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## What's New at Indiana State Parks in 2019

Below is a snapshot of work we have done to prepare for your visits in 2019. There are many other small projects not listed that help manage and interpret the facilities, natural and cultural resources, and history of Indiana's state park system.

Indiana's 32 state park properties have more than 2,000 buildings, 700 miles of trails, 636 hotel/lodge rooms, 17 marinas, 75 launching ramps, 17 swimming pools, 15 beaches, 7,701 campsites, more than 200 shelters, 160 or so playgrounds, and 150 cabins.

We continue to focus attention on campground and cabin improvements, filling full-time and seasonal staff positions, and continuing a tradition of excellence in interpretation. This year we are introducing a new hospitality initiative called Service State Park Style.

We are also implementing our five-year strategic plan. It focuses on caring for facilities, trails, and infrastructure, improving efforts to manage our natural resources and remove invasive species, investing in technology, looking at ways to be more environmentally responsible, and providing appropriate training and support for park staff. Learn about our mission, vision and values at [stateparks.IN.gov/6169.htm](http://stateparks.IN.gov/6169.htm).

We have wonderful partners and volunteers. They contribute thousands of dollars and labor hours for projects and events. Creative and dedicated employees stretch the dollars that you pay when you enter the gate, rent a campsite, launch a boat or attend a special workshop or program.

Our goal is to provide you with a great experience during every visit—to help you and your family and friends make memories naturally. Your Indiana State Parks are a great value, both in cost and as great places to get healthy, relax, and support local communities with tourism and jobs.

Wrap yourself in thousands of acres of trees, prairies, wetlands and wildlife, and slow down for a few hours or days. Get outside with family and friends. You'll be glad you did. See you on the trails in 2019!

### Brookville Lake and Whitewater Memorial State Park

- A new comfort station is being installed in Loop B of the Whitewater Memorial State Park Campground.
- A new more centrally located dump station is open at Whitewater Memorial State Park Campground.
- There is a new ADA-compliant playground on the beach at Whitewater Memorial State Park.
- There is a new ADA-compliant playground in the campground at Mounds SRA at Brookville Lake.
- Doors and frames are being replaced on comfort stations in Mounds SRA Campground at Brookville Lake.
- Faucets, sinks, and toilets are being replaced in comfort stations in Mounds SRA Campground.
- Two more cabins at Whitewater Memorial State Park are pet friendly this year.

### Brown County State Park

- The Nature Center has a new customer service window that allows guests and staff to interact more freely.
- New wooden benches made from wood from dead park ash trees are in Nature Center bird watching area.
- Raccoon Ridge in the modern campground has a new dump station.
- New wooden light poles and more-efficient LED security lights are installed in the campgrounds.
- Pawpaw trees, which were spreading quickly and adversely affecting the rare Yellowwood Tree, were removed from Ogle Hollow Nature Preserve to allow other plant species to grow.

- The Ramp Creek Covered Bridge over Salt Creek at the park's north entrance is getting new siding, paint, shingles and flooring, and stone is being placed to protect from erosion.
- Trash bins constructed from recycled plastic lumber are in place near Abe Martin Lodge's Rustic Cabins.
- Concrete at Abe Martin Lodge's front entrance and back porch is repaired.
- Abe Martin Lodge's kitchen has been renovated and has new equipment to serve guests more effectively.

#### **Cagles Mill Lake (Lieber SRA and Cataract Falls SRA)**

- Lieber SRA's campsites have new gravel/edging work and water fountains are improved.
- Hazardous trees have been removed from the campground.
- Marina docks have new winch towers and anchor points, with repairs to the marina building starting soon.
- Hazardous trees have been removed at Cataract Falls, and repairs to the shelter will begin soon.
- Cataract Falls has new trail signage, and a connector trail to the Upper Falls is being constructed.
- Public Wi-Fi is now installed in the Nature Center.
- Two campsites have improved accessibility.

#### **Cecil M. Harden Lake (Raccoon SRA.)**

- The Lakeview comfort station has new stalls, counters, sinks and toilets, bringing it into ADA compliance.
- All sites in the Songbird campground loop now have paved pads and a gravel living area.
- Several campsites were upgraded to meet ADA standards in Songbird and Whitetail campground loops.
- Eight acres of invasive honeysuckle were removed from the south half of Raccoon SRA.
- Thirty acres of invasive honeysuckle, autumn olive and multiflora rose were removed from Resource Management Units 3 and 5.
- Trail structures are being renovated on trails 1 and 5.
- A new stairway at the U.S. 36 fishing access site provides lake access for anglers, kayakers and canoers.

#### **Chain O'Lakes State Park**

- There is a new ADA-compliant playground in the beach picnic area.
- New, Old Town Twister, sit-on-top, single kayaks are now available at the boat rental.
- A new self-guided interpretive nature trail now starts at the Stanley one-room schoolhouse.
- The one-room schoolhouse has an expanded parking area.
- Campground comfort stations have new entry doors.
- Twenty-two shade trees were planted in the campground to replace dead ash trees.

#### **Charlestown State Park**

- There is a new ADA-compliant playground in the picnic area.
- The access road for Trail 1 and Cedar Grove Picnic area have new pavement.
- Lights in the campground are now energy-efficient LEDs.

#### **Clifty Falls State Park**

- The campground dump station has new water towers.
- The vista behind Clifty Inn has been reopened and provides a great view of the Ohio River and Madison.
- The waterfall vista on the south hill above the entrance road has been reopened.
- Campsite pads are widened and have new gravel.
- Park lighting has been shifted to more energy-efficient LEDs.
- A two-person resource management crew worked on removing invasives in 2018, and will do so in 2019 as well.
- Clifty Inn has a new chiller for air-conditioning and improvements to ensure hot water for guest rooms.

#### **Falls of the Ohio State Park**

- The new 12-minute orientation film now provides exciting introductions to the exhibits.
- The Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail was extended east from St. Louis to Pittsburgh, and Falls of the Ohio is located along the new portion of this route.

### **Fort Harrison State Park**

- There is a new foot bridge on Camp Creek Trail, built by the Friends of Fort Harrison group. This is one of several trail projects the group completed.
- Two new benches are in place at Delaware Playground thanks to the Friends of Fort Harrison group.
- The lower level of Fort Harrison Inn, including conference rooms, restrooms, hallways and the exercise room have been renovated.
- Historic rental home 507, which is near The Garrison Restaurant, and The Fort Golf Course is completely renovated and available to rent. Three adjacent homes along Wood Road are also under renovation.
- The Delaware Picnic Area restroom has new partitions. The Shafter restroom gets them this spring.

### **Hardy Lake**

- Comfort Station B and the Alpha Restroom have new roofs.
- Three campground comfort stations, the beach shower house, and the shelter house restroom have new interior and exterior doors. The Alpha Restroom has new exterior doors.
- Pollinator wildlife plots are in place at the Sunnyside Ramp and the beach shelter house.
- The Alpha Marina has new gas pumps and new boat slip lights.
- Eight bridges were updated on hiking trails.
- The office and beach shower house have new exterior LED lights.
- Park traffic signs have new wooden posts throughout the property.

### **Harmonie State Park**

- The Nature Center, and Comfort Stations 3 and 4 have new roofs.
- The campground dump station has new water towers.
- The interior of the pool house has been remodeled.
- New LED lights are installed throughout the park.

### **Lincoln State Park**

- Partitions, mirrors, benches, and floors are updated in the upper Comfort Station in the electric campground.
- New trees are growing in the campground, and 60 more will be added this spring.
- Stone is being added to trails.
- New single and double kayaks are available to rent, and two launching docks for kayaks are in place, courtesy of the Friends of Lincoln group.
- An ADA-compliant fishing pier is available on Lake Lincoln, thanks to the Friends of Lincoln group.

### **McCormick's Creek State Park**

- Four Class A campsites are now fully ADA compliant after renovation.
- Surface erosion, drainage and trail resurfacing were completed by the seasonal trail crew where needed.
- Invasive Bradford pears and other invasive species were removed near Canyon Inn, and volunteers removed honeysuckle and other invasive species in several other park locations.
- Campground showers now have user-based temperature controls, new floors and new hand dryers.
- The new Centennial Cabin, which opened last fall, is rentable for the 2019 season. It is fully ADA compliant with three bedrooms that sleep eight, a four-season porch, and a complete kitchen.

### **Mississinewa Lake**

- The Miami SRA Ramp has a new precast concrete vault toilet. A similar unit was installed in the campground.
- The beach house is under renovation and should reopen by Memorial Day weekend.
- A new archery range is open in Miami SRA.
- Walleye were added to Mississinewa Lake, and Yellow Perch were placed in Bostwick Pond in the Miami SRA.
- Five new courtesy docks are being installed at various locations around the lake this spring.

### **Monroe Lake**

- A new ADA-compliant playground is open in the Paynetown SRA campground.

- Two comfort stations in Paynetown SRA have new seamless floors.
- There are new partitions in modern restrooms in the Paynetown SRA campground.
- One of the parking areas at Paynetown SRA Boat Ramp now has pavement instead of chip-and-seal surface.
- The area between the Paynetown SRA beach, the Activity Center, and the marina is now paved.
- Fishing piers and courtesy docks are re-floated at Paynetown SRA and Cutright SRA, allowing better access.

### **Mounds State Park**

- The Mounds State Park pool house has a new roof.
- The modern restroom in the campground has a new roof.
- The visitor center wildlife observation area has a new hummingbird garden.
- There is a “new to us” diorama of the Mounds Complex in the Visitor Center, courtesy of the Indiana State Museum.

### **O’Bannon Wood State Park**

- Horseman’s Hideaway Campground has a new vault toilet.
- The Hickory Hollow Nature Center has a new Hellbender display and a new wagon storage shed.
- A new ADA-compliant playground is in place in Section C of the modern campground.
- New lighting will be installed in Wyandotte Cave in early summer.
- Campground comfort stations have new roofing and new fixtures.

### **Ouabache State Park**

- The Civilian Conservation Corps fire tower is restored and now open daily for climbing. The plaza area will be completed in late spring.
- Four new precast concrete vault toilets will be ready to use this summer: two in the campground and one each at the fire tower and the beach. Sidewalk access for the beach toilet will be completed this spring.
- LED fixtures are being installed in the south campground comfort station.
- The north campground comfort station has new sinks and fixtures.
- All sites in campground B have a fresh layer of gravel.

### **Patoka Lake**

- A new aquarium wall and displays are in place in the nature center.
- Campground comfort stations have new roofs and new energy-efficient hand dryers.
- The dumpster area in the campground has been renovated.
- A new Bald Eagle’s nest display is available to explore outside the nature center.
- Areas along the bike trail have been opened up, and brush and invasive species have been removed.

### **Pokagon State Park**

- A new, longer dock is being installed at Lake Lonidaw.
- The park and campground have new message boards.
- Campground 2’s comfort station has new men’s showers.
- New energy-efficient LED lighting is installed in the beach bathhouse.
- The cabins at the Potawatomi Inn are completely renovated with new bathrooms, flooring, cabinetry and siding.

### **Potato Creek State Park**

- There is a new ADA-compliant playground at Peppermint Hill Picnic Area.
- The nature center has new and updated exhibits.
- The general store has all new bicycles to rent for use on the park’s bike trail.
- A new osprey tower is installed near the springhouse on Trail 4.
- The information center has a new roof and new, large windows.
- Campground comfort stations have new sink and shower controls.

### **Prophetstown State Park**

- Dead and dying spruce trees and invasive species were removed near the campground road and more than 200 trees were planted, with 500 more to come.
- New ceiling covers are installed in the campground comfort stations.
- Structures at a recently purchased property near the aquatic center were removed. The area will be planted in prairie and native wildflowers, with the possibility of other recreational uses in the future.
- Honeysuckle and other invasive shrubs were treated for removal on 21 acres of woods near The Farm and the park gatehouse.
- Reed Canary Grass is being removed from 30 acres of floodplain. Seed native to the area will be planted in the fall of 2019 or the spring of 2020.
- Ten acres of prairie grass and wildflowers were planted near The Farm and the bike trail parking lot to create a shortgrass prairie area.

### **Salamonie Lake**

- A new four-boat-bay courtesy dock is now available for use at the Lost Bridge West SRA boat ramp.
- A nine-hole disc golf course is open for use in the Pear Grove picnic area.
- The wildlife management pond in Lost Bridge West SRA has a new ADA-compliant fishing pier.
- Windrow cover strips for small game and nesting birds will improve hunting opportunities in resource management units.
- Comfort Station 1 is getting new ADA-compliant shower fixtures, doors, and new partitions.
- Comfort Station 3 has new LED lighting with motion sensors.

### **Shakamak State Park**

- Public Wi-Fi is now available at the group camp, aquatic center, log cabin and camp store.
- There is a new ADA-compliant playground near the tennis courts.
- Lake Shakamak has a newly refurbished dock.
- New Wood Duck boxes are installed in several locations around the property.
- Campsites in the modern campground have new stone.

### **Spring Mill State Park and Inn**

- Seven hundred or more trout were added to Spring Mill Lake in March.
- The Red Cross Cabin, which is available for rent, now has heat and air conditioning.
- There is a new custom hand-built Pioneer Village replica in Spring Mill Inn's upper lobby.
- Spring Mill Inn's overnight rooms and exit doors now have electronic locks installed.
- The inn's Elm Room and the kitchen dock have ceiling and roof improvements.
- LED Lights are now installed in hallways, the kitchen, and the Lakeview Banquet Room at the inn.

### **Summit Lake State Park**

- All comfort stations in the campground were reroofed, and have new showers, partitions and toilets, new humidistats and iron removal systems.
- Two new trails are available for hiking, and have been added to the park map.
- A new campfire ring and sidewalk are being installed for interpretive programs and campfires.

### **Tippecanoe River State Park**

- The historic Tipicon Recreation Hall has a new roof, and stone restoration work on the fireplace is complete.
- Exterior restoration on the River Shelter/Nature Center and the River Comfort Station is complete.
- The stone wall behind the Nature Center was restored by the Friends of Tippecanoe River.
- Trail 1 leading up to the Fire Tower on the south side is resurfaced.
- Comfort Station A has new shower fixtures and ceramic tile.

### **Turkey Run State Park and Inn/Shades State Park**

- Twelve guest rooms at the inn are completely renovated with new bathrooms, furniture, bedding, microwaves and refrigerators.
- The Turkey Run Inn Dining Room has a new buffet, and new chairs and tables.
- The banquet rooms have new carpet and paint.
- Comfort stations have new LED lights with motion sensors, and the west one has new hand dryers and mirrors.
- Rocky Hollow Trail renovations and the installation of a new boardwalk are underway.
- Turkey Run and Shades each have a new ADA-compliant playground.
- Accessible campsites at Turkey Run were improved.
- The outdoor pool at Turkey Run has 100 new chaise lounges.
- A digital picture frame in the nature center allows guests to see some of the cool trail camera photos that have been taken in the park.

#### **Versailles State Park**

- Trail erosion projects and work to remove standing water have been completed.
- Campsite edges have been tapered and widened to make it easier to back in campers.
- A new and improved camp store staffed by the property will be opening in May.

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