



Inside Illinois DNR

June 2018

Volume 6, Number 6

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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 what jobs openings are available.

A Message from Director Wayne Rosenthal



Fishing in Illinois is great anytime of the year, but the month of June is a really great time for fishing, and special events involving fishing.

Illinois Free Fishing Days are scheduled for the Father's Day weekend. Each year, Illinois Free Fishing Days give anyone of any age a chance to go fishing without the need to have a fishing license. This year's Free Fishing Days are Friday, June 15 through Monday, June 18.

A number of special events are held throughout the state to highlight the fun of fishing during June. One of the most popular, being held this year on Saturday, June 9 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., is the 28th annual Two Rivers Family Fishing Fair at Pere Marquette State Park near Grafton. This free event has attracted thousands of families over the years for fishing, games, prizes, and entertainment.

This year, the Two Rivers Family Fishing Fair will include catch-and-release fishing for bluegill, casting and bowfishing stations, fishing seminars, and a 4,000-gallon aquarium stocked with local sportfish. Longtime sponsors make the free event possible, including the Phillips 66 Wood River Refinery, Farm and Home Supply, Cabela's of Hazelwood, Walmart, and the Jersey County Board. The event is hosted by Pere Marquette State Park, the IDNR Division of Fisheries, the Corps of Engineers, the National Great Rivers Research and Education Center, and the Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge.

June 9 is also the date for the annual Youth Fishing Derby at Beall Woods State Park near Mt. Carmel. Kids ages 6 to 16, accompanied by an adult, can fish from 8:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m., with prizes awarded to the derby winners, sponsored by the Hanging Rock Bass Club.

The Weldon Springs Kids Fishing Derby is on Saturday, June 16 from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. for kids ages 6 to 12 at Weldon Springs State Park near Clinton.

A free Family Fishing Day event will be held on Father's Day, Sunday, June 17, at Banner Marsh State Fish and Wildlife Area in Fulton Co. The IDNR, Dickson Mounds Museum, and the Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge have teamed up to host the event from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. on Father's Day. Activities will include bank fishing, bowfishing, instruction on how to catch different fish species, and fish cleaning and fish preparation techniques. Local event sponsors include Dink's in Lewistown, Havana Outdoors, and Rivers Edge.

Whether it is a fun, family fishing event or just a relaxing day fishing with the family, get outside and enjoy fishing this month, or anytime. For more information on fishing in Illinois, check the website at <https://www.ifishillinois.org/>.

Wayne Rosenthal

[DNR in the news](#)

Updated Illinois Sport Fish Consumption Advisory

White Pines ribbon cutting

Researchers use sweet treats to control carp

Monsters sighted at Sam Parr SFWA

[Statewide Offices](#)

Springfield, IL
217-782-6302

Bartlett, IL
847-608-3100

Benton, IL
618-435-8138

Chicago, IL
312-814-2070

Highlights



Spring Breeding Season Reminder: Leave Young Wildlife Alone

IDNR is reminding Illinois citizens to leave baby birds and wild animals alone. During the breeding season, well-meaning people may believe they are helping by taking possession of young wildlife such as young rabbits, fawn deer, baby birds and other animals that may appear to have been orphaned or abandoned. In nearly all cases, the birds and animals are still being fed and cared for by their parents, which likely stay away from nests or dens if people are present. It is against the law to keep wildlife as pets. [For more information click here](#)



Free Fishing Days June 15-18

During the period of June 15, 16, 17 and 18, 2018, it shall be legal for any person to fish in waters wholly or in part within the jurisdiction of the State, including the Illinois portion of Lake Michigan, without possessing a sport fishing license, salmon stamp or inland trout stamp. [For more information click here](#)



Youth Fishing Derby June 9

Calling all anglers ages 6 to 16! Find your favorite fishing pole and lucky bait. You are invited to Beall Woods State Park's annual youth fishing derby, sponsored by The Hanging Rock Bass Club. Please register upon arrival between 8 a.m.- 8:30 a.m. Participants will have two hours to fish and must be accompanied by an adult. Prizes will be presented at approximately 10:45 a.m. [For more information click here](#)



Hunters in Illinois Harvested 13,500 Turkeys During 2018 Spring Turkey Season

Hunters in Illinois harvested a preliminary statewide total of 13,500 wild turkeys during the 2018 Spring Turkey Season, including the youth season. The 2018 total compares with the statewide turkey harvest of 15,720 in 2017. The statewide preliminary total includes the Youth Turkey Season harvest of 1,139 birds, compared with the record youth harvest of 1,539 turkeys in 2017. The statewide record total was set in 2006 when 16,569 turkeys were harvested. [For more information click here](#)

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



Illinois Outdoor Hall of Fame Nominations Sought

Since 2002, the Illinois Conservation Foundation (ICF) has recognized Illinoisans for their significant contributions and unparalleled dedication in preserving, promoting, enhancing or supporting natural resources and outdoor recreation opportunities with induction into the Illinois Outdoor Hall of Fame.

The deadline for submitting Illinois Outdoor Hall of Fame nominations to ICF is June 15, 2018

Visit ICF

(217) 785-2003

Highlights



Visitors Invited to Special Extended Tours of the Dana-Thomas House in Springfield

Visitors planning to experience the architectural and historical beauty of the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Dana-Thomas House in Springfield are invited to take extended interpreted tours of the landmark residence this spring, summer and fall. Tours are part of the 2018 Frank Lloyd Wright Trail in Illinois.

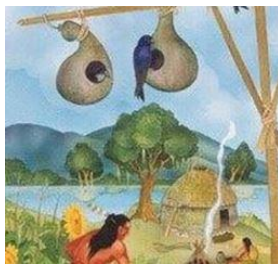
[For more information click here](#)



Theatre in the Park's 100th season is an Illinois Bicentennial endorsed event!

In 2018, Theatre in the Park (TIP) is celebrating its 100th year of live performances in the Kelso Hollow

Theatre. For a century, people have flocked to New Salem for live entertainment, which makes TIP the longest continuous running outdoor venue in Central Illinois. In addition, this is the bicentennial year for Illinois' statehood, and TIP has chosen a variety of historical period shows to be part of the celebration. [For more information click here](#)



Purple Martin Presentation June 9

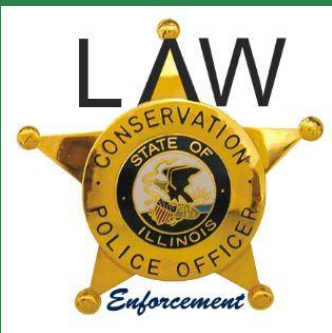
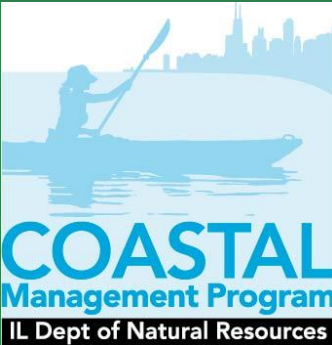
Visitors are invited to Cahokia Mounds on Saturday June 9, from 10 a.m. – 11 a.m., for a special presentation about Purple Martins. Meet at the large rack of nesting gourds on the parking lot south of the Interpretive Center. This is a free event and open to the public. [For more information click here.](#)



Civil War Weekend at Lincoln Log Cabin is June 16-17

Visitors are invited to the Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site in Coles County this Father's Day weekend and learn about the men who answered President

Lincoln's call for troops in 1861. Members of the 5th and 9th Illinois Volunteer Cavalry Regiments will be encamped at the Lincoln Log Cabin site on June 16-17 for special activities from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., both days. [For more information click here](#)



Kids for Conservation®

June: Channel Catfish

The June edition of the IDNR Kids for Conservation® Web page features the topic “Channel Catfish.” You can

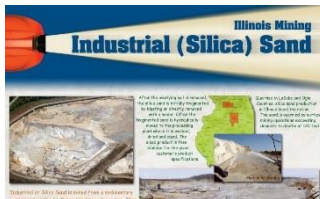
learn basic facts about this topic in the information section. Watch the video podcast, too. Take the quiz to test your knowledge. Educators, there are resources for you to utilize. We have developed a version of the information section specific to early childhood educators. “Kids in Action” features students who are taking action to benefit the environment. [For more information click here](#)



Family Fishing Day at Banner Marsh State Fish and Wildlife Area is June 17

Families may enjoy exploring, discovering, and learning in the natural world at this new fishing event on Sunday, June 17, at Banner Marsh State Fish and Wildlife Area! Activities will include bank fishing, and the opportunity to learn about proper fishing etiquette, different fish species, fish population sustainability, fish cleaning techniques, and how to safely consume fish. Everyone may fish for free and without a license during the event. A limited amount of fishing poles and tackle will be available on a first-come, first-served basis for use during the event. [For more information click here](#)

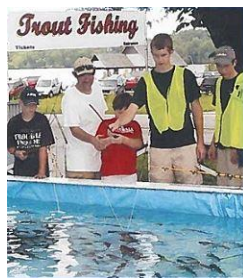
Illinois Mining Poster Series



The IDNR Office of Mines and Minerals has produced a series of 12 posters related to mining in the state. Topics include: *Chert and Flint; Clay and Shale; Coal and Peat; Fluorite; Fuller’s Earth; Galena, Sphalerite and Pyrite; Industrial Sand; Limestone; Salt and Iron Ore;*

Sand and Gravel; Saving Species; and, Tripoli. Each poster is 24” x 36” and is printed on one side only. Posters can be ordered through the online publications page. [For more information click here](#)

Two Rivers Free Fishing Fair is June 9



Bring your family and friends to the Two Rivers Free Fishing Fair on June 9 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., at Pere Marquette State Park in Grafton. [For more information click here](#)



Reporting Monarch Educational Activities

The IDNR and its partners in the monarch initiative are collecting information about educational activities related to monarch butterflies. If you conducted any activities in 2017 or 2018 related to educating people in Illinois about monarch butterflies, or to enhancing or developing monarch habitat in Illinois, please send us a brief description (no more than three sentences) describing each activity. Include the date, a description of the activity, the targeted audience (if an educational activity), the organization or person leading the activity, and an email address for someone who can answer questions about the activity. [For more information click here](#)



Illinois State Museum Participating in Blue Star Museum Program

The Illinois State Museum is one of more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to military personnel and their families this summer in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and the Department of Defense. [For more information click here](#)



Summer Passport Program

The Illinois State Museum Passport Series is back for this summer. This series of five search activities will enable families to take a closer look at the exhibits that they love. A new search is available every two weeks. Upon completion of each search, children will receive a stamp for their passport, and a drawing entry for a prize. Pick up a passport at the ISM ticket window and complete all five search activities to fill the passport. The program will end on August 5. [For more information click here](#)



Illinois Boat Registration and Safety Act Amendments Changes Effective June 1

Watercraft registration expiration date changed; Water Usage Stamp repealed. [For more information click here](#)

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

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

