



# Inside Illinois DNR

June 2016

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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



One of the great ways for families to enjoy time outdoors is through fishing. Many of us grew up going fishing with our parents or grandparents, who passed along their knowledge and their love of fishing. They taught us how to tie a knot to secure our line to a lure, and how to bait a hook.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Urban Fishing Program conducts free clinics that help spark an interest in fishing for thousands of youngsters every summer. For some kids, the urban fishing clinics are their first chance to experience fishing, and it is always a thrill to see them catch their first fish.

For more than 30 years, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources has provided summertime fishing clinics at urban ponds in local communities throughout the state. The program is simple. Instructors teach kids – and individuals of all ages – how to fish, and give them a greater understanding of and a greater appreciation for natural resources.

The summer clinics are targeted to children ages 16 and younger, but anyone interested in learning to fish can attend. Fishing instructors present information on fish and other aquatic life, rules and regulations, and hands-on help with the basics: baiting a hook, tying a knot, casting, how to catch fish, and how to handle and return fish to the water. As part of each clinic, kids and other participants get rods, reels, bait and tackle, and 90 minutes of catch-and-release fishing.

Our Urban Fishing Program coordinators also hold non-fishing conservation education programs, and visit schools during the fall, winter, and spring to teach and promote fishing and the appreciation of natural resources.

Last year alone, the IDNR Urban Fishing coordinators, along with summer interns and a network of volunteers, participated in a total of 1,681 fishing and conservation programs for nearly 80,000 children and adults.

For a schedule of fishing clinics or more information on fishing in Illinois, check the website at [www.ifishillinois.org](http://www.ifishillinois.org).

## DNR in the news

**Carp Plant To Open**

**Live Buffalo, No Bull**

**Wounded Warrior Deer Hunt**

**Pick With Permission**

## Statewide Offices

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

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

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

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

## Highlights



### Seeking Federal Grant to Begin Development of OHV Trail Facility at Sahara Woods SFWA

IDNR will seek a \$1.5 million federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant for the first phase of design and development of a public off-highway vehicle (OHV) trail facility at the Sahara Woods State Fish and Wildlife Area in Saline Co. [For more information click here](#)



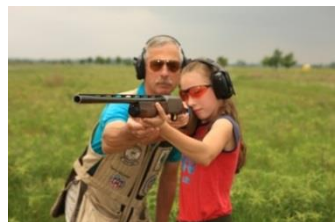
### Delayed Mowing Can Help Save Wildlife

To help save grassland birds and help other wildlife, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources is encouraging landowners and land managers to delay mowing roadsides, field edges, and other grassland areas this spring and summer. May, June and July are very important months for many different kinds of wildlife in Illinois. These months are the peak of the nesting season for most species of birds. [For more information click here](#)



### Spring Wild Turkey Season Harvest Totals 15,484 Birds

Hunters in Illinois harvested a preliminary statewide total of 15,484 wild turkeys during the 2016 Spring Turkey Season, including the youth seasons. The 2016 total compares with the statewide turkey harvest of 15,000 in 2015. The statewide preliminary total includes Youth Turkey Season harvest of 1,045 birds, compared with youth season harvest of 896 turkeys in 2015. [For more information click here](#)



### Wingshooting Clinics Available Now

IDNR in cooperation with a number of partners and cosponsors will conduct wingshooting clinics at sites throughout Illinois from spring through mid-November, intended to provide instruction and improve the shooting skills of beginners and 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](#)

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



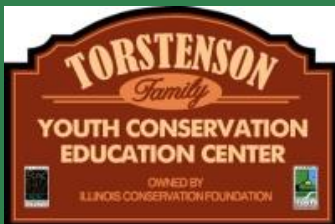
## ICF Spring Appeal

We're looking for your help in making outdoors education and recreation available to kids in Illinois!

The ICF is currently doing a spring appeal to help raise funds for these programs.

With your gift of \$25 or more, you'll become an ICF Member!

Please [click here](#) for more info on how you can support.



## Highlights



### IDNR to Seek Redevelopment Proposals for Eagle Creek Resort

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), with support from local officials in the region, will seek redevelopment proposals for the Eagle Creek Resort and Conference Center facility

on Lake Shelbyville. The resort complex, located at Eagle Creek State Recreation Area in Shelby County, has been closed since 2009 after mold was detected in the resort building. The IDNR will issue a Request for Information (RFI) to gather ideas and feedback on redevelopment of Eagle Creek Resort. [For more information click here](#)



### Kids for Conservation® for June: Illinois' Sport Fishes

Kids for Conservation® from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources is great for schools, youth groups and families to participate in. The June topic is Illinois' Sport Fishes. Information, teacher resources, Kids in Action, videos, a quiz and upcoming youth events can be found on the web page 11. [For more information click here](#)

[information click here](#)



### Illinois State Museum Will Re-Launch July 2

IDNR has announced that the Illinois State Museum will re-launch Saturday, July 2, 2016 pending approval of the administrative rule that will allow the Department to charge an admission fee at the main museum campus. The administrative rule is on the agenda for the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules

(JCAR) meeting to be held June 14. With approval, the museum will be able to open about two weeks later. Initially, the Illinois State Museum in Springfield, Dickson Mounds Museum near Lewistown and the Research and Collections Center in Springfield will officially open July 2. [For more information click here.](#)

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

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

