Please carry out all trash you produce in order to keep your park clean and beautiful for others to enjoy.

**Chinquapin Nature Preserve:**
115 acres
This preserve is closed to the public. As a protected Rookery, this area hosts a colony of Great Blue Herons in the spring and summer.

**Warbler Woods:**
135 acres
This deep shady and hardwood forest contains many of Indiana's native trees including Cherry, Walnut, Oak, Maple, and Beech.

**Bluffs of Fall Creek:**
135 acres
This preserve is closed to the public. Bordering the north bank of Fall Creek, a major drainage of Marion County, this preserve comprises a lush Riparian forest and many historic areas from the park's diverse past.

**Lawrence Creek:**
242 acres
As an upland hardwood forest, this area contains Oak, Hickory, Maple, and the best topography in the park.
Native Americans found their way into this region at least 8,000 years ago and developed lifestyles that we celebrate today. Euro-American settlers moved from Kentucky and Ohio, establishing the first homesteads in the 1860s. They cleared the woodlands to make way for an agricultural economy.

The creation of the military post came about due to the changing fate of the state and nation. During the Civil War, the Indianapolis Arsenal supplied munitions to federal troops. Located near the State House from 1861 to 1865, the War Department later moved the arsenal east of downtown to Woodruff Place. By 1901, as the city grew, the War Department planned to close the arsenal.

Many community members felt strongly that some military presence needed to remain in the city to honor the tradition the arsenal played in ending slavery and maintaining the Union. Lt. Col. Russell Harrison, son of governor and President Benjamin Harrison, suggested naming any remaining military facility in honor of his father.

On June 28, 1904, the War Department issued General Order No. 117, officially announcing the purchase of land for “military purposes...about nine miles northeast of Indianapolis.” In 1906, President Theodore Roosevelt dedicated Fort Benjamin Harrison in honor of the 23rd governor of the Indianapolis resident.

On a national scale, the fort represented the first effort to create a national army out of a collection of state militias. The post served multiple roles as a troop reception center, classroom and soldier support facility during all major military conflicts from WWI to Desert Storm. Today, Fort Harrison State Park continues to preserve the greenspace that the Army kept out of development from 1903-1996. Today, you can experience forests and meadows, wildlife and revealing glimpses into our past.

THIS IS YOUR PARK

Visitors shall follow our rules, which are designed to fulfill the purpose for which state parks were established, namely, to preserve a pristine landscape in its natural condition for the public’s use and enjoyment.

To help the state park with its ongoing mission, a Friends of Fort Harrison State Park group has been created. For membership information please contact the park at 317-591-0904.

ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

BIKING—Allowed only on paved park roads, cabins designated multi-use trails and the Harrison Trace Trail. Bicycles are prohibited on the golf course.

FISHING—State license required. Check park signs for regulations and boat launch availability.

HORSE TRAIL RIDES—Guided rentals are available during the operating season from April through October. For more information regarding operating hours, lessons, hayrides and special-event rides, call (317) 541-1866 during the season.

MUSEUM OF 20TH CENTURY WARFARE (M20CW)—Operated by volunteers and open to the public March through November. It includes displays, a library, special events, reenactments and a unique model of the USS Indianapolis. Free with park admission.

PICNIC AREAS—Tables, grills, toilet facilities, benches, and waste stations. The dog park provides a space for dog lovers to get outdoors and enjoy a section of the park saved just for them. Contact the office for more information.

RECREATION BUILDINGS—Two recreation buildings, 701 and 702, located in Camp Glenn, are available for rent. Call (317) 591-0904 for more information.

Recreation buildings support park programs and activities. Shelters may be reserved through the Central Reservation System.

WINTER ACTIVITIES—With enough snow, sledding hill is open until dusk. Cross-country skiing allowed on park trails. Unplowed walking and winter-birding are popular. Reddick Shelter has a fireplace.

DOG PARK—11-acre area is equipped with water fountains, dog waste stations, benches, and waste stations. The dog park provides a space for dog owners to get outdoors and enjoy a section of the park saved just for them. Contact the office for more information.

DNR PROPERTIES NEARBY

• Mounds State Park—camping, hiking trails, interpretive services & historic, features, picnic area, playgrounds, shelter, swimming pool, youth tent areas

• Hoosier National Forest—hiking trails, nature center, swimming, boating, picnicking, camping, fishing, wildlife watching

• William Wright Fish and Wildlife Area—dog training area, fishing, hunting, target ranges, trapping, wildlife watching

• Indianapolis Zoo

• Indiana Historical Society

• Indianapolis Children’s Museum

• Nature and Technology Center

For a list of park events, visit interpretiveservices.IN.gov

RULES AND REGULATIONS

• Do not injure or damage any structure, rock, tree, flower, bird or wild animal. Do NOT gather limbs, brush or trees (either dead or alive) for firewood because they rebuild the natural habitat.

• Any firearm (except lawfully possessed handguns), BB gun, air, CO2 gun, bow and arrow, paint gun or spear gun in possession in a state park must be unloaded or un-nocked and stored in a case or locked within a vehicle, except when owner is participating in an activity authorized by written permit.

• Dogs and cats must be attended at all times and kept on a leash no longer than 6 feet.

• Vending or leasing without the permission of the Department of Natural Resources is prohibited.

• Overnight camping is not allowed in the park.

• Fires shall be built only in designated places.

• This is a day-use park. Help keep it clean. Please comply with the Carry In/Carry Out trash policy—take all your trash with you when you leave the park.

• Motorists shall not park vehicles or camp in designated areas; roadside parking is not allowed. Motorized vehicles are not permitted on hiking trails, the Harrison Trace, or through the bicycle/pedestrian entrance on Boy Scout Road. Snowmobiles are prohibited.

• Drinking water should be taken only from pumps, hydrants or fountains provided for that purpose. This water may not be used in animal feeding.

• Report lost or found articles to the park office.

• Feeding wildlife is prohibited.

• Use of metal detectors is prohibited.

• Mountain biking is allowed in the park only on designated trails.

For a complete list of rules and regulations, inquire at park office.

CENTRAL RESERVATION SYSTEM

Reservations for all types of camping, family cabins, and shelters at state parks, reservoirs and forests can be made online or by calling toll-free. Call: 1-866-GCMPNH (1-866-426-7624) Online: camp.IN.gov

Reservations for the Indiana State Park Inns and Inn-operated cabins can be made online or by phone. Call: 1-877-Lodges1 (1-877-563-4371) Online: inn.In.gov

FORT HARRISON STATE PARK INN & THE GARRISON RESTAURANT

• Lodging (guest rooms, suites, officer home)
• Meetings • Full service dining
• Weddings • 18-hole golf course

Online: inn.In.gov

MEETING OR WEDDING INFO: (317) 638-6000 (543-8595)

FORT HARRISON STATE PARK INN

• Weddings • 18-hole golf course

Online: inn.In.gov

FORT HARRISON INN & GOLF RESORT

• Weddings • 18-hole golf course

Online: 1-877-563-4371 (1-877 -lodges1)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Write: Fort Harrison State Park

Indianapolis, IN 46216

Call: (317) 591-0904

Online: www.fort-harrison.in.gov

Send correspondence to Outdoor Indiana magazine, box 1175, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

SPECIAL NOTE

Receipts from admission and service charges are used to help defray the operation and maintenance costs of the park. List of fees in front office.

PARK HOURS:

Regular Season: April-October—7 a.m.-dusk*

Off Season: Nov.-March—8 a.m.-dusk*

*For dusk closing hours, check the posting at the front gate or call (317) 591-0904. Gates close promptly.

Please let wild animals remain wild.

Feeding deer is prohibited. Feeding of wild animals may result in harm to both animals and people. Animals who depend on human food become a nuisance to visitors and a danger to themselves. Please lock up all food and coolers inside cars or campers. Roll up car windows tightly.

DESCRIPTION OF HIKING TRAILS

TRAIL & DESCRIPTION DISTANCE DIFFICULTY

Fall Creek Trail 1.1 miles from start to Duck Pond. Start this trail at the northeast corner of the Delaware Lake picnic area. The trail follows the lowlands along Fall Creek, then heads uphill as it nears Duck Pond. Overall distance can be shortened or varied by taking one of the three cutoff trails that connect to the fall creek. Excellent for birding, fishing access, and wildflower and tree identification.

Camp Creek Trail 2 miles Moderate

Trail begins off Harrison Trace near the eastern banks of Delaware Lake with the spur of the bend passing Duck Pond. This trail passes by an old army rubble pile and contains many beautiful vistas from the bluffs of the quaint Camp Creek valley.

Harrison Trace 3 miles Easy

This is an asphalt surface trail for walkers, bicyclists and joggers. The trail begins at the Delaware Lake picnic area. After passing Delaware Lake, the trail follows the rolling upland above Fall Creek. Although the trail is graded and paved, it is not flat. Much of the trail is tree-covered and wildflowers grow next to the walking surface all season long. This is the easiest route to Duck Pond.

Laurence Creek Trail 4 miles Difficult

Start this loop trail at either the Lawrence Creek Trailhead or the Waltrip Trailhead parking area on the west side of the park. The trail winds through uplands and woodlands and ravines. This is an excellent choice for observing black bears. The Southern slopes of the Laurence Creek valley remain wet all summer, providing a wonderful wildflower show. This is a single-track, multi-use, hike and bike trail. Bicyclists yield to hikers.

Treemon Trail 1 mile Easy

This trail follows the outer edge of Millersom Grove picnic area in Camp Glenn. Look for different species of trees and wildflowers along the route.

Schoen Creek Trail 3 miles Difficult

Begin at the Schoen Creek Trailhead east of the saddle barn. Follow the trail through woods and meadows, woods and ravines. This is a single-track, multi-use, hike and bike trail.

PLEASE STAY ON MARKED TRAILS.