

Fees and Permits

There are no additional fees for SCUBA diving. It is included with fees for day use, camping, cabin rentals and annual passes.

Diving Instructor Permit \$200+tax

- This permit is required of any instructor teaching SCUBA diving.
- A Diving Instructor Permit includes two instructors only. All students must pay day use fees.

All fees are subject to change.

Essential Eligibility Criteria

In addition to the procedures listed in this brochure, in order to participate in this program, one must have the ability to:

- Put on diving equipment independently or with the assistance of a companion.
- Transport diving gear and traverse 450 to 1400 feet of walkway to the water entry points, independently or with the assistance of a companion.

- Enter and exit the water independently or with the assistance of a companion.
- Assess local diving conditions and make prudent decisions regarding your skill and training for those conditions.



Free Diving Risks

- **Hyperventilation** or over breathing before a dive is dangerous. It reduces carbon dioxide in the bloodstream and blocks a divers' reflexive need to breathe.
- **Shallow Water Blackout** is a loss of consciousness in <15 feet of water where the divers' reflexive need to breathe has been suppressed. It is caused by low oxygen levels in the brain. This is the leading cause of drowning and near drowning for free divers.
- **Deep Water Blackout** is a loss of consciousness while ascending from a deep free dive when the swimmer does not experience an urgent need to breathe. Immediate cause is a rapid drop in the pressure of oxygen in the lungs. This usually occurs near or at the surface.

Diving in Florida's State Parks

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Division of Recreation and Parks does not promote nor encourage SCUBA or free diving because there is inherent personal danger involved in this activity. All persons participating in SCUBA and free diving activities must do so at their own risk.

SCUBA diving permitted in designated areas only. Diving is permitted with the understanding that the DEP **Does Not:**

- **Accept any responsibility for SCUBA and free divers safety.**
- **Assume any responsibility for verifying equipment a certified SCUBA diver should or should not possess.**
- **Accept any responsibility for monitoring diving conditions or other hazardous conditions SCUBA or free divers may encounter at any given time.**

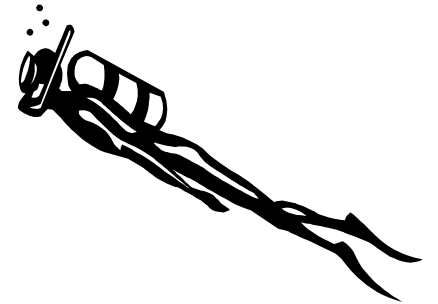
Large
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format
available
upon request.

Blue Spring State Park

Diving

SCUBA & Free Diving



Blue Spring State Park
2100 West French Avenue
Orange City, FL 32763
(386) 775-3663
FloridaStateParks.org



Procedures for SCUBA Diving

- Divers must register at the ranger station between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. and exit the water by 5 p.m.
- Divers must register with a partner.
- Divers must present proof of certification during registration.
- All professional certification association's safety standards should be followed at all times.
- Lights prohibited at depths less than 60 feet.
- The spring run is closed to diving and all water activities from November 15 to March 1.
- Motorized, underwater assist vehicles prohibited.

SCUBA Diving is Limited to the Following Persons:

- Adult (18 and older) certified SCUBA divers.
- Training adult and minor (17 years and younger) SCUBA divers under a certified diving instructor's supervision.
- Minor certified SCUBA divers in an organized group may only dive with a dive-certified adult in charge.

Blue Spring Cave

