

January 1, 2016


First Day Hikes


at Indiana State Parks





Memories made naturally.




 **Brookville: 6:00 pm. Meet at the Mounds SRA campground shelter house.** We'll hike an easy 0.7 miles luminary hike. Discover what it means to be a nocturnal animal and test your nighttime senses along this beautifully lit trail!


 **Brown County: 10:00 am. Meet at Nature Center parking lot.** Join naturalist Don Glass for a wintery hike through beautiful woods. ¾ mile hike, taking approximately 1 hour to complete. After the hike, hot drinks will be available at the nature center. Event held regardless of weather. Inquiries: (812) 988-5240.


 **Chain O' Lakes: 2:00 pm. Meet at the Stanley One Room School House for a Good Ole Days Walk to School!** This 4 mile 2 hour hike will demonstrate how far a student had to walk to and from school each day! Hot Cocoa and coffee available.


 **Charlestown: 10:00 am.** Rose Island History Hike! 1.8 miles, approximately 2 hours. Enjoy this leisurely paced walk to see the remains of an amusement park and the new exhibits interpreting them. Transportation for the steep hill provided if needed. Meet at the Rose Island trail head.





 **Clifty Falls: 10:00am. Meet in the lobby of the Clifty Inn for "A New Year's Day Hike".** 1 ½ hour moderately rugged hike. Return to the Inn after the hike for a bonfire on the hill, s'mores and hot chocolate or coffee.


 **Falls of the Ohio: 1:00 pm. Falls First Day Fossil Hike! Meet in the lobby of the interpretive center.** ½ mile hike, approximately one hour. Refreshments will be available in the lobby, which will open at 12:30PM.


 **Fort Harrison: 1:00 pm. Lawrence Creek First Day Hike.** 3.6 miles, moderate to rugged hiking on narrow trails. Not recommended for strollers. Leashed pets welcome. Meet at the Lawrence Creek Trail Head.


 **Hardy Lake: 11:00 am. Meet at the main trailhead across from the beach access road for a hike to “The Island”.** The hike is 3 miles in length and moderately rugged. Great way to start your new year!


 **Harmonie: 10:00 am. Meet at the pool parking lot.** We will be walking 2 miles on a paved trail with slight hills. Cookies, hot cocoa and conversation afterwards! Strollers and wheelchairs welcome.


 **Indiana Dunes: 10:00 am. Meet at the nature Center.** Get your new year started with a three dunes challenge hike! Explore the park and possible ice shelf formation on this hour long 1 ½ mile jaunt. Hike ends with a fire and snacks for participants.

 **Lieber SRA: “March to the Marsh Hike” 10:00 am. Meet at the Hilltop shelter.** Join the Interpretive staff on a hike, involving a steep hill, to Laughing Deer Marsh. Learn about reservoirs, the reintroduction of the bald eagle into Indiana, and play a predator vs. prey game. Smokey Bear will be present for bear hugs and paw print face painting following the program!


 **Lincoln: 12:00 pm. Meet at the Nature Center** for a hike around Lake Lincoln! The hike is moderate, and 2 miles long, should last approximately 2 hours.


 **McCormick’s Creek: 2:00 pm. Meet at the Canyon Inn lobby.** Photo safari in the canyon! Bring your cameras for an opportunity to capture the canyon in its winter beauty. Trail is easy – moderate, and about ½ - ¾ mile in length. Refreshments available at the end of the hike!


 **Mississinewa: 7:30 pm. Owl hike! Meet at Miami Recreation Area’s Bostwick Pond.** A 1 mile hike, will last approximately 45 minutes. S’mores and hot drinks around the campfire afterwards.


 **Monroe Lake: First Day Trail Run/Walk. Start time: 3:30pm. Meet at the Fairfax SRA.** A non-competitive (untimed) trail run/walk through forest and field. Participants have their choice of a 4 mile or a 1.5 mile course. More information at: <http://mag7raceseries.com>





 **Mounds: 6:00 pm – Luminary First Day Hikes.** A 45-minute ½ mile hike departing from the Nature Center. Stroll along an easy illuminated trail to the Great Mound. Hot beverages provided.


 **O’Bannon Woods: 1:00 pm. Walk with an Ox! Meet at the nature center** to walk with Forest and Gump along with Garth and Gracie, the resident oxen and donkeys of O’Bannon Woods. The walk will be on a roadway for about 1 mile. Great photo opportunity, and enjoy refreshments upon return to the nature center. Weather and road conditions dependent.


 **Ouabache: 11:00 am. Meet at the Bison Pen Shelter.** An easy 40 minute stroll around the bison pen, following a 1 mile long trail, and learn a little about these amazing creatures.


 **Patoka: 1:00pm. Meet at the nature center. Hike 'N Hot Chocolate.** Start the New Year off right by enjoying the outdoors. Join us for a ¾ mile hike along the scenic Garden Rock Loop trail while sipping a warm cup of hot chocolate.

 **Pokagon: 1:00 pm. Meet at Potawatomi Inn Lonidaw Lounge** for a First Day Hike and Campfire Marshmallow Roast by the Toboggan Run. Get into the New Year spirit with a healthy hike from the Lonidaw Lounge down to Lake Lonidaw and back. The hike will be less than a mile in length. We end at the Toboggan Run Fire Ring for our first campfire of the new year. Roast marshmallows and enjoy the fire from 2pm to 3pm.


 **Potato Creek: 7:00pm. Meet at the nature center auditorium.** The New Year is here! A great resolution would be to keep a list of birds sighted in 2016. Come learn about the owls of Potato Creek as we attempt to call some in and get our year's bird lists started. The 1 mile walk will take approximately 1 hour to complete.

 **Prophetstown: Winter Wetland Walk. 1:00 pm Meet at the Prairie View Picnic Area.** Join us on a 1 ½ mile lasting approximately 90 minutes. Bring binoculars if you have them. The hike will end with a campfire, s'mores and warm drinks.


 **Raccoon Lake: 1:00 pm Meet at the Campstore Porch for a Winter Wondering Hike.** Hike along Raccoon's newly paved trail 2, from the campground down to the frozen beach through tulip poplar, sycamore beech and maple trees. Possibly sight some deer and migrating waterfowl.


 **Salamonie: 2 p.m. Salamonie River State Forest. Meet at Salamonie River State Forest, Hominy Ridge parking lot.** Stroll through the historical efforts of the CCC and enjoy winter's wonder. 1 mile trail.





 **Shades: 1:30 pm.** Start the year off with a 2-hour moderate winter walk. Meet near the DNR vehicle in the Hlsory Shelter Parking lot at 1:30pm to look for tracks, eagles, birds and more. Bring binoculars. Snacks and water provided. 2 miles.


Shakamak: 1:00pm. Meet at the Log Cabin. The hike will be approximately 1.5 miles on paved roads. There will be a warm fire, popcorn and cocoa at the log cabin.


 **Spring Mill: 1:00 pm. Meet in front of the Spring Mill Inn for a Day with Donaldson!** The 1 ½ hour hike will be 2 – 2 ½ miles in length. Hot chocolate and coffee served at the Inn.

 **Summit Lake: 9:00 am. Meet at the trail head adjacent to the beach parking lot.** Hike trail 3 with the property manager, exploring Summit's winter wonderland along the way.

 **Tippecanoe River: Meet at site #1 in the Horse Campground. A meal will be available at noon, ride will begin at 1:00 pm.** Ride will last between ½ - 1 ½ hours depending on weather conditions. Noon meal will be hot dogs over the fire, please bring a side to share if you wish to participate.

 **Turkey Run: 11:00 am.** Meet at the nature center for a rugged 1 hour New Year's Day walk to look for ice formations, eagles and whatever else the winter's day brings. 1 mile.

 **Versailles: 1:45 pm Meet at the pool parking lot in front of the mountain bike trailhead.** Hike with the park staff on the beautiful Shadow Run trail through densely wooded forests and cedar groves. Dress for winter weather. Leashed winter-hardy dogs welcome. Hike is approximately 4 miles long and will take up to 2 hours. Sturdy hiking boots, water and hiking sticks are a plus!

 **Whitewater Memorial: 11:00 am. Meet at the Silver Creek Shelter.** Hike the Veteran's Vista trail for 2 miles on this moderate trail. We will explore several habitats along the way!