



# Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way · Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271  
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

Pat Quinn, Governor  
Marc Miller, Director

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
April 5, 2010

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## **IDNR celebrates Earth Day in the Parks**

### *4<sup>th</sup> annual event promotes natural resources stewardship for students*

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) will host more than 1,200 students at state parks throughout Illinois in April and May to celebrate Earth Day. The 4th annual *Earth Day in the Parks* event series has become an increasingly popular way to get children involved in the outdoors through a variety of conservation stewardship activities.

“What better way to celebrate Earth Day and our natural resources than giving students the opportunity to help the environment through fun and fulfilling activities right in their own backyards,” said IDNR Director Marc Miller. “Nothing gives me more pleasure than to see the next generation of outdoor stewards engaged in nature.”

Sponsored by the IDNR Office of Public Services, Office of Land Management and the Illinois Conservation Foundation (ICF), *Earth Day in the Parks* offers students the opportunity to get outdoors and work in nature. Their hands-on experiences help students develop a sense of ownership of the natural resources while enhancing wildlife habitat and natural areas protection. Students and teachers are encouraged to return to the park to study the effects of their work.

“With more than 40 events throughout the state, there is definitely something for every student of every age. Our hope is that students will be hooked on the outdoors for life,” said Miller. “Their visit during *Earth Day in the Parks* could be the first introduction in a lifetime of stewardship for many of these youth.”

School groups were selected to participate at park sites through random drawings from an application process held earlier this year.

The list of Earth Day in the Parks sites is below.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
*2010 Earth Day in the Parks*

**Region I (Northwest and west-central Illinois)**

Argyle Lake State Park  
640 Argyle Park Road  
Colchester, IL 62326  
Contact: Bridget Napolitano, 309/776-3422  
Date: April 22, 2010  
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Project: removing invasive, exotic plants and planting native tree species  
School: Southeastern High School, Augusta  
Contact: Sarah Kerfoot, 217/392-2125

Castle Rock State Park  
1365 West Castle Road  
Oregon, IL 61061  
Contact: Grant Afflerbaugh, 815/732-7329  
Date: April 20, 2010  
Time: 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Project: planting native tree species and building/installing nesting boxes for birds and roosting boxes for bats  
School: Rockford Environmental Science Academy, Rockford  
Contact: Debra Appelquist, 815/489-5509

Franklin Creek State Natural Area  
1872 Twist Road  
Franklin Grove, IL 61031  
Contact: Elmer Stauffer, 815/456-2878  
Date: April 22, 2010  
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
Project: planting native tree species  
School: Amboy Junior High School, Amboy  
Contact: Kellylyn Wood, 815/857-3528

Johnson-Sauk Trail State Recreation Area  
28616 Sauk Trail Road  
Kewanee, IL 61443  
Contact: Melinda Kitchens, 309/853-5589  
Date: April 27, 2010  
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Project: planting native tree species  
School: AlWood High School, Woodhull  
Contact: Robert Terwilliger, 309/334-2102

Jubilee College State Park  
13921 West Route 150  
Brimfield, IL 61517

Contact: Tom Hintz, 309/446-3758  
Date: April 20, 2010  
Time: TBD  
Project: planting native tree, shrub and wildflower species  
School: Brimfield High School and Brimfield Grade School, Brimfield  
Contact: Cathy Krostal, 309/446-3349 (Brimfield High School); Hollie Donath, 309/446-3366 (Brimfield Grade School)

Lowden Memorial State Park  
1411 North River Road  
Oregon, IL 61061  
Contact: Jamie Dowdall, 815/732-6828  
Date: May 5, 2010  
Time: TBD  
Project: planting native tree, shrub and wildflower species  
School: TBD  
Contact: TBD

Marshall-Woodford State Fish and Wildlife Area  
236 State Route 26  
Lacon, IL 61540  
Contact: Tony Colvin, 309/246-8351  
Date: April 20, 2010  
Time: TBD  
Project: planting native tree species and building/installing nesting boxes for birds and roosting boxes for bats  
School: Astoria High School, Astoria  
Contact: Catharine Reavley, 309/329-2156

Prophetstown State Park  
Riverside Drive  
Prophetstown, IL 61277  
Contact: Steve Woodfall, 815/537-2926  
Date: April 22, 2010  
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Project: planting native tree species  
School: Prophetstown High School, Prophetstown  
Contact: Martin Koster, 815/537-5161

Rock Cut State Park  
7318 Harlem Road  
Loves Park, IL 61111  
Contact: Dan Riggs, 815/885-3311  
Date: April 15, 2010  
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Project: planting native tree species  
School: Alden-Hebron High School, Hebron  
Contact: Becky Powers, 815/648-2442

Rock Island Trail State Park  
311 East Williams

Wyoming, IL 61491  
Contact: Tom Hintz, 309/695-2228  
Date: April 21, 2010  
Time: TBD  
Project: planting native prairie wildflowers and grasses  
School: Dunlap Grade School, Dunlap  
Contact: Lisa Schacht, 309/243-7772 (Dunlap Grade School)

Starved Rock State Park  
State Routes 178 and 71  
Utica, IL 61373  
Contact: Tom Levy, 815/667-4726  
Date: April 22, 2010  
Time: TBD  
Project: planting native wildflowers and removing invasive, exotic plant species  
School: Dixon High School, Dixon  
Contact: Marcia Mintun, 815/284-77323

White Pines State Forest  
6712 West Pines Road  
Mt. Morris, IL 61054  
Contact: Dan Stewart, 815/946-3717  
Date: May 5, 2010  
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
Project: planting native shrubs, wildflowers and grasses  
School: Boylan High School, Rockford  
Contact: Barb Pfluger, 815/566-0645

## **Region II (Northeast Illinois)**

Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area  
5010 North Jugtown Road  
Morris, IL 60450  
Contact: Susie Johnson, 815/942-2899  
Date: April 29, 2010  
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
Project: planting native prairie plants and removing invasive, exotic plant species  
School: Meadowview School, Country Club Hills  
Contact: Sheila Fink, 708/957-6200

Kankakee River State Park  
5314 West Route 102  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
Contact: Stacey Johnson, 815/933-1383  
Date: April 22, 2010  
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Project: planting native wildflowers and grasses  
School: Tri-Point Junior High School, Piper City  
Contact: Scott Saffer, 815/686-2247

Kankakee River State Park  
5314 West Route 102  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
Contact: Stacey Johnson, 815/933-1383  
Date: April 23, 2010  
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Project: planting native prairie wildflowers and grasses  
School: Rockdale School, Rockdale  
Contact: Melissa Pierce, 815/725-5321

North Point Marina  
701 North Point Drive  
Winthrop Harbor, IL 60096  
Contact: Roger Mellum, 847/746-3431  
Date: May 14, 2010  
Time: TBD  
Project: planting native prairie wildflowers and grasses  
School: Elmwood Park High School, Elmwood Park  
Contact: Matthew Lazzarotto, 708/583-6468

Volo Bog State Natural Area  
28478 West Brandenburg Road  
Ingleside, IL 60041  
Contact: Stacy Iwanicki, 815/344-1294  
Date: April 22, 2010  
Time: 9:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Project: planting native prairie wildflowers and grasses  
School: Lake Park High School West, Roselle  
Contact: Lesley Pierce, 630/295-5367

William Powers State Recreation Area  
12949 Avenue O  
Chicago, IL 60633  
Contact: Saki Villalobos, 773/646-3270  
Date: May 5, 2010  
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Project: building fish attractors for the lake and painting tree trunks with sand  
School: Prologue Early College High School, Chicago  
Contact: Walter Perkins III, 773/935-9925

### **Region III (East-Central Illinois)**

Clinton Lake State Recreation Area  
7251 Ranger Road  
De Witt, IL 61735  
Contact: Tom Jackson, 217/935-8722  
Date: April 14, 2010  
Time: TBD  
Project: planting native tree species

School: Milligan Academy, Decatur  
Contact: Crystal Whetstone, 217/422-6110

Eagle Creek State Recreation Area  
RR 1 Box 198-B  
Findlay, IL 62534  
Contact: Richard Glazebrook, 217/756-8260  
Date: April 30, 2010  
Time: TBD  
Project: working in the butterfly barn  
School: Mattoon Middle School, Mattoon  
Contact: Kim McQueen, 217/238-5800

Fox Ridge State Park  
18175 State Park Road  
Charleston, IL 61920  
Contact: Glenn Lyons, 217/345-6416  
Date: April 20, 2010  
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Project: removing invasive exotic plant species and replacing them with native shrub species  
School: Casey-Westfield High School, Casey  
Contact: Jennifer Franklin, 217/932-2175

Hidden Springs State Forest  
RR 1 Box 200  
Strasburg, IL 62465  
Contact: Rick Goble, 217/644-3091  
Date: April 22, 2010  
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Project: repairing and replacing nesting boxes for bluebirds  
School: St. Elmo High School, St. Elmo  
Contact: Elise Asher, 618/829-3227

Iroquois County Conservation Area  
2803 East 3300 North Road  
Beaverville, IL 60912  
Contact: Frank Snow, 815/435-2218  
Date: April 27, 2010  
Time: 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
Project: building and installing nesting boxes for wood ducks and roosting boxes for bats  
School: Donovan Elementary School, Donovan  
Contact: Tricia Bianchetta, 815/486-7321

Moraine View State Recreation Area  
27374 Moraine View Park Road  
Le Roy, IL 61752  
Contact: Bruce Howes, 309/724-8032  
Date: April 21, 2010  
Time: TBD  
Project: planting native tree species  
School: Washington-Monroe Grade School, Lincoln, and Monticello Middle School, Monticello

Contact: Kate Ewing, 217/732-4764 (Lincoln) and Jennifer Smith, 217/762-8511 (Monticello)

Shelbyville Wildlife Management Area  
562 State Highway 121  
Bethany, IL 61914  
Contact: Stan Duzan, 217/665-3112  
Date: April 30, 2010  
Time: TBD  
Project: planting native tree species  
School: Oakland High School, Oakland  
Contact: Jeff Coon, 217/346-2118

Walnut Point State Park  
2331 East County Road 370 North  
Oakland, IL 61943  
Contact: Randy Shafer, 217/346-3336  
Date: May 11, 2010  
Time: 9:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.  
Project: installing rain garden plants and removing invasive, exotic plant species  
School: Villa Grove High School, Villa Grove  
Contact: Aubrey Wachtel, 217/832-2321

Weldon Springs State Park  
4734 Weldon Springs Road  
Clinton, IL 61727  
Contact: Dave Herzog, 217/935-2644  
Date: April 21, 2010  
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Project: planting native wildflowers  
School: Lincoln Community High School, Lincoln  
Contact: Teri Rich, 217/732-4131

Wolf Creek State Park  
RR 1 Box 99  
Windsor, IL 61957  
Contact: Richard Glazebrook, 217/459-2831  
Date: May 3, 2010  
Time: TBD  
Project: planting native wetland plants  
School: Windsor High School, Windsor, and Jefferson Elementary School, Charleston  
Contact: Justin Howard, 217/459-2636 (Windsor); Pam Evans, 217/639-7046 (Charleston)

#### **Region IV (Central and West-Central Illinois)**

Beaver Dam State Park  
14548 Beaver Dam Lane  
Plainview, IL 62685  
Contact: Dennis Armour, 217/854-8020  
Date: April 14, 2010

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Project: removing invasive, exotic plant species  
School: Gillespie High School, Gillespie  
Contact: Rick Spencer, 217/839-2114

Carlyle Lake Wildlife Management Area  
RR 2  
Vandalia, IL 62471  
Contact: Bob Hammel, 618/425-3533  
Date: April 14, 2010  
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
Project: planting native tree species  
School: Hoyleton Public School District #29, Hoyleton  
Contact: Kathleen Roper, 618/493-7787

Eldon Hazlet State Park  
20100 Hazlet Park Road  
Carlyle, IL 62231  
Contact: John Bunnell, 618/594-3015  
Date: April 21, 2010 (morning session)  
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
Project: planting native prairie wildflowers and grasses  
School: Lebanon High School, Lebanon  
Contact: Theresa DiMaria, 618/537-4423

Eldon Hazlet State Park  
20100 Hazlet Park Road  
Carlyle, IL 62231  
Contact: John Bunnell, 618/594-3015  
Date: April 21, 2010 (afternoon session)  
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Project: planting native prairie wildflowers and grasses  
School: Carlyle High School, Carlyle  
Contact: Crystal Lingley, 618/594-2453

Frank Holten State Recreation Area  
4500 Pocket Road  
East St. Louis, IL 62205  
Contact: Tom Orlet, 618/874-7920  
Date: April 22, 2010  
Time: TBD  
Project: planting native tree species  
School: TBD  
Contact: TBD

IDNR Headquarters  
One Natural Resources Way  
Springfield, IL 62702  
Contact: Valerie Keener, 217-785/0973  
Date: April 22, 2010  
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.



Project: planting native prairie wildflowers  
School: Farmersville Grade School, Farmersville, and Raymond Grade School, Raymond  
Contact: Robin Riggs and Christine Meisner, 217/229-3124

Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area  
10149 County Highway 11  
Chandlerville, IL 62627  
Contact: Mike Wickens, 217/452-7741  
Date: April 7, 2010  
Time: 9:15 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
Project: planting native trees and wildflowers  
School: Franklin Middle School, Springfield  
Contact: K. C. Sullivan, 217/525-3164

Nauvoo State Park  
Route 96  
Nauvoo, IL 62354  
Contact: Regan Ramsey, 217/453-2512  
Date: May 10, 2010  
Time: TBD  
Project: planting native tree species  
School: Nauvoo/Colusa Elementary School, Nauvoo  
Contact: Jack McKinnon, 217/453-2311

### **Region V (Southern Illinois)**

Beall Woods State Park  
9285 Beall Woods Avenue  
Mt. Carmel, IL 62863  
Contact: Jacque Hallam, 618/298-2442  
Date: May 5, 2010  
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Project: planting native wildflowers  
School: Red Hill High School, Bridgeport  
Contact: David Abendroth, 618/945-2521

Cache River State Natural Area  
8885 State Route 37 South  
Cypress, IL 62923  
Contact: Molie Oliver, 618/657-2064  
Date: April 29, 2010  
Time: 9:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Project: planting native prairie and wetland plants  
School: Franklin Elementary School  
Contact: Carla Bunting, 618/524-2243

Ferne Clyffe State Park  
Route 37  
Goreville, IL 62939

Contact: Bill Reynolds, 618/995-2411  
Date: April 15, 2010  
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Project: planting native trees and a butterfly garden  
School: Egyptian High School, Tamms  
Contact: Erin Wright, 618/776-5251

Giant City State Park  
235 Giant City Road  
Makanda, IL 62958  
Contact: Bob Martin, 618/457-4836  
Date: April 22, 2010  
Time: TBD  
Project: planting native wildflowers  
School: Carbondale Community High School, Carbondale  
Contact: Michelle Buchheit, 618/201-0185

Mermet Lake Conservation Area  
1812 Grinnell Road  
Belknap, IL 62908  
Contact: Chris McGinness, 618/524-5577  
Date: April 15, 2010  
Time: 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Project: planting native trees and building/installing nesting boxes for birds  
School: Maple Grove Elementary School, Metropolis  
Contact: Lacey Wright, 618/543-7434

Pyramid State Park  
1562 Pyramid Park Road  
Pinckneyville, IL 62274  
Contact: Cha Hill, 618/357-2574  
Date: April 21, 2010  
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Project: planting native tree species  
School: TBD  
Contact: TBD

Ramsey Lake State Recreation Area  
Ramsey Lake Road  
Ramsey, IL 62080  
Contact: Tim Pryor, 618/423-2215  
Date: April 14, 2010  
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Project: building brush piles for wildlife and building/installing nesting boxes for bluebirds  
School: Mulberry Grove Junior High School, Mulberry Grove  
Contact: Kathy Lappe, 618/326-8221

Tunnel Hill State Trail  
Highway 146 East  
Vienna, IL 62995  
Contact: Bill Reynolds, 618/658-2168

Date: April 14, 2010

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Project: planting native trees and a butterfly garden

School: Jefferson Elementary School, Metropolis

Contact: Linda Weatherbee, 618/524-4390