



Harmonie Happenings

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Summer, 2011

Celebrate the summer!

Now is the time to smear on the sun block, drink lots of water and feel alive! After the frigid winter, and spring floods I know you are ready. There are plenty of things to do here at Harmonie that will keep you entertained for an hour or all day long. Obviously there's that crystal blue water calling your name. Nothing like a dip in the pool to cool and refresh. Open daily 11am – 6 pm. \$2/person

Maybe you prefer the shady side of things. Our trails are open 24/7 so get out early and ring in the morning with some of our avian friends, or go out after dark and enjoy nature's nightlife! Keep an eye out for shooting stars any night and especially around August 11-13th, the Perseids meteor shower. Don your favorite bug spray and spread a blanket on the ground. Pick up a star chart at the NC.

► **Try it!** Make a Bike Tube to hold your treasures! Paint, or cover with contact paper a Pringles tube. Securely velcro with long strips around your handle bars. Now you can stash a snack, a drink or a treasure map! No critters, please.

Have you checked out our new horseshoe pits? For now bring your own shoes and head to the campground gatehouse for a round or two! Thanks to special volunteer, Max butler!

Getting Buggy!



Along with summer come insects and millions of them. Bats, frogs, birds, fish and more do their part, but it's always nice to have your choice of insect repellent on hand. An issue of *Backpacker* magazine did some studying on mosquitoes and what repellents work best. Here are some interesting finds, listed in the order from most to least effective.

DEET- this ingredient seems to still hold the top spot. Higher concentrations only yielded longer effectiveness, not more protection.

Oil of lemon eucalyptus- (40%) is nontoxic, smells great and works well.

Avon Bug Guard (IR3535)- safe on children and works surprisingly well, also comes in sunscreen formula for daytime.

Picaridin (10%) found in Cutter Advanced Outdoorsmen effective deet alternative without greasy feel or strong odor.

Citronella(10%), Geraniol (20%) Save it for the candles, it doesn't protect very long (<30 mins) Other products such as bracelets and patches are more of a fashion statement, you'll smell great while being chewed on!

There's more to bug bites that you think. Some people are more attractive to bugs than others. DO keep clean. Body odor, sweat and general stinkiness attract mosquitoes. DO stay in the open and avoid shady, wet, wooded areas at dawn and dusk. DO hike with a breeze, skeeters can't fly in winds over 2mph. DON'T use perfume or flowery smelling products when outdoors. DON'T rely on garlic, onions or vitamins to discourage bites, they aren't proven. Also, your body chemistry and your oxygen and carbon dioxide emissions can't be changed; you may just be a sweet treat to the hungry little dears for life.

Please read and follow all label instructions.

► **Did you know?** Only female mosquitoes require a blood meal and therefore bite. Females are vectors of many diseases across the globe.

2011 Concert Series

May 29	7 pm	Bridges
June 11	4:30pm	Bluegrass Creek Old Tyme Music Society
July 2	7 pm	Johnny Nevada & the Rockets
August 20	4:30 pm	Bluegrass Creek
Sept. 10	7 pm	Johnny Nevada & the Rockets

Performances will be at the Campground Amphitheater.

Upcoming Special Events

June 4/5 Free Fishing Weekend in IN
July 1-3 Trailside Treasure Tromp
Aug. 27 American Red Cross Triathlon,
Sept. 17 Volksmarch (stan-linda.n@juno.com)
Sept. 23/24 Wild Turkey Weekend
October 22 Humane Society Dog Walk
(Call Posey county office)
October 14-16 Harmonie Harvest
Weekend
October 15 Craft Fair at the pool area
Dutch Oven Cookoff
October 28-30 Haunted Harmonie
Weekend

Questions? Please call park office at
(812) 682-4821 daily.

Want to camp in our shady campground or stay in a comfy family cabin? You may reserve both at: www.camp.in.gov or call 1-866-622-6746 and follow instructions. Please have a few campsites in mind when calling. Cabin guests: You need to bring your own linens, table service, towels, cookware and utensils, only limited pots and pans are available. Outdoor charcoal grills are available. Central heat and air and a beautiful back porch makes these super comfy and affordable. Most sleep 8 people. Please call the office for more info.



Shoot some hoops this summer!

If you like basketball, you're in luck! Our volunteer Max has also installed a goal for your enjoyment. Bring your own ball and friends and play some 3 on 3, horse, or around the world! Find it by the Nature Center.

We are working on family movies to be shown in the campground. We'll keep you posted.



Nature Center News:

All is well in our little corner of planet Harmonie. It's always worth a visit.

With a new pond addition donated by Fred Hirsch, the backyard is changing. We are seeing many hummingbirds already and a few gray squirrels are entertaining us daily. Our mother raccoon has already paid us a few visits, and the butterfly weed is in full bloom!

Fred has also used his skills to make styling snake condos for our summer residents. It's awesome and so very convenient!

We will be getting new honeybees soon. Last years' made it to February, but the queen never started laying eggs again. The hive is all cleaned out and ready to go again.

Happy 10th Anniversary to our Alligator Snapping Turtle. She loves eating fish, grapes and basking in the heat lamp. Come say hello and wish her well.

Also, a new taxidermy mount has also been put up. See if you can come and find it!

➡ **Did you know?** A worker honey bee only lives 35-45 days? A queen up to 5 years.

Notice nature, it never disappoints!

New Nature Center Hours:

Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat 9am - 4:30 pm

Open Tuesdays this summer!



Edmonds Cemetery

Did you know there is a pioneer cemetery here in the park near the old horse trail? Boy Scout Nathan Wiley and his family and troop have helped with this Eagle Project. They cleared a trail, cleaned up the brush, cleaned the stones and set them in concrete and put up a beautiful wooden fence. Look for signs coming soon, for now, ask the park staff for directions. Research is still in progress...