

# Please Join Us

Jackson-Washington State Forest/Starve Hollow State Recreation Area will host their annual Open House at the Forest Education Center at Starve Hollow SRA on Wednesday, February 26 from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Information will be provided regarding recreation, forest resource management and major projects that are planned on the property for the upcoming 1-2 years. Property personnel will be available to answer questions and discuss management activities.

In addition to its regular open house events this year, the division is also seeking public input for the 2020-2024 Strategic Direction. The Strategic Direction guides all aspects of the division for the next five years. Topics covered under the direction include Private Forestlands Management, the Fire Program, Community and Urban Forestry, Conservation Education, Nursery, and State Forest Properties. Input received at the Open Houses will be used during the development of the Strategic Direction to help formulate guidance in each of the division's program areas.

A copy of the 2015-2019 Strategic Direction is available on the division's website at <https://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry>. Public comments may also be submitted through the division's website at <https://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/8122.htm>.



## EVENTS

- February 26th:**  
Open House
- April 18th:**  
Easter Egg Hunt
- April 25th:**  
Earth Day
- May 23rd:**  
Memorial Day
- June 6th:**  
Family Fishing Day
- July 4th:**  
Independence Day

More information by visiting: [http://www.in.gov/activecalendar\\_dnr/eventinformation.aspx](http://www.in.gov/activecalendar_dnr/eventinformation.aspx)



Native American artifacts on display for Archaeology Day.

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# THE Beach-Nut

Winter 2020

## Volunteer Opportunities

On May 14, 2019, United Way held its Jackson County United Way Day of Caring. This annual event brings local groups, businesses, and people together with the common goal of making Jackson County a better place.

Over the past several years Jackson-Washington State Forest and Starve Hollow State Recreation Area have had the privilege of serving as a host site for this event. Host sites provide projects, and United Way provides the volunteers for various companies and businesses.

In 2019, a total of 58 volunteers spent an entire day assisting property staff with projects. These volunteers were adults from Cummins and youth from Redding Elementary School.

Projects included the installation of several new property signs and bike racks, refreshing playground mulch at various playgrounds, staining Rent-A-Camp Cabins, and planting flowers.



The above photos show volunteers and property staff installing a new sign at one of two day-use trailheads located on Jackson-Washington State Forest. The bottom photo above reveals the finished product.

As part of state agency collaboration, the Division of Forestry coordinates with a sign shop within the Department of Correction for routing and painting of property signs. The sign above is an example of the signs produced by the Department of Correction.

The photo to the left shows volunteers finalizing construction of two bike racks. These racks were placed at the new accessible playground across from the beach and Forest Education Center.



Starve Hollow

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### PROPERTY STAFF

- Jeff Settle, Property Manager
- Cassie Stilwell, Assistant Property Manager
- Brenda Cooper, Office Manager
- Taylor Ardisson, Forester
- Kegan Todt, Forester
- Jeremy Steinkamp, Maintenance Foreman
- Vacant, Maintenance Repair
- Leland Huff, Maintenance Repair



## Volunteer

### Opportunities

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Volunteer opportunities are nearly endless. It can be for a day, week, month, or year-round.

If you are interested in being a volunteer for either of these properties, contact property management for details at (812) 358-3464.



Pictured above are property personnel and Friends of Forestry recipients, Bruce and Evelyn Miller, volunteer campground hosts for Starve Hollow.

## Property Projects

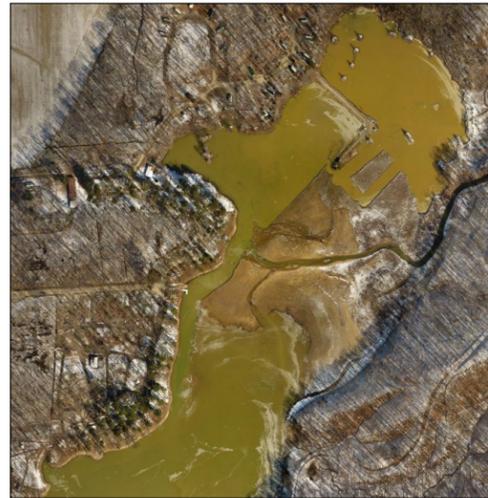
In March 2019 Starve Hollow completed a multi-year lake dredge project.

The project was funded by The Division of Fish & Wildlife through Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) funds.

The overall goal was to reduce aquatic plant growth by removing the existing nutrient source, as well as increasing the aesthetics and recreational accessibility of public areas within the lake.

All sediment removal was performed by DNR Division of Forestry equipment operators and property staff using DNR owned equipment, some of which the Division of Forestry acquired through federal surplus.

Approximately 22 acres of lake area benefited from this project. A total of 40 lakefront campsites and 9 lakefront Rent-A-Camp Cabins were improved or created, allowing campers the option to moor their watercraft directly at their campsite during overnight stays.



## Resource Management

### Forest Inventory

Since January 2019 property foresters have completed forest inventory field work and draft management guides for eight tracts covering 370 acres. Field data assists foresters with the development of management guides, which outline the type of management proposed for a given tract. Guides may indicate a tract is ready for a timber harvest or other management options such as timber stand improvement (TSI), invasive species work or a combination of these options. Management guides undergo a review process, including a public comment period, before the guide is considered final.

### Summer Work

While leaves are on, property foresters are busy spraying invasive plants, finishing forest inventories, and administering active timber sales. In particular, work consisted of spraying along the main road to the Jackson-Washington office in order to minimize species such as multiflora rose, Japanese stilt grass, and other invasive species.

### Completed Timber Harvest

Since June 2019, four timber sales have been completed: Compartment 9 Tract 24, as well as three of the four sales listed below that were sold in 2019. These sales used silviculture practices of single tree selection and group selection to remove poor form, poor health, and overmature trees to help the younger, more vigorous growing residual stock for the future of the forest.

### Timber Harvests Sold

On June 13, 2019 the property successfully sold four timber sales. Two sales in Washington County, Compartment 12, Tracts 1 & 4 and Compartment 7, Tract 1; and two sales in Jackson County, Compartment 3, Tract 15 and Compartment 5, Tract 14. These sales generated \$252,608.00 in revenue. The DNR returns 15% of the net proceeds from the sale of timber to the county from which the timber was sold. House Enrolled Act 1424 allows for up to 50% of these funds to be distributed to rural and volunteer fire departments within the county with approved cooperative agreements with DNR.

### Timber Harvests Being Marked

Currently, foresters are marking Compartment 8, Tracts 4 & 5 and are scheduled to mark Compartment 1, Tracts 10 & 12; Compartment 6, Tracts 4 & 7; Compartment 9, Tract 10; and Compartment 10, Tracts 38 & 39 throughout 2020.



Notice the brown spots, those are treated invasive species.



### Active Timber Sales

Timber sales within Compartment 4, Tracts 7, 8, & 9; Compartment 8, Tracts 13 & 20; Compartment 8, Tract 8; Compartment 7, Tract 1; and Compartment 2, Tract 1 are currently active. Harvests during the winter months rely on either frozen ground conditions or favorable weather patterns to reduce disturbance to the forest floor.

## JWSF + SHSRA UPDATES

### Jackson-Washington State Forest

#### Trail Closures

Currently, the Orchard Ridge Loop (Green) and part of the Cedar Tree Loop (Blue) multiple-use trails on Skyline Drive are closed because of an active timber sale. Be alert that the Turkey Hollow Loop (Orange) is only accessible through the Cedar Tree Loop Trail.

#### Tract Closures

Currently, Compartment 4, Tracts 7, 8, & 9; Compartment 8, Tracts 13, 20, & 8; Compartment 7, Tract 1; and Compartment 2, Tract 1 are closed to public. Stay alert for tract closure maps that are posted around the tracts' vicinity.

### Starve Hollow State Recreation Area

#### Trail Conditions

Low land Trail (Red) is the only trail with a reroute at this time. A new bridge is undergoing construction by DNR staff and Department of Correction offenders to replace the existing bridge that collapsed in 2018. As you can see in the photo below, the new bridge is nearly complete and is anticipated to be put in place in the upcoming months, or as ground conditions allow. This bridge will reconnect the campground to the trail system east of the lake, allowing trail users access to nearly 11 miles of hiking trails varying from lowland valleys to steep ridgetops and providing phenomenal views of the lake and opportunities to view changes in different types of forest habitat.



## Indiana DNR Land Portfolio

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources manages over 520,000 acres across the State. The properties are managed by a variety of divisions (Fish and Wildlife, Nature Preserves, Outdoor Recreation, State Parks, and Forestry) and each division manages based upon their own missions and objectives. The State Forests, which encompasses less than a third of the DNR land base, have been actively managed for over 100 years under a "multi-use, multi-benefit" principle that aims to provide timber production, wildlife habitat, recreation, watershed protection, and the conservation of cultural and natural resources. Today's forests are the direct result of management practices that have been in place since the first state forest property was acquired in 1903. Unique from other DNR divisions, this multi-use system includes sustainable management and growth of 'green certified' timber. Based upon science, this conservation management practice provides combined benefits offered by no other public lands in Indiana. State Forests are the only properties where long term forest and timber management practices occur. Lands located within the Fish and Wildlife Areas, Nature Preserves, Recreation Areas and State Parks do not participate in, or are 'set aside' from, commercial timber production management.

## More Than 50% of DNR Lands Are Set Aside From Commercial Timber Production

DNR Property	Acres
Fish and Wildlife	148,765
Forestry	158,949
Nature Preserves	21,781
Outdoor Recreation	5,322
State Parks	75,790
Federally Owned Land Managed by INDNR	110,633
<b>Total</b>	<b>521,240</b>

**'Twas the night before  
Christmas...in July at  
Starve Hollow!**



Aside from natural resource education, Starve Hollow hosts numerous special events throughout the season such as Christmas in July, as seen in the above pictures. Activities included a campsite decorating contest, gingerbread houses, stories with Santa, and pictures on his sleigh.

# Forest Education Center

Starve Hollow's Forest Education Center is open weekends from May-November. Here you can find informational displays about the property and learn about Indiana's forest resources. Educational programs and activities are offered to accommodate all ages and are included with the \$7 entry fee, unless noted otherwise.

Don't forget to ask about the Explore program and see what is required to purchase a Starve Hollow pin.

In addition to the regularly scheduled programs and special events at the Forest Education Center, classroom visits, guided hikes, and specific program requests can be provided year-round by contacting the office at (812) 358-3464.



Smokey Bear preparing for our annual 4th of July Parade



In the top left picture you can see the removal of the old Cedar Playground. Due to its age and wear of the wood, it was replaced with a new ADA playground. In addition to increasing accessibility to the location of the existing playground, a new ADA walkway was poured providing better access to the swimming beach, beach house, and beach playground. Parking spaces and signs were also improved to meet ADA regulations.



# Recreational Opportunities

## Camping

If you're looking for a primitive camping experience, check out Jackson-Washington State Forest. Sites are dispersed throughout the property and along the lake. Campers pay for sites using self-registration envelopes provided at the gate. Primitive backpack camping is also available on the Knobstone Trail.

For those seeking a more modern stay with all of the amenities, Starve Hollow offers electric lakefront and non-lakefront sites, full hook-up sites, and 18 Rent-A-Camp Cabins, nine of which are also lakefront. Examples of the campsites and one of the cabins can be seen below. Reservations can be made by calling 1-866-622-6746 or online at <https://indianastateparks.reserveamerica.com/>.



## Picnicking

Pictured to the right is the East shelter at Starve Hollow. There are six shelter houses available for reservations between the two properties. When not reserved, all shelters are first-come, first-served. Contact the office at Starve Hollow for more information on shelter house reservations. Various picnicking locations are also available on a first-come, first-served basis.



## Trails

There are numerous hiking trails available varying from easy to rugged conditions. Mountain bikes and horses are allowed only on designated trails and are required to have valid annual or daily tags that can be purchased at Starve Hollow.

## Boating/Kayaking/Canoeing

Boat motors are limited to electric trolling motors only. Motorized or non-motorized lake permits are required. Kayaks, flat bottom boats, and canoes can be rented at Starve Hollow.

## Hunting/Fishing

Valid Indiana hunting and fishing licenses are required and all Indiana hunting and fishing regulations must be adhered to. Check maps for designated safety zones where hunting is not permitted.

## Swimming

Swimming is permitted on Starve Hollow's beach from Memorial Day to Labor Day, sunrise to sunset. Check posted signs for any alerts due to algae.



## SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

Are you looking for a job? Each spring Jackson-Washington and Starve Hollow hire seasonal staff to work between April—November. These positions range from gate and concessions operations to cleaning and mowing. If interested contact the Starve Hollow Office in late February or early March 2020 for details.