

Visit us at stateparks.IN.gov

What's New at Indiana State Parks in 2020

Below is a snapshot of work we have done to prepare for your visits this year. We have also done many other projects that will help manage and interpret the facilities, natural and cultural resources, and history of Indiana's state park system.



Memories made naturally.

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, maintaining historic facilities and trails, and following our tradition of excellence in interpretation. This year, in conjunction with our Service State Park Style initiative, you will see a new comment card available in brochure racks to tell us what you think about our services and facilities.

We are in the second year of our 5-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 more at stateparks.IN.gov/6169.htm.

We have wonderful partners and volunteers. They contribute thousands of dollars and labor hours for projects and events. And our creative and dedicated employees work diligently to stretch what you receive for the dollars 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.

Your visits this year may look a little different from those in the past. The availability of some facilities and services may be limited. Regardless of what is open, we ask that you recreate close to home, observe social distancing and group gathering guidance as provided by our State's leadership, and follow any instructions we provide on-site. If you don't feel well, plan to come on a different day. The most updated information about DNR properties will be posted at on.IN.gov/dnrcovid19.

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 soon!

Brown County

- The historic covered bridge at the north entrance was completely restored with new floor boards, new roofing, abutment repair, and exterior painting.
- The wooden deck and the entrance door were replaced at the Country Store (camp store.)
- A major remodeling project is underway in the 54-room Annex at Abe Martin Lodge, to include new flooring, bathroom fixtures, walls, windows, lighting and HVAC improvements.
- Two new camper water fill stations are being added just inside the campground entrance.
- Electrical service to 73 campsites was upgraded to 50-amp capacity.
- Asphalt paving has replaced stone on 27 campsites in the Buffalo Ridge campground.
- Eleven campsites in the Taylor Ridge campground are being upgraded to meet accessibility standards.
- Concrete, accessible parking spaces are being installed for 8 vault toilets in the Horseman's campground.
- Two large road cuts in the Horseman's Campground were paved after culvert replacement.

Brookville Lake

- Courtesy docks were rehabbed at Hanna Creek and Garr Hill, and those at Quakertown, Silver Creek and Dunlapville will be ready by July 1.
- The camp store was remodeled.
- Upgrades were made to campground comfort station fixtures.
- Fish attractors were added near fishing piers.
- The bird viewing platform at Dunlapville was upgraded.

Cagles Mill Lake (Lieber & Cataract Falls SRAs)

- Several campground comfort stations were updated.
- New water fill stations and dump stations were installed at the campground.
- A new pool liner was installed in the aquatic center.
- Several buildings were reroofed.
- Floats and railings were replaced on the fishing pier.

Cecil M. Harden Lake (Raccoon SRA)

- The Lakeview campground comfort station was renovated.
- New fencing was installed at the campground entrance and along the ridge in Lakeview campground.
- New energy efficient LED interior lighting and new exterior ground lights were installed at all comfort stations.
- The courtesy dock for Mansfield ramp was renovated, and lighting has been updated on the boat rental dock.
- Repairs were completed to the front and side stairs at Mansfield Mill.
- Additional playgrounds were upgraded to accessibility-approved rubber mulch.
- New parking curbs are being installed to replace those that have deteriorated.
- The campsites pads in Raccoon Run campground are being repaved.

Chain O'Lakes State Park

- Twenty new double kayaks were added at the boat rental.
- A new "Little Library" with books was installed at the camp store.
- Parking pads were lengthened and/or new limestone added on many campsites.
- The campground entrance boundary fencing was replaced.
- The park has a new phone system and better connectivity, which means faster service for guests at gates.
- Two new child-size tables were placed in the Stanley Schoolhouse, and a bench was installed at the campground playground. All were made with funding from recycled and donated caps/lids.

Charlestown State Park

- New energy-efficient LED lights were installed at both the entrance and campground gates.
- All hiking trails have new directional markers.
- All parking lots were striped.
- Accessible signage was installed in parking lots and at trailheads.
- New mulch was installed on playgrounds.
- The fire ring replacement was completed in the modern campground.
- New group grills were installed at shelters.

Clifty Falls State Park

- New trail staircases, boardwalks, platforms and/or overlook decks were installed near waterfalls. The Lilly Memorial viewing area was restored with new pavers.
- Big Clifty Falls, Lookout Point, and the Lilly Memorial have newly cleared vistas and great views.
- Comfort stations 1 & 2 have new paint, mirrors, soap dispensers, shower curtains, stalls and fixtures, waterless urinals and sink faucets. Isolation valves will reduce comfort station closures during repairs, and new anti-siphon water bibs add more spots for filling water tanks.

- The pool house floor was refinished and painted, new base molding installed, and new shower curtains and benches added.
- The nature center has a new roof and a new pollinator habitat area.
- A new water line and meter were installed on the north end of the park.
- The Clifty Inn pool was repainted, caulked, and sealed, and new heaters and a filtration system have been installed for the pool and spa.
- All Clifty Inn parking lot lights were replaced with new light poles and energy-efficient LED lights, and all parking lot lines have been repainted.
- Clifty Inn's family area ceilings and fireplace were repainted, and the floors were refinished.

Falls of the Ohio State Park

- A new children's music garden, sponsored by PNC Bank, was installed.
- All exterior lights were replaced with new energy-efficient LED lights.
- The interpretive center classroom has new state-of-the-art distance learning equipment.
- A new volunteer recognition exhibit was installed.
- The gazebo has been repaired and restored at the interpretive center.
- New interpretive displays are installed at the George Rogers Clark Cabin.

Fort Harrison State Park

- All four of the Officers Homes were completely renovated and are available to rent.
- The men's locker room at The Garrison and Shafter picnic area restrooms have new partitions.
- The Camp Glenn rentable recreation buildings have new kitchen appliances.
- Agility equipment and a vault toilet were installed at the dog park.

Hardy Lake

- The Shale Bluff campground side roads and the dam parking lot road were repaved.
- Shale Bluff campground comfort station A has a new roof; stations A and B both have new siding.
- The beach parking lot was repaved.
- Some trail system bridges were repaired, and work continues on others.
- New energy-efficient exterior lighting was installed in all facilities.
- Pollinator habitat has been expanded, with added plantings on the hillside above the beach.

Harmonie State Park

- The family cabins were stained and a bug repellent has been added.
- New mulch was added to the campground playgrounds.
- Approximately 6 miles of park roads and the pool parking lot were repaved.
- Facilities were painted at the pool and the campground gate house.
- The park has a new T-shirt for sale in the park office gift shop.

Indiana Dunes State Park

- A water bottle filling station was installed at the nature center.
- New playgrounds were installed in picnic areas and in the campground west loop.
- Ten acres of oak-savanna were re-established/restored around the nature center.
- Six new wood duck boxes were installed in the Dunes marsh.
- The J.D. Marshall ship's bell was reconstructed from salvaged artifacts by IU researchers, and it will be displayed in the nature center.

Lincoln State Park

- The campground was made safer (and sunnier) with the removal of many dying pine trees and hardwoods.
- The lower campground comfort station was rehabbed.
- The family cabins have new siding.
- New accessible and “Ducky” paddleboats are available for rent.

McCormick’s Creek State Park

- The fire tower was restored, and the cab will be open to the public. A new wildflower pollinator habitat was installed in the clearing around the fire tower.
- A resource technician continues working to eliminate invasive species throughout the property.
- The trail at the falls parking area is undergoing restoration to handle the heavy traffic it receives.
- Courts in front of the recreation center will have cracks repaired and a new coating applied.
- The pool was fitted with a new filtration system.
- Construction is beginning on a new large cabin that is similar to the Centennial Cabin.
- Tennis courts are being repaired and recoated, and pickle ball will be added.

Mississinewa Lake

- A new camp store was completed and is ready to open at the beach pavilion.
- A public canoe rental will operate at the beach.
- Bostwick Pond in Miami SRA was stocked with perch.
- A new fishing pier is being installed at the campground mooring area.
- Shepocanah Trail will have a 1/2 mile added to it this summer.

Monroe Lake

- New vault toilets were installed at Pinegrove, Allen’s Creek, and Salt Creek SRA boat ramps.
- New partitions were installed in several comfort stations.
- New concrete pads and rip rap were installed near the marina.

Mounds State Park

- The campground comfort station has new floors, shower heads, hand dryers, and shower valves.
- A variety of native tree species were planted in the campground to replace dead ash trees.
- The park entrance road and pool access were repaved.
- Wooden barrier posts along the park entrance road were removed, giving the park a more natural feel.
- Trails in low, wet spots are being graveled to stabilize them.

O’Bannon Woods State Park

- New vault toilets were installed at Shelter House #2, Horseman’s Hideaway and Wyandotte Cave.
- Playgrounds in the modern campground have new playground mulch and benches.
- New bike racks were installed at the aquatic center and Hickory Hollow Nature Center.
- A new storage building for hay/supplies was installed at Hickory Hollow Nature Center.
- New fire rings and grills were installed in the modern campground.
- A trailhead parking lot was constructed for bikers and hikers at the Sassafras shelter.

Ouabache State Park

- A new accessible ramp was installed at the CCC Lodge recreation building.
- Several culverts were replaced on the park main road and near the campground entrance.
- New drinking fountains were installed in the campground.
- An air station for bicycle tires was added to the firewood shed in the campground.

Patoka Lake

- Sand was added to allow visitors to swim when lake levels are higher than normal.
- The recreation field was improved.
- The campground has new comfort station doors and pole lights.
- Cover was placed along 1 mile of shoreline, and 150 fishing structures were installed to provide enhanced fishing opportunities in the lake.
- Several fields have improved wildlife openings.
- New signage was installed along trails, and some trails have been widened.

Pokagon State Park/Trine SRA

- New tiled shower walls, shower nozzles, grab bars, towel hangers, and benches were installed in Campground 2's women's shower stalls.
- New cedar siding and a new sign were installed at the nature center.
- Windows have been replaced in the horseshoe section of the inn.
- Siding and fascia board were replaced on the Trine family cabins, and new paint was applied where needed.

Prophetstown State Park

- New ceiling covers were added in restrooms at the Meadow and Prairie View picnic areas.
- New benches, a new trail bridge and two new water crossings were added on Trail 3.
- Over 200 oak and hickory trees are set to be planted this spring to help restore an open oak woodland, thanks to a grant from Duke Energy and the Indiana Natural Resources Foundation.
- Native wildflowers and grasses are being planted to increase prairie habitat restoration.

Potato Creek State Park

- New seamless floors, shower fixtures and chase doors were installed in campground comfort stations, and partitions were painted.
- New stairs were installed at Steamboat Hill, most hiking and horse trails have been remarked, and trail system structures were repaired. Several benches were added.
- Several new exhibits were installed in the nature center, and a new water bottle filling station was also installed.
- Bathrooms were painted and entryway railings were refurbished in the family cabins.
- New seamless floors were installed in the boat rental and in Whispering Winds modern restroom.
- New kayaks and paddle boats are available at the boat rental.

Salamonie Lake

- A new paved asphalt basketball court and goals were installed in the modern campground.
- The Lost Bridge West launching ramp parking lot has a new vault toilet.
- A new accessible fishing pier was installed near the beach.
- The gravel exit lane next to main gate was paved.
- New stone has been added to several sites in the modern campground.
- New sidewalks were poured around campground comfort station 1.
- A new gift shop is available in the property office.
- Nearly 40 acres of native grasses and wildflowers for wildlife and pollinators were added.
- Over 3,000 native tree and shrub seedlings were added to improve wildlife food and cover.

Shakamak State Park

- Staff installed 8 miles of fiber optic cable to improve reception at gatehouses and offices for faster guest service.
- Numerous small repairs were made in the group camp and cabins, including diamond-grinding the floors in the group camp rec hall.
- A new campground fishing pier, and new docks for Lake Lenape and cabins 19-26 are ready for installation.

Spring Mill State Park/Spring Mill Inn

- The campground comfort stations have new lighting installed.
- New displays were added at the Lakeview Activity Center and in the Grist Mill.
- The Spring Mill Lake boat ramp has a new courtesy dock, and an extension was added to the existing dock.
- The interior of the Spring Mill Inn is getting a new coat of paint.

Summit Lake State Park

- Drainage was improved on several sites in the modern campground.
- New paint and shower tile were added to the modern campground comfort station B.
- An accessible fire ring is being installed in the campground program area.
- All campground comfort stations have sidewalk improvements.
- A new accessible sidewalk is being installed for Harvey Shelter.
- Drainage improvements were made on Trail 2.

Tippecanoe River State Park

- The main entrance gate has a new storage building to hold and keep firewood dry for campers.
- New wood posts, playground mulch and borders were installed at the modern campground playground.
- New shower fixtures are being installed in comfort station B to allow more control of water temperature.
- The interior of the rent-a-camp comfort station was painted.
- Three new manure collection stations were installed for horse campers/day riders, bringing the park total to seven.

Turkey Run State Park and Shades State Park

- Both the north and south comfort stations in the modern campground were renovated.
- A new roof, gutters, hand dryers, mirrors, partitions and interior benches were installed at west comfort station.
- New split-rail fence was installed to Sunset Point and to the Log Church and Lieber Memorial.
- The backpacking campground at Shades will have a new vault toilet facility soon.
- Several hundred hazard trees were removed from roadsides at Shades State Park.
- Twelve rooms on the third floor of Turkey Run Inn were renovated with new carpet, wall repairs, and wallpaper.
- Energy-efficient LED lights were installed in Turkey Run Inn's conference facilities.
- The Roost cabin was improved with a new roof, back porch sidewalk, entry doors, storm windows, and new drywall and paint in the guest bedrooms.
- The inn's five quad-plex cabins were completely remodeled.
- Renovation of the family cabin is underway with completion expected by July 1.

Versailles State Park

- The campground comfort stations have new paint and shower fixtures.
- Some campsites were raised and leveled to improve drainage.
- Hiking trails and equestrian trails have new directional marking.
- The Bradt Natural Area on the southeastern edge of the park is open, with a new parking lot, trails and interpretive signage.

Whitewater Memorial State Park

- The modern campground has a new comfort station in C loop.
- The fish cleaning station was remodeled.
- Four new vault toilets were installed in the modern campground.
- Cabin 20's restroom was remodeled.