

# Indiana Dunes State Park

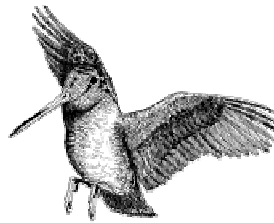
1600 N. 25 E.

Chesterton, Indiana 46304

NC # (219) 926-1390

Park Manager: Brandt Baughman

Asst. Park Manager: Doug Stukey



*American Woodcock*

**Nature Center Staff:**

Brad Bumgardner

Becky Hughes

**March Nature Center Hours: 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT**

**Tuesdays-Sunday, Closed Mondays**

[www.interpretiveservices.in.gov](http://www.interpretiveservices.in.gov)

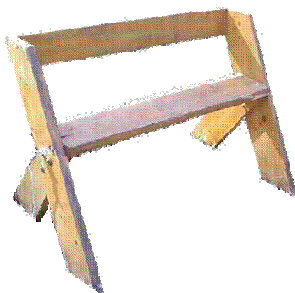
All programs are free (unless otherwise noted) and open to the public after paying the park entrance fee. Our interpretive programs are designed to entertain and enrich folks of all ages. Children under 12, please bring a parent with you. To be added to our email list, send an email to [dunesnc@dnr.in.gov](mailto:dunesnc@dnr.in.gov)

## Saturday March 3

### **Aldo Leopold Weekend**

**10am A Sand County Hike!** As part of Aldo Leopold Weekend, nationwide, join us for a special morning stroll to enjoy the observations of naturalists, hikers, nature enthusiasts, and more! We'll tie in some of Aldo Leopold's observations while searching for our own in this 1 hour moderate hike. BH

**2pm Leopold Bench Workshop.** Join other nature enthusiasts this afternoon for a special look at the legacy of famed ecologist Aldo Leopold. Participants will also get a chance to construct their own Leopold bench to take home and will receive a copy of his landmark book, *A Sand County Almanac*. Registration costs \$50 and can be made by calling the Nature Center at 219-926-1390. Limited number of spots available.



## Sunday March 4

**10am Feed the Birds.** Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. BH

**2pm Spring Skunk Search!** No, not real skunks, but the first wildflower of the year.... Skunk cabbage! We'll meet at the Nature Center and stroll into the dune wetlands for a peak at this stinky flower. Bring your olfactory senses and join us for this short, 45-minute walk. BB

## Saturday March 10

**10am Early Spring Stroll!** Strap on your hiking shoes as we explore the sights and sounds of the early spring forest (or perhaps late winter!). Meet at the Nature Center and bring your eyes and ears! Join us! BH

**2pm Critter Feeding Time!** Join us in the Nature Center Auditorium this afternoon for our weekly feeding of the snakes, turtles, frogs, and more that live in the Nature Center. We'll explore the diets of these native herptiles and let the kids help feed too! Great family fun! BH

## Sunday March 11

*Daylight Saving Time Begins Today*

**10am Feed the Birds.** Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. BH

**2pm Nature Crafts.** Join the Naturalist at the Nature Center this afternoon for a special make-it, take-it craft. BH

## Saturday March 17

**9am 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Running with the Irish 5K**

An annual tradition returns with the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Running with the Irish! The competitive run and non-competitive walk takes place throughout the park. All proceeds benefit St. Patrick's School. To register visit <http://www.stpatsparish.org>. Note: Park roads will be congested before and during the event.

**2pm Are They Here Yet Hike!?** Come and meet some yearly friends who have sprung up to say hello! Join Becky for a 45-minute wildflower foray that begins at the Nature Center. BH

## Sunday March 18

**10am Feed the Birds.** Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. BH

**2pm Leprechaun Hunt!** Help a naturalist use his GPS unit to find leprechauns and their gold. Meet in front of the Nature Center for a 45 minute hunt. Great family fun and prizes for the kids! BB

## Saturday March 24

**10am Phoebe Time!** Join the naturalist on a 45 minute discovery hike looking for the first Phoebes of the year. They traditionally arrive now and begin setting up their territories. We meet at the Nature Center for this easy stroll to the Dunes Creek bridge. Bring the family and join us! BB

**2pm The Green Fire!** Help celebrate the life and times of one of America's greatest ecologists, Aldo Leopold, today! We'll be showing the new documentary that showcases this legendary conservationist and how his work influenced the environmental movement of today. The showing takes place in the Nature Center Auditorium.

## Sunday March 25

**10am Bird Banding Demonstrations.** Explore the science of bird banding this morning at the Nature Center. We'll throw up the banding nets and look at everything we learn by investigating these birds up close and in the hand. BB

**2pm A Spring Break Saunter.** Check out the signs of spring that may be out and about this afternoon. Meet at the Nature Center for this 45-minute, easy stroll. BB

## Saturday March 31

*Welcome Potawatomi Hikers!*

**10am Come Feed the Birds.** Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. BB

**2pm Fire on the Prairie!** Bring out your inner pyro-maniac in this exciting hour at the Nature Center. Learn how prescribed fire is used to help our habitats, and then help the naturalist start a fire if conditions are right! It's an annual spring break program that's always hot! Kids under 12 **must** have a parent or responsible adult. Join us! BB

## Sunday April 1

**10am Lion or Lamb Walk.** Did March leave us like a lion or lamb!? Strap on your hiking shoes and join us for some of the early morning sounds this fine morning. Bring binoculars or borrow a pair of ours, and meet at the Nature Center. We'll be out for an hour or so. BB

**2pm The Green Fire!** Help celebrate the life and times of one of America's greatest ecologists, Aldo Leopold, today! We'll be showing the new documentary that showcases this legendary conservationist and how his work influenced the environmental movement of today. The showing takes place in the Nature Center Auditorium.

Find These Programs and others at Indiana State Parks and Reservoirs On-line at [www.interpretiveservices.in.gov](http://www.interpretiveservices.in.gov)

Make a campsite or shelter reservation at 1-866-622-6746 or on-line at [www.CAMP.IN.gov](http://www.CAMP.IN.gov)

Visit the Dunes on Government 2.0 [www.facebook.com/INdunes](http://www.facebook.com/INdunes)

