

How do I earn my pin?

In order to complete the requirements for Whitewater Memorial State Park's unique Explore Pin, you must complete the following.:

1. Attend one Interpretive Program (complete one of the following)

- Join us for a program! Pick up a monthly program schedule at one of our camp stores, property offices or gatehouses.
- Complete the self-guided hike on Red Springs Loop. Find more information inside this brochure.
- Pick up a photo scavenger hunt list at our property office. Once you've completed it, show your photos to our office staff or an Interpretive Naturalist.

2. Complete one hour of volunteer time (complete one of the following)

- Please pick up litter and/or remove small fallen debris from our trails while you hike.
- Check with an interpretive naturalist to see if they need help with a project or program.

3. Report to an interpreter either orally or in writing about how your volunteer time benefited the property and yourself

4. Hike at least 30 minutes on the trails or roads

5. Complete a site specific activity (complete one of the following)

- Visit the property office and read the plaque about the history of the park. Take a photo of the statue.
- Visit Red Springs Loop in Hornbeam Nature Preserve and take a photo of the Red Springs.

Fun Fact!

Whitewater Memorial State Park is the only memorial park within Indiana's State Parks! Each year, the property hosts an event to recognize and honor our veterans.



Where can I buy my Explore pin?

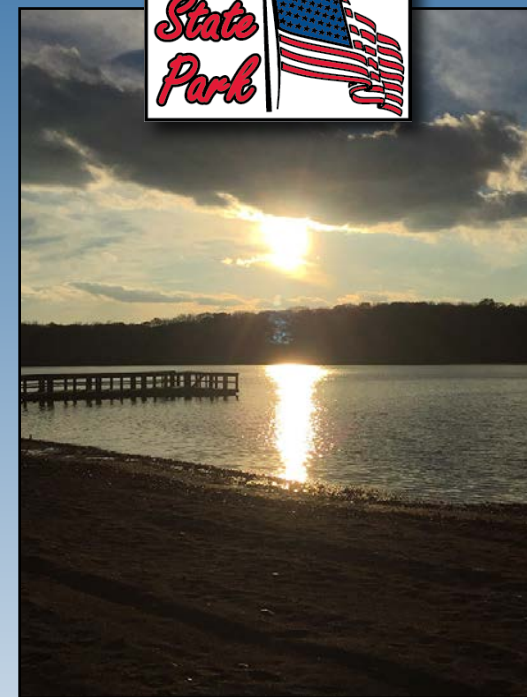
You can buy your pin at either the Whitewater Memorial State Park office or at the Mounds State Recreation Area office. Pins cost \$2 each.

Interpretive Naturalist
Kristie Ridgway

For more information
765-647-2657
kridgway@dnr.IN.gov

The mission of the Interpretive Services is to provide information and offer interpretive experiences with Indiana's natural and cultural resources to visitors, staff and a diverse public.

Explore Whitewater Memorial State Park



DNR
Indiana Department
of Natural Resources



Memories made naturally.

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of State Parks
interpretiveservices.IN.gov



Whitewater Memorial State Park was established in 1949 as a living memorial to those that served their country in World War II. The park's initial acreage was acquired by the people of Union, Wayne, Fayette, and Franklin counties. This is the only State Park in Indiana to be purchased in that way. This land was chosen to become a park in part, because of its natural beauty, topography and vegetation.

Today the park has grown to include its own 200-acre lake that was created by the damming of Silver Creek. The park also includes a saddle barn, over nine miles of horse trails, over nine miles of hiking trails, a beach, campground, and family cabins.



Red Springs Loop

A spring occurs where water moving underground finds an opening and emerges above ground.

Why is this spring red?

The red color comes from deposits of iron in the soil. As the water seeps out, it carries some of that iron out with it, turning the water a rusty red color.

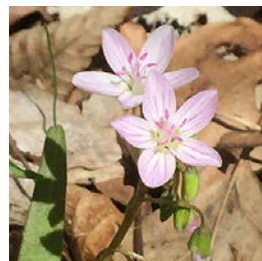
The continuous abundance of water from this spring, provides a unique habitat for both wildlife and plant life. In the spring, this area is covered by a dense carpet of wildflowers. We have included a few of the commonly seen wildflowers below.



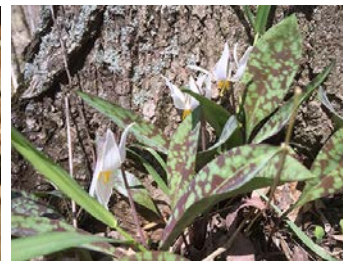
Dutchman's Breeches



Virginia Bluebells



Spring Beauty



Trout Lilly

Hornbeam Nature Preserve

Red Springs Loop meanders through Hornbeam Nature Preserve. This hardwood forest is primarily beech-maple, but also includes a large number of red oak and hickory. However, this nature preserve derives its name from the unusually high number of hornbeams (ironwoods) in the understory.

Hornbeam trees are fine textured and related to birches. The trunk and branches of this tree have ridges that look like muscles. Songbirds are attracted to their dense foliage and tasty seeds. This tree can tolerate wet sites and can withstand flooding. This hardwood is used to make golf clubs, tool handles and mallets.



Hornbeam

