



ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS OF INDIANA CONSERVATION OFFICERS

(04/2026)

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Law Enforcement



402 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Telephone: (317) 232-4200
Website: on.IN.gov/dnrlaw



- Respond to calls for service, at any hour, in emergency and non-emergency situations, by motor vehicle, on foot, by boat, ATV or snowmobile, in congested and non-congested areas.
- Patrol by motor vehicle, on foot, by boat, ATV or snowmobile to deter crime, apprehend violators and assist other officers.
- Walk, stand, operate and or ride in motor vehicles and boats, operate ATVs and or snowmobiles for extended periods of time, exposed to various weather elements (including rain, snow, wind, heat, and cold) at any hour over various terrains.
- Stop and approach vehicles on rural roads, highways, trails and off-road situations.
- Observe, respond to and enforce violations of Indiana laws, rules and regulations.
- Prepare notes, reports and other documents using appropriate style and grammar to provide accurate and complete descriptions of incidents and events.
- Carry out detailed written and oral instructions.
- Recognize unusual or threatening conditions and take appropriate action.
- Define problems, collect data, establish facts, and draw valid conclusions.
- Clearly, concisely and professionally testify in court and legal proceedings.
- Conduct investigations by gathering evidence, facts and statements on hunting, boating, auto, snowmobile and ATV accidents, drownings, criminal and environmental incidents.
- Administer basic first aid to stabilize an individual's condition until more qualified medical assistance arrives.
- Interview and interrogate individuals to obtain information, statements, admissions or confessions.
- Secure and manage crime scenes to preserve evidence.
- Work in water environments, with or without life saving devices that may require swimming to save self or others.
- Make arrests by command presence, verbal directions and, as needed, using necessary force including pressure points, control holds, impact weapons and or handcuffs to control suspects.
- Load, unload, aim and fire firearms (including semi-automatic handguns, semi-automatic rifles and pump action shotguns) from a variety of positions in various levels of light or darkness and in various types of weather for training, self defense or the protection of others in accordance with established procedures.
- Pursue fleeing suspects on foot, which may include quick exit from patrol vehicle and include running, climbing, pulling, jumping, crawling or using physical force to gain entry through barriers to make arrests.
- Search people, vehicles, buildings or outdoor sites for evidence or items that may pose a threat to the officer or others.
- Communicate effectively and coherently, during routine and/or stressful situations, with people, other agencies, officers and radio dispatchers either in person, by radio or telephone.
- Process prisoners by properly fingerprinting, photographing, checking records and accurately preparing all charging documents to properly identify a defendant prior to release or incarceration.
- Exercise independent judgment and discretion.
- Read, understand, interpret, and apply laws, rules or regulations to specific situations.
- Prepare and deliver presentations to various groups of various age levels.
- Resolve complaints.
- Move heavy objects of 50 pounds or more, such as deer carcasses, boats, trailers, and equipment.
- Work alone for extended periods of time confronting multiple suspects and individuals without assistance close at hand.
- Must be willing to work a rotating schedule including day shifts, night shifts, weekends and holidays.
All shifts are scheduled 8.5 hours in duration.