag. 40m started off OK and it was my only real option due to rough conditions last year. This year, it started to get VERY noisy and I eventually shifted off to 20m when I got as many of the Ohio State Parks as I believed that I could. 15m and 10m were both dead for me. 80m tuned up nicely, but there was no one who could hear me (or who I could hear). 20m held for most of the day. In fact, I was getting really good reports through most of the time I was on the air. A few fun notes. I hit as far west as California, a lot of Texans, plenty of folks from SC and FL, and up as far as Maine and New Brunswick! Nothing outside of North America, which was not a shock at all. The wildest run was getting three contacts back to back in South Dakota in about 3 or 4 minutes. One ham said it was raining there and that probably kept them indoors and hunting parks. I ended the day with 119 contacts in my log. I hit 9 Ohio State Parks (including my own). That's a pretty good number of points for me. Again, I'm not a contester so quitting after about 4 hours in the chair (5 if you count lunch) was good enough for me. Besides, it gave us time to enjoy dinner and pack up for our drive home. Pictures are my setup inside the camper, Nacho The Radio Beagle, and my antenna deployment.



KC8RJS - Lake Milton State Park

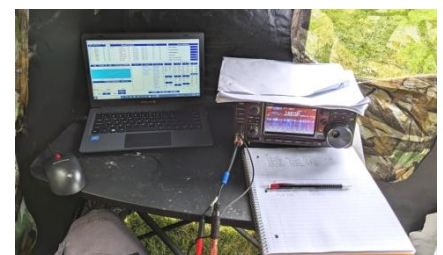
The best operation I had for the less than 5 hours I did get to operate in between answering park visitors questions. I can't say enough about Eco-Worthy LiFePo4 batteries for these kind of operations,

light but can operate an IC-7300 without worry, I didn't need to use a solar panel to charge for this short duration. I'll



definitely consider this spot next year or closer to my house at Robinson's Point if favorable weather.

73 - George Meleski KC8RJS



KE8RV - Madison Lake State Park

The Madison County Amateur Radio Club again participated in the OSPOTA 203 at Madison Lake State Park K-1973. We arrived at about 8:30 am and began erecting our 3 dipoles in the trees. This year, I replaced the fishing reel on my launcher, and bought a new valve for my portable air tank and the



antenna raising went smoothly. The Park ranger came and welcomed us and was very friendly and helpful. We again used a Honda EU2000 generator and it worked great. At around 10 AM we began operating on 20, 40, and 80 meters. In the morning 80 meters was productive, but as the day progressed, most of our contacts were made on 40 meters. 20 meters was not good at all. Many of the club members made appearances and lent moral support, brought food and camaraderie, but only three operated John, WB8OSU, was using his 817 QRP mode, Ray W8RAY was operating 20,

and Larry, N8CWU, was operating his 857d on 40 most of the day. We again used the N3FJP Logger with the hack and had relatively few problems with it except for the networking problems of getting the computers synced up, but once done all went smoothly using the TCP connection. Our contacts were 12% on 80, 83% on 40 and 6% on 20 meters. A good time was had by all. The weather was beautiful and the park peaceful. A couple of visitors showed up and were introduced to Amateur Radio. We cannot wait until next year to do it again, always a good time. Larry - N8CWU for KE8RV

KY8U - East Fork State Park

Thank you, so much for all you do and for putting in all the work to make this event possible. Also, thanks to all the volunteers who help as well! I had another amazing time operating out of East Fork State Park (EFK) for 2023 Ohio State Parks on The Air! I always look forward to this event and the great Hams I talk with each year! This year was no different! The bands cooperated and I was able to have a lot of great QSO's. I ran my Icom 7300 this year and had my Home Brew 80/40 fan dipole set up at 30' on a military poll. My daughter is starting to show some interest in the hobby and I'm looking forward to when she gets her ticket to be on the air! Thank you all so much for the QSO's and your patience through the QRN. I look forward to talking to you all further down the log! 73 KY8U - Josh



N8EU/ROVER - Caesar Creek, Cowan Lake, John Bryan, Little Miami State Parks

I made up an 85' wire for the occasion. This was an 18 awg silicon (lilac colored) insulated wire. I also made up a new 9:1 UNUN for the event. It's tiny and adds only a little to the weight when the antenna is suspended. All my POTA work is QRP, and except for hunting, I only use CW, so it was fun for me call CQ on SSB for a change. And since all my POTA is QRP, at 16 watts, I considered myself QRO for the event. At COW I set up just off the dam breastwork. There were several curious croppie fisherman who stopped by to ask what I was doing, so we talked a bit. I did better than they did. None of them caught anything. I got 17 parks and 25 QSOs. From there, I went to CAE, a park practically in my backyard, that I have activated 32 times for 1230 QSOs. Despite that, I had never driven there from the direction of COW and decided to follow my GPS. After losing 10 minutes to a traffic backup on Rte 73 for the Renaissance Festival, I lost at least another 10 minutes on winding back roads. My two favorite activation sites at CAE were occupied, so I set up my QRP Guys Tri-Band vertical (20-30-40) near the Visitor Center. But it wasn't doing a very good job for me. I only got 11 QSOs, at 11 different parks. And I could hear at least three strong park stations that I couldn't get through to. Although there were two teams at CAE, I couldn't contact either one of them. I had a curious ham stop by for a chat, but after 45 minutes I headed up the road to LMI. Fortunately, I had scouted LMI the previous weekend and knew where I wanted to set up. I was able to throw my 85' wire high into a tree and got to it. This was my best activation in terms of QSOs and parks, but I stayed longer than I should have, leaving only a bit more than 2 hours remaining for the event. I had another ham visitor who stopped by to chat while I was at LMI. His home QTH was only a few miles away, and he was there to use the bike path. It took another 35 minutes to drive to JOB, but I would be the only activator there for the day. Again, I used my wire antenna and operated the remaining 90 minutes. Finally, I had a pile-up for almost the entire time. I got more contacts here, didn't get as many parks as I did at LMI. Except for 80 meters, during the first hour of the event, most of my activity was on 40 meters this year. In past years, 80 meters was busy all day. It was a beautiful day for the event and all the parks I visited were crowded with visitors enjoying a fine day. The weather cooperated and the mosquitoes stayed away. Other than that, there were no problems, no animals sighted, no emergencies. Just a fun day. Thanks again. All the best, Jack Kibelbek, N8EU

KQ4YC - Cowan Lake State Park

I headed out to Cowan Lake for this year's OSPOTA. I arrived and found another great group of hams setting up near where I had planned!



While chatting up Larry KB8EMD, along came Jack N8EU/R rolling by. Since neither one of us were "Glenn", we parted ways. I found an excellent spot down by the beach. Absolute perfect distance between trees for a 40M OCF dipole. I



added a short loop of rope at the balun and strung up an additional inverted-V EFHW w/80M loading coil. After a little while I logged Andrew W9AMA, also at Cowan Lake! Andrew trekked down for an eyeball QSO. So three separate groups within a half mile. How nice!

So if you didn't get COW in the logs... well, not much more we could do. haha. As always, let's get a big round of applause for all of the volunteers!! OSPOTA ON! 73 - James KQ4YC



N8CJ - Dillon State Park

Solo operation this year from Big Run Shelter at Overlook Point, above Dillon Dam, for the 2023 Ohio State Parks on the Air event. Set up this year consisted of one station with the “Condo on Wheels” located in the parking lot near the Big Run Shelter.



The weather started out overcast and 62F, but improved to partly sunny with high temperatures in the mid 70's, and a light breeze of 5 mph keeping things comfortable until mid-afternoon when the inside temp of the “Condo On Wheels” started to become a “Toaster On Wheels”. All

contacts were on 40m. There was a steady stream of activity and one attempt was made on 20m but no contacts were made within 15 minutes so decision was made to stay on 40m as long as the Qs kept coming. And they did. We arrived an hour before start time and had no challenges setting up. The generator was filled up,



fired up and N8CJ was on the air right at 1400 UTC. First contact was a good solid 59 signal from Deer Creek State Park and 82 Qs were made in the first hour. Rates slowed around noon but the overall average Q rate for the six hour run was 56/hour. During the day there were 3-4 good runs with only a few pile ups. The XYL had agreed to come along during this event and we had agreed to stay until



around 1800 UTC. She listened to the OSU game outside under the awning and heard the steady radio activity inside. Consequently, she did not say anything when the clock clicked past 1800 UTC. Things started to slow around 1930 UTC and we pulled the plug about 2000 UTC just before the generator ran out of fuel. Overall, results were excellent, weather was great, equipment did not have any issues (other than one section of the SotaBeam tactical pole that seized when we went to leave). A little forceful persuasion took care of that issue and all is now well with it. Found out you don't want to tighten those sections too tight when you set up. Thanks to all for the contacts and PCARS for sponsoring and organizing the event. 73 – Alan – N8CJ

KY8C - Salt Fork State Park

Team KY8C - Salt Fork State Park - KB3RDR, K8AL, KE8ZAA, N8WJ 80 meter wire antenna put up with the help of a drone.



WG8X - Mount Gilead State Park

This was another great OSPOTA for me. The weekend usually begins a couple days beforehand, so



I can set up camp, and then go do some park activations. But, I got rained out a bit on Friday, and hung out at camp for the day. Using the potato gun, I was able to get the G5RV up around 70'-80' or so. Not exactly NVIS. I played for

quite a while Friday using the Xiegu G106, which puts out about 6-7 Watts. I always enjoy doing some QRP CW



using a good antenna. The next day, for OSPOTA, I set up the Yaesu FT-891, which I use for most of my POTA activations. The weather was great, with fair weather for the rest of the weekend. For the first time in several years, I was able to set up and run OSPOTA outdoors. 40 Meters opened nicely throughout the day Saturday. I was hearing not only OSPOTA stations, but those from outside of Ohio. 75M wasn't bad; just not as good as I'd seen it in years past. Around lunchtime, I got a visit from Herb, WB8BHK who lives in the area. Unfortunately, he was unable to stay.



Once the contest was over, it was time for my semi-annual tradition of cooking a nice juicy steak over the campfire. That is; it would have been juicy had I not burned it. Fortunately, I didn't die. After a good night's sleep, I made the trip to the Findlay Hamfest, then returned to camp and enjoyed a relaxing day before heading home on Monday.

Ohio State Parks On The Air



Ohio State Parks

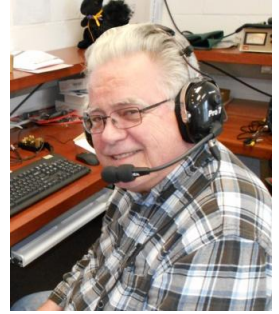


On The Air



17th OSPOTA - Sept. 7, 2024 - Make Plans Now !

Tom, KB8UUZ
OSPOTA Chairman



Seventeenth Annual Ohio State Parks On The Air Amateur Radio Contest - 2024

Make sure to mark your calendar for the 2024 Ohio State Parks On The Air (OSPOTA) contest – September 7, 2024. The contest is always held on the first Saturday following the Labor Day holiday. Each year this event has grown and we anticipate another year of growth with even more participating Amateur Radio Operators.

The OSPOTA contest was conceived with three main goals in mind:

- To promote public awareness of amateur radio and Ohio's beautiful state parks system;
- To contribute to the recognition that Ohio has a very diverse and wonderful ecology;
- To promote camaraderie within the ranks of Ohio's Amateur Radio Operators



Your participation has allowed these goals to be achieved. We agree it is a lot of fun to get out in a natural setting with your radio and see how well you can do at working operators in the beautiful Ohio State Parks.

This will be the 17th annual OSPOTA – Make plans now to be active in OSPOTA 2024.

Don't forget – Check out the OSPOTA website at www.ospota.org and, we have an OSPOTA E-mail Group located at: <https://groups.io/g/OSPOTA> The [OSPOTA IO Group page](https://groups.io/g/OSPOTA) is used for messaging and sharing of information about OSPOTA for all the fans and participants in the OSPOTA contest.

OSPOTA has a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/OSPOTA/>) and is used before, during and after the contest for updates and to share stories and photos.

As the 2024 contest draws near, we'll be posting on the OSPOTA IO Group page the anticipated 'who's going to be at what Ohio State Park' or 'Planned Park' list as we have in past years. Send your planned park activation information to PlannedParks@ospota.org . Please, include the call sign that will be used and the Ohio State Park you plan to be at. If your plans change, just let us know and we'll update the list. Remember, more than one person or group can be at an Ohio State Park – there are no reserved State Parks.

Note: Some Ohio State Parks are being managed by local park systems, but they are still listed and considered to be Ohio State Parks according to ODNR (Quail Hollow & Tinkers Creek).

So – pick a park and make your plans now for OSPOTA 2024 !!!!!

**Take care & 73 from the entire OSPOTA contest Committee:
KB8UUZ, WG8X, W8PT, W8KNO, KB8UHN**

Questions? Email: INFO@ospota.org



Ohio State Parks



On The Air



Start Making Plans for the 17th annual *Ohio State Parks On The Air*



September 7, 2024

We'll be listening for you !!!!!



He never lets me make a contact.....



Ohio State Parks



On The Air

