



It's a

Fantastic Fall!

at Indiana State Parks and Reservoirs

Check out the featured fall events listed below. Details are available for each of these events online at www.interpretiveservices.IN.gov. See the listings for your favorite property for even more opportunities to play in the outdoors this autumn.



October

Throughout October

- Get ready for hunting season with a trip to a **DNR shooting range** at Brookville Lake.
- Wednesdays in October feature **Autumn Nature Talks** around the campfire just off the back porch at Abe Martin Lodge, Brown County State Park at 7:30pm. S'mores are \$1.
- Wander through Potato Creek **Prairie Maze**, which features 1.5 miles of trails cut in the 7 foot tall restored prairie grasses. Try and solve the riddles of the maze! Daily through mid November.

October 5-7

- Join in for the 25th **Autumn Camping Weekend (1)** at Mississinewa Lake with kettle corn, chili, the campsite decorating contest, and trick or treating for the kids. The campground is filled with goblins and ghouls! You won't want to miss it! 260-468-2127. Gate fees apply.

October 6

- **Lincoln's Fall Funfest** features hayrides, crafts, pumpkin bowling, pumpkin painting and refreshments from noon – 3pm at the campground shelter. Some activities require a ticket; tickets are 50 cents each.
- Take part in the **Youth/Adult Waterfowl Blind Camouflaging** at Monroe Lake's Stillwater-Northfork Hunter Check Station from 9am – 4pm. Bring work gloves and hand tools if you have them. Youth under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration requested but not required; call 812-837-9546.
- Check out the **Audubon Birding Day** at Prophetstown State Park. The Sycamore Audubon Society will lead hikes at 9:00am and 7:00pm, and sponsor birding on the park's Harrison Creek observation deck at 4:00pm. It's a great time to bird with the experts and learn more about Tippecanoe County's avian migrants and residents.
- Enjoy the 1st Annual **Fall Paddle Fest** at 12:00pm at Shakamak State Park. Meet at the Lake Kickapoo boat dock to take a kayak for a spin! Come early to get a spot, or bring your own kayak! All ages welcome, but ages 13 and under will require adult supervision. Life vests provided. This event is hosted by the Friends of Shakamak.
- Visit **Autumn Harvest Days** at Spring Mill, with a celebration of the fall season with crafts, demonstrations and our signature event – the Campsite Decorating Contest on Saturday night!

October 6-7

- Salamonie Lake and Indiana State Trappers Association (ISTA) will host a **Trappers Education Course** at the Upper Wabash Interpretive Center. The program will focus on trappers of all ages, though youth trappers are encouraged to attend. Attendees will have two days of hands-on training with trapping instructors and will have a chance to set traps and catch furbearers. To pre-register or to get more information, contact the Upper Wabash Interpretive Center at 260-468-2127.
- Get ready for toe-tapping music at the **Versailles Bluegrass Festival**. There'll be a whole weekend of great music, food, and fun for the whole family. (11am-6pm Saturday and 10am-4pm Sunday). Don't forget your lawn chairs.

October 12-13

Harmonie State Park hosts **Harmonie Harvest Weekend and Craft Fair**, where the kids can play and parents can shop at the many craft booths. Features include free fire truck rides, the 'Survive Alive' house, face painting, a petting zoo, fall crafts for the kids to make, lots of good food booths and local live bands. Pioneer demonstrators share activities such as butter churning, bread making, candle dipping, open hearth cooking and soap making. Gate fee is \$3/car from 9am-5pm Saturday.

October 12-14

- Salamonie Reservoir is holding its fourth annual **Salamonie Fall Fest**. This is a fun fall weekend event where the crew at Salamonie gets a chance to give a little something back to the campers and thank them for another great season. Features campsite decorating, hayrides, bonfire and supper and campground trick-or-treating.
- **Autumn Camping Weekend (2)** at Mississinewa Lake features kettle corn, a bird hike and activities with Chad Williams of Young Indiana Birders, live screech owls of Upper Wabash Interpretive Services kids trick or treat, music and campsite decorating contest. Call 260-468-2127 to register. Gate fees apply.
- **Mississinewa 1812** is the largest War of 1812 living history event in the United States. Sponsored by the Mississinewa Battlefield Society Inc, Marion, Indiana with the support of the Department of Natural Resources, it is a historical commemoration of the Battle of Mississinewa fought here on December 17-18, 1812. See more info at www.mississinewa1812.org.

October 12-21

- Visit the Historic Mansfield Roller Mill to experience the **Covered Bridge Festival**. Parke County comes to life with thousands of visitors enjoying the cool autumn weather and historic covered bridges. The roller mill will be open for tours and special demonstrations of original 1880's flour milling equipment.

October 13

- **Earth Discovery Day**, the Falls of the Ohio's biggest geoscience event, features an earthquake simulator, fossil and mineral collecting piles, 4 guest speakers, geo-craft activities for kids, hikes on fossil beds, an educator's workshop, and more from 9:30am-5:30pm!
- Come to the Indiana Dunes State Park Nature Center to watch some of Indiana's best storytellers weave their magic during the **NW Indiana Storytelling Festival!** Special sessions will go on throughout the day, including ghost story sessions after dark.
- Lincoln's **Friends Fall Frolic** features hayrides, crafts, pumpkin bowling, pumpkin painting and refreshments from noon – 3pm at the campground shelter. Some activities require a ticket; tickets are 50 cents each.
- Lincoln's **Trail of Terror** features a haunted maze that winds its way along part of Trail #5 as well as through the amphitheatre cast house. The event is from 7-10pm at the amphitheatre, and costs \$5/person.
- **Kayaking to Seng Island** at Patoka Lake features a paddle from the beach to the island to look at remnants of home sites and old photographs. We will also be on the lookout for bald eagles and the last of the osprey for the year. The paddle starts at 9:30am

- Join Tippecanoe River State Park staff at the nature center for **Volunteer Recognition Day**. Includes an invasive plants program, local Lion's Club famous ham and bean lunch, recognition of volunteers and friends' projects, a caravan Jasper Pulaski Fish & Wildlife Area to see sandhill cranes and stargazing at the nature center.

October 13-14

- Take a **Hunter Education Class** at Monroe Lake's Paynetown SRA from 9am-4pm. Attendance is required both days to complete the course, as is a test on the second day. Hunter education is required for anyone born 1987 or later and encouraged for others too. Register by 10/12 by calling 812-837-9546. Children under age 16 must be accompanied by an adult.
- Take an **Overnight Backpacking Hike** through some of O'Bannon Woods State Park's gorgeous forests with the Southern Indiana Hiking Club. Meet at the Nature Center at 1pm Saturday to begin your adventure. Bring your own backpacking/camping equipment.
- For **Scarecrow Weekend** the Pioneer Village at Spring Mill State Park transforms on Saturday evening into the Haunted Village, and Saturday and Sunday are filled with seasonal crafts.

October 17

- **Salamonie Preschoolers** meet to learn about owls! Pre-registration is requested and the program fee \$2 per child. Identical classes will be offered from 10 – 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 – 2 p.m., at Salamonie Interpretive Center located in Lost Bridge West SRA. Call 260-468-2127 to register. Gate fees are waived.

October 19-20

- The annual **Autumn Getaway Weekend** at Patoka Lake includes Friendship Stew, a Creatures of the Night program with a special LIVE guest, a Trail of Tales night hike, Dutch oven cook-off competition, chili making, pet costume contest, chainsaw carving demonstrations and much more!
- The **Fall Halloween Festival** at Shakamak State Park features pumpkin carving, a haunted house, haunted egg hunt, a scavenger hunt, campsite decorating, trick or treating, bounce houses and free hayrides. Contact the property office for more details 812-665-2158.
- Summit Lake State Park features the annual **Festival of the Freezing Moon**. This year's event will feature stargazing with Steve Russell on Friday night, the annual chili cook-off, trick-or-treating, 2 Interpretive hayrides, and-new this year on Saturday night-the bluegrass band, Aloysuis and the Stampede. Also, on Friday night, Our favorite Star Gazer Steve Russell.

October 19-21

- Family fun abounds at "**Awesome Autumn**" **Camper Appreciation Weekend** at Clifty Falls State Park. Enjoy the campsite decorating contest, fall festival games, trick or treat and more!

October 20

- **Lincoln's Trail of Terror** features a haunted maze that winds its way along part of Trail #5 as well as through the amphitheatre cast house. The event is from 7-10pm at the amphitheatre, and costs \$5/person.
- **Lincoln's Friends Fall Frolic** features hayrides, crafts, pumpkin bowling, pumpkin painting and refreshments from noon – 3pm at the campground shelter. Some activities require a ticket; tickets are 50 cents each.

October 20-21

- Join the Lieber S.R.A. staff for **Gobble-uns Weekend** with pumpkin decorating, leaf print t-shirts (bring your own shirt), a pumpkin rolling contest, Halloween crafts, a campsite decorating contest, trick-or-treating in the campground, hayrides and much more fun are on the agenda for the weekend.
- Visitors can enjoy Halloween tricks and treats as Mounds State Park offers a variety of fun fall activities for the whole family at the **Kid's Fall Funfest**. Kid-friendly night hikes, campground trick-or-treating, campsite decorating contest, pumpkin carving, and more.
- Sit back, relax, and enjoy tunes at the **1800s Music Showcase** at Spring Mill State Park! Limited seating will be available; attendees are encouraged to bring their own chairs or blankets. Musicians will be set up on the front porch of the Upper Residence in the Pioneer Village from 12-5pm on the 20th and from 12-4pm on the 21st.

October 20-November 3

- The **Saw-whet Owl Banding Station** opens at Indiana Dunes State Park. See the tiny saw-whet owl up close during our informal and public banding nights on Sat, Oct 20 (7pm), Sat, Oct 27 (8pm), and Sun, Oct 28 (7pm) and Sat, Nov 3 (7pm) in the Nature Center Auditorium.

October 26-27

- Brookville Lake-Whitewater Memorial State Park Complex will once again be hosting the annual **Spooktacular Camping Weekend**. Bring your family to enjoy a fall weekend of activities including a cornhole tournament, costume contests, hayrides, haunted hayrides, musical entertainment and more!
- Celebrate at Chain O' Lakes State Park's annual **All Hallows' Eve Celebration**. Enjoy family-friendly pumpkin decorating, trick-or-treating, hay rides, a costume parade, and community chili feast in the campground. Events, which are open to the public, begin at noon and end in time for the Haunted Trail at Dusk.
- Charlestown State Park's **Halloween Weekend** features pumpkin carving, glow in the dark bowling, campsite decorating, trick-or-treating.
- Fort Harrison's **Halloween Bash** includes the Soldier's Haunt, a night-time hayride through dark lanes full of goblins, spooks, ghosts, and zombies. Rides begin at 7:30pm Friday-Saturday; limited seating/first come-first served. Rides are about 45 minutes, for ages 14-up; not suitable for small children. Meet at Delaware Lake/Harrison Trace Trailhead. Children's activities are featured on Saturday beginning at 2:00pm.
- October wouldn't be complete without spooks, costumes and candy at **Haunted Harmonie!** Our annual event is a favorite including hayrides, games, trick-or-treating, and a spook house.
- McCormick's Creek State Park will be hosting the annual **Fall-O-Ween Weekend**. Fun begins with a program by the Hoosier Herpetological Society at the Canyon Inn on Friday evening at 7pm. Events will run throughout the day on Saturday concluding with a spooky trail beginning at 8 pm.
- Be prepared to experience our trails like never before with the **Haunted Trail** at Mounds State Park where our guides will walk you into the darkest woods and down the scariest trail! This one-weekend-only Halloween event is a great "fun" draiser for the community, so come on out and see who will scream the loudest.
- Join Ouabache State Park as we welcome autumn during our **Fall Festival**. Meet some "creepy" creatures, take a fall color hike, enjoy music with Foster Brown's Nature Theatre, go trick-or-treating, sit a spell for a straw ride, decorate your campsite, and mosey on down to the Campview Shelter to check out other related fall activities.
- Enjoy a family experience at O'Bannon Woods State Park for **Autumn Adventures Weekend**. A park-wide scavenger hunt, campfire program, festive crafts (in spirit of the season), campfire cooking demonstrations, birds of prey, hayrides, a chili cook off, costume parade for you/and or your pet, campsite decorating contest, trick or treating, a night hike owl hoot and more are planned!
- Raccoon SRA's Annual **Un-Boo-Lievable Halloween Camping Weekend** includes a Raccowl egg hunt and trick or treating through the campground, campsite decorating, costume and pet costume contests and hayrides. NEW this year is scarecrow creation (Theme: Favorite Movie Character(s)).
- Join us for **Halloween Camping Weekend** at Turkey Run State Park. Tour the Lusk Home by candlelight, donate blood (Red Cross bloodmobile), go on a monster egg hunt, decorate your campsite, experience an owl prowl and much more!

October 26-28

- Enter the **Autumn and Halloween Campsite Decorating Contest** at Pokagon State Park and win some Pokagon gift items and toboggan gift certificates. Campers can pick up a ballot at the campground office and vote!

- Visitors can enjoy Halloween tricks and treats as Prophetstown State Park offers a **Fall Fun Fest** for the whole family. Enjoy a chili supper, Dutch oven cooking demonstration, games and activities, costume contest, trick-or-treating, campsite decorating and pumpkin carving contest, family-friendly night hikes, and trolley rides.
- Head north for **Halloween Weekend** at Tippecanoe River State Park. Stop by the Nature Center over the weekend for a variety of games and crafts, and check out the spooky decorations provided by the Friends of Tippecanoe River State Park before you take your little ghosts and goblins trick or treating. Have fun with ghost stories in the campground, trick or treating, the Amazing Maze, and a cornhole tournament, too.

October 27

- Brown County State Park and the park's friends group will offer a 5:00pm **Trick-or-Treat Trail** and a more scary 8:00pm **Haunted Trail**. Don't miss pumpkin-carving and campsite decorating contest with prizes, too.
- Hardy Lake celebrates **Fall Family Fun Day** with breakfast from 7:00-10:00am Saturday morning, wagon rides, a costume fashion show and trick or treating from 5-8pm. Programs are free with paid gate admission.
- Lincoln's **Fall Funfest** features hayrides, crafts, pumpkin bowling, pumpkin painting and refreshments from noon – 3pm at the campground shelter. Some activities require a ticket; tickets are 50 cents each.
- Lincoln's **Trail of Terror** features a haunted maze that winds its way along part of Trail #5 as well as through the amphitheatre cast house. The event is from 7-10pm at the amphitheatre, and costs \$5/person.
- Pokagon State Park **Trick or Treating** with local businesses and campers. Tricks and treats can be found along campground trails and sites from 5pm to 7pm.
- Enjoy Pokagon State Park's **Ghost Tales and other Stories of the Season**, featuring Lou Ann Homan and Steve Etheridge. The 6:30pm gathering is designed for parents with younger children and the 8:30pm session is suggested for older children and adults. Cost per person, per session is \$1.00. Refreshments served from witch's brew courtesy of the Potawatomi Inn. Park at the North Beach lot; flashlights are recommended.
- At Potato Creek State Park **Halloween Happenings**, the campground will bustle with pumpkin carving, a costume contest, campsite decoration contest, trick or treating and more! This weekend is co-sponsored by the Friends of Potato Creek; there is a \$2 craft & event fee.
- Versailles State Park's **Halloween Celebration** features trick or treating in the campground from 5:00-7:00pm and a campground decorating contest with prizes for the top three best decorated sites.

October 27-28

- It's "**Howl**"oween in the Dunes at Indiana Dunes State Park with a campsite decorating contest, spooky crafts, special night hikes, and the ever popular owl banding demonstrations.
- Monroe Lake's Paynetown SRA hosts a **Ghostly Gathering**. Come and celebrate Halloween, decorate your site or help us vote for the winner. Campers will also be able to participate in trick-or-treating, costume contest, crafts, a ghost hunt and more!

November



November 3-4

- Raccoon SRA will host a **Trapper Education Course**. Plan to attend both days from 9am-4pm.

November 10

- Head to Fort Harrison State Park for the **Return the '40's Dinner Dance** with swing band music and dinner with the Barton Roger's Big Band at the historic Fort Harrison State Park Inn. This event is for ages 21 and above, and pre-registration dinner registrations are requested at the Inn. Dinner-dance-room packages are available.

November 11

- **Free Admission on Veteran's Day** to state parks, reservoirs and state forests for veterans and active-duty military personnel. All camping and other fees still apply. Show military identification at the entrance gate (where gates are open). Thanks for your service.

November 16

- **Hunters' Rendezvous** at Lieber SRA (Cagles Mill Lake) features chili supper, euchre and tall tales. Local Indiana Conservation Officers will be present to answer your hunting and fishing questions.

November 23

- **Pokagon State Park's Refrigerated Toboggan** opens for the winter! Check out all the details at www.tobogganrun.com.