



Inside Illinois DNR

April 2017

Volume 5, Number 4

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IDNR Careers

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources offers a wide array of professional careers in the conservation and natural resource arena. [Click here](#) to see what jobs openings are available.

A Message from Director Wayne Rosenthal



Congratulations to all of the participants in the recent National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) Illinois State Tournament, hosted by the IDNR and held on March 24 and 25 at the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield.

One of the most important things we do at the IDNR is encourage youth participation in outdoors activities. In recent years, one of our fastest growing youth programs has been NASP – a program developed by teachers to give kids in grade school through high school expert instruction in archery shooting during PE classes.

Talking to the kids attending the state tournament, you learn quickly why they like NASP. They like the chance to do something different in gym classes, they like the instruction, and they like the competition.

At the state tournament, participants joined in honoring the memory of 15-year-old Luke Miller of Champaign, a Centennial High School archery team member who tragically passed away on March 11. The final results from the state tournament, where approximately 1,000 students participated, are headlined by students from Champaign.

Centennial High School’s Team #1 earned first-place honors in the High School Division. Centennial sophomore Spencer Weis was the top individual archer, and freshman Maria Heller of Centennial was the top individual among girls. Teams from Jefferson Middle School in Champaign finished first, second and fourth in the Middle School Division, and Next Generation School of Champaign won the team title in the Elementary School Division.

In the Middle School Division, eighth grader Mason McMaster of Armstrong-Potomac Schools was the top finisher among boys, and eighth grade classmate Emma Jameson of Armstrong-Potomac was the best among girls (Emma also was runner up overall among girls of all ages). In the Elementary School Division, top individual scores were recorded for fifth grader Marlee Brand of St. John’s Lutheran School of Mattoon among girls and fourth grader Avery Morrison of East Dubuque among boys.

Archery in schools is a great way to get youth interested in the outdoors. It is popular in urban and rural schools. The program provides a chance for kids of all ages and varied interests to be part of a team. And kids can participate in archery for a lifetime.

Congratulations to all the participants and volunteers who made the 2017 NASP Illinois State Tournament a great success.

DNR in the news

Trout Season

Kickapoo Landing Gets New Operator

Waterfowl seasons not expected to be altered

State Museum showcases contemporary art

Statewide Offices

Springfield, IL
217-782-6302

Bartlett, IL
847-608-3100

Benton, IL
618-435-8138

Chicago, IL
312-814-2070

Clinton, IL
217-935-6860

Highlights



Director Wayne Rosenthal announced the awarding of more than \$98,000 in donated funds from the Illinois Biodiversity Field Trip Grant Program. More than 8,300 students will visit Illinois state parks, museums and other natural resources sites this year to learn about nature and conservation thanks to grant funding through the 102 field trip grants. [For more information click here](#)

IDNR Awards Illinois Biodiversity Field Trip Grants to Schools

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IDNR/ICF Food Truck Festival Fundraiser in Conservation World

The IDNR/ICF Food Truck Festival Fundraiser in Conservation World on the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield will be on April 22 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. It's a family fun event, featuring a variety of fantastic food truck goodies, live music and drinks in the beautiful Conservation World setting, with live music by Mike Burnett and the Suns of Circumstance. Sponsored by Hy-Vee. [For more information click here](#)

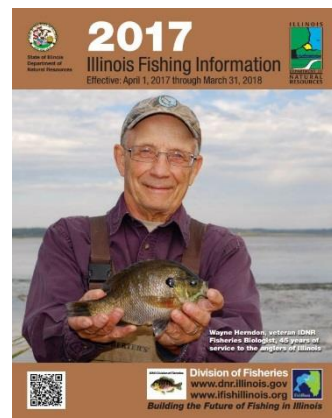
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IDNR to Test-Launch New White-tailed Deer Website

White-tailed deer are an integral part of the Illinois landscape, and a new website will provide up-to-date information on deer biology, management, research and regulations. White-tailed Deer Illinois is a collaborative effort led by the IDNR's Division of Wildlife Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration, and the National Great Rivers Research and Education Center. Funding for the White-tailed Deer Illinois website was made available through Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Project W-147-T. [For more information click here](#)

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2017 Licenses

The new license year in Illinois has begun, as of April 1. Illinois fishing, hunting and sportsman's combination licenses and stamps for 2017 are available from DNR Direct license and permit vendors, online through the IDNR website, or by calling 1-888-6PERMIT (1-888-673-7648). The 2017 licenses and stamps are valid through March 31, 2018, unless otherwise noted. [For more information click here](#)

[Check out these amazing time-lapse videos of Illinois' Great State Parks](#)



The ICF Board of Directors have announced Eric Schenck as the Foundation's New Executive Director.

Eric is an Illinois native and long-time IDNR partner, who brings 30 years of experience working in wildlife conservation and non-profit fundraising to the task of leading the ICF.



Highlights



Apply for Firearm/Muzzleloader Deer Permits

Resident Illinois deer hunters can apply through April 30 for the first lottery drawings for 2017 Illinois Firearm and Muzzleloader-only Deer Season permits. Hunters can apply online through the IDNR website. [For more information click here](#)



Kids' Day: It's Magic

Join us for a new Kids' Day program at Dickson Mounds Museum near Lewistown on Sat., April 22, 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Featuring "The Magic of Mitch Williams," the one-hour show starts at 2 p.m. Tickets will be available on a first come, first served basis beginning at 1 p.m. in the Museum lobby. Seating is limited. Tickets are free. Hands-on crafts to take home will be available for kids to enjoy making before and after the show. Age: 5 years and up with adult. [For more information click here](#)



Wingshooting Clinics Scheduled

IDNR, in cooperation with a number of partners and co-sponsors, will conduct wingshooting clinics at sites throughout Illinois this spring through mid-November. Wingshooting clinics are intended to provide instruction and improve the shooting skills of beginners and experienced hunters. To access the 2017 IDNR Wingshooting Clinics schedule and information on registering for clinics, check the IDNR Wingshooting webpage. [For more information click here.](#)

[For more information check out our monthly calendar of events!](#)

Visit the IDNR on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!

