

## Help Make Stone Mountain Park a <u>BETTER PLACE FOR ALL!</u>

Stone Mountain Park has the potential to be one of the best outdoor amenities that Georgia has to offer. Unfortunately, the Park's history and prominent Confederate symbols have made it a shrine for hate groups and a rally point for violence. **Georgia deserves better!** 

## Did you know:

- The KKK was restarted at the Park in 1915 and it continues to be a sacred place for the hate group
- The Park is the largest Confederate memorial in the country, though no battles were actually fought here and work on the carving was completed in 1972
- The Georgia Legislature established the Park and legally required it to serve as a Confederacy memorial in defiance of the Supreme Court's Brown v. Board of Education decision ending school segregation
- Stone Mountain Park officially opened on April 14, 1965 100 years to the day after Lincoln's assassination
- There are more than 10 Park streets and features named after Confederate and Ku Klux Klan figures
- The Park is required by law to sell Confederate memorabilia in their gift shop (Walmart, Amazon, and eBay have banned the sale of such items)
- The Park still flies Confederate battle flags which are banned by the United States Military and NASCAR
- The Park has closed numerous times in recent years because of planned white supremacy protests and the clear and present danger they presented to public safety
- On July 4, 2020 nearly 200 heavily armed demonstrators with military-style weapons entered the Park to challenge white supremacy groups
- On August 15, 2020 the Park closed and the Georgia National Guard had to be deployed to Protect the park from a planned white supremacy rally
- Referring to this rally, the Park CEO Bill Stephens said, "If they got in, they'd have 3,200 acres to go crazy."
- The Park's August 15 closure diverted the heavily-armed hate group to Stone Mountain Village forcing businesses to close and the city to issue a public notice warning its residents
- The Park rejected a plan (supported by Governor Deal and the Senate) to add a Liberty Bell monument on the mountain featuring Martin Luther King, Jr. words, "Let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia"



We can't change history. <u>But we can</u> make the Park a safer, more welcoming, and educational place.

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