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Spring Creek Off Road: a muddy good time
By KEVIN KOLOIAN/Source: Observer Newspaper
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Spring Creek Off Road prides itself on being the only park where people can ride in the Greater Houston area.

The 30-plus acre Spring Creek Off Road park pulls in riders from Baytown to Katy to Freeport. The next closest off-road park is in Huntsville.



"As someone who has ridden off-road myself for more than 30 years, I know how great it is for people to have a place to ride," said manager Roland Bao.

Riders use Spring Creek Off Road as a place to get away for a day, or the whole weekend. With the beauty of Spring Creek as backdrop, there are miles of trails to explore and scenic white sand beaches to take in while enjoying the splendor of Spring Creek.

Besides providing the casual rider a place to kick up dirt, Spring Creek Off Road has also been the venue for various events.

Going into its eighth year, the Super Truck Shootout is the first and biggest event the park hosts, Bao said. Held the first weekend of June, it has grown in size every year.

In March, the fourth Mud Racing Series will begin, which includes a number of races and a championship payout. Bao said the series attracts drivers from as far away as North Texas.

On an event weekend, the park can draw more than 1,000 spectators, Bao said.

In 2009, the park held its largest one-day event, the 2009 MOROC Season Opener. Local, national and international teams were in attendance to compete, and thousands of spectators packed the park to watch the side-by-side racing through some of the most technical courses MOROC has ever put together, Bao said.

As for off-road enthusiasts, the summertime is the busy season, not to say things crawl to a stop during the winter.

"It could be 30 degrees and raining and we still have people off-roading," Bao said.

The park has a family-oriented feel and has held benefits for good causes in the past.

"We get a lot of families out here who like to show their kids how to ride their four-wheelers," Bao explained.

The next big event is Saturday, Jan. 30, a trial bike competition, where motorcycle riders must traverse natural obstacles.

On the weekend of Feb. 24, the park will host King of the Creek, a chance for four-wheel riders to compete on a rock course with the winner crowned the King of the Creek.

POSSIBLE NEW LOCATION

After being talked about for months, Spring Creek Off Road may have to move because it is located in an area planned for the Spring Creek Greenway project.

Word of eminent domain is expected to come down from Harris County within weeks.

Look to future editions of The Observer for Spring Creek Off Road's plans.

SPRING CREEK OFF ROAD

For daily and weekend rates, visit www.springcreekooffroad.com.