



The new electronic entrance gate at Twelve Mile Recreation Area has yet to be formally placed into operation, as officials say there are connectivity issues that must first be worked out.

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Twelve Mile changes underway

BY GREG OLIVER
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CLEMSON — Improvements to the Twelve Mile Recreation Area in Clemson are underway.

But city horticulturist Tony Tidwell said earlier this month the park's electronic gate hasn't gone into operation.

"It still has some connectivity issues, so we're kind of holding off using it completely until we get all of that connectivity thing worked out," Tidwell said. "We did go out and have some staff training, so we're kind of up to speed on how the gate works and will be able to help folks when they come out and they're having issues."

MORE INFORMATION

Access to the recreation area will include entry fees once the gate goes into operation. Residents and non-residents pay a daily car or boat ramp fee or purchase annual passes that started on Jan. 1. Daily entry fees are \$5 per car, per day and don't require registration. Annual passes have varied fees and require registration, and veterans and seniors with valid "America the Beautiful" annual passes can apply for a no-fee pass using a form.

Passes can be picked up at the Nettles Park office or mailed out.

ANOTHER UPDATE

Tidwell also said the park's proposed

RV site has been approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

"We'll hopefully start construction late winter or early spring, again depending on weather and how quickly we can get this pump track work finished up," Tidwell said. "We're not talking about renting out sites or anything like that. This will just be for the park host."

In his December report, Tidwell said off-season activity will include infrastructure improvements and cutting back tree limbs. He also said the city has also been working with two parks, recreation and tourism management classes at Clemson University for master planning and management strategies for Twelve Mile.

"We want to have some fresh ideas, some fresh young eyes looking at these spaces and give us some good ideas on what might be possible for us in the future of that park," he said.

The city signed a 10-year lease last year with the corps for Twelve Mile Recreation Area, which is used for swimming, boating and picnics.

Tidwell said repairs have been happening, which includes replacement of several grills, and bathrooms have been closed for the season "in order to winterize them." The beach is closed until April.