



Inside Illinois DNR

November 2015

Volume 3, Number 11

In This Issue

- *Fishing Tournament Update*
- *Biodiversity Field Trip Grant*
- *Schoolyard Habitat Action Grant*
- *Public Hunting Area Report*

Find Out More

DNR Home Page
Natural Resources
Parks and Recreation
Mines and Minerals
Hunting and Trapping
Fishing
Education/Outreach
Safety and Rules
Online Services

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 approach Thanksgiving and the holiday season, we celebrate many traditions that are dear to us – from spending time with family and friends, to giving thanks for a bountiful harvest and the many blessings we enjoy, to volunteering in our communities to help those less fortunate.

In the outdoors, the traditional deer seasons are a great part of Illinois' great hunting heritage. Whether they're participating in the archery deer season, or any of our firearm deer seasons, many Illinois deer hunters are helping feed families in need by donating deer to the Illinois Sportsmen Against Hunger program.

ISAH has been helping connect hunters and local food banks and charitable organizations for more than 20 years. The program is simple. It allows archery and firearm hunters to donate deer they harvest for processing into venison that is provided to food banks and food pantries in local communities throughout Illinois.

Hunters suggested the development of the program as a way to share their bounty with needy Illinoisans. Since 1994, hunters in Illinois have donated more than a million pounds of venison through Illinois Sportsmen Against Hunger.

Hunters can donate whole deer to the program by contacting a participating meat processor. In addition to providing the deer, hunters can make a tax-deductible contribution to the Illinois Conservation Foundation to cover the cost of processing the deer. Even individuals who do not hunt can help by making a donation to the ICF to provide additional funding for deer processing costs, making it possible for more hunters to make their donated deer meat available for families in need.

More than 30 meat processors around the state are participating in the Illinois Sportsmen Against Hunger program. For a list of participating meat processors, check the IDNR website at www.dnr.illinois.gov/programs/ISAH.

For more information, or to donate to the program, contact Illinois Sportsmen Against Hunger through the Illinois Conservation Foundation, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271, phone 217-785-5091.

Best wishes for the upcoming holiday season – and thanks for your consideration and support of the Illinois Sportsmen Against Hunger program.

DNR in the news

Little Grassy Fish Hatchery

Ft. Massac's Extensive Artifact Collections

Outdoor Stewardship Days

Getting to know Moraine Hills SP

Statewide Offices

Springfield, IL
217-782-6302

Bartlett, IL
847-608-3100

Clinton, IL
217-935-6860

Benton, IL
618-435-8138

Highlights



Fishing Tournament Applications Accepted Now

Fishing tournament organizers can apply to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for tournament permits for 2016 beginning Nov. 1, 2015. Most fishing clubs and fishing tournament trail organizers can apply for tournament permits by utilizing their IDNR fishing tournament online accounts and applying for 2016 tournament dates through the website at www.ifishillinois.org. [For more information click here](#)



Biodiversity Field Trip Grant

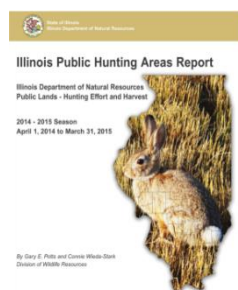
Teachers and home-schooling educators of any of grades prekindergarten through 12 in Illinois may apply for up to \$500 each to take their students on a field trip to study the natural resources of the state. State parks, nature centers, nature museums and many other sites qualify as destinations. This program is funded through donations from the Independence Tube Corporation in Chicago and the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation in Skokie. Funding is administered by the ICF. [For more information click here](#)



Fantastic Posters and Educational Publications

Some Good News!

Posters and other available publications from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources may now be ordered by nonformal educators, youth-group leaders, home-schooling educators and the general public in Illinois through the publications order form. Shipping and handling costs apply. Order today! [For more information click here](#)



Public Hunting Area Report

The latest edition of the IDNR Illinois Public Areas Hunting Report, with details on public lands hunting effort and harvest information is available online on the IDNR website at this link: [For more information click here](#)

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



Sportsman's Raffle!

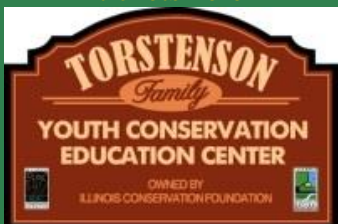
More than \$65,000 in cash prizes will be awarded in this year's Illinois Sportsman's Raffle!

All proceeds benefit youth outdoor education and conservation programs through the Illinois Conservation Foundation.

Tickets cost \$100 each or three for \$250 and make great holiday gifts.

Entries are limited to 2,000, so don't delay for your chance at a grand prize of \$50,000!

Over the past six months, the ICF has provided youth programs near Rockford, Mt. Vernon, Bloomington and Chicago, an experience kids often have for the first time. Please consider helping the ICF by [purchasing your tickets here](#)



Highlights



Schoolyard Habitat Action Grant Applications Are Due Soon

Teachers and youth group leaders in Illinois are encouraged to apply for these funds. Get your students involved in the planning, development and maintenance of these projects while helping to meet several Next Generation Science Standards performance expectations.

[For more information click here](#)



Eagle Watching Programs

Reservations are required for the Eagle Watching Programs at Pere Marquette State Park in Grafton. Visitors will learn to distinguish between immature and mature bald eagles, what eagles eat and so much

more. [For more information click here](#)



New ICF 2016 Wall Calendar Is Available

Orders are being taken for the third annual ICF wall calendar. The 2016 wall calendar contains a wealth of information valuable to Illinois anglers, hunters and nature enthusiasts. \$15 a copy is a bargain and all calendar purchases support programs designed to ensure that today's youth have opportunities to wander the woods, cast a lure, watch a flock of ducks circle a wetland and gather around a campfire building friendships and memories. [For more information click here.](#)

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

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