



Inside Illinois DNR

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IDNR Careers

IDNR offers a wide array of professional careers in the conservation and natural resource arena. [Click here](#) to see the job openings available.

A Message from Director Colleen Callahan



When the calendar flips to August, my first thought is "State Fair!"

My parents met at the fair. Years later, they brought me to the fair when I was six months old. And 68 years later, I haven't missed one since!

But now, my attention has transitioned from the livestock area to Conservation World. I never imagined I'd go from being a state fair participant to a member of the team which hosts the greatest feature of the fair.

A 30-acre park located at the northwest corner of the fairgrounds, Conservation World highlights many of the state's outdoor recreation opportunities and conservation efforts.

Organized by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Conservation World has 35 attractions, tents and food vendors for visitors to enjoy. From relaxing under a shade tree while the kids float around the pond in a Voyageur canoe, to enjoying sporting dog demonstrations on the pond and the chainsaw-buzzing, log-rolling feats of the Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show, Conservation World is full of family-friendly activities.

Fishing instructors will show kids how to bait a hook, cast a line, and catch fish at the Urban Fishing Pond, while anglers of all ages can get tips on fly casting and bow fishing. And don't miss the 2,800-gallon aquarium in the Fisheries tent, stocked with some impressive sport fish from area waterways.

Want to learn more about pollinators, or do your part to expand pollinator habitats in Illinois? Conservation World will have displays, advice and seed mix you can take home and plant to benefit Monarch butterflies and other important pollinators.

Youth can practice their archery and target shooting skills with help from IDNR experts and safety education instructors. What's more, kids and school teachers can stop by the IDNR Education Tent for activities and displays focused on the more than 29,000 types of invertebrates that call Illinois home.

Our wildlife and natural heritage biologists also will be in Conservation World, armed with advice and information on hunting seasons, habitat enhancement and places to view wildlife here in Illinois.

Finally, pick up your fishing and hunting licenses and permit information at the Law Enforcement Tent, and get your outdoor regulations and safety questions answered by one of our Conservation Police Officers.

Conservation World will be open starting Friday, Aug. 9 through Sunday, Aug. 18 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day, so be sure to join us for some family fun during this year's fair!

DNR in the News

Partnership to
Address Asian
Carp Issues

American
Trapshooting
Association's
Grand American
Event at Sparta

Results of Studies
for Pyramid State
Park and World
Shooting and
Recreational
Complex to be
Released

Statewide Offices

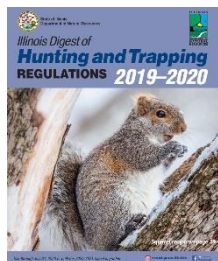
Springfield, IL
217-782-6302

Bartlett, IL
847-608-3100

Benton, IL
618-435-8138

Highlights

2019-2020 Illinois Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations Now Available Online



The 2019-2020 edition of the IDNR's *Illinois Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations* is now available for download. [Click here](#) to access the publication. The online Spanish-language version and paper copies of both the English-language and Spanish-language booklets may be ordered through the IDNR [publications Web page](#) soon.

IDNR Public Access Adds More Archery Deer Hunting Sites



Applications are being accepted for archery deer hunting on private land this October through the Illinois Recreational Access Program (IRAP). To participate, hunters must apply by August 23 to be eligible for the IRAP archery deer drawing. Applicants must have passed a hunter safety course (if born in 1980 or after), have a valid hunting license and choose whether they prefer to hunt October 1-15 or October

16-31. IRAP is open to both resident and non-resident hunters. Youth hunters are encouraged to apply and are given preference in the lottery when sites are assigned. [Click here](#) to access the application form.

Visit Conservation World and Conservation Village



Activities and information about Illinois' natural resources are available at Conservation World at the Illinois State Fair in Springfield and Conservation Village at the Du Quoin State Fair. Conservation World will be open from 10:00 a.m.

through 7:00 p.m. daily from August 9-18, and Conservation Village will be open daily from August 24-September 2. To see the Conservation World schedule, [click here](#).

Happy Birthday, Smokey Bear!



Smokey Bear is celebrating his 75th birthday this year, and numerous events are being hosted to honor him, make people aware of what Smokey represents and show how you can help prevent forest fires. Check the [IDNR events](#) page for upcoming festivities.



ICF Membership Program

Become an ICF Member Today

With your help, we are "Turning Screen Time into Green Time."

Join ICF Today

Call (217) 785-2003

Visit ICF

Black Carp Bounty Available to Anglers



The IDNR is encouraging all fishers in the region to report and turn in any specimens of invasive black carp that they capture. The IDNR offers a \$100 bounty for each black carp harvested by commercial fishers and all sport anglers/bow-

fishers. The bounty is available to captures within Illinois and the surrounding region, based on the need for biological information, which may include the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio and Tennessee. For more information, [click here](#).

Updated Schedule at Stratton-Bolger Lock and Dam



An updated operating schedule for the William G. Stratton-Thomas A. Bolger Lock and Dam facility on the Fox River in McHenry County has been released for the 2019 navigation season. Beginning August

19, the lock will be closed on Mondays and Tuesdays (except for Labor Day Monday, Sept. 2 and Columbus Day Monday, Oct. 14) through the end of the 2019 navigational season. Beginning August 19 and continuing through the month of September, IDNR lock tenders will operate the lock on Wednesdays through Sundays from 8:00 a.m. until midnight. For the month of October, IDNR lock tenders will operate the lock on Wednesdays through Sundays from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. The Stratton-Bolger facility is closed for the winter season each year from November 1 through April 30.

New Operating Hours for Two State Historic Sites



The Carl Sandburg State Historic Site in Galesburg is open to visitors each Thursday, Friday and Sunday from 12:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

and each Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. through October. During the months of November through March, the Sandburg site's closing time each Thursday through Sunday will be one hour earlier at 4:00 p.m. The Bryant Cottage State Historic Site in Bement is open to the public each Tuesday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Access information about all of the 56 state historic sites and memorials by [clicking here](#).

Safety Vital on All Boating Trips



Illinois Conservation Police remind boat operators and passengers to stay sober and wear a life jacket while on the water. Boat operators should check to make sure watercraft have the correct number of personal floatation devices (PFDs) on board. Illinois law requires that properly fitting U.S. Coast Guard-approved PFDs – life jackets or life vests – be available for each person

aboard a boat or other watercraft. State law also requires that anyone under the age of 13 must wear a life jacket while aboard any watercraft under 26 feet in length at all times the boat is underway, unless they are below deck in an enclosed cabin or operating on private property. Illinois law also requires persons of any age to wear a PFD while operating a personal watercraft or Jet Ski. For more information about boating safety in Illinois, [click here](#).

Wildlife in the Classroom



Teachers often come into contact with wildlife or wildlife remains, willingly or not. It is important for them to know what to do before being placed in these situations. The *Wildlife in the Classroom* publication from the IDNR, while not all-encompassing, provides teachers with some general guidelines to help. For more information, [click here](#).

Delta McKenzie Classic Archery Tournament



Mermet Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area in Belknap is holding its annual Delta McKenzie Classic Archery Tournament from August 1-4. Those who qualify will be allowed to compete in one of the 49 shooting classes at the Classic Tournament (World Tournament). Admission to

watch the tournament is free, but a small fee for parking is collected each day. For more information, [click here](#).

Illinois State Museum Society Hosting Day Trips

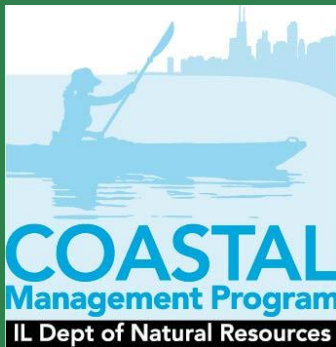


On August 10, the Illinois State Museum Society is hosting a day trip to the Illinois State Museum Lockport Gallery and the Old Joliet Prison. The cost of the Lockport/Joliet trip is \$129 for Society members and \$149 for non-members and covers

travel, lunch, admission to all facilities, and educational presentations. [Click here](#) for additional information. A second day trip on September 14 will focus on the history of African Americans in the Midwest with stops at New Philadelphia in west central Illinois and the Huck Finn Freedom Center in Hannibal, Missouri. The cost of the New Philadelphia/Hannibal trip is \$114 for Society members and \$129 for non-members and includes travel, lunch, admission to two sites and educational presentations. For additional information, [click here](#).

Astronomy Family Night Event at Dickson Mounds August 10

Beginning at 10:00 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 10, bring the family and spend the overnight viewing the stars outside Dickson Mounds Museum in Fulton Co. This special event begins at 10:00 p.m. August 10 and continues until 5:00 a.m. Sunday, August 11. For more information, call 309-547-3721 or [Click here](#).



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

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



