



Inside Illinois DNR

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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



I hope you'll make plans to attend this year's Illinois State Fair in Springfield, and set aside some time while at the fair to visit Conservation World, the 30-acre park adjacent to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources headquarters on the fairgrounds.

Conservation World will open on Friday, August 12, and will be open every day of the fair from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. through Sunday, August 21.

A tour through Conservation World offers you a chance to sample the outdoors in Illinois. Among the grass, ponds and shade trees, IDNR staff host displays and activities that children, families, and visitors of all ages can enjoy.

Fishing instructors will show kids how to bait a hook, cast a line, and how to catch fish at a small pond at Conservation World. Youth and adults can get tips on fly casting and bow fishing.

Girls and boys can practice their archery and BB shooting skills, with help from IDNR shooting sports experts and safety education instructors.

Biologists can help you identify Illinois sport fish in the tanks at the Fisheries Tent, while wildlife and natural heritage staff can offer advice and information on habitat projects, hunting seasons, and great places to go birdwatching.

Uniformed Conservation Police officers will host displays of wildlife mounts and answer questions about staying safe while enjoying the outdoors, and how to report violations when you see them. The Law Enforcement Tent is also the place to get your fishing and hunting licenses and permit information while visiting Conservation World.

Mines and Minerals and Oil and Gas experts can answer questions about the geology of Illinois, regulations regarding oil and gas production, mining, and whether there might be an old coal mine under your home.

We have information on the Illinois Recreational Access Program, through which landowners can lease their property for public recreation like turkey hunting or launching a canoe or kayak. Our friends from the Illinois Green Industry Association are in Conservation World answering questions about landscaping, while IDNR Forest Resources staff hosts Smokey Bear while talking about tree care.

While visiting Conservation World, spend a few minutes relaxing with a cold drink, an ice cream cone, kettle corn, corn dog, or pork or beef brisket sandwich from some of the state fair's best food and drink vendors.

As you can tell, there's plenty to do at Conservation World – with a lot of free activities for kids and families. Plan to stop by for a visit while you're attending the Illinois State Fair.

DNR in the news

**Russell retires
after nearly 54
years on the job**

**Millennium
Reserve Update**

**Volo Bog
Celebrates**

Alligator gar

Statewide Offices

**Springfield, IL
217-782-6302**

**Bartlett, IL
847-608-3100**

**Clinton, IL
217-935-6860**

**Benton, IL
618-435-8138**

Highlights



[information click here](#)

ATA Grand American

The Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA) Grand American World Trapshooting Championships are scheduled for August 3-13 at the World Shooting and Recreational Complex in Sparta. The ATA serves as the faithful protector of the sport of trapshooting. As the largest clay target shooting organization in the world, the ATA governs the sport's rules and regulations and seeks ways to further enhance the sport and increase participation. Good luck to all of the shooters. [For more](#)



2016-2017 Waterfowl Season Dates

The waterfowl season dates and bag limits for the 2016–17 seasons have been announced. They include 60-day duck seasons in each of the state's four waterfowl hunting zones, along with 107 days of Canada goose hunting opportunity in the North and Central zones (15 days in September, two days of youth hunting and 90 days of regular goose season), 99 days of Canada goose hunting opportunity in the South Central Zone, and 86 days of Canada goose hunting opportunity in the South Zone. Goose season lengths are shorter in the South Central and South zones to coincide with duck season dates and to match hunter preferences. [For more information click here](#)



Controlled Pheasant Hunting Reservation Information Now Available Online

Controlled pheasant hunting opportunities will be available at 18 IDNR sites this fall, and the 2016-17 season dates and permit reservation information are now available online. Fourteen of the sites are operated by the IDNR, while four other sites continue to be operated in a public/private partnership arrangement between the IDNR and concessionaire T. Miller, Inc. [For more information click here](#)



Camping Reservations

Summer is a great time for camping in Illinois. Make campsite and shelter reservations for many IDNR sites online through the Reserve America website at www.reserveamerica.com using a credit card. For more information, check the IDNR website at [For more](#)

[information click here](#)

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

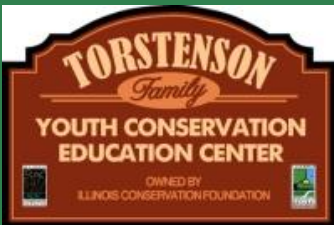


What is the Torstenson Center?

WideOpenSpaces.com wrote a great article about what a great resource the Torstenson Youth Conservation Education Center is.

You can find the article [here](#), which did a great job of sharing why the ICF's mission at the Torstenson Center is important to our Illinois outdoors heritage

Remember you can support the Torstenson Center, and similar programs throughout the state, by making a donation [here](#).



Highlights



Illinois Fallen Soldier Memorial 5K/10K Fun Run or Walk

Illini State Park in Marseilles is the host of the Illinois Fallen Soldier Memorial 5K/10K fun run or walk on September 10 at 8:00 a.m. Register by September 5. With your \$30 participation donation, you will receive a t-shirt, beverages and snacks. The event is sponsored by CP's Ice Cream and Concession. [For more information click here](#)

Fall Dove Hunts



September brings dove hunting season and the Illinois Conservation Foundation is again welcoming hunters to the Torstenson Center. Our annual dove hunt fundraiser will take place on opening day, September 1, and the annual mentored youth hunt will be on September 3. [For more information click here](#)



Kids for Conservation® for August: Saving Species!

Kids for Conservation® from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources is great for schools, youth groups and families to participate in. The August topic is Illinois' Saving Species. Information, teacher resources, Kids in Action, videos, a quiz and upcoming youth events can be found on the Web page. [For more information click here.](#)

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

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

