



# The SINGING SANDS

## 2023-24 Park Guide

THAD DONOVAN

### QUICK LINKS

- MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR VISIT... 3.
- THINGS TO DO & BEACHES... 5-9.
- EVENTS & RANGER PROGRAMS... 10-11.
- BEACH PARKING & PARK MAP... 12-13.
- HIKING & TRAIL MAPS... 14-20.
- CAMPGROUND & STATE PARK MAP... 21.
- ACCESSIBILITY & VOLUNTEER... 22-23.

### Indiana Dunes National Park



### Indiana Dunes State Park



Two Great Parks... One Great Place, (Page 2).

# Superintendent's Welcome

Indiana Dunes National Park emerges from winter with Lake Michigan water levels continuing to drop. Momentum builds on several projects; all designed to update and improve your visitor experience. Within the park boundary is the expansion of the South Shore Line via a second set of tracks "Double Track Project" that will provide additional and faster commuter rail service to Chicago. Those service improvements will provide quicker transit options to the Indiana Dunes from both Chicago and South Bend. Our trail system is growing to coincide with these rail improvements contributing to reduced congestion. Our goal is to provide alternative ways to get to

the beaches beyond driving a car and that journey by foot or bicycle is part of a visitor's experience, "getting there is half the fun."

Several of Indiana Dunes historic buildings benefit from funding made available by the Great America's Outdoor Act. The Bailly Homestead and The House of Tomorrow are being stabilized with utility modernization that will allow them to be re-developed and re-imagined. The Goodfellow Lodge on the campus of the Dunes Learning Center also benefits from these funds and will provide additional space for expanded environmental education opportunities.



Indiana Dunes National Park Superintendent, Paul Labovitz

Our partners at Indiana Landmarks are a critical piece of these complex projects.

The entry fee program is generating revenues, and accelerating much needed tune-ups of many park facilities. Planning is underway to renovate and reimagine the Lakeview Plaza as well as the Douglas Center. Park signs are being updated and are replaced continuously. Lake levels are going down giving us time to strategize for the next lake level rise and the need for beach nourishment at both the Portage Lakefront and Mount Baldy.

Continued on Page 4



South Shore Line Train



Bailly Homestead



The House of Tomorrow



Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk



### NATIONAL PARK INFORMATION



PARK WEBSITE  
Scan QR code  
or visit:  
NPS.gov/INDU



#### Park Hours:

Open 6:00 am to 11:00 pm  
Central Time (CT) unless  
otherwise posted.

#### Indiana Dunes Visitor Center

Phone: (219) 395-1882  
Hours of operation  
Memorial Day to Labor Day  
Open 8:00 am to 6:00 pm  
Fall and Winter hours  
Open 9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Address: 1215 IN-49  
Porter, IN 46304

#### Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education

Phone: (219) 395-1824  
Hours of operation  
Memorial Day to Labor Day  
Open 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Fall and Winter hours  
Open 9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Address: 100 North Lake Street  
Gary, IN 46403

#### MAILING ADDRESS:

Indiana Dunes National Park  
1100 N. Mineral Springs Road  
Porter, IN 46304

Call 1-800-PARKTIP (727-5847)  
to report emergencies and  
suspicious or criminal activity.

# Your adventure guide to the National Park and the State Park **DNR**

<p><b>Indiana Dunes Visitor Center</b></p>  <p>Scan for Visitor Center's website</p> 	<p><b>Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education</b></p>  <p>Scan for Douglas Center's website</p> 	<p><b>Indiana Dunes State Park's Nature Center</b></p>  <p>Scan for State Park's website</p> 
<p><b>Getting here:</b></p>	<p><b>Getting here:</b></p>	<p><b>Getting here:</b></p>
 <p><b>AND DNR</b> 1215 IN-49 Porter, IN 46304 Phone: (219) 395-1882</p> <p>Find all of your orientation needs here. Talk to a ranger and learn about the park's locations, activities, programs, and nearby attractions. View an informative film about the park and the region. Spend some time in the activity room and check out the bookstore.</p>	 <p>100 North Lake Street Gary, IN 46403 Phone: (219) 395-1824</p> <p>A nature center for all. Interactive nature programs, activities, animals, and exhibits can be found here. Hike through the beautiful Miller Woods to the beach. Children can also explore the outdoor Nature Play Zone. Come on in and stop by!</p>	 <p>1600 N. 25 E. Chesterton, IN 46304 Phone: (219) 926-1390</p> <p>A variety of hands-on exhibits serve as a fantastic introduction to the wonders of the Indiana Dunes and its habitats. Here interpretive naturalists offer experiences via hikes, live animals, indoor programs, and special events to a range of audiences.</p>

## National or State, WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

DIFFERENCES	 <b>NATIONAL PARK</b>	<b>DNR STATE PARK</b>
<b>LOCATIONS</b>	Over 25 distinct locations to choose from, stretched across 15 miles of the southern shore of Lake Michigan, measuring over 15,000 acres between Gary and Michigan City, IN.	One contiguous landscape, the State Park is composed of a large recreation area and 1,588 acres of state designated nature preserves and national natural landmarks.
<b>FEES</b>	All are seven day entry permits: \$15 walk-in / bike-in / boat-in (up to \$25 family max.). \$25 vehicle pass. \$20 motorcycle pass. Up to \$100 for commercial bus. See page 3 for annual passes.	Daily entrance fee: \$7 Indiana resident vehicle or \$12 nonresident vehicle. See page 4 for all passes.
<b>CAMPING</b>	Dunewood Campground: \$25 per night. Beach Backcountry Campsites: \$25 per night. Dunbar Group Campsite: \$100.00 per night. See page 5.	Sites include 50 amp electrical service and access to shower houses. \$24.61 Sun-Wed. \$32.10 Thur-Sat. For reservations, visit <a href="http://camp.IN.gov">camp.IN.gov</a>
<b>CONCESSIONS</b>	Visitor Center Bookstore, West Beach Snack Bar & Gift Shop (seasonal), Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk Pavilion Snack Bar (seasonal).	Food service and gift shop available at beach pavilion. Gift shop available at nature center. Supplies, food, and gifts available at camp store.
<b>BATHHOUSE AND PAVILION</b>	West Beach Bathhouse: Seasonal restrooms, potable water, indoor showers, and lockers. Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk Pavilion: 3,500 square foot, includes restrooms, a seasonal snack bar and a classroom/meeting space.	Exterior showers and changing rooms, restrooms, changing stations, and sinks available at beach comfort station. Restrooms, food service, and gifts available in pavilion.
<b>BEACH PARKING</b>	Over 1,139 spaces spread over 8 beach access sites. For more information, turn to page 12, or this summer, visit <a href="http://CongestionMonitor.com/INDU">CongestionMonitor.com/INDU</a> for real-time parking availability.	Two Beach parking lots with approximately 2,000 spaces. Separate picnic area parking available throughout park. Parking available at Nature Center, North Orchard, and Wilson Shelter lots.
<b>TRAILS</b>	14 distinctly named trail systems with greater than 50 miles of diverse habitats. Maps on pages 16-21.	Network of nine numbered trails throughout the state park with 16.35 miles. See page 21.
<b>PICNIC AREAS</b>	14 differently located picnic areas total, 7 are sheltered, and 2 are sheltered & reservable. For more information, or to reserve a picnic table, turn to page 7.	Beach picnic tables available during season at west lot. 15 acre picnic area with playground by Auxiliary lot. 6 reservable shelters, plus additional picnic tables and grilling areas spread throughout the park, 7 sheltered.
<b>PUBLIC PROGRAMS</b>	Multitude of public programs and special events. See page 10.	Also hosts variety of programs and special events. Visit <a href="http://calendar.dnr.IN.gov">calendar.dnr.IN.gov</a> or call at 219-926-1390.
<b>CULTURAL SITES</b>	Diana of the Dunes (West Beach), Century of Progress Homes, Bailly Homestead and Chellberg Farm, Sacred Sands Audio Tour (Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk). Indiana Dunes Visitor Center & Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education (See top of page)	Nature Center, CCC Memorial Presentation Area, JD Marshall Underwater Nature Preserve, Wilson Shelter CCC Project Site, La Petite Fort Revolutionary War Historic Battle Marker, Historic Stone Gatehouses, Historic Beach Pavilion.

2 **No matter which park, we want you to be safe and enjoy your stay!**

# Making the Most of Your Visit



## Entrance Fees

### WHERE DO I PURCHASE A PARK ENTRY PERMIT?

Entry permits can be purchased at the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, West Beach fee kiosk (seasonally), Paul H. Douglas Center, and Recreation.gov (or scan the QR Code on the right). State park entry permits can be purchased on location only.



### NATIONAL PARK ENTRANCE FEES (Beginning March 31, 2022)

#### 7-DAY ENTRY PERMIT

Walk-in / Bike-in / Boat-in (up to \$25 family max.)	\$15
Vehicle Pass (Carload/Family)	\$25
Motorcycle	\$20
Commercial Vehicle	Up to \$100

### DNR STATE PARK ENTRANCE FEES

#### 1-DAY ONLY ENTRY PERMIT (Non-Commercial)

Walk-in / Bike-in	\$2
In-State Vehicle Fee	\$7
Out-of-State Vehicle Fee	\$12
Bus	\$2 per person



## Passes

### WHICH PASS IS BEST FOR YOU?

The America the Beautiful Pass can be obtained at the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, West Beach Kiosk (seasonally), by scanning the QR Code on the right, or visiting [nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/fees.htm](https://nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/fees.htm). Indiana Dunes State Park Passes are available at the State Park Office or Gate.



### America the Beautiful - The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass Series

Passes below apply to all federal lands

Annual Pass	\$80	Expires 1 year from month of purchase
Annual Senior Pass	\$20	62 years old, Expires 1 year from purchase
Lifetime Senior Pass	\$80	62 years or older
Military Pass	Free	Current military or a dependent
Military Lifetime Pass	Free	Retired military, veteran or Gold Star Family
4th Grade Pass	Free	Fourth graders and family
Access Pass	Free	Permanent disability
Volunteer Pass	Free	250 hours of volunteer work

### DNR Indiana State Park Pass

Passes cover Indiana State Park entrance fees

Indiana State Park Annual Pass: resident	\$50	Calendar year pass
Indiana State Park Annual Pass: non-resident	\$70	Calendar year pass
Golden Hoosier Passport (GHP)	\$25	(65 years old) Calendar - year pass
GHP Social Security Disability Income	\$25	Indiana residents receiving or eligible to receive SSDI - year pass
GHP Disabled Hoosier Veterans	\$25	Indiana Veterans who possess or are eligible to purchase a DHV license plate. year pass

### Indiana Dunes National Park Annual Pass \$45



2023 annual pass. Photo by 2014 Artist-in-Residence, Michael Gard

Expires 1 year from month of purchase and applies to Indiana Dunes National Park only, not the State Park. The Annual Pass can be purchased at the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, Recreation.gov and other locations. There is no fee required to enter the visitor center or the Douglas Center.

The pass admits the pass owner(s) and accompanying passengers in a private, non-commercial vehicle. Pass owner must be present for entry. Representations of the pass are prohibited.

Purchasing this pass does not expedite entry into the park and does not guarantee you a parking spot. Plan to arrive early with the possibility of long lines to enter the park.

Please display pass on dashboard when parking.



Scan to visit [Recreation.gov](https://Recreation.gov) and purchase annual pass on your mobile device.

## SEPARATE PASSES ARE NEEDED FOR EACH PARK

# Getting Here by Public Transportation



### BY TRAIN

Northern Indiana Commuter Train District:

The South Shore train has 3 stops, plus one flag stop, near park access sites, and runs between Chicago and South Bend.

The stops near the park are:

- Miller - Paul H. Douglas Center and trails (20 minute walk)
- Ogden Dunes - Portage Lakefront & Riverwalk (24 minute walk)
- Dune Park - Indiana Dunes State Park (33 minute walk)
- Beverly Shores (Flag stop)
  - Dunewood Campground (4 minute walk)
  - Great Marsh (3 minute walk)
  - Lakeview Beach (22 minute walk)

For a schedule, visit [mysouthshoreline.com](https://mysouthshoreline.com).



### BY BUS

Gary Public Transportation Corporation has bus routes in the west end of the park: Bus route 13 (Oak & County Line Road) passes directly in front of the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education and close to the entrance of West Beach. The Douglas Center and West Beach are located in the park's west end. Visit [gptcbus.com](https://gptcbus.com) for current schedules and fares.

#### Paul H. Douglas Center:

East bound riders can get off the bus at the corner of 4th & Lake Street and walk about 2 blocks north on Lake Street to the center. West bound riders should ask the driver to stop in front of the center located on Lake Street between Birch and 3rd Street. If the driver is unable to stop in front of the center, then get off at the corner of 3rd and Lake Street and walk about 1 block north.

# Superintendent's Welcome *Continued from Page 1*

Traditions of partnership and collaboration increase. Post-pandemic programming and events are returning, and the Friends of Indiana Dunes continue to excel at helping make much of that happen. The Dunes Learning Center is gearing up for their 25th Anniversary and has directly served going on 200,000 of the region's students. Save the Dunes enters their 71-st year and have increased their capacity for community engagement and advocacy. The Shirley Heinze Land Trust continues expanding their land protection in and around the Indiana Dunes and their work along the East Branch

of the Little Calumet River is helping to offer new recreation and conservation opportunities. Indiana Audubon's Indiana Dunes Birding Festival continues to grow in popularity. Our Indiana Dunes State Park partners and friends are enjoying the success of the opening of the Pavilion Restaurant.

Indiana Dunes National Park is expanding our commercial activities with food vendors and service providers. As we understand the demands of increasing numbers of visitors, we strive to provide increased services to make

each visit something to enjoy and remember. All of this is happening while we work to protect this wonderful, rare, and close-to-home treasure. If this is your first time visiting, welcome. If you are repeat visitor, welcome back. All of you might consider supporting the many organizations we call our partners and friends. Don't be a stranger and don't forget the Indiana Dunes is a great place to visit all year long.

*by Indiana Dunes National Park Superintendent, Paul Labovitz*

## Top Visitor Questions

### What time does the park close?

Unless otherwise posted, all public use areas are open daily from 6:00 am to 11:00 pm (CT).

National Park Summer Hours:  
(Memorial Day through Labor Day)  
Visitor Center open 8:00 am to 6:00 pm  
Douglas Center open 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

National Park Winter Hours:  
(Labor Day through Memorial Day)  
Visitor Center open 9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Douglas Center open 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

State Park open 7:00 am to 11:00 pm  
Nature Center open 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Visit [nps.gov/indu/learn/management/lawsandpolicies.htm](https://nps.gov/indu/learn/management/lawsandpolicies.htm) for more information on hours throughout the park.

### Where can I buy food?

The local towns outside the park have lots of choices for restaurants and grocery stores. Within the park, visitors can grab a bite to eat at concession operations working at West Beach and Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk.

The Pavilion at Indiana Dunes State Park offers a number of options for different tastes.

### Which trail is best to hike?

The national park has over 50 miles of trails and the state park another 16+ miles. You can find trail information and maps in this guide on pages 16-23. You can also download the free REI app called the Hiking Project at [www.hikingproject.com](http://www.hikingproject.com) to learn about lots of trails in both parks. This app allows visitors to add content and photos about their favorite hikes.

### Where may I climb a dune?

Long Lake Trail at West Beach has a dune face on the marked trail, which visitors enjoy climbing. In addition, it hosts the Diana Dare Challenge and a set of stairs to traverse the dune. Both dunes offer great views.

The 3 Dune Challenge at Indiana Dunes State Park offers guests the opportunity to reach the summits of the three tallest dunes in the park.

### Can I take public transportation to the park?

Yes. The South Shore train has four stops near park access sites and runs between Chicago and South Bend. For a schedule, visit [mysouthshoreline.com](http://mysouthshoreline.com). See page 3 for transportation info.

### Do you close the beach when high waves are present or E. coli levels are high?

No. The national park does not close its beach due to water conditions. Risks are inherent in all

natural areas, and you must determine what is safe for you. During summer months, lifeguards are stationed at West Beach. Lifeguards are not present at other national park beaches.

State park waters are only open when lifeguards are on duty and conditions are appropriate for swimming. Call the state park for water conditions at 219-926-1390.

Call the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center at 219-395-1882 for information regarding E. coli levels.

### Do you have a campground?

Yes. The national park has the Dunewood Campground (67 sites), the Dunbar Beach Group Site, and five Central Beach Backcountry sites. See page 5 for camping or call 219-395-1882.

Indiana Dunes State Park also has a large campground with electricity. They recommend reservations most of the year. For more information, see page 21 for state park info or visit [camp.in.gov](http://camp.in.gov)

### Are the parks accessible?

 Yes. The national and state park have a multitude of increasingly accessible features. Turn to page 22 for the national park or call (219) 926-1390 for the state.

### Do you have a gift shop?

Yes. We invite you to visit the America's National Parks bookstore in the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center (page 2). If you are unable to visit the bookstore or want to buy something before your national park search "Indiana Dunes" at [shop.AmericasNationalParks.org/store/](http://shop.AmericasNationalParks.org/store/)

### Do you have a Junior Ranger Program?

Yes! There are several Junior Ranger books to guide you on adventures through various park locations. Once completed, each participant will earn a badge, or sticker. Pick up Junior Ranger materials at the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center and the Douglas Center. For more information, turn to page 7.

The State Park offers the Explorer Pin program for adventurers of all ages.

### May I take my pet with me for a hike?

Yes. Pets are permitted on most park trails and beaches as long as they are leashed (6' or less). Pets are prohibited inside government buildings, except for the West Beach bathhouse.

West Beach and State Park beach – From Memorial Day through Labor Day, pets are prohibited on the beach within the lifeguarded areas. This area is the section of beach directly

north of the bathhouse stairs and is designated along the beach with park signs. Pets are only permitted to walk through the lifeguarded area to reach the beaches on either side of the closure area.

Pets are not allowed on the Glenwood Dunes Trail, Pinhook Bog Trail and the designated nature play areas. This avoids conflicts with equestrian riders, protects sensitive vegetation, and compatible use with other visitors.

### Where can I find the weather?

Weather conditions can mean a few different things, which may also include wave conditions, water temperatures, and beach monitoring (E. coli testing). These factors and more can be found on our weather page at [nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/weather.htm](https://nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/weather.htm)

### What are the fees?

Indiana Dunes is home to both a national park and a state park. Both are incredible parks that offer countless recreation opportunities. However, Indiana Dunes National Park is owned by the federal government and Indiana Dunes State Park is owned by the State of Indiana. As such, each park has fees and passes that are separate and unique. None of the passes and fees work between the two parks. For more information, turn back to page 3.

### Can I get married in the park?

Yes. You will need a Special Park Use Permit (SUP), which is for activities that take place within a national park outside typical and ordinary visitor use. These events may include gatherings and activities such as weddings, sporting events, and sales. You will need written SUP authorization from the park before the event or activity takes place. For more information, visit [NPS.gov/indu/planyourvisit/permitsandreservations.htm](https://NPS.gov/indu/planyourvisit/permitsandreservations.htm)

### Can I run my business in the park?

Yes. You will need a commercial use authorization (CUA), which is a business permit with the National Park Service that authorizes an individual, group, company, or other for-profit entity to conduct commercial activities. These activities provide specific visitor services within a national park area. The National Park Service will only issue CUAs for commercial activities and visitor services that are determined to be an appropriate use of Indiana Dunes National Park, will have minimal impact on Indiana Dunes National Park's resources and values, and are consistent with Indiana Dunes National Park's purpose, management plans, policies, and regulations.

For more information, visit [NPS.gov/indu/getinvolved/commercial\\_use\\_authorization.htm](https://NPS.gov/indu/getinvolved/commercial_use_authorization.htm)

# Things to Do



## Find Your Thing To Do

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P.5 Beaches</li> <li>Biking</li> <li>Camping</li> <li>Hiking</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P.8 Arts in the Park</li> <li>Fishing</li> <li>Geocaching</li> <li>Historic Sites</li> </ul>                   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P.6 Driving Tours</li> <li>P.7 Jr. Ranger</li> <li>Birding</li> <li>Boat Tours</li> <li>Paddling</li> <li>Picnicking</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P.9 Horseback Riding</li> <li>Winter Activities</li> <li>Food &amp; Services</li> <li>Visit Pullman</li> </ul> |

# Beaches and Swimming

Oh, what a joy to find a six by six foot patch of sand all to yourself! Within that square you might find solitude, fun, adventure, nature, or companionship. Whatever it is that you may be seeking, your two sandy parks, Indiana Dunes State Park and Indiana Dunes National Park have a beach for you.

If you are looking for a spot for your beach umbrella, or if you need a place that provides that little extra bit of safety with lifeguards, bathrooms and showers, ample parking and terrific views, we have a perfect beach for that.

There are plenty of places to park at Indiana Dunes. Turn to page 12 for more detailed information about parking.

West Beach and Portage Lakefront have seasonal food vendors on location.

If you are coming from Chicago or South Bend, you can take the South Shore Line train and leave your car at home.

### Beach-Going Tips List

- Bring lifejackets, sun block, lip balm, umbrella, bug spray, and drinking water.
- Pack lunches in sand proof containers.
- Do not bring glass containers.
- Some beaches have picnic shelters.
- Unless posted, alcohol is allowed at most national park beaches.
- Alcohol is prohibited at the state park.

### Beaches

- |                                   |                      |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| • West Beach                      | • State Park         |
| • Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk | • Dunbar Beach       |
| • Porter Beach                    | • Lake View Beach    |
| • Kemil Beach                     | • Central Ave. Beach |
|                                   | • Mount Baldy Beach  |



For more information, scan the QR code here, or visit our Beach-Going & Swimming page at [NPS.gov/indulplanyourvisit/swimming.htm](https://www.nps.gov/indulplanyourvisit/swimming.htm)



# Biking

Discover much more than just sand dunes as you bike on an interconnected trail system that spans 37 miles across the entire length of the national park.

A wide variety of biking trails traverse the various habitats and cultural history of Indiana Dunes National Park. The varying lengths make it easy to choose the trail that's right for you. From a short easy ride to a challenging all-day trek, most of the trails are open all year, and the experience will change with each season.

### Popular Biking Trails:

- **Calumet Bike Trail**  
*Gravel, 19.0 miles round trip, flat.*  
*WARNING - Rugged trail conditions*
- **Dunes Kankakee Bike Trail**  
*Paved, 3.6 miles round trip, paved, flat.*
- **Porter Brickyard Bike Trail**  
*Paved, 7.0 miles round trip, some hills.*
- **Prairie Duneland Bike Trail**  
*Paved, 22.4 miles round trip, rail trail, flat.*
- **Marquette Bike Trail**  
*Paved, 4.6 miles round trip, rail trail, flat.*
- **Oak Savannah Bike Trail**  
*Paved, 17.8 miles round trip, rail trail, flat.*



For more information, scan the QR code seen here, or visit our biking page at [NPS.gov/indulplanyourvisit/biking.htm](https://www.nps.gov/indulplanyourvisit/biking.htm)



# Camping

### Dunewood Campground

- Golf Wood Road & Dunewood Parkway, Beverly Shores, IN 46301
- GPS Coordinates: 41.671786, -86.983985 (Decimal Degrees).

Campground consists of two loops containing 66 campsites (53 conventional drive-in sites and 13 walk/carry-in sites). Four sites are wheelchair accessible (numbers 15, 30, 41 and 55). Each loop has restrooms and hot/cold showers. Some sites have limited recreational vehicle length. No electric or sewer.

- \$25.00 per night camping fee (expanded amenity fee). 50% discount for Senior Annual, Senior Lifetime, and Access Passholders.

**DUNEWOOD MAP on Page 21.**

### Central Beach Back Country Campsites

- Located off Central Avenue, Beverly Shores, IN 46301.
- GPS Coordinates: 41.702065, -86.946963 (Decimal Degrees).

5 walk-in tent-only camp sites are located roughly ½ mile hike from the Lake Michigan shoreline. Each site is roughly a 0.6 mile hike from the parking lot located on Central Ave. These primitive sites are pack-in pack-out only, including trash. There is no potable water at camp sites. There is a communal fire ring with firewood provided.

- \$25.00 per night camping fee (expanded amenity fee). 50% discount for Senior Annual, Senior Lifetime, and Access Passholders.

### Dunbar Group Campsite

- Beverly Shores, IN 46301
- GPS Coordinates: 41.682476, -87.001699 (Decimal Degrees).



The Dunbar Group Campsite is available for groups up to 30 people. The site is located about 600ft from Lake Michigan. Parking and facilities are located at the Dunbar parking lot, about 400ft from the site.

- \$100.00 per night camping fee (expanded amenity fee). There are no discounts on the group site.

For more information on camping and reservations, scan the QR code seen here, or visit [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) and search Indiana Dunes.



# Hiking

Discover much more than just sand dunes as you hike through 14 distinct trail systems covering more than 50 miles of trails.

A wide variety of hiking trails traverse the various habitats and cultural history of Indiana Dunes National Park. The varying lengths and

difficulty levels make it easy to choose the trail that's right for you. From a short easy stroll to a challenging all-day trek, most of the trails are open all year and the hiking experience will change with each season.

**BONUS TRAIL MAPS**  
 ALL of our trail maps and hiking info can be found on pages 16-20.



PAUL KEMIEL

For more information, scan the QR code seen here, or visit our Hiking page at [NPS.gov/indulplanyourvisit/hiking.htm](https://www.nps.gov/indulplanyourvisit/hiking.htm)



# Driving Things to Do

## Driving Tours



**DRIVING TOUR: WEST SIDE**  
Approximately 1-2 Hours  
15 Miles Total



SKIP DIETZ

### West Side Driving Tour Points of Interest

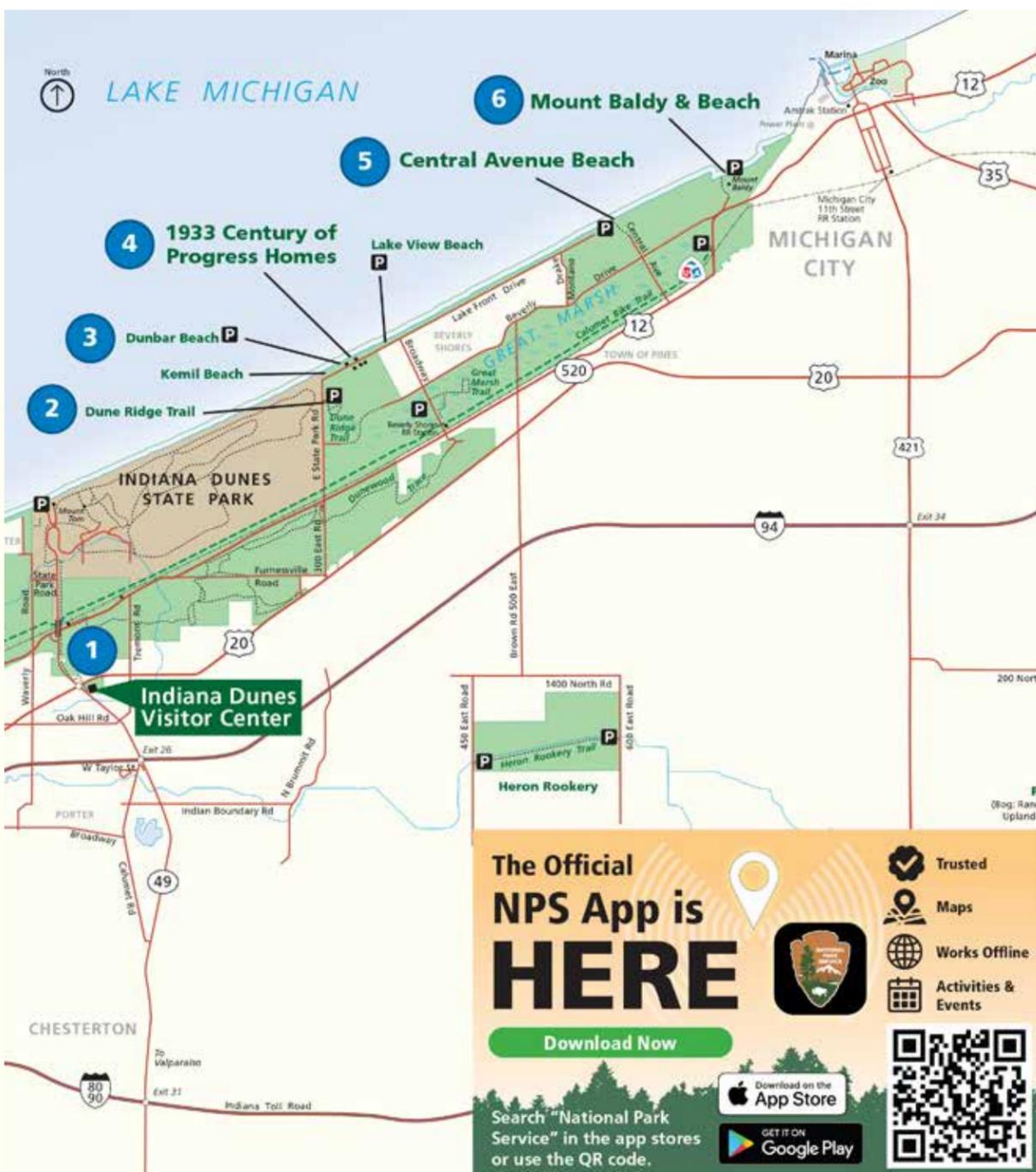
1. Indiana Dunes Visitor Center - Start your trip here and get orientated with the park. 1215 IN-49, Porter, IN 46304, Phone: 219-395-1882.
2. Bailly Homestead and Chellberg Farm – Go for a short stroll and learn about the park’s historic district and see the farm animals. 618 North Mineral Springs Road, Porter, IN 46304.
3. Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk- Enjoy a view of Lake Michigan from the pavilion. Seasonal food services are available. Walk along the breakwater for fishing and birdwatching. Check out the Sacred Sands Audio Tour. 100 Riverwalk Road, Portage, IN 46368.
4. West Beach - Enjoy the bathhouse, lifeguarded beach, and earn a sticker by hiking the new Diana Dunes Dare Trail. 376 North County Line Road, Gary, IN 46403.
5. Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education- Check out exhibits, classrooms or hike the 3.5-mile trail through Miller Woods to the beach. 100 North Lake Street, Gary, IN 46403.



**DRIVING TOUR: EAST SIDE**  
Approximately 1-2 Hours  
14 Miles Total

### East Side Driving Tour Points

1. Indiana Dunes Visitor Center - Start your trip here and learn about the park. 1215 IN-49, Porter, IN 46304 Phone: 219-395-1882.
2. Dune Ridge Trail (If you have time!) – Offers great views of the extensive wetlands and forests. 300E State Park Rd, Beverly Shores, IN 46301.
3. Kemil, Dunbar, Lake View Beaches – Pet-friendly beaches with access to hiking trails and the Lake View Beach picnic area with restrooms; also a great place to launch your kayak. All in Beverly Shores, IN 46304.
4. Century of Progress – Constructed for the 1933 Chicago World’s Fair to display the future of housing. Lake Front Drive., between Dunbar Ave. and Derby Ave., Beverly Shores, IN 46304.
5. Central Avenue – A beach where you can enjoy a quiet walk and watch the bank swallows come and go from their nests in the dunes. Central Beach, Beverly Shores, IN 46301.
6. Mount Baldy – Hike to the beach and witness this area’s largest moving dune. 101 Rice St (US 12) Michigan City, IN 46360.



The Official NPS App is **HERE**

Download Now

Trusted Maps Works Offline Activities & Events

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

Search "National Park Service" in the app stores or use the QR code.

# More Things to Do

## Become a Junior Ranger

The Junior Ranger Activity Guide will open your eyes to the Indiana Dunes as they have never been before. The guidebook can be picked up at the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center or the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education. When you complete the Junior Ranger Activity Guide, bring it back to either center to receive a Junior Ranger badge.

In addition to the larger Junior Ranger Activity Guide, Indiana Dunes has a Beachcomber Activity Sheet for families enjoying the beach for the day. You can pick up a Beachcomber activity sheet at the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center or Paul H. Douglas Center.

You can also download printable versions of these activities on our website.



To download, scan the QR code or visit [NPS.gov/indu/learn/kidsyouth/beajuniorranger.htm](https://www.nps.gov/indu/learn/kidsyouth/beajuniorranger.htm)



## Birding

Located at the southern tip of Lake Michigan, the national park is an important feeding and resting area for migrating birds. Lake Michigan influences the migration patterns of bird species.

During the fall migration, southbound birds follow the north-south shoreline and are funneled into the Indiana Dunes. The large expanse of open water and miles of shoreline also attract large numbers of wintering birds.

### Popular Birding Trails:

- **Paul H. Douglas Trail (Miller Woods)**  
*Featured hike: Moderate, 3.4 miles in length, hike time of 2 hours.*
- **Cowles Bog Trail**  
*Featured hike: Moderate to rugged, 4.7 miles in length, hike time of 4 hours. Park at park headquarters when Cowles Bog parking lot is full.*
- **Great Marsh Trail**  
*Featured hike: Easy, 1.3 miles in length, hike time of 1 hour.*



For more information, scan the QR code seen here or visit our birding page at [NPS.gov/indu/planyourvisit/birdwatching.htm](https://www.nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/birdwatching.htm)



## Boat Tours

### Anchors Up!

Jump on board to join a park ranger for a guided two-hour boat tour on Lake Michigan.

The tour offers a unique perspective near shoreline with an enlightening view of the Indiana Dunes National and State Park, while a park ranger expertly gives insight about the park's interesting and unique features, including its historical significance, native

ecosystems, biodiversity, and other geological qualities such as dune succession, and how the lake has and continues to have affected it over the years.

The tour boats are operated by Harbor Country Adventures and some tours feature a ranger.

Ranger led boat tours are scheduled from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

There is a fee and reservations are required. Visit the website for schedule and reservations.



PAUL KEMIEL

For schedule and reservations, scan the QR code seen here, or visit... [harborcountryadventures.com](https://www.harborcountryadventures.com)



## Paddling

Paddling is a very exciting, healthy, and even challenging activity you or your family can enjoy while visiting the park.

It has become increasingly popular as we have a huge lake, plenty of other creeks, and waterways to satisfy your inner paddling

desires. Get ready for miles of beautiful water routes, dune-covered shores, and enchanting views of nearby communities. Relax in your watercraft and begin on an excursion of scenic lake views and bountiful forest life, or tread hard to get some great water-themed cardio.

With multiple access points throughout the area, no matter where you are located, you'll find your paddling adventure nearby.



For more information, scan the QR code, or visit our fishing and boating page at [NPS.gov/indu/planyourvisit/fishing-and-boating.htm](https://www.nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/fishing-and-boating.htm)



## Picnicking

Covered picnic shelters with tables are located at the following locations along with modern restrooms. Cooking fires are permitted in the provided grills or an approved carry-in grill. An approved grill is a noncombustible container with an enclosed bottom and enclosed sides with a minimum depth of two inches. Charcoal must be cooled and safely disposed of in a noncombustible container or removed from the area.

The following picnic shelters can be reserved in advance at [www.recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov):

- **Bailly Chellberg:** There are three covered picnic shelters near the parking lot with one that is wheelchair accessible. The shelters are reservable starting six months in advance of

the desired use date. The reservation is good for day use from 6:00 am to 11:00 pm (CT).

- **West Beach:** There are eight covered picnic shelters near the parking lot with two that are wheelchair accessible. The shelters are reservable starting six months in advance of the desired use date. The reservation is good for day use from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm (CT). The shelter reservation does not waive the national park entrance fee or guarantee parking for your group. Plan to arrive early (especially weekends).

The following picnic shelters are available on a first come, first served basis:

- **Glenwood Dunes**
- **Lake View Beach**
- **Mount Baldy**
- **Tremont**



For reservations or more information, scan the QR code or visit our picnicking page at [NPS.gov/INDU](https://www.nps.gov/INDU)



Picnic tables are also provided in the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education's picnic area and Nature Play Zone, Central Avenue Beach parking lot, Dunbar Beach parking lot, Porter Beach south parking lot, Pinhook Bog parking lot, and at the Tolleston Dunes Overlook. Cooking fires are not permitted at these locations.

## Even More Things to Do

### Arts in the Park

#### Artists and Photographers

Artists have been a part of the national parks since the 1870s. The famed Hudson River painters played a vital role in capturing the grand landscapes of the West. It was through their art that the public came to see these special places in America. Their surveys of the majestic landscapes motivated visitors to come witness the beauty for themselves.

The legacy of art continues with the Artist-in-Residence program at Indiana Dunes National Park. The images created by the artist

serve as great ambassadors for the inspiration, preservation, and stewardship of the dunes.

Artists who participate in this program receive residence for two weeks in exchange for a piece of framed art. The artists utilize park staff for their expertise and spend the days seeking their muse of choice as they explore the dunes.

If you would like to be considered to carry on this heritage visit the web page or scan the QR code on the right.



For more information, scan the QR code seen here, or visit our Artist-in-Residence page at [NPS.gov/indu/getinvolved/supportyourpark/air.htm](https://www.nps.gov/indu/getinvolved/supportyourpark/air.htm)



### Fishing

Fishing is allowed under federal, state and local laws. You need an Indiana fishing license and a stamp if fishing for trout and salmon.

Fishing the Little Calumet River during the summer steelhead run is a worthy challenge and the Portage Lakefront fishing pier offers lakeside fishing.

Spring time is wonderful for fishing salmon, trout, bass, bluegill and pumpkinseed.

The summer season is good for yellow perch in close to the Lake Michigan shore. The summer also brings steelhead from the Little Calumet River.

Casting out your line for Chinook, Coho salmon, lake trout and Skamania steelhead is a great way to spend a day in the coolness of fall

As with any adventure, planning ahead is always a great idea to make good fishing memories. Start your fishing memory of a lifetime by visiting the web page linked on the right.



For more information, scan the QR code, or visit our fishing and boating page at [NPS.gov/indu/planyourvisit/fishing-and-boating.htm](https://www.nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/fishing-and-boating.htm)



### Geocaching

#### Join the Fun!

Geocaching is the outdoor adventure where players (called geocachers) use a Geocaching app or GPS to find hidden containers around the world. Visit [Geocaching.com](https://www.geocaching.com) or download the free official Geocaching app to begin this fun activity.

Our various types of geocaches located throughout the park include:

**Traditional Geocaches:** Original type of geocache and most straightforward located at Chellberg Farm / Bailly Homestead Trail.

**EarthCaches:** Focused on special geological location that people can visit to learn about a unique feature of the Earth.

**Lab Caches:** These geocaches have questions that need to be answered in a special geocaching app called Adventure Labs.

**Virtual Caches:** Focused on discovering a location rather than a container.



To get started today, scan the QR code seen here, or visit our Geocache page at [NPS.gov/indu/planyourvisit/indiana-dunes-geocaching.htm](https://www.nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/indiana-dunes-geocaching.htm)



### Historic Sites in the Park

#### The dunes are more than a beach

Most visitors to the Indiana Dunes National Park only think of the Lake Michigan shoreline and the sand dunes. Did you know that most of our national parks tell the stories of history and not nature? This park also has much to offer a history buff.



The Anders Chellberg family, along with other Swedish immigrants, found employment through Joseph Bailly's son-in-law. After buying 80 acres and then clearing the forest for farming, the Chellberg's built a house, chicken coop, windmill and a building to store their grain. Animals like horses, goats, chickens, pigs, cats and later cows helped the family to do work or were eaten. The farmhouse is open for special events such as Maple Sugar Time in March.

Joseph Bailly traded furs with the Potawatomi and Miami nations from 1822-1835 along the banks of the Little Calumet River at our Bailly Homestead site. The fur trade of beaver was so successful that eventually every beaver was eliminated to be made into fancy top hats in Europe. Today, the American beaver has returned to the dunes. Joseph ran his moderately successful fur trade post here and even made plans for Baillytown. He died before this dream could be realized, but his wife and daughters carried on here.



The World's Fair of 1933-34 in Chicago was themed a Century of Progress and, indeed, the five homes brought afterwards to the Indiana shoreline of Lake Michigan, showed new amenities like garage door openers and dishwashers. Each of these five homes showed quite different architecture styles. These homes have been restored by lessees, managed through Indiana Landmarks, and once a year, reservations can be made to tour the interiors.

Plan your adventure: You can hike the Little Calumet River trail to see the Bailly Homestead and Chellberg Farm, or visit the east beaches, Kemil, Dunbar, and Lakeview to walk around the Century of Progress District.

To learn more, scan the QR code, or visit our Historic Places page at [NPS.gov/indu/learn/historyculture/historic-places.htm](https://www.nps.gov/indu/learn/historyculture/historic-places.htm)



## And Even Things to Do Later

### Horseback Riding

#### Glenwood Dunes

1475 North Brummitt Road  
Chesterton, IN 46304

The Glenwood Dunes Trails are the national park's only equestrian trails. There is no horse rental concession. Horseback riding is permitted on a portion of the Glenwood Dunes Trails from March 16 to December 14. However, if there is sufficient snow cover for cross-country skiing (3 inches or more) before

December 15 or after March 15, the trail will remain closed to horseback riding. Horses are prohibited in the winter to prevent accidents with cross-country skiers on the trail.

The parking lot is large enough for horse trailers. In the parking lot and picnic area, all horse manure must be bagged, removed from the area and disposed of appropriately. Horses are prohibited on all roads. Pets are prohibited at Glenwood Dunes year-round.



For more information, scan the QR code seen here, or visit our horseback riding page at [NPS.gov/indu/planyourvisit/horse.htm](https://www.nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/horse.htm)



### Winter Activities

Hiking, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing are popular in the wintertime. If you need snowshoes or cross-country skis, free rentals are available at the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education for use on the Paul H. Douglas Trail, weather permitting.

Visitors must bring their own snowshoes and cross-country skis at other places in the park. A 3 to 4 inch snow base is recommended. Trails are not groomed. Please call the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center at 219-395-1882 for trail conditions. State Park trails are also good for winter recreation.

Hikers and visitors using snowshoes are asked to walk to the right of the cross-country ski tracks whenever possible.

Sledding is permitted at two locations in the parks: just southwest of the West Beach picnic shelters on the east slope of the West Beach Trails and at the Devil's Slide in the State Park, just east of the main parking lot. Please call the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center at 219-395-1882 with any questions.

Snowmobiling is not permitted anywhere in either park.



For more information, scan the QR code seen here, or visit our winter activities page at [NPS.gov/indu/planyourvisit/winteractivities.htm](https://www.nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/winteractivities.htm)



### Food & Services

#### Highlight the Fun!

Did you know that there are several ways to enhance your adventure at the dunes? Local businesses offer unique access to the dunes; from outdoor photography workshops, which help visitors learn how to take amazing scenic photographs, to yoga sessions on the beach, calming and relaxing park goes to the sounds of waves lapping the shores. From guided hikes which connect visitors to the story of the park to overnight camping trips beneath the stars. To food trucks, vending machines,

and concession stands where you can dine and picnic atop the dunes. Follow our QR code at the right to find the next provider to help you experience the dunes in a new way.

#### Doing Business With US

Are you interested in becoming a commercial operator in the park? Scan the QR code for information about obtaining a Commercial Use Authorization (CUA) to operate your business in the Indiana Dunes National Park.



For more information on particular businesses offered and doing business in the park visit our CUA page at [NPS.gov/indu/getinvolved/commercial\\_use\\_authorization.htm](https://www.nps.gov/indu/getinvolved/commercial_use_authorization.htm)



## Nearby Attractions: A short 45 minute drive.

### Visit Pullman National Historical Park

#### A Story of American Opportunity.

In a growing Chicago neighborhood, diverse people and stories are intertwined. All were seeking opportunity. Some succeeded. Others were limited—by race, gender, or economic status. Their stories came together in Pullman, a planned industrial community famed for its urban design and architecture.

Park Rangers recommend to set aside a half day to explore Pullman National Historical Park.

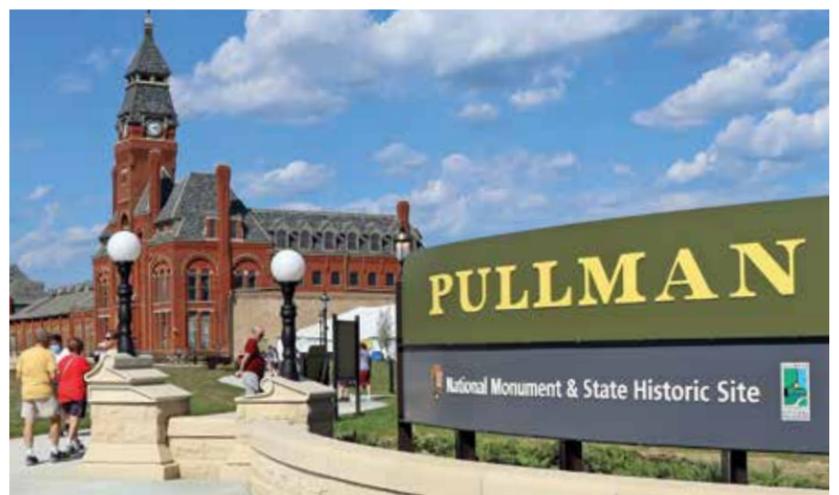
If you only have a couple of hours, start at the Administration-Clock Tower Building to enjoy introductory exhibits by the National Park Service. A ranger can help craft a trip itinerary that best fits your interests for the day. There are variety of options from joining a scheduled ranger tour, viewing the historic buildings around the neighborhood, and visiting the Pullman Exhibit Hall.

With an hour or less, we suggest grabbing a self-guided tour map and a park brochure before getting out there to see the historic neighborhood. However, consider coming back again to learn more about how Pullman stories transformed America and the world!

#### Core Hours & Location:

Weekly: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm (CT)

Address: 610 E. 111th St, Chicago, IL 60628



For more information about the Pullman National Historical Park, scan the QR code seen here, or visit the website: [NPS.gov/PULL](https://www.nps.gov/PULL)





# Weekly & Daily Programs and Events



WEB CALENDAR



To attend our ranger-led programs or events, we offer a handfull of calendar formats which list a variety of park activities that will help spice up your vacation, or help breathe new life into your long-time love for the Indiana Dunes. Please remember that events within the park, require a national park pass (see page 3) .

## Instructions on how to use our website calendar:

1. Visit the park's website calendar page by scanning the QR code above or by clicking the calendar link at NPS.gov/INDU.
2. If you're planning to visit on a later date, but don't need to filter for a specific type of event, select a preferred day on the JUMP TO DATE calendar. Then scroll down.
3. If you'd like to filter the programs, click the dropdown to select "By Event Type" below the SEARCH FILTERS tab, and/or type your keyword (ex. hike) under "By Keyword." After that, click Search. Then scroll down.
4. If you'd like to view the listed programs around a specific date, click "Week" or "Month" above the program listings. Click the arrows next to the month's name to navigate through the months. Then scroll down.
5. If you're at the park or visiting in the near future, just scroll down, past the calendar and filters, to view a list of the current programs available.

## Other Formats of the Park Calendar:

### Facebook

On our Facebook page, click on our Events tab to view upcoming events.

### NPS App

On our park's page, click on the Park Calendar button near the bottom.

### Bulletins

Park event bulletins are placed at various trailheads and park beaches.

### Visitor Center

Come inside for a bulletin handout at the reception desk.



# Yearly Programs and Events

## Yearly Activities

Our rangers and partners conduct over 400 programs throughout the year.

Due to COVID-19 protocols, our programs may change. We miss our visitors greatly and try to offer as many public gatherings as the safety principles allow.

Scan the QR code or visit our calendar page for the latest updates at [NPS.gov/indu/planyourvisit/calendar.htm](https://NPS.gov/indu/planyourvisit/calendar.htm)

For State Park programs, visit [Events.IN.gov/DNR](https://Events.IN.gov/DNR)

Scan to view web Calendar.



## MAY 6, 2023

### Logs to Lustrons Tour

Enjoy examples of everything from rustic landmarks to Mid-Century Modern during the Logs to Lustrons Tour at Indiana Dunes National Park. The day features log structures of early settlement days, frame homes from the Victorian period, and mid-century homes of glass, stucco and metal.

Scan for this event's info.



## MAY 11-14, 2023

### Indiana Dunes Birding Festival

The Indiana Dunes Birding Festival is an event designed to celebrate the dunes' rich biodiversity and bird watching opportunities to create a positive impact on the economic, conservation, and environmental education for visitors and residents to the Indiana Dunes region.

Scan for this event's info.



## SEPTEMBER 9-17, 2023

### Outdoor Adventure Festival

More than 50 events will take place over the weekend at parks and preserves throughout Northwest Indiana. The festival showcases the region's natural and cultural significance through a multitude of outdoor activities for visitors of all ages and activity levels to enjoy.

Scan for this event's info.



## SEPTEMBER 16-17, 2023

### Duneland Fall Festival

History, Music, Food, and Fun! There will be food vendors, musical groups, live entertainment, and demonstration booths showcasing skills that farmers would have used in the early 1900s. Hayrides will be available for a suggested donation to the Friends of Indiana Dunes to help maintain the farm.

Scan for this event's info.



## MARCH 2024

### Maple Sugar Time

Enjoy a sweet taste of spring during the annual Maple Sugar Time festival. In addition to self-guided tours of the sugaring operation at historic Chellberg Farm, the farm will be bustling with maple sugaring activities.

Scan for this event's info.



# Education Programs in the Park

The National Park offers a plethora of educational opportunities.



From on-site to virtual tours, here are some suggestions of park specific activities to create your learning experience:

1. At the Paul H. Douglas for Environmental Education, located on 100 N Lake Street in Gary, you can visit the in-house reptiles, fish, and amphibians. While there, pick up a Jr. Ranger book that challenges you to go out into the park and find out more about it.
2. Also located at the Douglas Center complex is the specialized Nature Play Zone, an area where there are no trails; just a large area to play in the sand, build a fort and discover the joy of outdoor play.
3. The Indiana Dunes web site at [NPS.gov/INDU](http://NPS.gov/INDU) offers a series of virtual tours at many locations. Local geography, geology, flora and fauna are discussed. Scavenger hunts focusing on senses accompany these virtual tours.

4. Dunes Learning Center provides in-depth programming, summer camps, and teacher workshops. Visit [DunesLearningCenter.org](http://DunesLearningCenter.org).
5. Schools and organizations can schedule a virtual or ranger-led program at 219-395-1885 or email [christine\\_gerlach@nps.gov](mailto:christine_gerlach@nps.gov).



## BARK Rangers

A nationwide National Park Service initiative to educate pet owners on responsible behavior began a few years ago and the Indiana Dunes National Park jumped on board shortly thereafter. Pet owners can pick up their one-page worksheet at the Paul Douglas Center for Environmental Education or the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center or print one from the bark ranger web page at [www.nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/bark-ranger.htm](http://www.nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/bark-ranger.htm)

After a hike with your dog in the park and answering a few worksheet questions, simply return to the centers to receive a brass tag with Indiana Dunes National Park logo for your dog. These tags are furnished by the Friends of the Indiana Dunes for a suggested donation of \$5.



This program gets its name from the bark ranger rules:

- Bag your waste
- Always wear a leash
- Respect wildlife
- Know where you can go

Whenever you visit a national park, always ask if they have the Bark Ranger program as many do. If you are a frequent visitor, your dog can become a BARK ranger ambassador and sport a stylish Indiana Dunes scarf. These dogs and owners are tasked with roving the trails and beaches where dogs are allowed and informing visitors of the BARK ranger rules and program.

To see where dogs are allowed, check out our hiking guide on page 15.



## The Digital Dunes



Connecting with the Indiana Dunes National Park online, your desktop computer, tablet, or mobile device will help you to experience our sandy beaches, enchanting skylines, and delightful trails in a virtual way. Through our various social media accounts, you can quickly share your questions and past visits at the national park with each other. It is also where we try to keep you the most updated about new happenings in the park. Our website is the park's information hub, where we store details and alerts about what's happened, or what will be happening at the Indiana Dunes. Checking our website's news releases is also a great place to find out more about what's going on.

Would you like to take a hike without getting sand in your shoes? Our new virtual ranger led explorer hikes, located on our Virtual Tour page, are a great way to achieve this. These hikes include an educational component to help prospective visitors and students understand and prepare for what each location has in store. For instance, Mount Baldy is a large dune that's continually on the move and has a great beach to enjoy, but because of continual erosion, the hike to the beach is not that easy. It's best to travel light for the trip to Mount Baldy Beach.

Our StoryMaps are another virtual way you can interactively enjoy and learn about the park. They feature walkthroughs of some of our more popular trails while telling a story about the features you can see along the way.

There are very informative videos that can be found at our accounts on Facebook, YouTube, and our website's "Photos & Multimedia" page under the "Learn About the Park" tab.

Do you have a head scratching question about the park that just won't go away? You can contact our park's visitor center at 219-395-1882 or email [indu\\_communications@nps.gov](mailto:indu_communications@nps.gov).



Take a Virtual Tour of the National Park  
Visit the Virtual Tour page at [NPS.gov/INDU](http://NPS.gov/INDU) or scan the QR Code seen here.

### Social Media Accounts:

-  Facebook: [IndianaDunesNPS](https://www.facebook.com/IndianaDunesNPS)
-  Flickr: [indianadunes \(people\)](https://www.flickr.com/photos/indianadunes/)
-  Twitter: [IndianaDunesNPS](https://twitter.com/IndianaDunesNPS)
-  Instagram: [indianadunesnps](https://www.instagram.com/indianadunesnps/)

 EXPAND YOUR KNOWLEDGE



 YouTube Videos  
Search "Indiana Dunes National Park Official YouTube Channel" or scan the QR Code seen here.



 Facebook Videos  
Visit <https://www.facebook.com/IndianaDunesNPS/videos/> or scan the QR Code seen here.



**Indiana Dunes Visitor Center**



**1 Paul H. Douglas Nature Center**



**2 Marquette Park (City of Gary park)**



**3 West Beach & Bathroom**



**4 Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk**



**5 Cowles Bog Beach**



**6 Bailly Homestead**



**7 Chellberg Farm**



**8 Porter Beach**



**9 Indiana Dunes State Park/Beach**



**10 State Park Nature Center**



**11 Kemil Beach**



**12 Century of Progress Homes**



**13 Dunbar Beach**



**14 Lake View Beach**



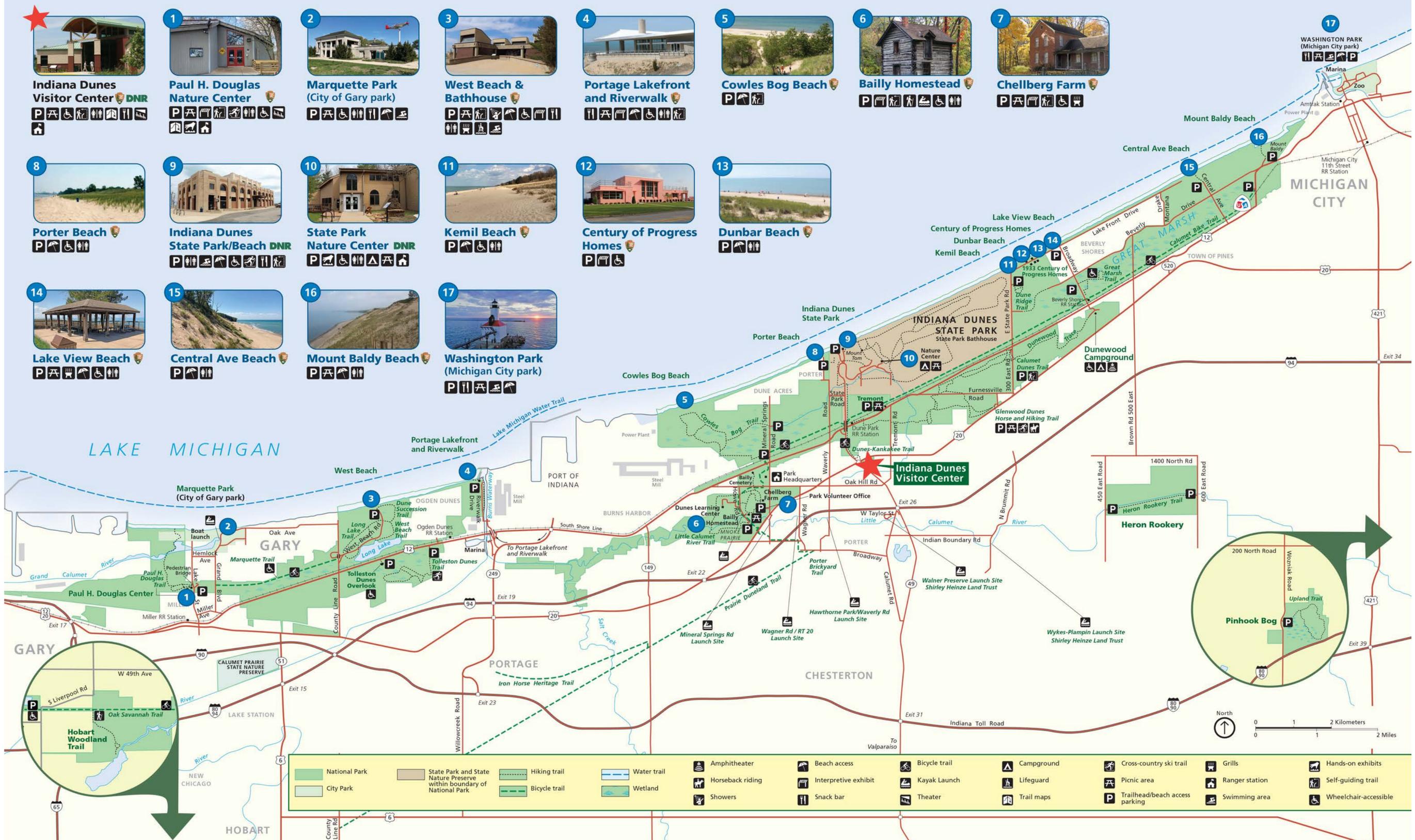
**15 Central Ave Beach**



**16 Mount Baldy Beach**



**17 Washington Park (Michigan City park)**



## BEACH PARKING

<b>642</b> West Beach Gary, IN 46403 Parking Spaces	<b>822</b> Indiana Dunes State Park Chesterton, IN 46304 Parking Spaces	<b>39</b> Lake View Beach Beverly Shores IN 46301 Parking Spaces
<b>106</b> Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk Portage, IN 46368 Parking Spaces	<b>99</b> Kemil Beach Beverly Shores IN 46301 Parking Spaces	<b>68</b> Central Ave Beach Beverly Shores IN 46301 Parking Spaces
<b>72</b> Porter Beach Porter, IN 46304 Parking Spaces	<b>26</b> Dunbar Beach Beverly Shores IN 46301 Parking Spaces	<b>87</b> Mount Baldy Beach Michigan City, IN 46360 Parking Spaces

## NEW!

Check real-time beach parking space availability by scanning the QR code below or visit: [CongestionMonitor.com/INDU](http://CongestionMonitor.com/INDU)  
For more info, turn to pg. 23.

## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

**ENTRANCE FEES**  
**7 Day Entry Permit**  
 • Walk/Bike \$15  
 • Vehicle Pass \$25  
 • Motorcycle \$20  
 • Annual passes & more, see pg. 3  
**Purchase Entry Permits at:**  
 • Indiana Dunes Visitor Center  
 • West Beach fee kiosk (seasonally)  
 • Paul H. Douglas Center  
 • [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

- Lifeguards only at West Beach and State Park. Attending lifeguards times and days vary. All other NPS beaches, swim at your own risk.
- Open 6:00 am - 11:00 pm unless otherwise posted.
- Smaller parking lots fill before 9:00 am during the summer season. Arrive early to avoid traffic congestion.
- Do NOT park in the Century of Progress parking area to access the beach. Parking is limited to 15 minutes at this location.

For more information, including beach conditions and safety, scan the QR code seen here or visit [Beach-Going & Swimming at NPS.gov/INDU](http://Beach-Going & Swimming at NPS.gov/INDU).

# Hiking Spotlights



## What is the Diana Dunes Dare?

It is a hiking challenge comparable to the 3 Dune Challenge!

It is a ghost story re-told! We are daring you to be like the dune advocate Alice Mabel Gray, also known as Diana of the Dunes. She hiked and lived in the dunes on her own in an abandoned shanty for over 9 years in the early 1900s and took an interest in the history, ecology, and preservation of this place.

Starting from the parking lot at West Beach, hikers can climb the newly named Diana's Dune. Count the steps along the way! At the first wayside, you can pause on top of the great staircase and let the breeze surround you as it heightens your senses. At this boundless vantage point you can choose your view. You can gaze 36 miles into the distance to see the towering

might of Chicago, the birthplace of our gallant advocate Alice. You can choose to see the abrupt line of contrast of where industry and nature collide. Or you can turn your regard to the delicate, diverse rolling beauty of the dune succession and its fragility. Remember to stay on designated trails.



## What is the 3 Dune Challenge? DNR

Go Extreme! If your idea of fun is running up the stairs of a skyscraper or doing a marathon, try climbing 552 vertical feet of sand and stairs. The 3 Dune Challenge is Indiana's best test of physical strength and endurance. Compete against your own "PB" while running the equivalent of 55 stories up three towering dunes. And if you still want more, give it your all by taking the flip trip—running back up the dunes in reverse to the starting point.

# Adventure Hiking

## 1966 Hiking Project

Looking to explore more of the national park and really see what makes the dunes so special? If so, here is the adventure for you. The 1966 Hiking Project is comprised of 19 hikes that cover 66 miles of trail in the park, celebrating the park's founding in 1966.

## Ranger-Led Hikes

We will offer 19 weekly ranger-led hikes starting in May and culminating at the Outdoor Adventure Festival the weekend of September 16. The hikes will range in length from 1.1 to 7.1 miles

and take place in every area of the national park. Those that complete the series will earn a free hiking medallion and water bottle. Don't worry if you cannot make all 19 ranger-led hikes. A check-off sheet will be available at the visitor center to complete the hikes on your own.

All hikes are subject to change. Remember to always plan ahead, bring insect repellent, and dress for weather. To view currently available ranger-led hikes, scan the QR code seen here, or visit the calendar page at [NPS.gov/INDU](https://www.nps.gov/indu/).



PAUL KEMMEL

# A New Pollinator Trail – Its all the Buzz!



RAFI WILKINSON

Enjoy new exhibits along the Miller Woods Trail at the Paul H. Douglas Center.

To Bee or Not to Bee Informed! Learn all about bees and other pollinators. See if pollinators nest alone or in social groups. Don't see any pollinators? Find out where they are, inspect their homes and activities throughout the seasons. Do they migrate or hibernate? Discover the plants and colors pollinators are attracted to. What are their favorite foods? Learn about their needs for survival and how you can help by planting pollinator friendly greenspaces. Which pollinators are native? Are they in peril? Can you help?

The interactive exhibits are placed on the short one-mile loop segment of the Miller Woods Trail. The first wayside is directly behind the Douglas Center. You can find the beginning of the Pollinator Trail by entering through the Paul H. Douglas Center or from the trailhead located

at 100 North Lake Street, Gary, IN 46403, (41.606466, -87.268527 (Decimal Degrees)). If you choose to locate the exhibits from the trailhead, you will have to navigate a set of stairs that are located behind the building. You will find the first installation at the top.

Test your newfound pollinator knowledge as you extend your hike beyond the boardwalks and exhibits onto the 1.5-mile north segment of the trail to the Lake Michigan shoreline. Find yourself surrounded by native grasses and wildflowers as you stroll through a rare black oak savannah dabbled with marshes, open dunes, and beach, while you look for pollinators, food sources, and nesting habitats.

For more information about Paul H. Douglas Center or it's trail scan the QR code seen here or visit <https://www.nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/deec.htm>



# Marquette Greenway Trail

Have you noticed brightly colored flags or marking tape in the park recently? They are signs that one of the biggest projects in the history of the park is starting. The Marquette Greenway Trail, a 60-mile multi-use paved trail from Chicago, IL to New Buffalo, MI, is starting to take shape. Envisioned as far back as the 1980's, trail is now more than half built. Some 20 miles of the trail will wind through the park, stretching from our western boundary in Gary all the way to our eastern boundary in Michigan City.

The trail will connect to the Paul Douglas Center, West Beach, Portage Lakefront, Bailly Homestead, Chellberg Farm, visitor center, state park, great marsh, eastern beaches, Dunewood Campground, Mount Baldy, and many more park areas. The trail will also connect to bike friendly South Shore train stations located at Miller, Ogden Dunes, Dune Park, and Michigan City, allowing for easy non-motorized access to the park.

This ambitious project will take years to complete but has already started. Several miles were built in 2022 and there are several active projects for 2023 and beyond. The Marquette Greenway Trail offers a scenic and safe way to get around the park.



KENT MILLER



## INSECT SAFETY

### Insect Bites and Stings:

- Ticks are present year-round. Take precautionary measures to prevent bites.
- Use insect repellent
- Wear light colored, long-sleeved shirts.
- Tuck pants into your shoes.
- Avoid outdoor activities at dawn and dusk to help prevent mosquito bites.
- Avoid loose and bright print clothing to help prevent yellow jackets and other stinging insects.
- Do not wear sandals while hiking; avoid wearing perfume, lotion and hairspray.
- Insect repellents DO NOT work against stinging insects.
- If stung, seek medical attention if symptoms of a systemic allergic reaction develop.

## SUMMER SAFETY

### Be Cool This Summer:

- Remember to bring plenty of water to stay hydrated.
- Stay in the shade when possible to prevent heat stroke.
- Remember sunblock to protect your skin.
- Wear sunglasses to protect your eyes.

## WATER SAFETY

- Don't swim when the waves are high.
- Wear a personal floatation device (PFD).
- Keep your children in sight at all times, and small children should be within reach when in the water.
- Watch for drop-offs and holes in the shoreline.
- Never swim alone.
- Don't swim near piers or man-made structures in the water.
- Be aware of water quality. Natural and man-made sources of contamination can affect water quality. If the water looks dirty, it probably is.
- Contact the park's info line for beach conditions: 219-395-1882.

## WINTER SAFETY

### Stay off the shelf ice!

- Walking on shelf ice is extremely hazardous.
- Dress in layers of loose-fitting clothes to prevent frostbite.
- Do not sled (except in designated areas, like the one at West Beach).

# NATIONAL PARK HIKING GUIDE

HIKE	HIKE LENGTH	HIKE TIME	TRAIL SURFACE	
<b>EASY</b>				
Calumet Dunes Trail	0.5 miles	20 minutes	Paved	
Great Marsh Trail	1.3 miles	1 hour	Packed dirt and grass with some gravel. Trail can be very wet and muddy.	
Heron Rookery Trail	3.3 miles	1.5 to 2 hours	Packed dirt and clay. Trail can be very slippery and muddy.	
Hobart Prairie Grove Trails	2.2 miles	1.5 hours	Packed dirt and clay. Trail can be very wet and muddy.	
Marquette Bike Trail	4.6 miles	30 minutes	Gravel	
Paul H Douglas Trail (Miller Woods): <u>Center loop</u>	0.9 miles	30 minutes	Packed dirt with some sections of loose sand and accessible boardwalk.	
Pinhook Bog Trail* *Ranger-led tours only	0.9 miles	1 hour	Packed dirt. Section of floating boardwalk that submerges when walked on. Wear waterproof boots.	
Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk Trail	0.9 miles Portions of Riverwalk closed for repairs	45 minutes	Paved with some sections of boardwalk and one set of stairs.	
<b>MODERATE</b>				
Bailly Homestead, Chellberg Farm Trail: <u>Inner Loop</u>	1.1 miles	45 minutes	Packed soil with wood chips in places; several sets of stairs. Trail can be very wet and muddy.	
Dune Ridge Trail	0.7 miles	30 minutes to 1 hour	Mixture of loose sand and packed dirt. Some elevation changes.	
Glenwood Dunes Trails (Horseback riding allowed)	Less than 1 mile to 6.8 miles	Less than 1 hour to 4 hours	Packed dirt with some sections of sand or boardwalk. NO PETS*	
Little Calumet River and Mnoké Prairie Trails: <u>Outer Loop (Bailly/ Chellberg)</u>	3.4 miles	2.5 hours	Packed soil with wood chips in places; several sets of stairs. Trail can be very wet and muddy.	
Paul H Douglas Trail (Miller Woods): <u>Beach trail</u>	3.4 miles	2 hours	Packed dirt with some sections of loose sand. Some elevation changes.	
Tolleston Dunes Trail	2.9 miles	2 hours	Sand with some sections of packed soil, gravel, and boardwalk. Boardwalk can be submerged.	
Upland Trail (at Pinhook Bog)	2.1 miles	1.5 hours	Packed dirt. Trail can be very wet and muddy.	
<b>MODERATE to RUGGED</b>				
Cowles Bog Trail	4.7 miles	4 hours	Mixture of loose sand and packed dirt. Some elevation changes.	
Mount Baldy Beach Trail (Summit Trail CLOSED: Ranger-led tours only)	0.75 miles	1 hour	Packed dirt with sections of loose sand. Use caution when hiking to beach. Obey signs. Steep slope.	
West Beach Trails: Dune Succession (Loop 1): West Beach (Loop 2): Long Lake (Loop 3):	3-loop: 3.4 miles total 0.9 miles 1.2 miles 2.2 miles	45 minutes to 2.5 hours	Packed dirt with some sections of loose sand. Some elevation changes and long staircases on Dunes Succession Loop.	



\* Calumet Dunes Trail: Paved but slopes exceed ADA limits. Trail is wheelchair accessible with proper support. Restrooms are accessible. Great Marsh Trail: The main trail is not wheelchair accessible. There is a paved wheelchair accessible trail to an overlook of the marsh from the north parking lot. Hobart Prairie Grove Trails: The Oak Savannah Bike Trail (leading to the Hobart Prairie Grove Trail) is paved and wheelchair accessible. Paul H Douglas Trail (Miller Woods): Trails are not wheelchair accessible. The Paul H. Douglas Center, restrooms, and the walkway from the building to the marsh boardwalk and picnic tables are all wheelchair accessible.



ALL PETS: MUST be on a leash (6' or shorter).  
\* West Beach Trails: Pets are prohibited in the lifeguard swimming area in the summer. Glenwood Dunes Trails: Pets are prohibited on the equestrian portion of the trail for safety. Permitted elsewhere on a leash (6' or shorter). All pet excrement must be picked up and properly disposed of in trash receptacles.



Do Not Risk Your Life!



Swim Safely



Wear Tick Repellent



Stay On Marked Trails



## Maps Key

Beach Access	Fishing	Ranger Station	Road	Bike Trail
Bench	Food service	Restrooms	Train Tracks	Contour lines at 10ft intervals
Bicycle Trail	Hiking / Trailhead	Shelter	Wetlands	<b>Introducing Contour Lines</b> If you are unfamiliar with contour lines, a special feature is their ability to illustrate the shape of the terrain; therefore, giving a better representation of the natural physical features of the dunes. When the lines are close, the incline or decline is steeper as you travel along the trail.
Birding/Wildlife viewing	Horseback riding	Sheltered Picnic Area	Water	
Campground	Interpretive exhibit	Showers	National Park	
Canoe access	Parking	Stay on Trail	Non-Park Property	
Cross Country Skiing	Park Headquarters	Stairs	Parking Lot	
Emergency telephone	Picnic Area	Wheelchair Accessible	Trail	

## Paul H. Douglas Trail (Miller Woods)

The Paul H. Douglas Trail in Miller Woods winds through several habitats including wetlands, globally rare black oak savanna, open dunes and beach. The views of the lake and the dunes are incredible. The oak savanna's native grasses and wildflowers, including lupine, thrive in the sunlight and open forest floor. Please stay single file on the narrow trail to protect yourself from the abundant poison ivy along the trail edges as well as the fragile lupine habitat.

This featured hike is essentially an out-and-back trail. Starting from the Paul H. Douglas Center, take the trail north or counter-clockwise around the wetland complex. Look for wildlife including beavers. The trail will run west along the top of the wetland. At the trail junction, take a right and follow the trail to the north. The trail from this point is an out and back to the beach. The trail features beautiful scenery with small interdunal ponds nestled among oak savanna covered dunes teeming with wildflowers in the spring and summer.

Once you cross the bridge over the Grand Calumet River, the landscape changes dramatically into a world of towering sand dunes. The trail winds around and through the dunes all the way to the shore of Lake Michigan. After enjoying the lake, follow the trail back to the junction at the wetland complex. Follow the trail to the right along the wetland back to the Paul H. Douglas Center.

The trail surface is mostly sand with some sections of packed soil, gravel or boardwalk. The hike will take longer than you think due to the loose footing of walking in the sand. The trail starts in relative shade but ends in the full sun. Please bring plenty of water, sun protection and dress in layers. The weather on the beach can be dramatically colder or hotter than in the woods.

### HISTORY & BACKGROUND

The Paul H. Douglas Trail is a partnership between the National Park Service and the City of Gary, Indiana.

### HIKE DETAILS:

Moderate, 3.4 miles in length, hike time of 2 hours.

### TRAIL FEATURES:

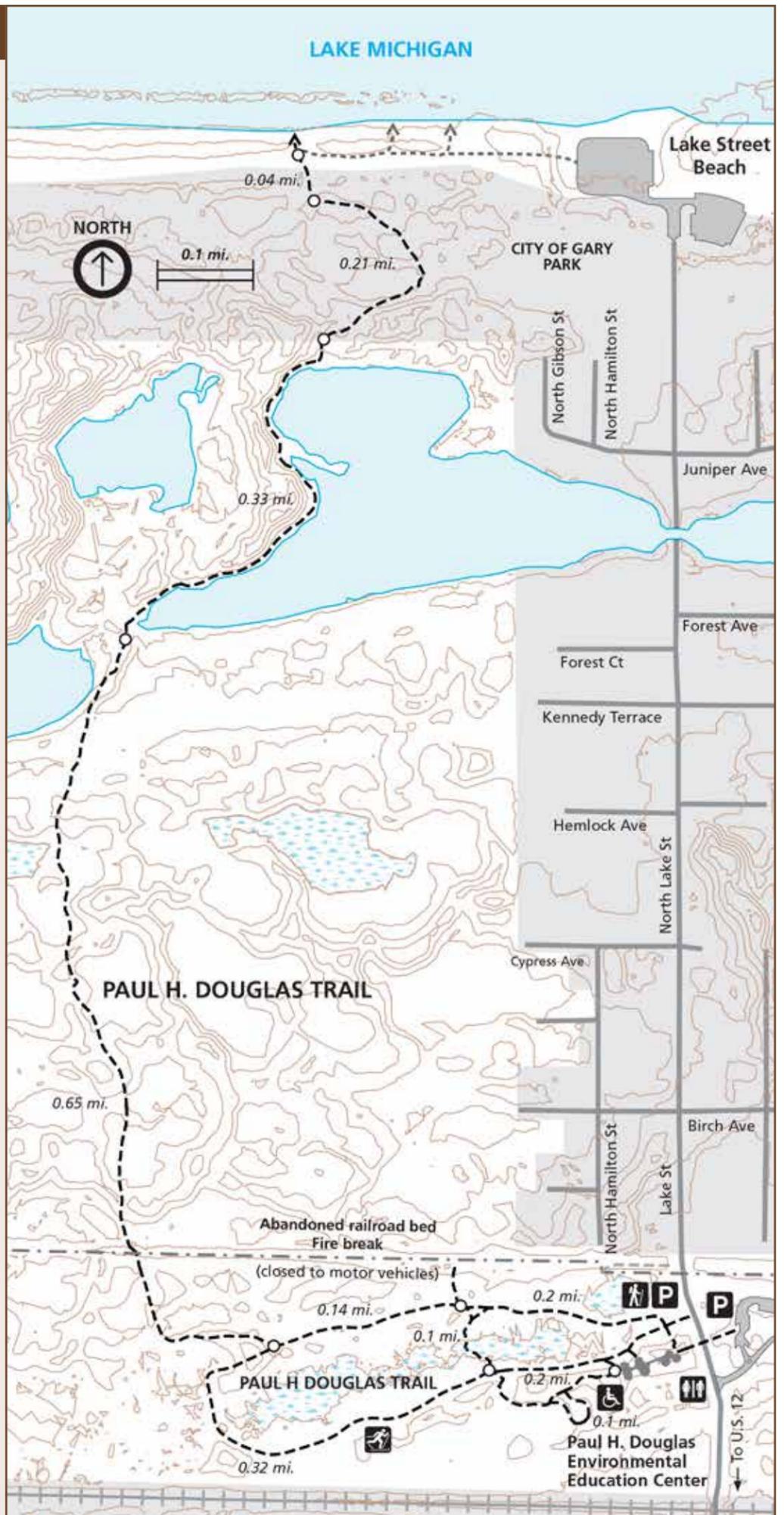
Fall Colors, Lake, River, Swimming, Views, Wildflowers, Wildlife, Dunes, and Lake Michigan

### GETTING THERE:

**Trailhead Parking Lot**  
100 North Lake Street, Gary, IN 46403

### TRAILHEAD GPS COORDINATES:

41.606466, -87.268527





# TRAIL MAPS

In case of an emergency or to report a crime, call 1-800-PARK-TIP (727-5847).

## Hobart Woodland Trail

Hobart Prairie Grove consists of forested ravines and a portion of scenic Lake George, which is part of the Deep River. The Hobart Woodland trail offers views of forest ravines and has an overlook of Lake George. The Oak Savannah rail trail runs through the Hobart Prairie Grove and is a great place for biking, pushing a stroller or just hiking to relax and improve your health.

**TRAIL FEATURES:** Fall Colors, Views, Lake, River, Wildlife

**HIKE DETAILS:** Easy, 2.2 miles round trip length, hike time 1.5 hours.

**GETTING THERE:**

**Trailhead Parking Lots**

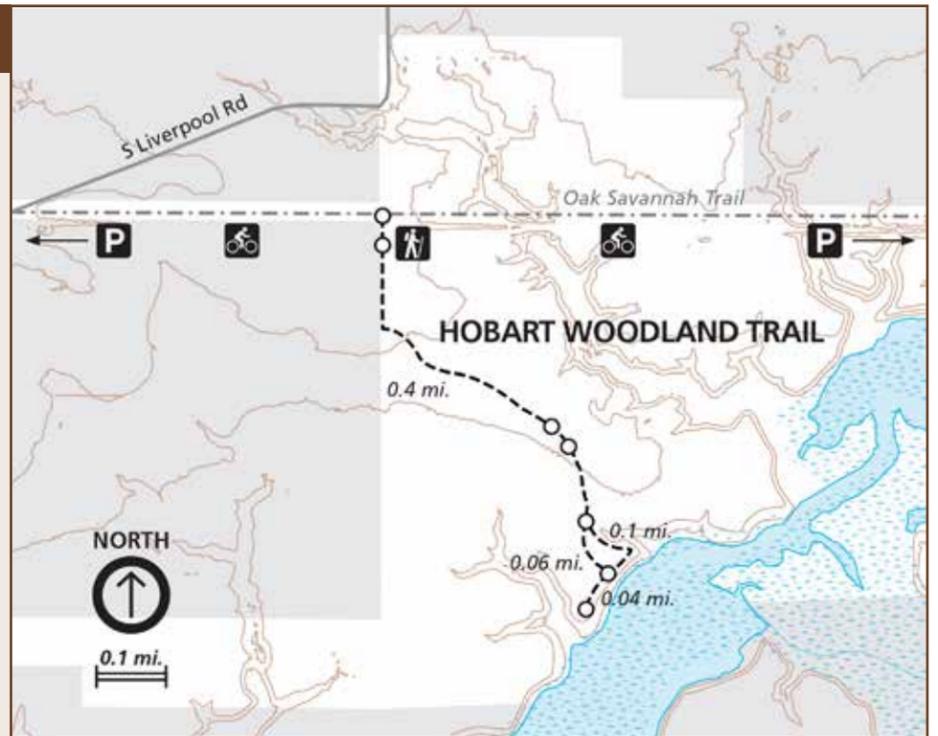
Main Lot (west end): Robinson Lake Park, 5227 South Liverpool Road, Hobart, IN 46342

Alternate Street Parking (east end): 851 South Wisconsin Street, Hobart, IN 46342

**TRAILHEAD GPS COORDINATES:**

Main (west): 41.523898, -87.307101 (Decimal Degrees)

Alternate (east): 41.523683, -87.269201 (Decimal Degrees)



## West Beach Trails

West Beach offers a great combination of hiking and relaxing at the beach. The trails are varied and encompass many habitats. There are great views from the top of the Dune Succession Trail stairs, a beautiful pinery of jack pines, birding opportunities along Long Lake and secluded sections of forest. After hiking, relax and swim at the beach.

**HIKE DETAILS:**

3-Loop Hike: Moderate to rugged, 3.4 miles in length, hike time of 2.5 hours.

Dunes Succession Hike: Rugged, 0.9 mile in length, hike time of 45 minutes.

**TRAIL FEATURES:**

Birding, Lake Michigan, Swimming, Views, Wildflowers, Wildlife, Diana's Dune

**GETTING THERE:**

**Trailhead Parking Lots**

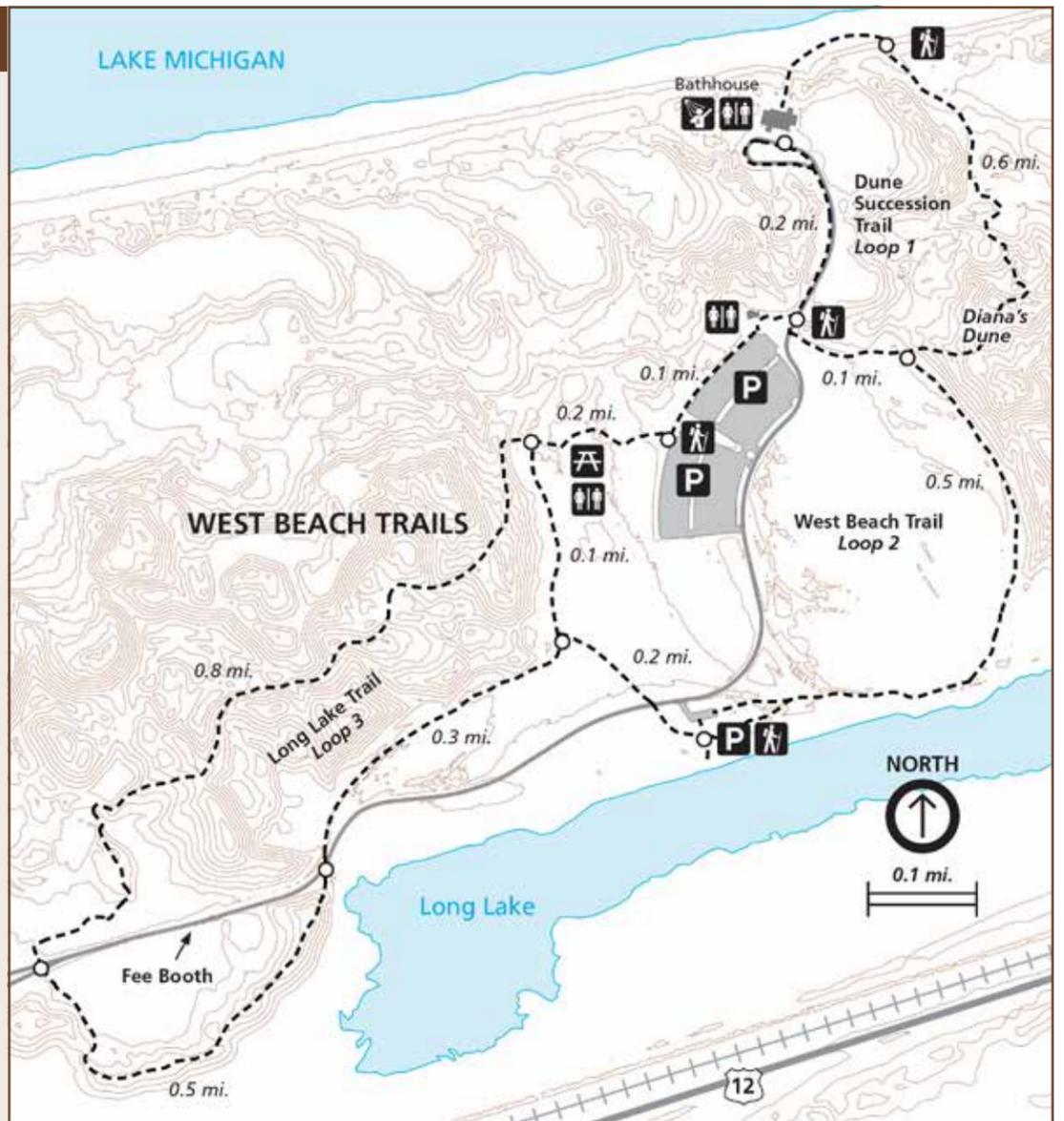
376 North County Line Road, Gary, IN 46403

**TRAILHEAD GPS COORDINATES:**

41.622934, -87.207747 (Decimal Degrees)



PAUL KEMIEL



## Tolleston Dunes Trail

This hike winds amid varied habitats ranging from oak savanna to wetlands and plants such as prickly pear cactus, butterfly weed and lupines.

**HIKE DETAILS:**

Moderate, 2.9 miles in length, hike time of 2 hours.

**TRAIL FEATURES:**

Fall Colors, Wildflowers, Wildlife

**GETTING THERE: Trailhead Parking Lots**

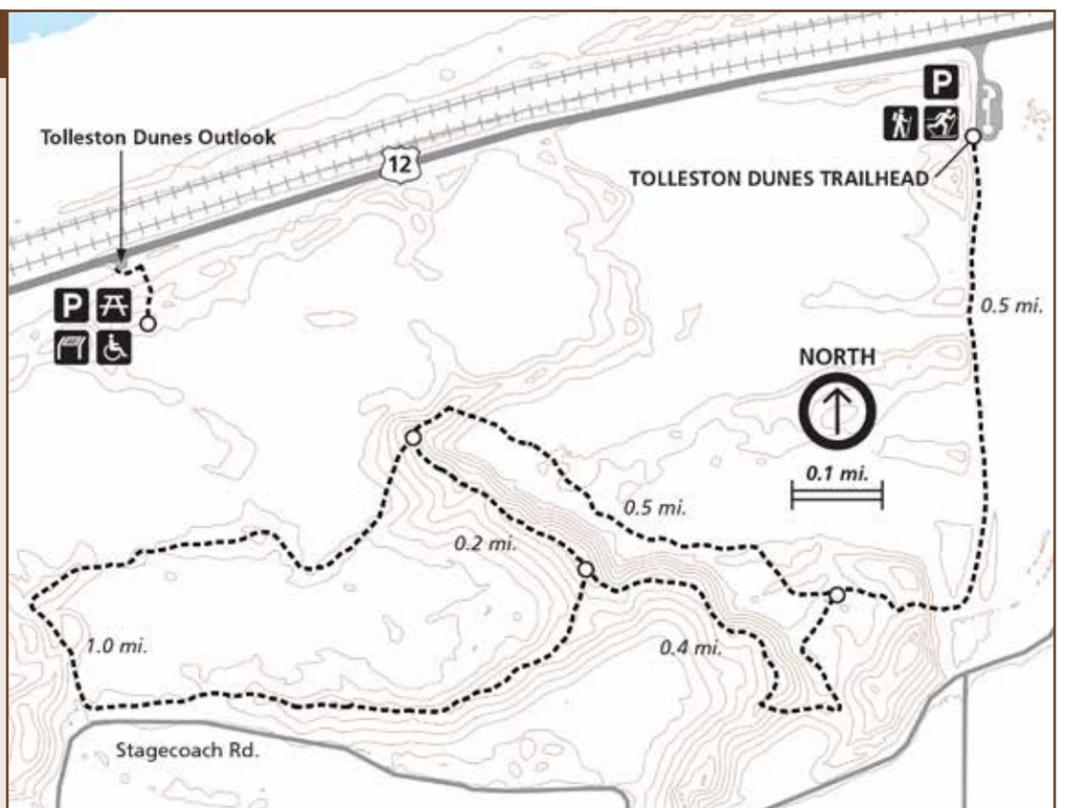
Main Lot: 5800 U.S. Highway 12, Ogden Dunes, IN 46368

Marsh Overlook Lot: 5634 U.S. Highway 12, Portage, IN 46368

**TRAILHEAD GPS COORDINATES:**

Main: 41.615056, -87.192889 (Decimal Degrees)

Marsh Overlook: 41.613499, -87.206679 (Decimal Degrees)





# TRAIL MAPS

In case of an emergency or to report a crime, call 1-800-PARK-TIP (727-5847).

## Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk Trail



This popular location is a great place to view the ever-changing seasons along Lake Michigan and watch dramatic weather and clouds build over the lake. It's an easy location to watch for migrating birds in the spring and summer, and observe shelf ice that forms along the beach edge in the winter. Visitors can enjoy easy access to the lakefront and trails that highlight dune succession. A 3,500 square foot public pavilion includes restrooms, a seasonal snack bar and a glass walled classroom/meeting space.

### HIKE DETAILS:

Easy, 0.9 miles round trip length, hike time of 45 minutes.

### TRAIL FEATURES:

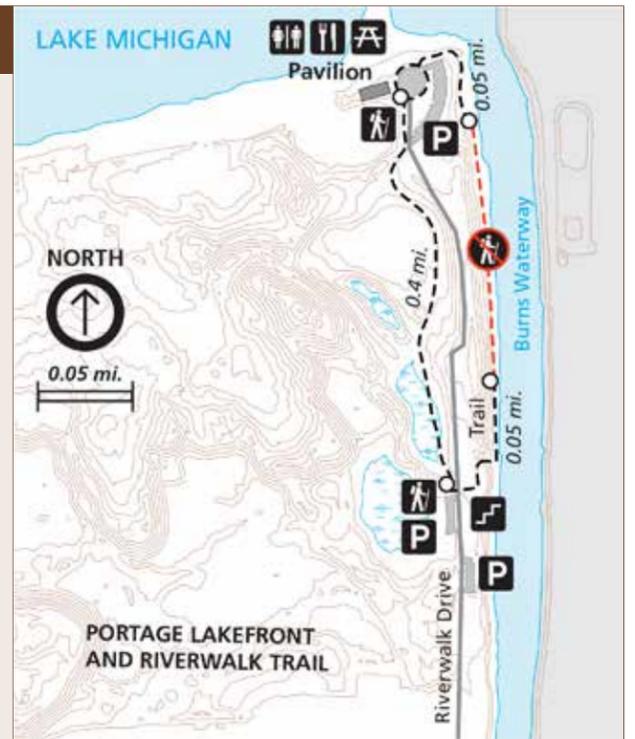
Lake Michigan, Views, Birding, Swimming, Fishing

### GETTING THERE:

Trailhead Parking Lot  
100 Riverwalk Road, Portage, IN 46368

### TRAILHEAD GPS COORDINATES:

41.630994, -87.178383 (Decimal Degrees)



## Cowles Bog Trail

Visitor Favorite: This hike highlights a National Natural Landmark area designated because of its outstanding plant diversity.

### HIKE DETAILS:

Moderate to rugged, 4.7 miles in length, hike time of 4 hours.

### TRAIL FEATURES:

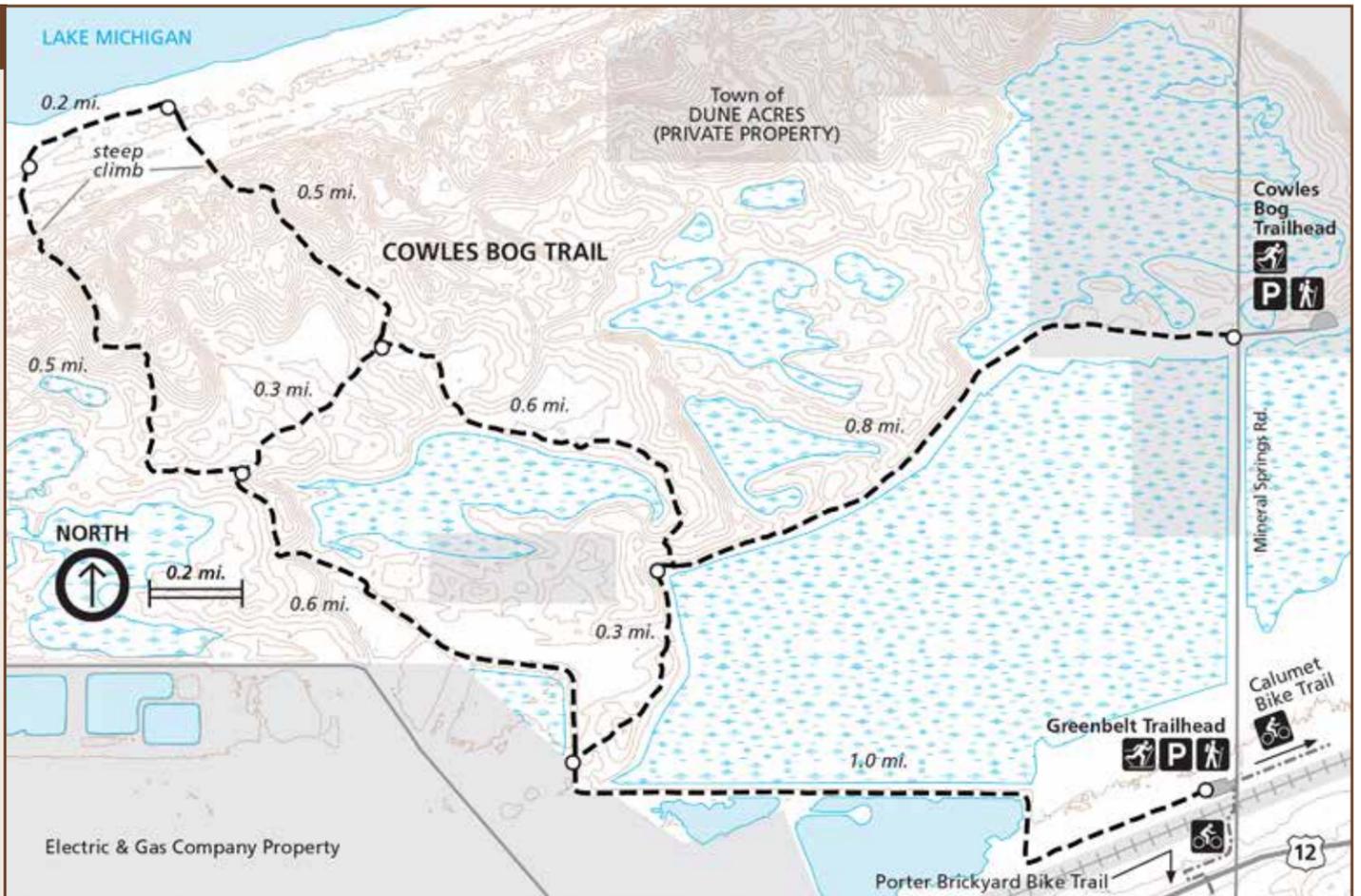
Fall Colors, Lake, Views, Wildlife, Lake Michigan

### GETTING THERE:

Trailhead Parking Lot  
Main Lot (north): 1450 North Mineral Springs Road, Dune Acres, IN 46304

### TRAILHEAD GPS COORDINATES:

Main (north): 41.645191, -87.084633 (Decimal Degrees)  
Greenbelt (south): 41.636898, -87.087185 (Decimal Degrees)



## Bailly Homestead, Chellberg Farm, Little Calumet River and Mnoké Prairie Trails

The Little Calumet River, Mnoké Prairie, Bailly Homestead, Chellberg Farm and Bailly Cemetery trail system reveals the rich natural diversity that has drawn people to this area for over 10,000 years. Follow a stretch of the Little Calumet River, once a critical transportation route for early regional travelers and explore the Mnoké Prairie for a glimmer of the vast stretches of pre-settlement grasslands. Explore the historic Bailly Homestead and Chellberg Farm.

### HIKE DETAILS:

Easy to moderate, 3.4 miles in length, hike time of 2.5 hours.

### TRAIL FEATURES:

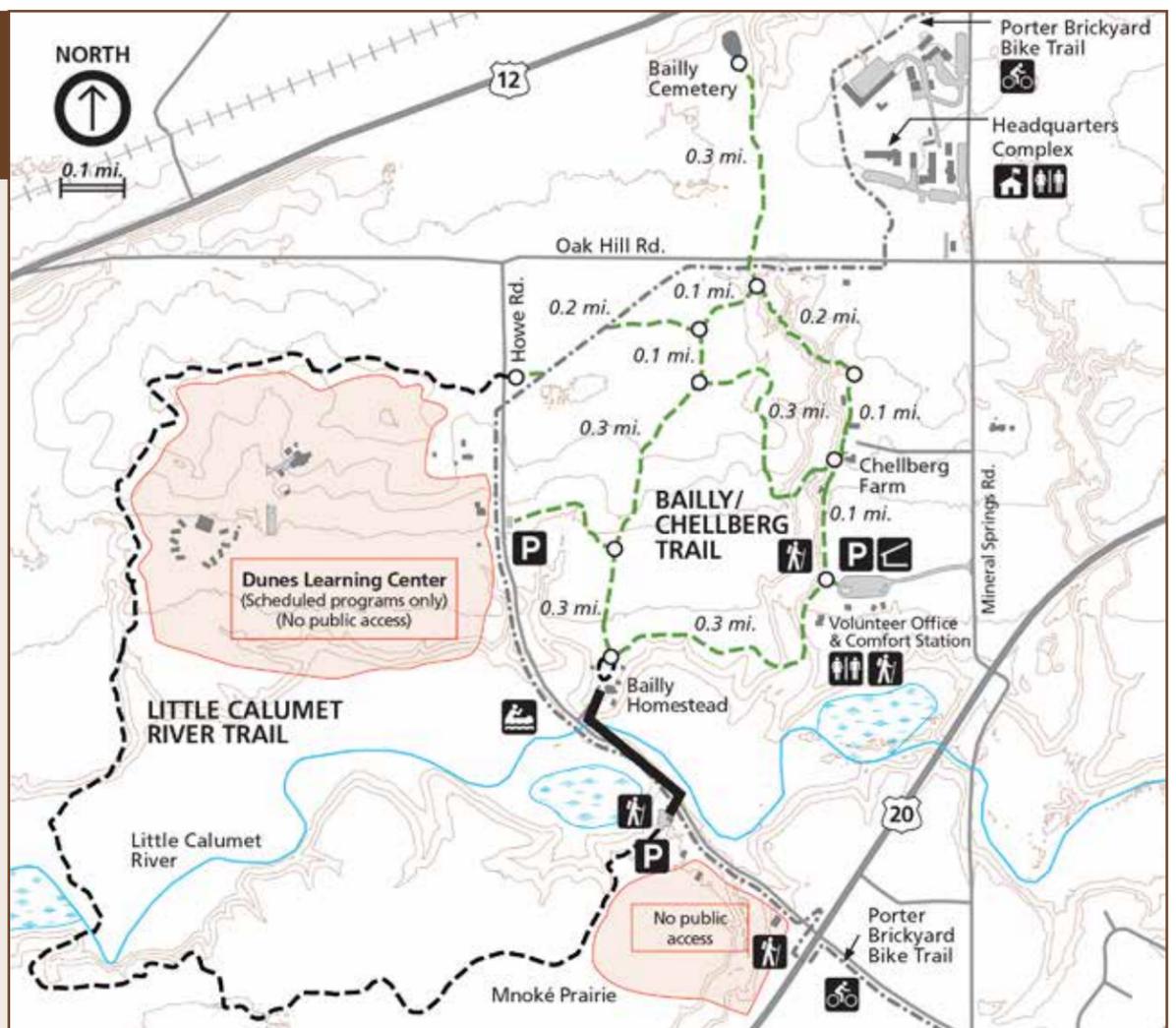
River Crossings, Historic Homes, Birding, Fall Colors, Wildflowers and Wildlife, Mnoké Prairie, Little Calumet River Bridge, and Farm animals

### GETTING THERE:

Trailhead Parking Lot  
North of U.S. Highway 20 on Mineral Springs Road, Porter, IN 46304

### TRAILHEAD GPS COORDINATES:

41.624679, -87.089502 (Decimal Degrees)





# TRAIL MAPS

In case of an emergency or to report a crime, call 1-800-PARK-TIP (727-5847).

## Glenwood Dunes Trails

This extensive trail system features interconnected loops in mature woods ranging from less than a mile to nearly 15 miles and is popular with hikers, runners, horseback riders and cross-country skiers.

**HIKE DETAILS:** Glenwood Dunes Trail  
Moderate, 6.8 miles in length, hike time of 4 hours.

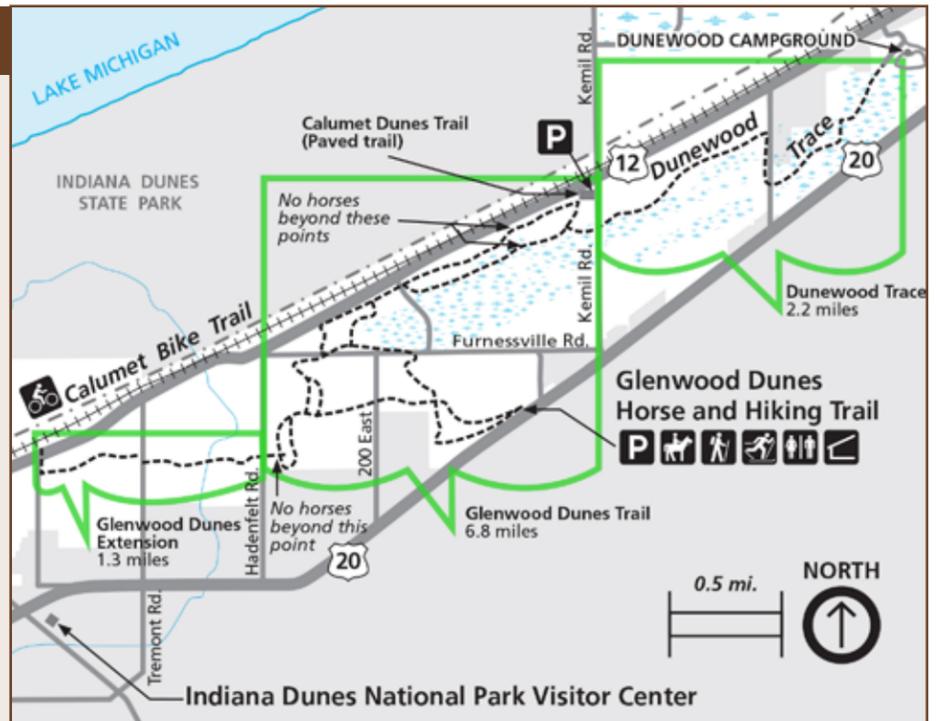
**TRAIL FEATURES:**  
Fall Colors, Wildlife

**GETTING THERE:**

**Trailhead Parking Lot**  
Glenwood Dunes Lot (main): 1475 North Brummitt Road, Chesterton, IN 46304  
Calumet Dunes Lot (alternate): 1596 North Kemil Road (300E), Chesterton, IN 46304

**TRAILHEAD GPS COORDINATES:**

Main: 41.648245, -87.015382 (Decimal Degrees)  
Alternate: 41.661836, -87.010109 (Decimal Degrees)



## Calumet Dunes Trail

This short hike on a paved trail features the Calumet Dunes ridge, which was the shoreline of Lake Michigan over 12,000 years ago.

This featured hike is a loop trail and is wheelchair accessible. Starting at the parking lot trailhead, hike the trail loop in a counter-clockwise direction. The path is easy to follow. Please be aware of trail junctions. Stick to the left at each junction. The first two junctions are the north and south entrances to the Glenwood Dunes Trail system. Note that no pets are allowed on this portion of the Glenwood Dunes Trail. The last trail junction is with the Dunewood Trace Campground Trail. Again, stay left. The trail ends on the opposite side of the building from where you started. Walk around to the front of the building.

The trail is paved but slopes exceed ADA limits; however, it is still wheelchair accessible with proper support. The restrooms are accessible.

**HIKE DETAILS:**  
Easy, 0.5 miles in length, hike time of 20 minutes.

**TRAIL FEATURES:**  
Fall Colors, Wildlife

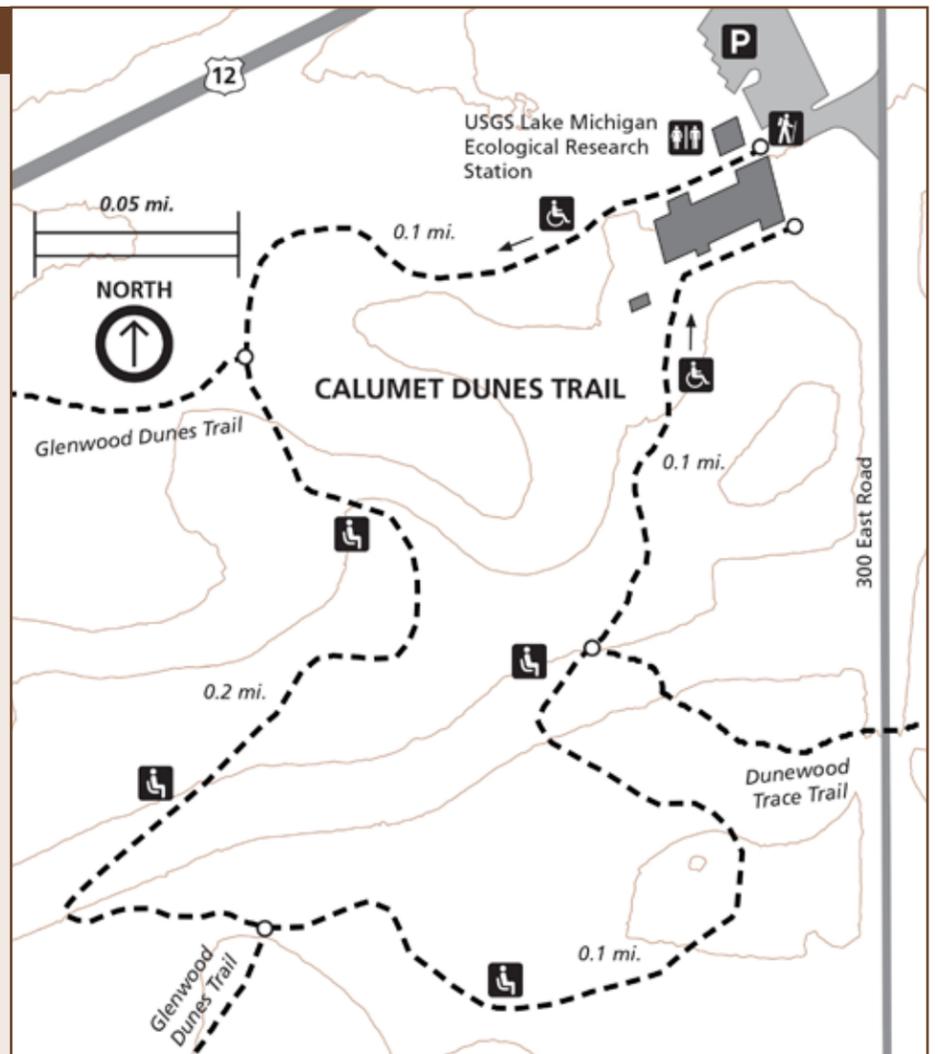
**GETTING THERE:**

**Trailhead Parking Lot**  
1596 North Kemil Road (300E), Chesterton, IN 46304 (Intersection of Kemil Road and U.S. Highway 12)

Note: Kemil Road is called East State Park Rd north of U.S. Hwy 12.

**TRAILHEAD GPS COORDINATES:**

41.661836, -87.010109 (Decimal Degrees)



## Dune Ridge Trail

This hike offers great views of the extensive wetlands and forests south of this tall, forested dune. Perhaps no other area in the national park will take you through as many diverse habitats in such a short trail. Visit Kemil Beach for swimming and other beach activities after your hike.

**HIKE DETAILS:**  
Moderate, 0.7 miles in length, hike time of 30 minutes.

**TRAIL FEATURES:**  
Great Marsh Overlook, Birding, Fall Colors, Wildflowers and Wildlife, Kemil Beach

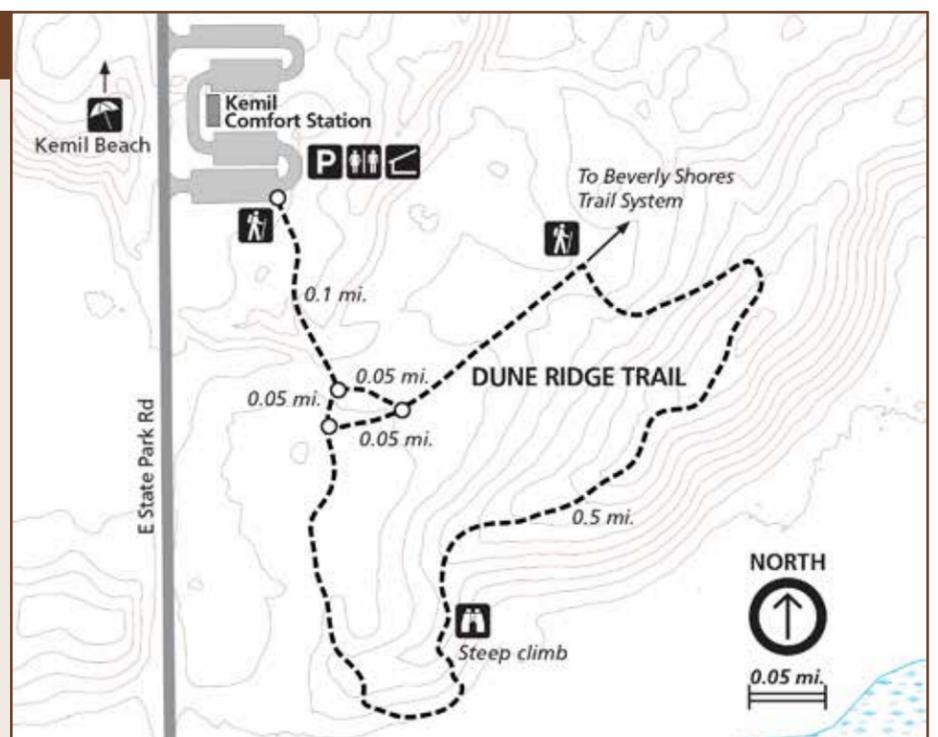
**GETTING THERE:**

**Trailhead Parking Lot**  
North of U.S. Highway 12 on East State Park Road (300E), Beverly Shores, IN 46301.

Note: East State Park Road is called Kemil Road to the south of U.S. Highway 12.

**TRAILHEAD GPS COORDINATES:**

41.677357, -87.008950 (Decimal Degrees)



### Looking for a better view of the birds?

Take your adventure to new birding heights at the Dune Ridge Trail overlook. Visitors enjoy ascending the dune ridge to relish the spectacular overhead views of the Great Marsh system from above.



# TRAIL MAPS

In case of an emergency or to report a crime, call 1-800-PARK-TIP (727-5847).

## Great Marsh Trail

A really nice birding hike with views of the largest wetland complex in the Lake Michigan watershed. During the migration periods, the wetland will be frequented by flocks of ducks and geese. Features a separate wheelchair accessible paved trail with quick access to an observation deck.

### HIKE DETAILS:

Easy, 1.3 miles in length, hike time of 1 hour.

### TRAIL FEATURES:

Birding, Great Marsh Observation Deck, Wildlife

### GETTING THERE:

#### Trailhead Parking Lots

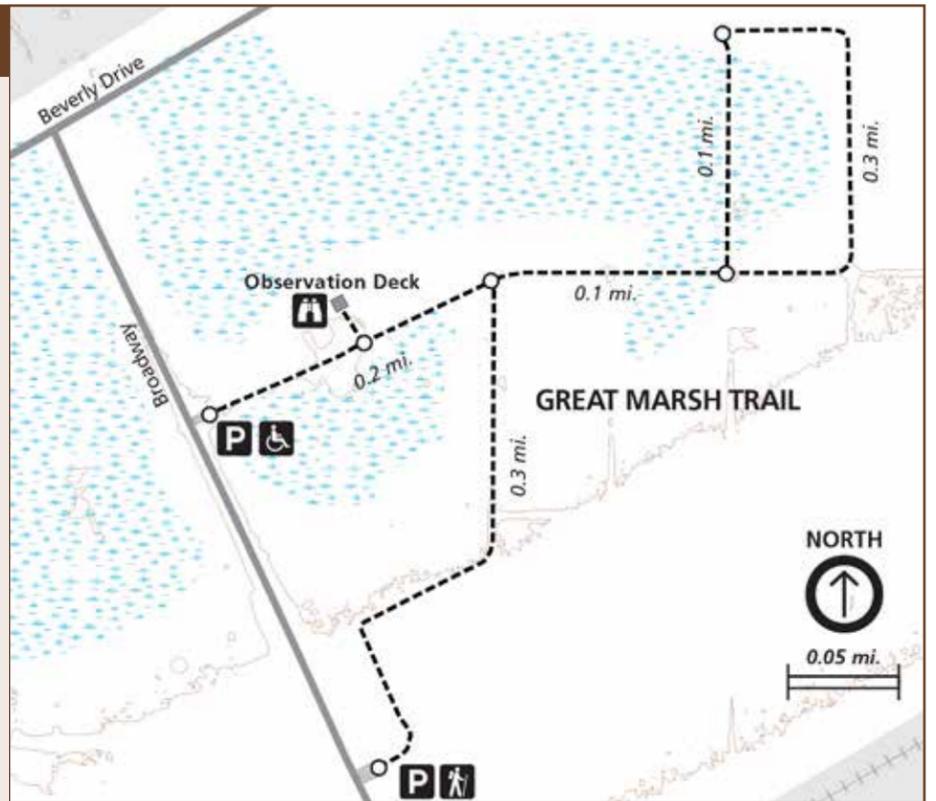
Both lots are north of U.S. Highway 12 on Broadway Avenue, Beverly Shores, IN 46301

South lot is the main trailhead. North lot has one handicap and one regular parking spot.

### TRAILHEAD GPS COORDINATES:

South Lot: 41.674825, -86.986607 (Decimal Degrees)

North Lot: 41.677522, -86.988220 (Decimal Degrees)



## Heron Rookery Trail

**HIKE DETAILS:** Easy, 3.3 miles round trip length, hike time of 2 hours.

### GETTING THERE: Trailhead Parking Lots

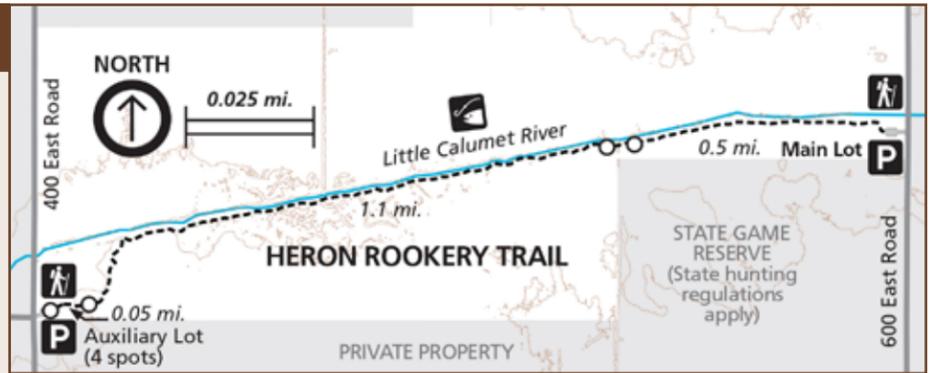
Main (east) Lot: 1336 600 East, Michigan City, IN 46360

Alternate (west) Lot: 1301 North 450 East, Chesterton, IN 46304

### TRAILHEAD GPS COORDINATES:

East Lot: 41.627043, -86.952446 (Decimal Degrees)

West Lot: 41.622502, -86.980227 (Decimal Degrees)



## Mount Baldy Beach Trail

The Beach Trail hike (unrestricted access) is short hike with a steep climb down loose sand to the beach. Be sure to plan accordingly as the only way out is up the steep trail. Do not bring large cooler and other beach items as the climb up from the beach is difficult.

### HIKE DETAILS:

Moderate to rugged, 0.75 miles round trip length, hike time of 1 hour.

### TRAIL FEATURES:

Views, Lake Michigan

### MUST SEE GEMS:

Views from the top of Mount Baldy (on ranger-led hikes only)

### GETTING THERE:

#### Trailhead Parking Lot

101 Rice Street (U.S. Highway 12), Michigan City, IN 46360

### TRAILHEAD GPS COORDINATES:

41.706852, -86.929907 (Decimal Degrees)



## Pinhook Bog / Upland Trail

The Pinhook Bog Trail system features two very different habitats.

### HIKE DETAILS:

Upland hike: Moderate, 2.1 miles in length, hike time of 1.5 hours.

Bog hike: Easy, 0.9 miles in length, hike time of 1 hour (restricted).

### TRAIL FEATURES:

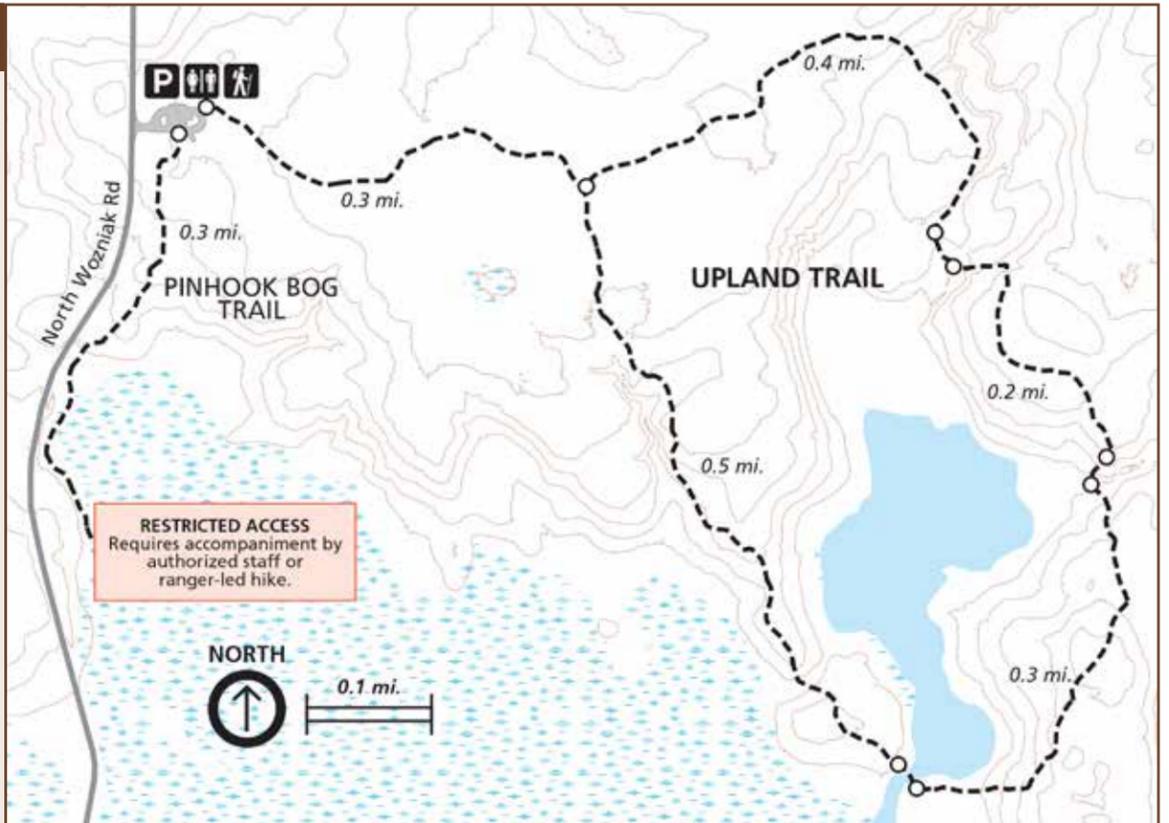
Unique Plants, Wildflowers, Wildlife, Bog (Restricted Access)

### GETTING THERE: Trailhead Parking Lot

946 North Wozniak Road, LaPorte, IN 46360

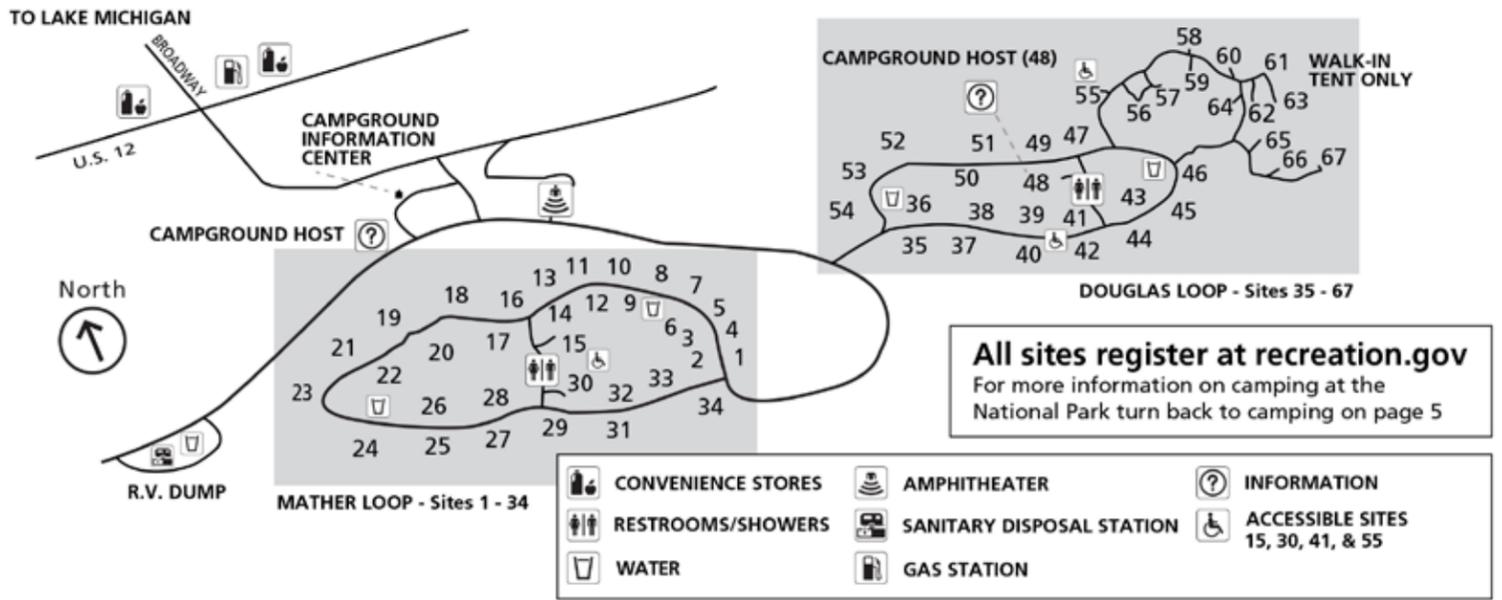
### TRAILHEAD GPS COORDINATES:

41.621214, -86.850227 (Decimal Degrees)





# National Park Campground Map



## DNR State Park Trails & Overview

**Trail 2. Easy (3 miles)**—the best trail for early spring flowers and ferns. Climax forest is used for crosscountry skiing during the winter season.

**Trail 3. Moderate (.75 Mile)**—provides an opportunity to view succession in dunes area. Excellent for late spring wildflowers, including prickly pear cactus.

**Trail 4. Moderate (.75 Mile)**—goes through dunes covered with black oak forest.

**Trail 7. Moderate (1.1 Miles)**—similar to trail 4. Most direct route from nature center to beach.

**Trail 8. Rugged (1.5 Miles)**—goes over the tops of the three highest dunes of the Indiana Dunes.

**Trail 9. Rugged (3.75 Miles)**—provides best representative view of the dunes. Good view of the lake.

**Trail 10. Moderate (5.5 Miles)**—hikers are rewarded by stands of white pine and a “tree graveyard” in big blowout. A good morning hike.

Please stay on marked trails. Visitors can enjoy Indiana Dunes State Park in a wide variety of ways. A campground, many picnic shelters and picnic areas, more than 16 miles of hiking trails, a swimming beach, and the Nature Center are available for visitors’ use and are operated with visitor safety in mind.

During the summer season, a beach pavilion provides shelter, restrooms with outside showers only, a snack bar, and gift shop.

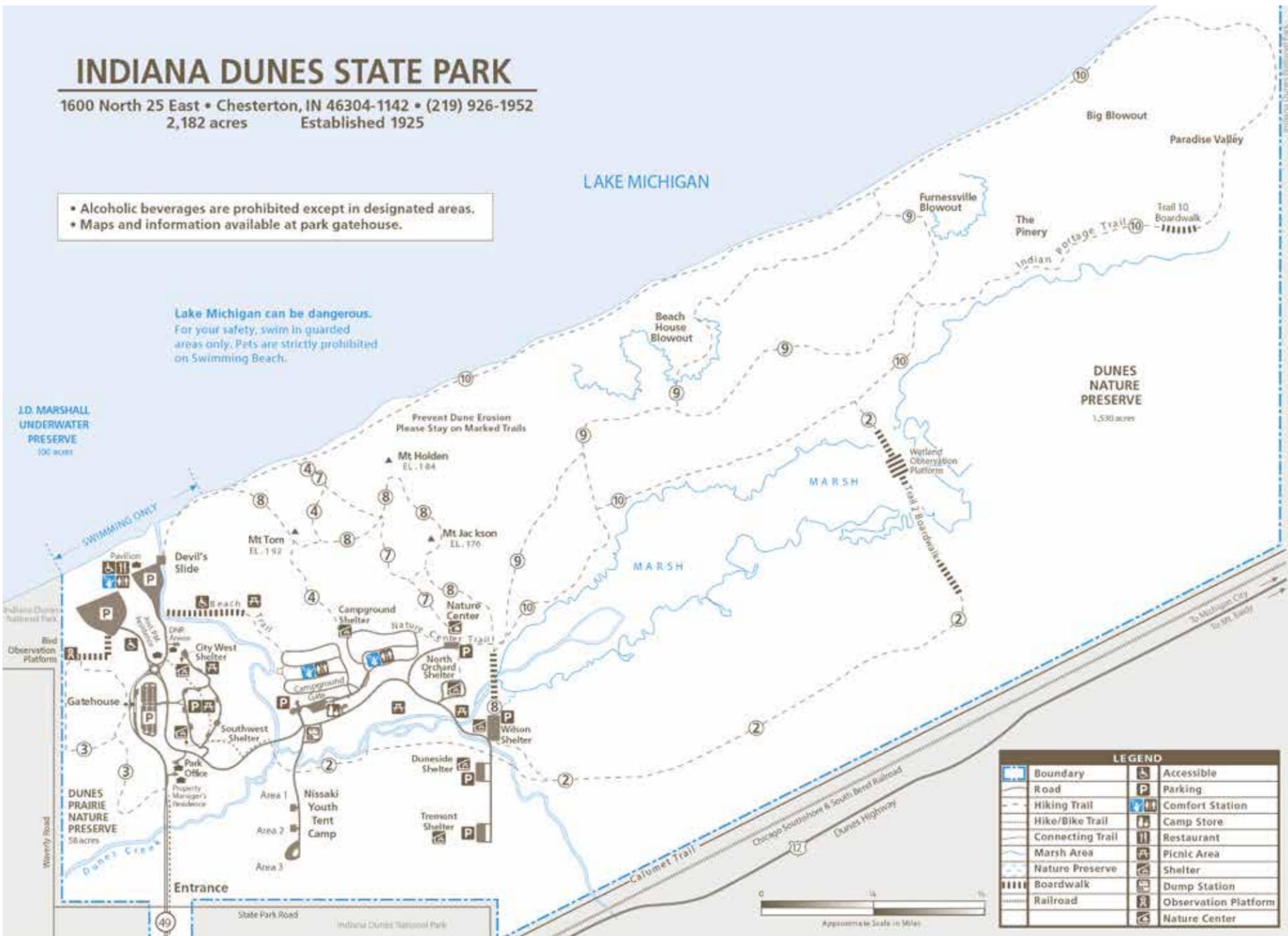
Dunes Nature Preserve, encompassing 1,530

acres and located within the boundaries of the state park, provides visitors with an opportunity to explore pristine and unique landscapes.

Indiana Dunes State Park features a wide variety of habitats, including beach, sand dunes, black oak forest, wooded wetlands, and a button-bush marsh.

Indiana Dunes State Park is surrounded by Indiana Dunes National Park, a federally administered park comprising approximately 15,000 acres.

For more information, scan the QR code seen here or visit [on.IN.gov/indianadunessp](http://on.IN.gov/indianadunessp)



# Accessibility

## Access for All

Working with partners and staff, we have made great strides in recent years in getting more accessible walking routes and other services for people with different kinds of abilities. Here are some new resources to use in the park.

**Mobility assistance devices:** Working with Dunes Learning Center and VOCART, the park purchased several wheelchair assistance devices. This innovative and rugged machine allows wheelchair users to be transported over rugged terrain, gravel, grass, and even sand. The device is motorized and operated with a joystick attached to the user's chair. The Freedom Trax (seasonal) is available at the Douglas Center during regular business hours for use on portions of the Miller Woods Trail. To reserve the device, contact the Douglas Center at 219-395-1824.

A second all-terrain wheelchair for youth is also available at the Douglas Center. This chair must be pushed or pulled. It has an extra long handle

and a rope to assist the user in navigating rougher trails. It can be reserved by contacting the Douglas Center at the number above.

For beach access, folks with mobility impairments can use a specially designed chair with large wheels that moves over sand and into the water easily and safely. Two chairs are available for use during the summer season at West Beach. Visitors can request their use at the front entrance booth or through one of the park's lifeguards.

Continue reading down the chart for more information about accessibility equipment at the park. You can also scan the QR code seen here, or visit the accessibility page at [NPS.gov/INDU](https://www.nps.gov/INDU).



### Access for All

Whether you use a wheelchair, are hard of hearing, or have limitations with sight, we have a variety of services and equipment available to increase accessibility for all visitors. Check out the table below or our website. Call 219-395-1824 with questions and to check out one of the assistive devices listed below.

Mobility	Where to use
Two Seated e-Bicycle – battery-operated motor allows two people to ride bike trails and nearby streets. One uses pedals, and the other can be a passenger.	Paul H. Douglas Center; make appointment at 219-395-1824
Zoom Chair – motorized, 4 wheels, single person chair that can be used on moderate trails.	
Youth Wheel Chair for rougher terrain. This chair must be pushed or pulled.	
Beach Wheelchair – Just ask staff at entrance gate for use. (Memorial Day through Labor Day)	West Beach
Freedom Trax (seasonal) – A motorized wheelchair that is all-terrain and has an upright chair on ATV wheels. The electrical track is steered by a joystick.	Volunteer Program Office at Bailly/Chellberg; available on Wednesdays by appointment. 219-221-7098
Hearing	
Ubi-Duo device—visitors can type questions on a shared screen	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
Closed Caption Park Film	
Sight	
Sacred Sands Audio Tour—phone number on medallions	Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk
Audio-described Version of Park Film	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center and Douglas Center
Audio-described Version of Park Brochure —Mobile app: Search UniDescription on both Apple and Android devices.	National Park website: Visit <a href="https://www.nps.gov/INDU">NPS.gov/INDU</a> or scan QR code below
Great Trails and Accessible Views	
A predominantly cement walkway and provides a nice path on nearby terrain. The pier is designed for universal access and is a great spot for bird watching.	Portage Lake Front and Riverwalk
Fully accessible walking and allows visitors to view two marsh areas, picnic area, and a play zone.	Paul H. Douglas Center
Provides a ramp down to the sand and has easy access to restrooms and picnic shelters.	West Beach
Allows visitors of all abilities to enjoy great views of the lake and accessible picnic shelters.	Lake View
Fully accessible walking and biking path from the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center to the Indiana Dunes State Park entrance.	Dunes Kankakee Trail; park at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
*Equipment made possible in coordination with Dunes Learning Center, Friends of Indiana Dunes, and VOCART.	

## Audio Described Park Brochure



The National Park Service has created an audio version of Indiana Dunes National Park's official map and guide, making it accessible to visitors who have visual impairments and cannot read the printed version.

This audio description can be accessed by visiting the Audio Described Brochure webpage on the park's website or by downloading the

UniDescription mobile app on both Apple and Android devices.

The apps provide park brochures in acoustic media, designed for people who are blind, visually impaired, print dyslexic, or who prefer learning through sound.

Audio files of the park's brochure are available for download as well.



To download the Unidescription app or to access the audio described brochure online, scan the QR code here, or visit [NPS.gov/INDU](https://www.nps.gov/INDU)



## COVID Safety

With the CDC reporting that Covid-19 cases have dropped to Low levels in Porter, Lake and LaPorte Counties, the National Park Service is no longer requiring that masks be worn inside buildings at Indiana Dunes National Park. However, it is strongly suggested that non-vaccinated individuals wear a mask inside or when social distancing is not possible. Fully vaccinated people who wish to continue wearing masks are free to do so. Everyone should also continue to practice social distancing and good hygiene like hand washing. For more information, call the park's information line at 219-395-1882.

For more information on the park's status, including COVID-19, scan the QR code seen here, or visit our Park Status page at [NPS.gov/INDU](https://www.nps.gov/INDU)



# Find Your Place With Us



Indiana Dunes National Park's volunteer program offers a variety of program opportunities for individuals and groups of all ages and abilities to serve alongside park employees. Simply contact us and we will find your place in the Park.

## Opportunities Include:

- Artist-In-Residence
- Bark Rangers
- Corporate & Business
- Campground Host
- Citizen Science
- Drop-In Volunteering
- Railroad Crew
- River Crew
- Scout Programs
- Seasonal Volunteers
- Service Learning
- Special Events
- The Chellberg Farm Crew
- Trail Crew

## Contact Us:

**Main Office: 618 N Mineral Springs Rd, Porter, IN 46304**  
**Located near the Bailly/Chellberg trailhead**  
**Hours: Every Wednesday, 9am - 3pm**  
**Phone: (219) 221-7098**  
**Email: indu\_volunteer@nps.gov**



For more information, scan the QR code seen here or visit our volunteer page at [NPS.gov/INDU](https://www.nps.gov/INDU).

## Park Bookstore



*America's National Parks™ provides quality educational experiences to national park visitors through our park stores, tours & programs, and custom products.*

Stop by the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center and check out the park's official bookstore. T-shirts, toys, and park souvenirs are also available. Get your "Passport to the National Parks" stamped here.

America's National Parks, a nonprofit organization, donates a portion of its proceeds to Indiana Dunes National Park to support interpretive and educational activities and publications.

# Support Your Park



## For Future Generations

Donations (tax-deductible) will be used to fund maintenance, resource management and educational projects at the national park.

Programs that bring children into parks, or parks to children, or ensure we know how to keep the plants, animals, and waters of the parks healthy are invigorated through the interest of people like you!



**To donate please visit our website or scan the QR code here.**

## Scout Programs

Some of the best Scouting adventures happen in National Park Service sites like Indiana Dunes. The National Park Service and the Scouts have been close partners for years, sharing a commitment to educate young people about camping, the outdoors, and the environment.

Girl and Boy Scout groups can venture to NPS sites to complete advancement requirements, perform service projects, and have a ton of fun. Here at the Indiana Dunes earning your Scout Ranger Patch is as easy as 1, 2, 3.

Scout Ranger patches are earned by participating in one interpretive program, one Drop-in Volunteering program, and completing one Junior Ranger Activity Guide.



**For more information about Scout Programs in the park, please visit the Scout Programs page at [NPS.gov/INDU](https://www.nps.gov/INDU) or scan the QR code here.**



## Real-Time Beach Parking Space Availability

**P Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Smart Parking System PILOT Project Select Parking Locations at Indiana Dunes National Park**

Indiana Dunes National Park is progressively piloting a project to improve parking and traffic congestion issues at popular parking locations. The project is using technology and guidance sensors to provide information about parking space availability at given locations in real-time through a mobile-friendly website, ensuring that more time is spent enjoying the beach/trails and less time spent in traffic on any given visit. As the sensors and website functionality improve, visitors will continually be able to check whether a select parking lot has available spaces, eliminating the need for visitors to circle the park looking for a space. Visitors can access this real-time information from their smartphone, tablet, or computer at [congestionmonitor.com/INDU](https://congestionmonitor.com/INDU).

Parking space availability data will also be displayed in real-time at the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center located at 1215 IN-49, Porter, IN 46304. For the 2023 season, parking space availability will be available at select locations, but there are plans to have this information available at all national park parking areas in the near-term. More information will be available as technology moves forward. Scan the QR code here to the visit smart parking website.



# Partners Provide Keys to Success



Parks are so much more than the sum of their acres, facilities, or programs. They are not just government bureaucracies. They are thriving, dynamic connections between all kinds of people within these special places. Indiana Dunes thrives on partnerships. If you want to help and connect into this hive of activity and support, check out the websites of our partners below. Find your niche where you can make a difference. Visit [NPS.gov/indu/getinvolved/partners.htm](http://NPS.gov/indu/getinvolved/partners.htm)



## Dunes Learning Center

Since 1998 they have operated a residential environmental education facility within the national park on the historic Camp Good Fellow property. They offer education programs for schools and youth organizations that range from in-depth day trips to week-long summer camps. Check out their work at [www.duneslearningcenter.org](http://www.duneslearningcenter.org)



## Friends of Indiana Dunes

As their name says, they are the state and national park's primary "Friends" group, providing donations and support for a variety of programs and initiatives. Their members also volunteer hundreds of hours of time to assist with all kinds of projects in both parks. [www.friendsofindianadunes.com](http://www.friendsofindianadunes.com)



INDIANA LANDMARKS

## Indiana Landmarks

Indiana Landmarks saves the places that matter to Hoosiers—houses, barns, bridges, churches, schools, downtown districts, vintage neighborhoods. By restoring and repurposing historic buildings, we reconnect people to heritage and revitalize communities. At Indiana Dunes, Landmarks is helping to restore the Century of Progress homes and other cultural sites in the park. [www.indianalandmarks.org](http://www.indianalandmarks.org)



## Northwest Indiana Paddling Association

This non-profit organization is all about educating people about where and how to safely paddle in the region. They host events and work to increase paddling opportunities in the area. Their volunteers have been helping to restore and clear the East Branch of the Little Calumet River as a paddling destination. [www.nwipa.org](http://www.nwipa.org)



## Save the Dunes

This is the advocacy organization that made Indiana Dunes National Park a reality in 1966. It was originally called the Save the Dunes Council and was led by Dorothy Buell in 1952. Now the park's main visitor center is named for her. This organization didn't stop when the national park was established but continues today to protect the land and water of the area for future generations. [www.savedunes.org](http://www.savedunes.org)



## Shirley Heinze Land Trust

For 40 years, this group of engaged citizens has preserved and restored thousands (2,700+) of acres of natural areas throughout northwestern Indiana. Their preserves have excellent hiking trails allowing visitors to see some of the diverse flora and fauna of the region. Check out their website for more details and plan a trip to a nearby nature preserve. [www.heinzetrust.org](http://www.heinzetrust.org)



# 3 Local County Tourism Agencies



## Indiana Dunes Tourism

Our partners in operating the primary visitor center in the park that serves as the orientation point for both the state and national park. [www.indianadunes.com](http://www.indianadunes.com)



## South Shore Convention and Visitors Authority

They operate the Indiana Welcome Center in Highland, IN off I-80/94. [www.southshorecva.com](http://www.southshorecva.com)



## Michigan City - Laporte Tourism

Serving LaPorte County Indiana and the eastern entrance to the Dunes, this tourism agency resides in the Marquette Mall in Michigan City to provide tourism information to visitors. [www.michigancitylaporte.com](http://www.michigancitylaporte.com)

