

# DNR NEWS

Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
Fort Harrison State Park  
Indianapolis, IN 46216  
Phone: (317) 591-0122

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## **Battle of the Bulge World War II Military Reenactment Coming to Fort Harrison State Park Saturday, January 8**

The Museum of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Warfare and the staff at Fort Harrison State Park will host a Battle of the Bulge Reenactment Tactical at 2 pm on Saturday, January 8 across from the Park Office. The Tactical will demonstrate military methods used by both German and American forces that fought each other during the Battle of the Bulge in 1944-45.

The Tactical will highlight a vintage WWII German and G.I weapons and equipment. The reenactment is part of the Battle of the Bulge Exhibit that has been at Fort Harrison since mid-December 2010. The Tactical will be held outside regardless of the weather, just as the real battle was fought 67 years ago.

The Battle of the Bulge started on Dec. 16, 1944. The German army launched a massive counter-offensive through Belgium at the center of the American lines in mid-winter, catching most of the United States commanders off-guard and a lot of the ground troops ill-prepared for winter combat. Many American officers had considered the German army defeated and were preparing for the war to end by Christmas, 1944.

The participants are unpaid hobbyists who have joined reenacting organizations to get first-hand knowledge of what our WWII veterans experienced in the field. The re-enactors dress in authentic and/or reproduction uniforms that they have researched and acquired. They use WWII era equipment and weapons to drill, exercise and simulate combat situations.

There is no cost to attend the program, but the normal \$5/in-state or \$7/out-of-state vehicle gate fee applies. Fort Harrison State Park is located at the corner of 59<sup>th</sup> and Post Rd in Lawrence, Indiana. For more information, please contact the visitor's center at 317-591-0122.

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**Media Contact:** Jeff Cummings, Fort Harrison State Park, 317-591-0122.