



Inside Illinois DNR

March 2020

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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.

Promote pollinators by adding native plants this year



Did you know that approximately one in three bites of food that we eat is dependent on the actions of pollinators? That’s both amazing and scary when you really stop to think about it.

But it’s more than just helping food-related plants reproduce. Pollinators – which includes everything from butterflies and bees to hummingbirds and moths – also help plants that give us fibers for clothing, edible oils, medicines and other products necessary for our survival. In fact, without these plants and the food, shelter, oxygen and ecosystem they provide, many land-based organisms – including humans – would not exist.

It’s a symbiotic relationship, with pollinators reliant on the plants and the plants reliant on the pollinators – and all of us reliant on both.

That’s why news that pollinator populations are declining worldwide is so concerning. State agencies like the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) are working to put plans in place to support pollinators and habitat, but everyone can do something, starting by incorporating native plants and pollinator habitat into their spring gardening and landscaping work.

The only state nursery in Illinois, Mason State Tree Nursery produces hand-picked, hand-planted and hand-cleaned plants and shrubs native to Illinois. Even better, the nursery has a history rooted in conservation, working with the IDNR and consumers to provide bareroot tree seedlings, potted plants and pollinator seed mix specially selected with Illinois soils and pollinators in mind.

Bareroot tree seedlings offered at Mason State Tree Nursery come in a variety of species while potted plants grown at the nursery provide beautiful blooms which are easy to incorporate into established landscaping as well as functional habitat for pollinators.

If you’re interested in a more natural look, Mason State Tree Nursery’s pollinator seed mix may be more your speed. Utilizing hand-picked seed from the best native Illinois plants, each seed packet is carefully produced, neonicotinoid free and promotes active pollinator populations.

Ready to get a jump on your spring planting? Mason State Tree Nursery is accepting order forms now through the end of May. Check out everything the nursery has to offer by visiting <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/conservation/Forestry/Pages/Tree-Nurseries.aspx>.

DNR in the News

Support for
Monarch Butterfly

OSLAD Grant

IDNR Advisory
Board

Fly Like An Eagle

Statewide Offices

Springfield, IL
217-782-6302

Bartlett, IL
847-608-3100

Benton, IL
618-435-8138

Highlights

Prepare Now for Spring Flooding



Now is the perfect time to make a flood safety plan with your family, learn to reduce flood impacts and find out if your home or business are at risk.

Learn about the National Flood Insurance Program and prepare today. [Click here](#) for more information.

Deer Hunting Permit Applications



Illinois residents are reminded that it is time to apply for the 2020 Firearm Deer Season this fall. Beginning March 10, resident Illinois hunters can apply online for the first lotteries for firearm and muzzleloader deer permits. [Click here](#) for more information.

Spring Turkey Hunt Permits



The 3rd Lottery Spring Turkey Drawing has been held. Remaining Spring Turkey Firearm permits will be available over the counter (OTC) March 10. Persons may purchase one or more permits during this period, subject to availability, except that no one may exceed the limit of three permits in total for

Spring Turkey hunting, including Youth, Landowner, and Lottery permits. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Illinois - Learn to Hunt



The Illinois Learn to Hunt program provides FREE educational workshops aimed at teaching ADULT participants how to hunt deer, turkey, small game, upland game, and waterfowl. For more information visit [this link](#).



25th Anniversary and Outdoor Hall of Fame Gala

Register today for the April 30 Gala, which starts at 5 pm at The Union League Club, Chicago.

Keynote Speaker:
Johnny Morris,
Founder and CEO, Bass Pro Shops

Honoring: Illinois Outdoor Hall of Fame Recipients Diane and Doug Oberhelman

Tickets will not be sold at the door, must purchase by April 15

For more info call:
(217) 785-2003

Visit ICF

Illinois Sites Added to National Register of Historic Places



Thanks to the efforts of historic preservation advocates in Illinois, 12 Illinois sites were added to the National Register of Historic Places during 2019. The places recognized are located throughout the state and include a replica of the Leaning Tower of Pisa, a stone wine cellar, and three historic districts that, when combined, include more than 60 significant properties. [Click here](#) for the information.

2020 Illinois Licenses Are Now Available



2020 Illinois Hunting, Fishing and Sportsman Combination licenses went on sale March 1. The 2020 licenses will be valid through March 31, 2021. [Click here](#) for more information.

Opening Braidwood & LaSalle Lakes

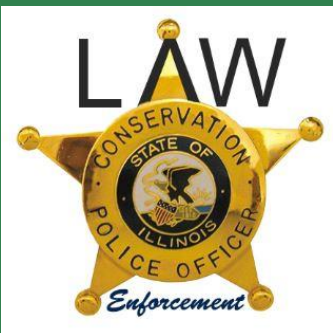
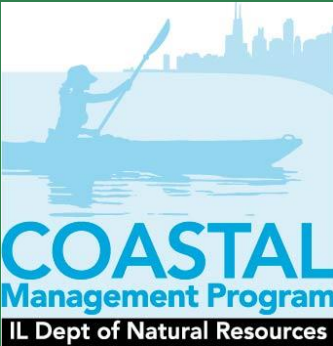


Braidwood Lake opened March 1 and LaSalle Lake is scheduled to open to the public for fishing March 15. Please monitor the weather conditions and make sure to have a current Illinois fishing license. [Click here](#) for more information.

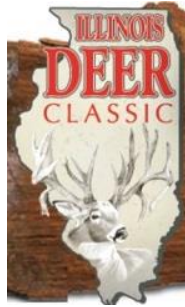
2020 Fishing Tournament Listings & New Youth Tournaments Listing



Check out the public fishing tournament listings and the new public youth tournament list online - [click here](#).



Illinois Deer Classic



Visit with IDNR biologists, Conservation Police Officers and permit/license staff at the 2020 Illinois Deer Classic at the Peoria Civic Center, March 27-29. [Click here](#) for more information.

Illinois ENTICE



Educators can enhance their teaching by including Illinois' natural resources in lessons. The ENTICE program from the IDNR can show you how! The ENTICE program provides

natural resources training and involves participants in experiences that promote effective stewardship of Illinois' natural resources now and in the future. ENTICE is approved by the Illinois State Board of Education to offer Professional Development Hours and supplies educators with easy-to-use natural resources educational materials and activities that are correlated to the Next Generation Science Standards and other Common Core Learning Standards. For more information, [click here](#).

Civil War Saturday at the Old State Capitol



Visit the Old State Capitol in Springfield Saturday, March 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for Civil War Saturday. Join us for this fun, family-friendly program hosted by the Springfield Soldiers' Aid Society. Volunteers in historic attire will help those attending learn about the women who worked in the Old State

Capitol during the Civil War and experience history by trying crafts that were popular in that era. All supplies are provided. [Click here](#) for more information.



IDNR Announces 2020 Wingshooting Clinic Schedule



IDNR, in cooperation with partners and co-sponsors, will conduct wingshooting clinics 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 weekends at IDNR sites, cooperating gun clubs and shooting ranges, hunting preserves, and farms. For

more information [click here](#).

Safety Courses Available



The IDNR Safety Education Program administers four Mandatory Safety Education Programs: Boating, Hunting, Trapping, and Snowmobiling. Classes are FREE and are taught by volunteer instructors at various times throughout the year. The programs are primarily designed to train young people between the ages of 12 and 18. The educational material is based on a sixth-grade

reading level, and we encourage persons of all ages to participate in the programs. Sign up today. [Click here](#) for more information.

Historic Rose Hotel Presentation



On Sunday, March 15, at 2:30 p.m., historian Todd Carr will present a program on the historic Rose Hotel, Elizabethtown, Illinois, its history and renovations. The program is sponsored by the Johnson County Genealogical and Historical Society

and is open to the public. The program will be held at the Vienna Public Library on the courthouse square in Vienna. For more information [click here](#).

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

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