



Calendar of Events

January – December 2009

Please remember that this is a long range advanced calendar. **Events will be added, some may be cancelled and details may change.** Please call the monument at (563) 873-3491 or check our website (www.nps.gov/efmo) for more details closer to the event date or to volunteer to assist with programs.

Anniversary Programs

“The Push for a Park”

A year-long celebration of Effigy Mound National Monument's 60th anniversary and the determined efforts that culminated in the designation of Iowa's first national park site.

April 6th, 1909, “officially” began the 40-year struggle for a national park in Iowa with discussions in the Iowa General Assembly. Such conservation efforts and interest in a national park had strong roots in northeast Iowa during the late 19th century. The efforts finally became reality on October 25, 1949, with President Truman's Proclamation establishing Effigy Mounds National Monument.

The year 2009 marks the 100th anniversary of the official movement to create a national park in Iowa and the 60th anniversary of the establishment of Effigy Mounds National Monument. Many of our established annual programs will emphasize aspects of the anniversary. Special Anniversary dedicated programs are listed on this first page of this calendar.

April 4- 6

Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the National Park idea in Iowa Special Extended Winter Film Festival Finale Weekend

National park theme film, special talk and ranger led hike (to be announced) and museum exhibit to celebrate the push for a national park in Iowa. Exhibits will feature rare documents of maps from the museum collections highlighting Iowa's leading national park proponents such as Ellison Orr, and Iowa's first national park proposal – “Mississippi Valley National Park.”

Friday & Saturday
July 10 and 11

American Indian Heritage Celebration

Weekend long activities will include Friday evening and Saturday live Indian dance and music performances. Saturday will also feature Indian cultural exhibits, crafts, art demonstrators, traditional American Indian food stand, and storytelling.

Saturday
October 24

Moonlight Hike - “The Push for a Park”

Presented annually, this October hike will highlight Effigy Mounds' 60th anniversary celebration with characters related to this important event and earlier characters from the past.

Moonlight Hike reservations are required and will be taken beginning on the preceding Monday, October 19, 2009. Call the visitor center for reservations at 563- 873-3491.

Sunday,
October 25

60th Anniversary Celebration – Effigy Mounds National Monument

“Sunday in the Park” - special talks and ranger led hike (to be announced), museum exhibit, birthday cake and refreshments to celebrate the establishment of Effigy Mounds National Monument. Exhibits will feature rare documents of maps from the museum's Ellison Orr collection.

*** A special pictorial 60th anniversary postmark cancellation station is tentatively planned to be located in the visitor center on October 25, 2009. Design and U.S. Postal Service approval still need to be confirmed. Please call the park or check our website after January 1, 2009, for confirmation that the postmark will be available.**

January 3- April 6	46th Annual Winter Film Festival	Each week, films on a variety of local and national topics will be shown in the visitor center. Movies will be shown at 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00 & 3:00 each Saturday, Sunday, and on Monday at 1:00. These programs are free to the public.
February 12 - 16	Lincoln's Birthday (Feb 12) / President's Weekend	Special National Holiday Film Series at Effigy Mounds National Monument. Celebrate the Bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth by watching films from various Lincoln sites within the national park system.
February 28	Prairie du Chien Bald Eagle Appreciation Day	<p>9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Location: Prairie du Chien Regional Tourism Center, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. Bald Eagle programs and exhibits, birding experts on hand, outdoor viewing of Bald Eagles through spotting scopes, life-size Bald Eagle nest, activities for children, mini field trips to other viewing locations, co-sponsored by Effigy Mounds National Monument and the Prairie du Chien Chamber of Commerce / Tourism Council. Times and topics for educational programs to be announced after January 1st.</p>
April 4- 6	Winter Film Festival Finale	<p>“The Push for a Park”- Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the National Park idea in Iowa -Special Extended Winter Film Festival Finale.</p> <p>National park theme films, special talk and ranger led hike (to be announced) and museum exhibit to celebrate the push for a national park in Iowa. Exhibits will feature rare documents of maps from the museum collections highlighting Iowa’s leading national park proponents such as Ellison Orr, and Iowa’s first national park proposal – “Mississippi Valley National Park.”</p>
April 18 – 26	National Park Week	<p>Annual week long celebration of America's National Parks. <i>Visit other national parks through a variety of films shown all week in the visitor center at 1:00 p.m.</i></p>
	Saturday, April 18	10:00 a.m. Bird & Nature Walk
	Wednesday, April 22	Special Earth Day Hikes
		<p>10:00 a.m. Woodland Wildflower Walk. Early-blooming wildflowers may include Dutchman’s breeches, rue anemone and more during this easy hike along the Yellow River Bridge Trail.</p>
		<p>1:00 p.m. Tyke Hike – This fun, short, weekday hike will follow the Yellow River Bridge Trail, which covers less than a mile and is fully accessible to children, strollers, and individuals with disabilities. <i>This activity is great for children 3-6 years old.</i></p>
	Saturday, April 25	<p>9:00 a.m. Invasive Plant Removal Conservation Project. Volunteers are encouraged to bring drinking water, gloves, and appropriate clothing for working in brush; sturdy footwear is required. The monument will provide any other equipment. <i>Please call after March 31 at (563) 873-3491 to sign up.</i></p>
		<p>1:00 p.m. National Jr. Ranger Day Program and Hike Storytelling, scavenger hunt, and hike during this fun afternoon to <i>earn a special edition National Junior Ranger Day certificate and patch!</i> (ages 6-12)</p>

May - September	Guided Bird Walks	Departing from the visitor center, one guided bird walk will be held each month beginning May 9 th International Migratory Bird Day ; other walks are scheduled for the last Saturday of each month: June 27 th , July 25 th , August 29 th , Oct.3 rd .
June 20 - Sept. 7	Ranger Programs	Daily at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m: Hikes, Walks and Talks that discuss the history of the mounds and nature.
	Junior Ranger Saturdays	Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - A special Junior Ranger hike or activity will be held which can then be followed by a Junior Ranger activity guidebook, signing out a Discovery Pack, or attending one of the other park programs.
	Ranger Choice Programs	Impromptu programs when staffing allows - (sometimes available upon request)
		Ancient Indian Tools Learn about various tools and implements used by ancient American Indians. Hands on activities include objects such as stone points, spear launchers (atlatl) and fire starters.
		Atlatl Demonstrations Learn how this ancient spear launcher was utilized by American Indians to hunt wild game.
		3-Mound Talk A condensed version of the Fire Point Hike for those not able to join the full tour.
		Prairie Walks Visit the restored tall grass prairie along the Fire Point Trail. This two mile round trip hike will take approximately 2 hours.
		Indian Village / Boardwalk Trail. Tour our reconstructed Indian village area; enjoy a one mile round trip walk into the wetlands below the visitor center.
June - July	Teachers' Workshops	June 13th and 27th, July 10th /11th, August 1st Workshops are geared for teacher education about Native American moundbuilding cultures and related topics. <u><i>By reservation only; check for information in March 2009.</i></u>
Friday & Saturday July 10 and 11	American Indian Heritage Celebration	Weekend long activities will include Friday evening and Saturday live Indian dance and music performances. Saturday will also feature Indian cultural exhibits, crafts, art demonstrators, traditional American Indian food stand, and storytelling.
August 1-2	Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Film Series	Compliment your visit to Villa Louis Historic Site's "Lincoln's Frontier - 1825-1832" programs by watching films from various Lincoln sites within the national park system. Times and film Titles will be posted by June 1 st . Visitor Center.
August 8 & October 24	Moonlight Hike	"Abraham Lincoln's Frontier - 1825-1832" Presented annually, this August will highlight historical characters detailing the events in the region during era of "Abraham Lincoln's Frontier - 1825-1832".
		Moonlight Hike reservations are required and will be taken beginning on the preceding Monday (August 3 /Oct. 19th). Call the visitor center for reservations at 563- 873-3491.

August 22	<i>Kids Archeology Day</i>	Annual activity in celebration of the birthday of the National Park Service (August 25, 1916). Kids will learn about archeology through fun hands-on activities such as pottery, American Indian tools, and mock archeology digs.
August 25	<i>National Park Service Founders Day</i>	Fee Free Day! To celebrate the 93 rd anniversary of the establishment of the National Park Service, August 25, 1916. <i>Visit the park and enjoy a piece of birthday cake and refreshments. No entrance fees will be charged.</i>
September 26	National Public Lands Day	<u>Fee Free Day</u> The National Park Service will join other agencies for a fee free day in celebration of National Public Lands Day.
October 3- 4	<i>Annual HawkWatch Weekend</i>	Celebrate the annual fall migration! Enjoy fall foliage with live raptor demonstrations, adult educational programs, children's activities, and hawk banding catch and release. Programs and activities from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. <i>Please call after September 8th, 2009 for specific events.</i>
October 1 - 31	<i>Iowa Archaeology Month</i>	Special programs are scheduled during the annual recognition of Iowa's archeological past. Please call the visitor center at 563- 873-3491 after August 3rd for specific dates and events.
October 24	<i>Moonlight Hike</i>	"The Push for a Park in Iowa" Presented annually, this October hike will highlight Effigy Mounds' 60th anniversary celebration with characters related to this important event and earlier characters from the past. This popular activity can include walks along the Yellow River Bridge Boardwalk Trail and hikes the along the Fire Point Trail. With good weather, moonlit views of the Mississippi and Yellow River Valleys are featured. <i>Moonlight Hike reservations are required and will be taken beginning on the preceding Monday (Oct 19th).</i> <i>Call the visitor center for reservations at 563- 873-3491.</i>
Sunday, October 25	<i>60th Anniversary Celebration "Sunday in the Park"</i>	Celebrate the establishment of Effigy Mounds National Monument with special talks and ranger led hike (to be announced), museum exhibit, birthday cake and refreshments. Exhibits will feature rare documents of maps from the museum's Ellison Orr collection.
November	<i>Native American History Month</i>	<i>Every month is Native American History Month at Effigy Mounds National Monument!</i> Visit the park to learn about ancient American Indians and their legacy.
December 5	<i>Holiday Open House</i>	Visitor Center: Refreshments, Bookstore items 10% off.



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