



# Ranger Guided Programs

	Program	Description	Date & Time	Location
Daily	<b>Junior Rangers</b>	Ask a ranger to help you select the free Junior Ranger or Junior Explorer program that best fits your visit. Once completed, each participant will earn a badge, patch, sticker, or temporary tattoo. Pick up materials at the Visitor Center or Douglas Center, download them at <a href="http://www.nps.gov/indu/forkids">www.nps.gov/indu/forkids</a> , or ask a ranger.	Anytime – Self-Guided	Pick up a Junior Ranger booklet at the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center or Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education
	<b>Every Day is Family Day at the Douglas Center</b>	Enjoy hands-on family activities in the park's west end visitor center, especially the new Nature Play Zone, where unstructured play in nature is the tradition. Help feed the center's resident turtles or fish or join a ranger for a hike in Miller Woods.	June-September 9:00 am – 5:00 pm everyday (Closed on Sundays between Labor Day and Memorial Day)	Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education
Weekends	<b>Park Focus Programs</b>	Throughout the year, park staff will host special programs focusing on park resources, hot topics in research, new environmental films, or interesting guest speakers. The topics change, but the location remains the same. Check the park's website or call the Douglas Center for specific program dates at 219-395-1821.	June – September Saturday & Sunday: 1:00pm – 3:00pm October – May Saturday Only: 1:00pm – 3:00pm	Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education
Friday	<b>Music Heritage Series</b>	Local musicians, <i>Save the Tunes</i> , help sustain the culture of the Duneland region by sharing historic tunes using instruments like the hurdy gurdy and dulcimer.	May 17, June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15 and Dec. 20 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
	<b>Bike the Porter Brickyard Trail</b>	Join a ranger for a bike tour of portions of the new Porter Brickyard Trail and the Calumet Bike Trail. Learn how the dunes have been an important transportation corridor as you enjoy the scenic ride.	June 14 – August 16 (Except July 5) 9:00 am – 11:00 am	Mnoké Prairie parking lot
	<b>Bailly Homestead Open House</b>	Tour the historic homestead of a French Canadian trader who moved to Indiana in 1822 to develop Baillytown and discovered things don't always work out as planned.	June 14 – August 16 (Except July 5) 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Bailly Homestead
	<b>Mount Baldy Sunset Hike</b>	Enjoy a sunset stroll with a ranger at Mount Baldy and learn about the threats faced by this famous dune and what you can do to help protect it.	June 14, June 28, August 2 and August 9  June: 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm August: 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Mount Baldy
	<b>Firefly Walk</b>	Join a ranger to learn all about fireflies while you view their spectacular evening show.	July 12 and July 26 only 8:15 pm – 9:15 pm	Bailly/Chellberg parking lot
Saturday	<b>Spring Wildflower Hike</b>	Take a leisurely hike and enjoy displays of spring wildflowers in the national lakeshore.	May 4 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Heron Rookery's east parking lot
	<b>Campground Program</b>	Join a ranger around the campfire and learn about the incredible diversity of park resources and how fire plays an important part in keeping the park healthy.	June 16 – September 1 (no program June 29 & July 6) June: 8:30 – 9:30 pm July: 8:00 – 9:00 pm Aug.-Sept.: 7:30 – 8:30 pm	Dunewood Campground Amphitheater
	<b>Junior Wildland Firefighter Program</b>	Meet the park's fire crew and hear about their jobs and firefighting equipment. Learn how they use fire as a tool to protect the park diversity. After this hands-on program, children will receive their own Junior Wildland Firefighter activity book and Junior Wildland Firefighter patch.	Campground Amphitheater June 8, July 13, August 10, & Sept. 7 10:00 am – 11:00 am West Beach Contact Station June 22, July 27 & August 24 11:00 am – 12:00 pm	See Date and Times
	<b>Chellberg Farm Open House</b>	Tour the Chellberg Farmhouse and learn about the lives of early Duneland farm families.	June 15 – August 24 (Except July 6) 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Chellberg Farm
	<b>Fall Colors Hike</b>	Hike with a ranger to enjoy the last of the fall colors and learn how wildlife prepares for the coming scarcity of winter.	October 26 only 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Kemil Beach parking lot
Sunday	<b>Kids Fun at the Visitor Center</b>	Join a ranger in the activity room for puppet shows, stories, and fun.	Every Sunday 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
	<b>Miller Woods Hike</b>	Take an afternoon ranger-led stroll through Miller Woods. The length of this hike can vary from one-half mile to three miles (if we hike all the way to Lake Michigan). Call 219-395-1821 for details of the week's hike.	June 9 - August 25 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education
	<b>Pinhook Bog Open House</b>	Take a self-guided hike into Indiana's only quaking bog. Rangers and volunteers stationed along the trail will help you understand this unique place filled with carnivorous plants. Allow one hour to walk the trail and tour the bog.	June 16 – August 25 (Except July 7) 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Pinhook Bog parking lot

Additional programs may be available. Ask a ranger or check [www.nps.gov/indu](http://www.nps.gov/indu) for updates. Programs subject to change without notice.



# Special Programs and Events

Program	Description	Date & Time	Location
<b>Midsummer Celebration</b>	Celebrate the longest day of the year and learn about the traditions of the Swedish immigrants at Chellberg Farm. Enjoy the music, dance, and food associated with this special day.	June 22 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Chellberg Farm
<b>Summer Solstice Evening Concert</b>	Enjoy the end of the longest day of the year with an early evening concert at Chellberg Farm. This outdoor concert features the band Trillium who performs an energetic array of traditional American music including, folk, ragtime, and bluegrass.	June 22 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Chellberg Farm
<b>Our Duneland Heritage</b>	Explore the Chellberg Farm during this open house hosted by a ranger and see traditional craft or farming demonstrations.	July 20, August 17, & September 21 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Chellberg Farm
<b>Talking Landscapes</b>	Join Author Paula McHugh and Illustrator Harold Neulieb for a program on their favorite places in the Dunes. After the program, they'll do a book signing for "Talking Landscapes: Indiana Dunes Poems."	Saturday Aug. 3 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
<b>Celebrate Ecology 1913 - 2013</b>	Help us honor the legacy of ecological discovery that Henry Chandler Cowles influenced when he led a group of international scientists through the dunes a century ago.	Saturday Aug. 3	Various times and locations. Call 219-395-1882
<b>Persied Meteor Shower</b>	Join a ranger for a spectacular evening light show courtesy of this annual meteor shower. There is a \$6 per vehicle fee at West Beach.	August 11 8:00 pm – 10:00 pm	West Beach
<b>Coastal Clean-up Day</b>	Join park staff and volunteers to help clean a portion of our Lake Michigan shoreline. Gloves and bags will be provided. Call the information desk at 219-395-1882 to learn more and find out how to sign up to help.	September 21 Time to be determined.	Locations to be determined
<b>Century of Progress Homes Tour</b>	Join National Park Service rangers for a one-hour tour (fee required) of five historic homes from the 1933 Chicago World's Fair. These limited tours are offered by reservation only. Call 219-395-1882 for more information.	October 19 8:00 am – 4:30 pm	Meet at the Bailly/Chellberg parking lot.
<b>Holiday Traditions in the Dunes</b>	Enjoy live holiday music and dance, tour two historic homes decked out in their holiday finest, let the kids make some holiday crafts, and sample some traditional holiday treats. You don't have to get chilled thanks to a free shuttle bus that runs between Chellberg Farm and the Bailly Homestead.	December 7 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Locations: Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, Douglas Center, Bailly Homestead, and Chellberg Farm

## Stewardship and Volunteer Days

<b>Planting an Heirloom Garden</b>	Please help us get the Chellberg Farm's garden off to a good start this spring. We'll be doing everything from pulling weeds to planting seeds. Meet at Chellberg Farm.	May 18 9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Chellberg Farm Garden
<b>Saving Mount Baldy</b>	Help remove invasive species in the Mount Baldy area. Lend a hand to help improve "Your Neighborhood National Park" during this volunteer opportunity at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.	June 15 & November 16 9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Mount Baldy parking lot
<b>Removing Invasive Plants</b>	Lend a hand at helping to care for your local national park. Activities may include removing invasive species, planting native flowers, or other work depending on the conditions of the day. Wear comfortable clothes; work gloves and equipment will be provided.	July 20 9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Meet at 1100 N. Mineral Springs Road at the flagpole (Park Headquarters)
<b>Bailly Cemetery Clean-up</b>	Join a ranger to spruce up the grounds of the historic Bailly Cemetery. Work gloves will be provided. Dress for the weather and bring bug repellent.	August 17 9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Meet at 1100 N. Mineral Springs Road at the flagpole (Park Headquarters)
<b>Public Lands Day</b>	In honor of National Public Lands Day, help remove invasive species that are attacking national lakeshore wetlands. Work gloves will be provided. Dress for the weather and bring bug repellent.	September 28 9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Bailly/Chellberg parking lot
<b>Harvesting the Prairie</b>	Join a ranger and help collect seeds from this tall grass prairie that will be used to restore additional prairie lands throughout the national lakeshore.	October 12 9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Mnoké Prairie parking lot

## Trip Planning



2hrs

### If you only have one – two hours:

- Explore the beach at one of the eight beach access points along the 15 miles of shoreline.
- Stroll the Great Marsh Trail and possibly add birds to your life list. Over 270 species have been spotted at the national lakeshore, making this a birdwatcher's paradise.
- Stop by the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center or Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education and let the kids explore the activity room while you view exhibits or the park video.

### If you have half a day:

- Simply relax along the lakefront. Even on the busiest days you can find a quiet spot along the fifteen miles of beach.
- Take a driving tour of some of the park's historic structures. Drive along Lakefront Drive and view the 1933 World's Fair Homes, then travel west and take a short walk on the trail to the Bailly Homestead or Chellberg Farm.
- Bring the family to the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education for free activities and visit the new Nature Play Zone.



1/2 Day

### If you have one – two days:

- If you're an experienced paddler, see the dunes from Lake Michigan by kayaking the Lake Michigan Water Trail. Fifteen miles of the trail's 75 miles run along the park's shoreline.
- Enjoy a night at Dunewood Campground and experience the natural nightlife of the dunes. During the summer, join a ranger around the amphitheater's campfire for a Saturday evening program.
- Hike, bike, or even hoof it through the park. With 45 miles of hiking trails, you can spend days just exploring the park's diverse beauty on your own two feet. Bring a bike to explore even more of the park on quiet back roads or a new section of the Porter Brickyard Bike Trail. If you have your own horse, ride the Glennwood Trail and get a new perspective on the park.



Day 1 2