



Inside Illinois DNR

March 2019

Volume 7, Number 3

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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.



Welcome Colleen Callahan to IDNR

Governor JB Pritzker on February 19 appointed Colleen Callahan to serve as Director of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Prior to the appointment, Colleen managed her own communications consulting firm after serving for more than seven years as state director for USDA Rural Development in Illinois. During her tenure at USDA, she and her staff worked with local communities and businesses to generate a \$1 billion increase in the Illinois rural development loan portfolio. Colleen also worked for 30 years in radio and television, serving as the agribusiness director for WMBD in Peoria. She was the first female president of the National Association of Farm Broadcasting. Colleen grew up on a cattle and grain farm near Milford in Iroquois County. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in agricultural communications from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

From Director Colleen Callahan:

"I am eager to work with the dedicated IDNR career staff, to learn from them and collaborate on ways to help meet the needs of enhancing Illinois' natural resources. And, I welcome the opportunity to communicate the importance and impact of our natural resources and the diverse responsibilities of the Illinois DNR. From mines and minerals to our state museums and the management of lands; from parks to preservation of history; from water to wildlife...the oversight is vast and various. I'm also looking forward to connecting with those who use and those who depend on our state's greatest asset, our natural resources. Not to mention, encouraging the experience of our parks, trails, lakes, preserves, hunting, and fishing...all without leaving Illinois!"

[DNR in the news](#)

Volo Bog Photo Contest Winners

Ellsworth Park Improvements

Timber Sales

Feral Pigs

[Statewide Offices](#)

Springfield, IL
217-782-6302

Bartlett, IL
847-608-3100

Benton, IL
618-435-8138

Chicago, IL
312-814-2070

Highlights



IDNR Accepting Applications for Recreational Trails Program, Off-Highway Vehicle, and Illinois Bicycle Path Grant Programs

IDNR announced applications will be accepted through March 14 for grants through the Recreational Trails Program (RTP), Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV), and Illinois Bicycle Path Grant Programs beginning on January 14, 2019. The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is a reimbursement grant program that provides 80 percent of project funding with a required 20 percent local match. This grant program is federally funded and is administered by the IDNR in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The funds can be used to assist government agencies and trail groups in the rehabilitation, development, maintenance, and acquisition of recreational trails and related facilities. [For more information click here](#)



Governor Pritzker Announces \$28.9 Million in Grants for 89 Local Park Projects Throughout Illinois

Governor JB Pritzker announced \$28.9 million in grants for 89 local projects that will help communities acquire open space and develop and improve recreational facilities throughout Illinois. "Investments in Illinois' local parks makes it easier for families and recreation enthusiasts to enjoy our state's beauty and help their communities thrive," Governor Pritzker said. "Parks projects will also create jobs, providing a boost to local economic development efforts in dozens of communities and spurring additional investment throughout the state". [For more information click here](#)



Recognition for Illinois History as 30 Sites Are Added to the National Register of Historic Places

The efforts of Illinois historic preservation advocates to preserve and promote the state's heritage paid off in 2018 with 30 properties being added to the National Register of Historic Places, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) announced. The places recognized are scattered across the state and include a nationally significant African American art center, a former village hall and fire station, and nine historic districts that combined include more than 2,800 significant properties. [For more information click here](#)

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



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Highlights



IDNR Announces 2019 Wingshooting Opportunities Schedule

IDNR, in cooperation with a number of partners and co-sponsors, has announced its schedule of wingshooting clinics to be held at sites throughout Illinois from March through mid-November. Wingshooting clinics are intended to provide instruction and improve the shooting skills of beginning shooting students as well as experienced hunters. Most clinics are conducted on weekends at IDNR sites, cooperating gun clubs and shooting ranges, hunting preserves, and farms. [For more information click here](#)



Maple Tapping at Starved Rock

Maple Tapping at the Starved Rock State Park is Sunday, March 10, 1:30 –2:30 p.m. Discover maple syrup's beginnings from Native American and pioneer use to present day. We will end the program with identifying a maple tree and tapping it for maple sap! [For more information click here](#)

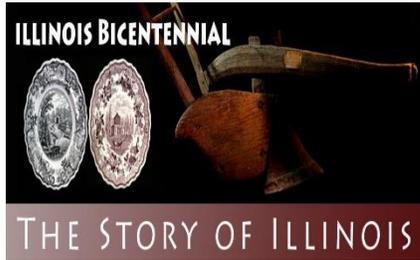
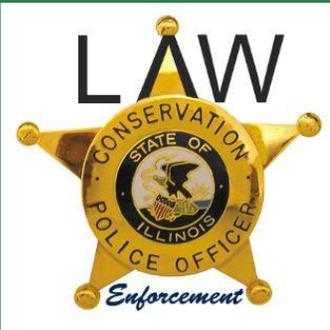


Safety Education for Boating and Hunting

Anyone born on or after January 1, 1980 may not be issued a hunting license unless he or she presents a valid Hunter Education Certificate of Competency issued by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Safety Education Division or another state. No person under 10 years of age may operate a motorboat, including personal watercraft (PWC). Age 10 years and less than 12 years of age may only operate under a parent or guardian's direct control. [For more information click here.](#)

HISTORIC
Preservation
DIVISION


COASTAL
Management Program
IL Dept of Natural Resources



The Story of Illinois

The Illinois State Museum and the Illinois Association of Museums are pleased to present a virtual exhibition titled The Story of Illinois: The Illinois Bicentennial Through Museum Objects. This exhibition consists of objects from the Illinois

State Museum's 13.5-million-object Illinois Legacy Collection along with objects from other Illinois museums, such as the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, Adler Planetarium, Pullman State Historic Site, Wabash County Museum, and many more. [For more information click here](#)



Meet the New Director of Dickson Mounds Museum

Join us for a welcome reception and have the opportunity to meet the new Dickson Mounds Museum Director Dr. Duane Esarey on March 10 at 1:00 pm. No stranger to Dickson Mounds, Dr. Esarey returns

after a fifteen-year absence during which time he completed his doctoral work in Anthropology at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and served as the Assistant Director of the Illinois State Archaeological Survey in Urbana-Champaign. Light refreshments will be served. The event is free and open to the public. No RSVP is required. [For more information click here](#)



Hickory Ridge Concert Series at Dickson Mounds Museum

For more than 20 years, people have gathered at Dickson Mounds on the third Saturday of every month for an evening of musical entertainment. Hosted by Chris Vallillo, an accomplished musician and performer in his own right, the series features Roots/Folk music and other genres offered by a talented variety of performers. On March 16, Eric Lambert and Chris Vallillo will perform. [For more information click here](#)



Carl Sandburg State Historic Site Songbag Concert Series

Enjoy an afternoon/evening of music with singer/songwriter David G. Smith on March 10. The first set starts at 4:00 p.m. and the second set starts at 5:15 p.m. Refreshments available between sets. Suggested Donation: \$5.00. This program is possible thanks to a grant from the Mark & Celia Godsil Family Fund, a Donor Advised Fund of Galesburg Community Foundation and the Community Impact Fund at Galesburg Community Foundation. [For more information click here](#)



Illinois Pollinators Resources Trunks

Attention teachers: Borrow a new Illinois Pollinators resources trunk, and you can use it to help meet Next Generation Science Standards while you and your students are learning about these important and fascinating animals. Available at 30 lending locations statewide, the Illinois Pollinators resources trunk is filled with lessons, equipment and resources to encourage learning in and out of the classroom. [For more information click here](#)



Illinois Fishing License

2019 Illinois Fishing Licenses went on sale March 1, 2019. The 2019 licenses are valid from March 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020. [For more information click here](#)

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

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