WARNING: All trails, except 9, 10 and Backpack, have portions that use ravine streambeds as trail surface and sections of trail can become slick and trail tread uneven. Parts of these trails may be impassible during high water and should be considered closed during these times. Use alternate trails during times of high water.

Ladders are used on trails 4 and 5. These can be hazardous for visitors with some medical conditions or disabilities. Hikers with small children and pets should use alternate trails.

Stay on marked trails.

• Stay on marked trails.
• Trails close at dusk.
• All hikers must be off trails prior to dusk.
• Bicycles prohibited on trails and service roads.
• Swimming and wading in Sugar Creek are prohibited within the park.
• Water fountains located near parking lots and shelters.

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

TRAIL TABLE

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</table>

Backpack Trail

Note: Backpack and Canoe camps are not accessible by vehicle. Backpack and Canoe campers see special information on reverse side.
This is Your Park
Visitors shall observe the rules, which are designed to fulfill the purpose for which state parks were established, namely, to preserve a primitive landscape in its natural condition for the public's use and enjoyment.

Become a Park Volunteer
Join the Friends of Turkey Run and Shades state parks. For Friends Group information visit the DNR website at: stateparks.IN.gov/2442.htm

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

Activities and Facilities
Camping—Non-electric campgrounds are equipped with flush toilets, hot water and showers; no modern hookups; occupancy limited to 14 consecutive nights. Reservations are available through the Central Reservation System.

Backpack and canoe camping is seasonal. No reservations are required. First-come first-served. Inquire at gatehouse or park office.

Fishing—Bass, bluegill, etc. State license required.

Hiking—Approximately 10 miles of easy to rugged trails. Some hiking trails have ladders and are difficult to achieve with small children and from

Interpretive Naturalist Service—Seasonal. Explore the world of natural resources while enjoying interpretive and recreational programs. Program schedules are available at Interpretive Services. In.gov or (765) 597-0654.

Picnic Areas—Tables, grill, toilets facilities, playground equipment, playfields and shelters. Reservations for shelters available through the Central Reservation System.

Deer's Mill Covered Bridge Area—Located on east side of State Park road. May be impassable during high water.

Swimming is prohibited.

Sugar Creek is extremely hazardous.

Rules and Regulations
Do not damage or alter any structure, fossils, rock, tree, rock, water, building or wildlife. Do not gather rocks, brush or trees (either dead or alive) for firewood because they rebuild the natural humus.

Any firearm (except lawfully possessed handguns), BB gun, air gun, CO2 gun, bow and arrow, paint gun or spear gun in possession in a state park must be unloaded or un-roocked 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 advertising without permission of the Department of Natural Resources is prohibited.

Camping is permitted only in the campground. No youth groups are permitted in the family campground.

Fires shall be built only in designated places.

Please comply with the Carry In Carry Out trash policy in all day-use areas. Overnight guests must put waste in receptacles provided for that purpose.

Motorists shall observe posted speed limits and park only in designated areas.

Swimming is limited to places and times designated by the Department of Natural Resources.

Drinking water should be taken only from pumps, hydrants or for a specific purpose. This water is tested regularly for purity.

Report lost or found articles to the front gate.

All motorized vehicles shall remain on paved roadways. Snowmobiles and off-road vehicles are prohibited.

Use of metal detectors is prohibited.

Park closes from 11 p.m. at 7 a.m. No one is allowed in the park between these hours except for campers using their sites.

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

Description of Hiking Trails
Trail Description Distance Difficulty

1.5 miles Moderate/Rugged begins at Devil's Punchbowl, lower portion through raven creek bed to Silver Cascade waterfalls. This portion involves steps and hiking in the creek bed. Upper trail portion begins at steps from raven and goes to Inspiration and Prospect points.

1.25 miles Very rugged/Rugged begins at trail to Lover's Leap with views of Sugar Creek, upland woods and ravines. Lower portion goes down Steamboat Rock stairs and continues up Pearl Ravine streambed. May be impassable during high water.

625 miles Moderate/Rugged begins at west end of large parking lot with steep climbs through Frizze Ravine with tall brush and boulder areas. This section uses streambed with steps and ladders and is rated rugged. Portions of trail may be impassable during high water.

75 miles Moderate/Rugged begins at west end of large parking lot. Upper portion of trail overlooks Frizze and Kintz ravines and involves many steps. Lower portion uses streambed of Kintz Ravine with steps and ladder. Portions of trail may be impassable during high water.

6 miles Moderate begins at pond and travels along Red Fox Ravine.

1.67 miles Very rugged begins at west end of Hickory Parking Lot, travels through stand of mature trees and Kickapoo Ravine. Trail is a loop and has steep climbs. One section uses streambed. Portions may be impassable during high water.

7.5 miles Very rugged begins off Trail 7 and goes through narrow floodplain and through upland forest. Travels through Shadomey Pinnel streambed and along Sugar Creek. Hikers must return by Trail 7. May be impassable during high water.

5 miles Easy begins at pond, through wooded, open areas to youth tent and campground roads.

1.5 miles Moderate begins at Dell Shelter, leads through succession vegetation and second-growth timber to S.R. 234 and Pine Hills Nature Preserve.

Backpack Trail
2.5 miles Moderate begins at west end of Hickory parking lot and extends 2.5 miles through relatively steep terrain and extends to the backpack camp. Note that the backcamp camp is closed from late October through early April.

Please Stay on Marked Trails.

Long before the first settlers came to the area of Shades State Park, Native Americans lived among the virgin forest, steep ravines and cliff areas along Sugar Creek.

The first European settlers came to this area around the late 1820s after the Miami tribe were forced from the federal government in 1818. The shallow soils and broken topography of the lands that border Sugar Creek provided little enticement to farmers, thus the majority of the forest escaped destruction.

One story of the area attributes the illusion of deep shadows beneath the nearly unbroken canopy of these forests and the eerie feeling projected by the “black forest” as the reason for the early name, “The Shades of Death.” Other people, however, say the name resulted due to the Native Americans who occupied this natural stronghold along Sugar Creek and the legend of an early settler being killed. Another story that contributed to the gloomy name claimed that a young settler’s wife burned an axe in her wicked husband’s