



# Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Illinois Beach State Park's Beach to Close Saturdays, Sundays

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) today announced that beginning Saturday, Aug. 1, the beach at Adeline Jay Geo-Karis Illinois Beach State Park will be closed Saturdays and Sundays to encourage social distancing and prevent further spread of COVID-19. The beach, including the North Unit, South Unit and North Point Beach, will remain closed on Saturdays and Sundays until further notice.

“As temperatures have increased, so have crowds at Illinois Beach State Park’s beach area,” said Von Bandy, director of the Office of Land Management for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). “In the past weeks, our staff has witnessed several instances of overcrowding at the beach. Understanding the importance of social distancing in preventing further spread of COVID-19, the Department is taking this proactive step to protect the health and safety of staff and visitors.”

While the beach area of the state park will be closed on the weekends, it will remain open during the week provided social distancing and public health directives can be achieved. Remaining areas of the park, including the lodge and trails, will remain open.

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