



Inside Illinois DNR

January 2018

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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



As we welcome in the New Year, I hope you'll plan to spend some time with us at our great Illinois state parks, state museums, and state historic sites during 2018.

January and the winter months may not seem like an ideal part of the year to spend time outdoors, but we have plenty of winter recreation and cultural options for you if you're looking to get out of the house.

If the state park trails aren't snow covered or iced over, a brisk hike or winter bike ride is a great way to get the blood flowing, to build up steps on your pedometer, and to meet your post-holiday fitness goals. If there is a blanket of snow, grab the snowshoes or cross-country skis and spend a day at a park.

Birders and other wildlife watchers enjoy a crisp winter day, when birds and other critters are easier to see with leaves off the trees. And winter is the prime time of the year for eagle watching in Illinois.

Bald Eagle Days at Pere Marquette State Park – on select dates throughout the winter – are free (reservations required) and include a driving tour of bald eagle hot spots in and around the park. Check the details here:

<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/Parks/Activity/Documents/PereMarquetteBaldEagleDays.jpg>

Starved Rock State Park's Bald Eagle Watch Weekend is another popular annual January event, this year on January 27-28. For more details on Illinois eagle watching events, check the website at <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/eagles/Pages/EagleWatching.aspx>

The Illinois State Museum, Dickson Mounds Museum, and ISM Lockport Gallery have great exhibits and special programs throughout the year, and winter is no exception. If the kids are suffering from cases of cabin fever this winter, plan a day letting them experience Illinois history, art, and culture in museum settings that help make learning fun. Check the Illinois State Museum website for details on events and other activities at www.illinoisstatemuseum.org

Our state historic sites also have winter hours, so kick the snow or slush off your boots and visit some of our more than 50 historic sites, located in every corner of Illinois. Call ahead to check operating days and hours. Take the entire family to step back in time and enjoy the rustic beauty and awe-inspiring feeling you'll experience sampling Illinois history – the last 200 years and beyond. Historic sites information is on the IDNR website at www.dnr.illinois.gov

DNR in the news

**Armadillo
Invasion**

**Rare White Deer
Killed**

Grave Matters

**Duck Hunting
Chicago**

Statewide Offices

Springfield, IL
217-782-6302

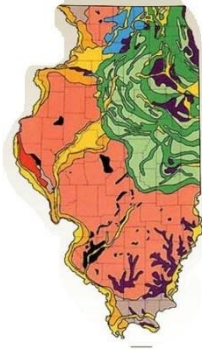
Bartlett, IL
847-608-3100

Benton, IL
618-435-8138

Chicago, IL
312-814-2070

Clinton, IL
217-935-6860

Highlights



Nature Trek: A Glacial Perspective, on Jan. 20

Learn about how the last Ice Age shaped the present-day landscape. Participants will meet at the Therkildsen Field Station at Emiquon, 11316 N. Prairie Road, Lewistown, to begin the hike through The Nature Conservancy's Emiquon Preserve. Information will be presented by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's and Dickson Mounds' staff. Participants must dress appropriately for the outdoors, provide their own drinks and snacks, and be able to hike comfortably with an elevation gain and across uneven terrain. [For more information click here](#)



From New York, David Nagler will celebrate Sandburg's 140th Birthday with Concert in Galesburg on Jan. 6

New Yorker David Nagler will be journeying to Illinois to celebrate the 140th anniversary of Carl Sandburg's birth. This birthday concert features Nagler's new musical project *Carl Sandburg's Chicago Poems* on Saturday, January 6 at 2 p.m. at the Carl Sandburg State Historic Site in Galesburg. Nagler has put Sandburg's "Chicago Poems" to his original music. He first read Sandburg's "Chicago Poems" in the fall of 1998. He liked the characters and predicaments Sandburg had written about. It was 10 years later that Nagler began writing music and melodies for those poems. He released his CD *Carl Sandburg's Chicago Poems* in 2016. [For more information click here](#)



IDNR Conservation Police Issue More Than 1,800 Citations and Warnings to Violators During Illinois' Busiest Hunting Season

While firearm deer hunters in Illinois took more than 80,000 deer during the state's busiest hunting season, IDNR's Conservation Police report just four hunting-related accidents were reported, three of them involving injuries resulting from tree stand falls. At the same time, Conservation Police officers were busy enforcing wildlife laws and hunting regulations in and around the 2017 Firearm Deer Season, issuing more than 1,800 citations and written warnings for hunting-related violations statewide from November 13 through December 4. [For more information click here](#)

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



ICF Scholarships

Illinois high school seniors can apply by Jan. 19 for the Illinois Conservation Foundation's 2018 Conservation Achievement Scholarship program.

Scholarships are awarded to outstanding high school seniors in Illinois who demonstrate effective, voluntary, long-term dedication to the preservation, protection or enhancement of the state's natural resources.

Visit **ICF**

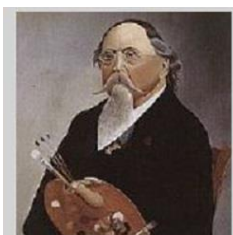
(217) 785-2003

Highlights



IDNR Announces Land and Water Conservation Grants

Federal funding helps local communities acquire recreation open spaces. IDNR announced \$1,270,500 in federal grant funding has been approved for local governments to purchase land to be used for public access and recreation. Funding for the program is made available through the National Park Service's Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). [For more information click here](#)



Olof Krans

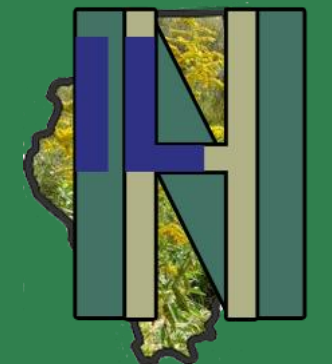
Olof Krans Folk Paintings Donated to Bishop Hill Historic Site

Two paintings by Bishop Hill painter Olof Krans were recently donated to the Bishop Hill State Historic Site by Mrs. Barbara Glick. Her late husband, Merle Glick, was an expert on Illinois folk art and was a strong advocate for Olof Krans's importance as a folk artist, not only in Illinois, but nationally. [For more information click here](#)



Resources Trunks and Packs for Loan

Resources trunks/packs from the IDNR's Division of Education are Illinois-specific units on 12 topics. Available for loan statewide, they are filled with items for hands-on learning. Teachers, homeschooling educators, scout and youth group leaders, nature center personnel, librarians, day care center staff and families are among the people who can successfully use these resources. A two-week loan period is suggested. There is no charge to borrow the trunks/packs, although a refundable deposit may be requested. Lessons are correlated to the Next Generation Science Standards, Common Core Standards and Illinois Early Learning and Development Standards, as appropriate. [For more information click here.](#)



Dickson Mounds Winter Gathering Jan. 27



Participate in a traditional Native American Gathering at Dickson Mounds Museum on Sat., Jan. 27. Enjoy a variety of activities and demonstrations, including storytelling, music and dancing. Vendors will be open from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. [For more information click here](#)

Ice Fishing Safety



Ice fishing can be great fun, but you need to take ice fishing safety seriously. Review important ice fishing safety information on the I Fish Illinois website.

[For more information click here](#)

Fulton-Mason Eagle Day Feb. 3



Join in the fun at the annual Fulton-Mason Eagle Day event on Sat., Feb. 3 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Activities include live raptor programs, hands-on activities and crafts for kids, and bird watching in various locations in Lewistown and Havana, IL. The event is free and for all ages. (Photo: USACE) [For more information click here](#)

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

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