

1. I believe that we are to be good stewards of what God has blessed us with here in the State of Tennessee. Mountain top clearing/mining needs to be a thing of the past...and I believe we will come close to that in our lifetime as we seek out renewable energy resources. It pains me to see what happens and the cost of when accidents occur due to man's mistakes and short giving's. As Governor, I will work and encourage continued development in our quest for renewable energy resources. I would also encourage local Planning Commissions to take creative measures in considering growth patterns for new residential and commercial communities allowing for wide open spaces and considering the designs of Village Greens.

2. This problem dates back probably at least 10 years. I consider our State Park system a valuable asset to our State. Yet, with budget constraints of the past couple of years and the coming year or so, the State as it does business today cannot afford to address this issue with any real magnitude. However if we don't do something soon, our Park system will continue to deteriorate and maintenance costs will just skyrocket. I believe that our State Park system while popular with many is under utilized. We may need to get creative and think outside the box for once. We need to find alternative revenue streams within this asset...with all the revenues staying within the State Park system. As Governor, The Park System would be on my priority list as it is an integral element of the theme of our campaign, "Rebuilding the Quality of Life in Tennessee." Some thoughts may include-to bring in the Private sector willing to invest its resources and its expertise by developing potential corporate retreats and managing and enhancing our Inns, Lodges, and other potential revenue producing elements within our State Park System.

3. I have a vision for our State Parks to be the best. I see us growing the system, offering more services and more amenities and better promoting our Parks. As I said earlier, I view our Parks as a valuable asset of the State...an asset that I feel is under utilized.

4. Cities such as Franklin know the value of its Park System...both active and passive. Many Cities across the State see the value as their Parks add to the Quality of Life to their communities...which in turn brings new residents and visitors. Many active Parks offer organized youth sports and activities for adults-which promotes health. Many of these Park activities in turn help the economic climate in the Cities that have embraced it. City governments need to be educated and continually reminded of the benefits by the successes of our State system and by other Parks.

5. I spent nearly ten years with a youth organization that worked hand in hand with City of Franklin in the re-development of Jim Warren Park and the construction of Liberty Park. I know the value and I know what is needed. As Governor, I would work to make sure that funds and grants intended for Parks will be used for that purpose and that purpose alone. I know of their rewards. Period!! This is one area that I am passionate about.

6. I've been asked this question on several occasions. I am in favor of smaller government. I also believe that I as Governor will direct our State Legislature to become better stewards of our tax dollars. Despite some of the other candidate's claims of how they will reduce government, I will take a proactive approach in determining what we have to pay out that is required by law. All other expenditures will be subject to review and will be prioritized and how it fits into the Rebuilding the Quality of Life in Tennessee. I understand that we have two exceptional men overlooking our Park System, Mike Carlton and Jim Fyke. Both men are "Parks" guys. I would seek their advise and expertise on matters dealing with our Park System.

7. As I mentioned in question 3 and "In Rebuilding the Quality of Life in Tennessee" I intend on providing additional services and amenities, which would include more activities not only for children but adults as well. (Balance of response in question 8)

8. The Governor's office thru radio and television via public service announcements promotes hot topic items such as "Buckle Up!" and Speeding and Drunk Driving awareness. I would use this medium to promote children's health issues and how our activities within our Park System will address those issues. As our economy improves, I would encourage local Park Systems if they do not have community centers and specific programs in their parks to start one...one that is active and vibrant and embraced by the community...and not one to say that we have one. We must re-educate our citizens on what they are missing and by missing it-is leading to an early death!