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## What's New at Indiana State Parks in 2022



Below is a snapshot of work we have done to prepare for your visits this year. We have also completed many other projects that will help manage and interpret the facilities, natural and cultural resources, and history of Indiana's state park system.

We continue to focus on completing a variety of deferred maintenance projects that have been funded through the Indiana General Assembly, as well as filling full-time and seasonal staff positions. These initiatives continue our tradition of excellence in interpretation and our Service State Park Style initiative that focuses on exceeding your expectations as you visit.



Memories made naturally.

We have wonderful partners and volunteers who contribute thousands of dollars and hours of service for projects and events. Our creative and dedicated employees work diligently to stretch what you receive for the dollars you pay when you enter the gate, rent a campsite or inn room, launch a boat, or attend a special workshop or program.

Our goal is to provide you with a great experience during every visit—to help you, your family and friends make memories naturally. Your Indiana State Parks are a great value, both in cost and as great places to get healthy, relax, and support local communities with tourism and jobs.

As you spend time in a state park this year, please practice responsible recreation. Plan ahead and make sure family and friends know where you are going. Prepare well for your outdoor experiences with the proper clothing, footwear and insect repellent and bring plenty of water so you don't get dehydrated. Ensure that any pets that travel with you remain on a 6-foot leash at all times. Be considerate of your neighbors and leave your site better than you found it when camping. And finally, take any trash home with you that you create in trails, picnic areas, and beaches.

Get outside with family and friends or on your own, and wrap yourself in thousands of acres of trees, prairies and wetlands. Enjoy wildlife. Slow down for a few hours or days. You'll be glad you did.

### Brookville Lake/Whitewater Memorial State Park Complex

- Mounds State Recreation Area (SRA) Comfort Station #8 was repainted inside and out, and has new shower tile, fixtures, lighting, and ceiling panels.
- Habitat restoration in several open woodlands and grasslands will provide prime habitat for upland game.
- The property is in the beginning stages of establishing patches of pollinator habitat.
- The shooting range parking lot was graded and a turn-around area added.
- The sunflower fields were expanded at Whitewater Memorial.

### Brown County State Park

- The Civilian Conservation Corps-built stone stairway on hiking trail #2, stone retaining wall and parking lot at the Upper Shelter were rebuilt with nearly identical-to-original construction.
- A wooden bridge on hiking trail #2 was removed and replaced with a new wooden structure.
- A total of 15 new solid concrete vault toilets were installed, replacing existing wooden toilets.
- New sewer lines were installed to nine rustic cabins at the Abe Martin Lodge.

- Campsite electric pedestals were replaced in the Raccoon Ridge camping area.
- New water mains and a storage tank will soon be installed that connects the park with the town of Nashville's water system.

#### **Cagles Mill Lake (Lieber and Cataract SRAs)**

- The marina was significantly upgraded with new docks and facilities.
- A new roof was installed on the aquatic center building.
- Accessible sidewalks and parking were installed at comfort stations.

#### **Cecil M. Harden Lake (Raccoon SRA)**

- The East Marina courtesy dock was renovated.
- New fish attractors were installed, including more than 300 evergreen trees.
- Trail structures on Trail 1 were renovated.

#### **Chain O'Lakes State Park**

- Campground water mains (hundreds of feet) were replaced.
- A double lane water fill station for RVs was installed inside the campground entrance.
- A total of 23 campground drinking fountains were replaced with frost free hydrants.
- The Stanley Schoolhouse, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, was reroofed and the bell tower was restored.
- The Ignite Race Series donated a \$50,000 skid loader for the park's maintenance operations, which allows staff to perform many more maintenance tasks in-house.
- A new dock with an attached kayak launch was installed at the Sand Lake boat ramp.
- Eight new rental paddle boats were purchased for use on Sand Lake.

#### **Charlestown State Park**

- The "Nature Nook" in the park office was completed and opened for guests to enjoy.

#### **Clifty Falls State Park**

- Clifty Inn has new bedding and towels, new patio furniture, new carpet in the conference rooms and game room, and new coffee makers in all rooms.
- New trail connectors were constructed for trails 5-6 (eliminates the need to hike the road to complete the Four Falls Challenge or a Canyon Loop hike) and trail 1 (connects Poplar Grove and the nature center for an easier hike.)
- Fifteen new trees were transplanted to the campground.
- New electric vehicle charging stations were installed at Clifty Inn.
- A new entrance door was installed at the nature center.
- New bulletin boards were installed in the campground thanks to Friends of Clifty Falls State Park and Madison High School students.
- Invasive species were removed on 17 acres near the outdoor pool and will be restored as pollinator habitat.

#### **Deam Lake SRA**

- The beach parking lot has been coated and stripped and all parking bumpers removed.
- The boat ramp and overflow parking area were paved.
- Three new accessible vault toilets were installed and the old one was removed.
- All campground comfort station windows have been replaced.

- Many areas have been cleared of brush and debris to improve viewing and access to the lake.
- The shelter at the campground entrance was replaced.

#### **Falls of the Ohio State Park**

- Bulletin boards were repaired.
- The park will host a fishing derby for the first time, sponsored by the Falls of the Ohio Foundation.
- The monthly “Art at the Falls” programs are returning now through November, 2022.
- The interpretive center will get a new HVAC system during the summer of 2022.

#### **Fort Harrison State Park**

- Two new vault toilets replaced portable toilets on The Fort Golf Course.
- The Garrison’s Blue Heron Ballroom was repainted.
- The Camp Glenn recreation building was repainted.
- The invasive plant removal project was completed in the Lawrence Creek Nature Preserve.
- The Charters of Freedom installation was dedicated, complete with accessible sidewalks and a new flagpole.

#### **Hardy Lake**

- Shale Bluff Campground upgraded 42 campsites to 50-amp service.
- A much-needed new front door was installed at the property office.
- New signage was installed at the Carmel Boat Ramp, the entrance gate, and main road intersection.
- Campsites received additional gravel where needed.
- Both the north and south shelters were repainted.

#### **Harmonie State Park**

- New sinks and toilets were installed in campground restrooms.
- The Little Harmonie Pond dam was repaired and the pond will be ready for fishing soon.
- The campground has a new Gaga Ball pit in the campground, installed by an Eagle Scout.
- Cabin bathroom wallpaper was replaced with paint, and new brighter lighting was installed.
- Several trail bridges are under construction and will be replaced this summer.

#### **Indiana Dunes State Park**

- Accessible beach mats were installed to make access to the waters of Lake Michigan easier for those with mobility issues. Significant donations made this possible.
- Four new vault toilets were installed.
- The Wilson Shelter boardwalk on Trail 8 is being replaced.
- The Pavilion Restaurant is now open.

#### **Interlake SRA (Off-road State Recreation Area)**

- Property signage was updated to Indiana State Park colors and style.
- Fresh gravel was laid on the interior road.
- Property-specific memorabilia and merchandise will be available for sale in early summer.
- A new novice training area was developed for use by drivers of all ages with off-road vehicles of 150cc or less.

### **Lincoln State Park**

- The park entrance gate was remodeled.
- A new accessible walkway was installed on the beach to allow water access.
- Improvements were made to the Lake Lincoln Trail (Trail 1.)
- Several improvements were made to the Lincoln Amphitheatre, including accessibility modifications, new theatrical lighting, new bollard lights, benches and trash cans in the mezzanine, new sinks and floor finishes in restrooms, and new handrails in seating areas. (These improvements were funded by the Indiana Destination Development Corporation.)

### **McCormick's Creek State Park**

- The new Sunset Family Cabin, which is much like the Centennial Cabin, opens in early summer.
- Air conditioning is being installed in 13 rustic family cabins and should be ready by Memorial Day Weekend.
- The group camp sleeping barracks at Camp McCormick and Camp Na Wah Kwa have new HVAC. New siding was installed at the barracks and dining halls.
- A project to remove a significant amount of invasive multiflora rose behind the nature center/pool and along trail 8 toward the Wolf Cave preserve was funded by a donor.

### **Mississinewa Lake**

- A new, large, prefabricated comfort station replaced two old ones in the Miami SRA modern campground.
- New epoxy floors were applied in the camp store.
- The first three of eight total marshes were built along the new Liston Creek Complex. When complete, this will add 9 acres of much needed migratory bird, amphibian, and aquatic plant habitat.
- A thousand feet of tile was installed to help with drainage in Miami SRA, and more will be installed during the summer.

### **Monroe Lake**

- The boat parking lots at Fairfax SRA were paved and striped.
- The boat parking lot at Paynetown SRA was restriped.
- The overflow parking lot at Paynetown SRA was paved and striped.

### **Mounds State Park**

- The boardwalk at the Great Mound was completed, and along with the paved trail installed in 2021 makes this feature accessible to all.
- Volunteers removed invasives behind the Bronnenberg home near the springhouse site.
- Several trail bridges were repaired, and trees and debris were removed as needed.

### **O'Bannon Woods State Park**

- New flooring was installed by volunteers in the 1850 Haypress Barn.
- New prefabricated vault toilets were installed at Pine Pond and Sassafras Day Use Area.
- The boardwalk and bridges were replaced on the Hickory Hollow Universal Trail.
- New exhibits were installed for the alligator snapping turtle and water snake.
- New potable water hydrants were installed in the electric horse camping area.
- Prescribed fire to manage invasives and woodlands was conducted on 300 acres.

### **Ouabache State Park**

- Gravel was added to several sites in campground B and hazard trees were removed.
- An acre of invasive bush honeysuckle was removed near the entrance gate. Non-native, invasive wisteria will be removed along two acres near the entrance road during the summer.
- Plans are underway for the new comfort station in the campground, coming in November 2022.

### **Patoka Lake**

- A new vault toilet was installed in the Fisherman's Campground. This primitive campground is now on the campground reservation system at [camp.IN.gov](http://camp.IN.gov).
- Section C of the modern campground has some expanded sites and new paving.
- The property's bike trail was prepared for new paving that will be underway this summer.
- Additional new food options were added for the beach and camp store.

### **Pokagon State Park**

- A boat rental dock has been installed for the Potawatomi Inn.
- The nature center has all new exhibits and a new gift shop area.
- The electric service in campground 1, with spacious sites, was upgraded to 50 amp.

### **Potato Creek State Park**

- New kayaks and canoes were purchased and are available for use at the boat rental.
- An outdoor program area was installed at the nature center. Several exhibits were updated.
- A new bridge was constructed to the fishing cleaning station, which was also updated.
- Cabin restrooms were renovated and updated.

### **Prophetstown State Park**

- Over 17,000 native trees were planted as part of Governor Holcomb's Million Tree Project to create a visual barrier between I-65 and the park.
- Pavers were added to all drinking water pads in the savannah loop of the modern campground.
- Swing set posts were replaced in Prairie View and Meadow View picnic area playgrounds.
- The Farm at Prophetstown opened its gift shop, added a Tunis lamb to its farm animal flock, and constructed a new chicken coop with the support of a community grant.
- The liner in the aquatic center's zero-entry pool was replaced. Replacement of the liner in the lazy river is underway with completion expected in early summer.
- The picnic shelter and restroom facilities in the Prairie View picnic area were power washed and stained in an Eagle Scout project.

### **Redbird OSRA (Off-road State Recreation Area)**

- Property signage was updated to Indiana State Park colors and style.
- The entry road was paved.
- The newly constructed property office is complete and will be dedicated in early June.
- Property-specific memorabilia and merchandise will be available for sale in early summer.

### **Salamonie Lake**

- A new fishing pier was installed at the beach.
- New guardrail along Marina Drive
- Two additional new hunter check-in stations were added in resource management units.

- A new bottle fill station was installed at the interpretive center.
- Accessibility improvements were made on the trail from the interpretive center to the wildlife pond.
- New pollinator habitat was developed near the wildlife pond.

#### **Shakamak State Park**

- A new floating bridge was installed on Trail 1.
- New boat docks were installed for the cabins and at Lake Lenape.
- Seven new vault toilets were installed.
- A new small water slide was installed at the aquatic center.
- A new comfort station will be open soon in the modern campground.

#### **Spring Mill State Park**

- A new comfort station was constructed in the modern campground, and ongoing construction in the primitive campground will convert the sites to full hook-up (Class AA.)
- A new print shop and root cellar are open and add to the story of the Pioneer Village.
- The Pioneer Village distillery display is being updated, and the woodshop has moved to the old pottery shop near the tavern.
- A new tank was installed for the growing snapping turtle at Lakeview Activity Center, funded by facility visitors.

#### **Starve Hollow SRA**

- New “sit on” kayaks were purchased for the boat rental.
- New merchandise was purchased for the boat house/camp store, including a new T-shirt.
- A new bench was installed along the Starve Hollow Lake shoreline thanks to a donation.
- Showers and ADA fixtures were updated in campground comfort station #3.

#### **Summit Lake State Park**

- Docks were obtained from two reservoirs and were repaired for use.
- A kayak launch dock was installed at the boat rental and the rental area has been improved and reorganized to make launching easier.
- The fishing dock was extended at the boat rental, and a fishing dock is being installed at Sunset Shelter.
- Fourteen acres were cleared of invasives and planted with 12,000 native trees as a part of Governor Holcomb’s Million Tree Project.

#### **Tippecanoe River State Park**

- Nearly 4 miles of park roads, including the main loop road, were repaved.
- A new light was fabricated and installed at the entrance gate to increase safety for guests and staff.
- A new bottle fill station was installed in the park office to encourage use of refillable water bottles.
- Several small prairie acreages on Trail 6 were cleared of invasives and increased in size.
- A new lending library was installed in the modern campground by the Friends of Tippecanoe River State Park.

### **Turkey Run State Park/Shades State Park Complex**

- Three new vault toilets were installed at Turkey Run. Two were installed at Shades.
- The Sunset Point steps are being repaired, thanks to a grant from Moontown Brewing.
- Multiple trail structures were repaired or are being repaired on Trails 3, 6 and 7 at Turkey Run and on Trail 1 and 7 at Shades.
- The accessible sidewalk was extended from Sunset Point to the nature center.
- A new pollinator area was established at Shades State Park.
- Renovation of the wastewater treatment facility at Turkey Run was funded and is underway.
- The camp store has been remodeled.
- Improvements were made on some first and second floor guest rooms, accessible rooms and the Dogwood Conference Room at Turkey Run Inn.

### **Versailles State Park**

- The camp store and nature center have been connected inside to allow the nature center to have longer hours.
- New shower partitions were installed in two campgrounds to remove gang showers.
- An additional 1,400 feet of gravel was laid on one of the Bradt Natural Area's trails, and a new bridge will be installed in early summer by a Year to Volunteer.
- Drywall was repaired and painted, and new cabin curtains were installed in the Laughery Group Camp.