



The SINGING SANDS

2022-23 Park Guide

PAUL KEMIEL

- MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR VISIT 4
- 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 (P.2)

What's New for 2022?

As a greater sense of “normal” since the start of the pandemic is beginning to emerge, there is a renewed sense of hope for the future. In response to the changing world further challenged by the past two years, Indiana Dunes National Park (INDU) is thrilled to announce that the 2022-23 season will look a bit different than past years, as we rethink how to plan for the future to ensure whether you enjoy scouting for rare species of birds, hiking/biking the 50+ miles of trails, or relaxing on the sandy beach, the Park’s 15,000 acres will continually enchant you.

Since our name change in February 2019, annual visitation has increased from 1.7 million to over 3 million. As one of the most ecologically diverse places in North America, people come from all over to visit one of the few urbanized national parks in the country. Thank you for traveling from near and far. It’s exhilarating to be able to share INDU with so many, but increased visitation, with its impacts on park resources, also comes at an increased cost.

INDU and partner staff are hard at work to implement numerous groundbreaking projects that will keep the park accessible, safe, and vibrant for all to continue to meet

the increased needs of park visitors and protect INDU’s resources. A few projects underway include construction of remaining links of the Marquette Greenway Bike Trail to increase access by connecting Illinois to Michigan; parking / transportation improvements, such as providing visitors with parking space availability data in real-time at select access lots to reduce congestion and improve air quality; and additional services and amenities to enhance the visitor experience. However, such enhancements are expensive. As such, the Park must implement an entrance fee, effective as of

March 31, 2022, to help fund a variety of deferred maintenance and new projects.

Additional information for entry fees and projects can be found on page 4 or by visiting the Fees & Passes page on our website at [NPS.gov/INDU](https://www.nps.gov/INDU). We appreciate your support as we continually work to fulfill our mission and we are excited to welcome you to the park!

For more information about real-time select access parking space availability, turn to “Public Notice / Public Service Announcement” on page 23.



NATIONAL PARK INFORMATION



PARK WEBSITE
Scan QR code
or visit:
[NPS.gov/INDU](https://www.nps.gov/INDU)



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

Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
Phone: (219) 395-1882
Open 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (CT)
Address: 1215 SR-49
Porter, IN 46304

Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education
Phone: (219) 395-1824
Open 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (CT)
Address: 100 North Lake Street
Gary, IN 46403

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

The Official NPS App is **HERE**

Download Now

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

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**



Indiana Dunes Visitor Center

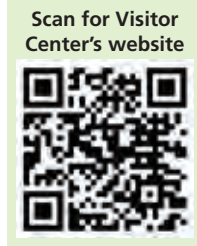
Find all of your orientation needs here. Talk to a ranger and learn about the park's locations, activities, programs, and nearby attractions. View an informative film about the park and the region. Spend some time in the activity room and check out the bookstore.

Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education

Interactive nature programs, activities, unique live 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.

Indiana Dunes State Park's Nature Center

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.



1215 SR-49
Porter, IN 46304
Phone: (219) 395-1882




100 North Lake Street
Gary, IN 46403
Phone: (219) 395-1824



1600 N. 25 E.
Chesterton, IN 46304
Phone: (219) 926-1390



WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE ?	 NATIONAL PARK	DNR STATE PARK
LOCATIONS	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.
FEES	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 4 for annual passes.	Daily entrance fee: \$7 Indiana resident vehicle or \$12 nonresident vehicle. See page 4 for all passes.
CAMPING	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 camp.IN.gov
CONCESSIONS	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.
BATHHOUSE / PAVILION	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.
BEACH PARKING	Over 1,139 spaces spread over 8 beach access sites. For more information, turn to page 12, or this summer, visit CongestionMonitor.com/INDU 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.
TRAILS	14 distinctly named trail systems with greater than 50 miles of diverse habitats. Maps on pages 15-20.	Network of nine numbered trails throughout the state park with 16.35 miles. See page 21.
PICNIC AREAS	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.
PUBLIC PROGRAMS	Multitude of public programs and special events. See page 10.	Also hosts variety of programs and special events. Visit calendar.dnr.IN.gov. or call at 219-926-1390.
CULTURAL SITES	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.



Superintendent's Welcome



PAUL KEMIEL

Think Spring and Summer 2022!

As we look back on a very nice and somewhat traditional snowy and cold winter of 2022, the warm season is always welcome.

A big change for this year is the implementation of an entry fee for Indiana Dunes National Park. Thanks to everyone who weighed in during our public scoping process. This new fee will help us better care for Indiana Dunes National Park as well as plan for new and improved amenities to serve our visitors better. Increasing our public safety presence as well as increased facility maintenance is needed. Your support in engaging this new fee is appreciated. Any questions can be addressed by our team at the Indiana Dunes Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center, the best place to begin your visit.



JEFF MANUSZAK

Sprucing the place up will help but we are also looking down the road at improvements and new amenities to better serve our visitors and to better protect our natural and cultural resources. Indiana Dunes National Park is receiving funding under the Great America Outdoors Act to stabilize and restore several historic structures. The Bailly Homestead, Goodfellow Lodge and House of Tomorrow are the initial phase of this project and over the next couple of years visitors will see improvements that we hope lead to additional uses. We are working on utilizing technology to help create a service that allows visitors to better plan for their trip with real time data of parking space availability. Planning for bicycle and pedestrian facilities along our north-south beach access roads will give future visitors options to get to the beaches. Ride shares, shuttle buses and

additional bicycle trails will all add to the ease and enjoyment for a Dunes visit. If you sense a transportation focus you would be correct. We are also working on a demonstration project that looks ahead to railroad and trail infrastructure that is more friendly to facilitate crossings that are safer for people and our wildlife.



Indiana Dunes National Park Superintendent, Paul Labovitz

Thank you in advance for supporting our new entry fee. I hope you understand why this is necessary and feel good about supporting Indiana Dunes National Park. After serving the region and the nation for over half a century, this change will help us stick around for the next century. Have a great visit, come back often, tell your friends and family to check us out and let us know how we are doing.

by Indiana Dunes National Park Superintendent, Paul Labovitz



Top Visitor Questions

What time does the park close?

The national park visitor center's core hours are from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (CT). The Douglas Center operates 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (CT). All times are Central Time.

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

Indiana Dunes State Park is open 7 days a week from 7:00 am to 11:00 pm year round. The Nature Center is open from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Visit [nps.gov/indu/learn/management/lawsandpolicies.htm](https://www.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 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 Dunes Challenge at Indiana Dunes State Park offers guests the opportunity to reach the summits of the three tallest dunes in the park.

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.



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.



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 6 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 23 or visit camp.in.gov



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.



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. See page 4.



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.

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). 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

WHERE DO I PURCHASE PASSES?

The America the Beautiful Pass can be obtained at the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, West Beach Kiosk (seasonally), by scanning the QR Code below, or visiting [nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/fees.htm](https://www.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		
Indiana Dunes National Park Annual Pass	\$45	Expires 1 year from month of purchase Applies to Indiana Dunes National Park Only
Passes below apply to all federal lands		
Annual Pass	\$80	Expires 1 year from month of purchase
Military Pass	Free	Active Military, Veteran or Gold Star Family
4th Grade Pass	Free	Fourth graders and family
Lifetime Senior Pass	\$80	62 years or older
Annual Senior Pass	\$20	62 years old, Expires 1 year from purchase
Access Pass	Free	Permanent Disability
Volunteer Pass	Free	250 hours of volunteer work

DNR Indiana State Park Pass		
Passes cover State Park entrance fee		
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

Separate passes are needed for each park

Indiana Dunes National Park Annual Pass \$45



The Annual Pass 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 at the top of the page). There is no fee required to enter the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center or the Paul H. Douglas Center.

MORE ABOUT FEES & PASSES

For more information about fees and passes, including Frequently Asked Questions, scan the QR code seen here or visit <https://www.nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/fees.htm>



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.



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 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.

Things to Do

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 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 |



PAUL KEMIEL

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.



PAUL KEMIEL

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.



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 SR-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

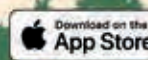
1. Indiana Dunes Visitor Center - Start your trip here and learn about the park. 1215 SR-49, Porter, IN 46304 Phone: 219-395-1882.
2. Indiana Dunes State Park - Explore more than 2,000 acres of beachfront, marshes, forests, and dunes. 1600 N 25 East, Chesterton, 219-926-1952.
3. Kemil, Dunbar, Lake View 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

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



- Trusted
- Maps
- Works Offline
- Activities & Events



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 as 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.



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 and 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:

- **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)



Nearby Attractions: A short 30 minute drive.

Visit Pullman National Monument

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 Monument.

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 Monument, scan the QR code seen here, or visit the website: [NPS.gov/PULL](https://www.nps.gov/PULL)





Programs and Events

Our rangers offer a multitude of programs and events throughout the year. For program dates, times, and more information check out our Calendar page at [NPS.gov/INDU](https://www.nps.gov/INDU) or scan the QR code seen here on the right.



Weekly Hikes and 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://www.nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/calendar.htm)

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



Scan to view web Calendar.



May 2022

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 9-11, 2022

Indiana Dunes Outdoor Adventure Festival

The festival showcases the region's natural and cultural significance through activities such as hiking, paddling, biking, geocaching, photography, birding, orienteering, and more. It has events for everyone including families, beginners, experts, and those with limited mobility.

Make it an experience of outdoor adventures for everyone to enjoy! Some activities have a fee. Visit [DunesOutdoorFestival.com](https://www.DunesOutdoorFestival.com)



Scan to view OAF event online.



SEPTEMBER 10-11, 2022

Indiana Dunes Apple Festival

Celebrate autumn with an Apples Festival at historic Chellberg Farm. Fun is the theme of the weekend with the celebration of the all-American apple. Enjoy lots of fall seasonal activities such as tractor-pulled hayrides, a kid's corner with games and crafts, and even apple-chucking.

Scan to view apples event.



SEPTEMBER 2022

Century of Progress Talk and Tour

Join National Park Service rangers for a two-hour tour of five historic homes from the 1933 Chicago World's Fair. Advance reservation only. There is a fee. Visit [IndianaLandmarks.org](https://www.IndianaLandmarks.org) or call 317-822-7923.

Scan to learn more about this event.



MARCH 2023

Maple Sugar Time

Enjoy a sweet taste of spring at Indiana Dunes National Park's annual Maple Sugar Time Festival.

Scan to visit Maple Sugar event.



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 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.
5. Schools and organizations can schedule a virtual or ranger-led program at 219-395-1885 or email christine_gerlach@nps.gov.



During this time of uncertain safety and disruption to our daily routine, nature is often the best place to heal.

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

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



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



VISIT US ONLINE



Take a Virtual Tour of the National Park
Visit the Virtual Tour page at NPS.gov/INDU or scan the QR Code seen here.

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.

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: [indianadunesnp](https://www.instagram.com/indianadunesnp)

WATCH OUR VIDEOS



 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 DNR
P [Icons]



Paul H. Douglas Nature Center
P [Icons]



Marquette Park (City of Gary park)
P [Icons]



West Beach & Bathhouse
P [Icons]



Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk
P [Icons]



Cowles Bog Beach
P [Icons]



Bailly Homestead
P [Icons]



Chellberg Farm
P [Icons]



Porter Beach
P [Icons]



Indiana Dunes State Park/Beach DNR
P [Icons]



State Park Nature Center DNR
P [Icons]



Kemil Beach
P [Icons]



Century of Progress Homes
P [Icons]



Dunbar Beach
P [Icons]



Lake View Beach
P [Icons]



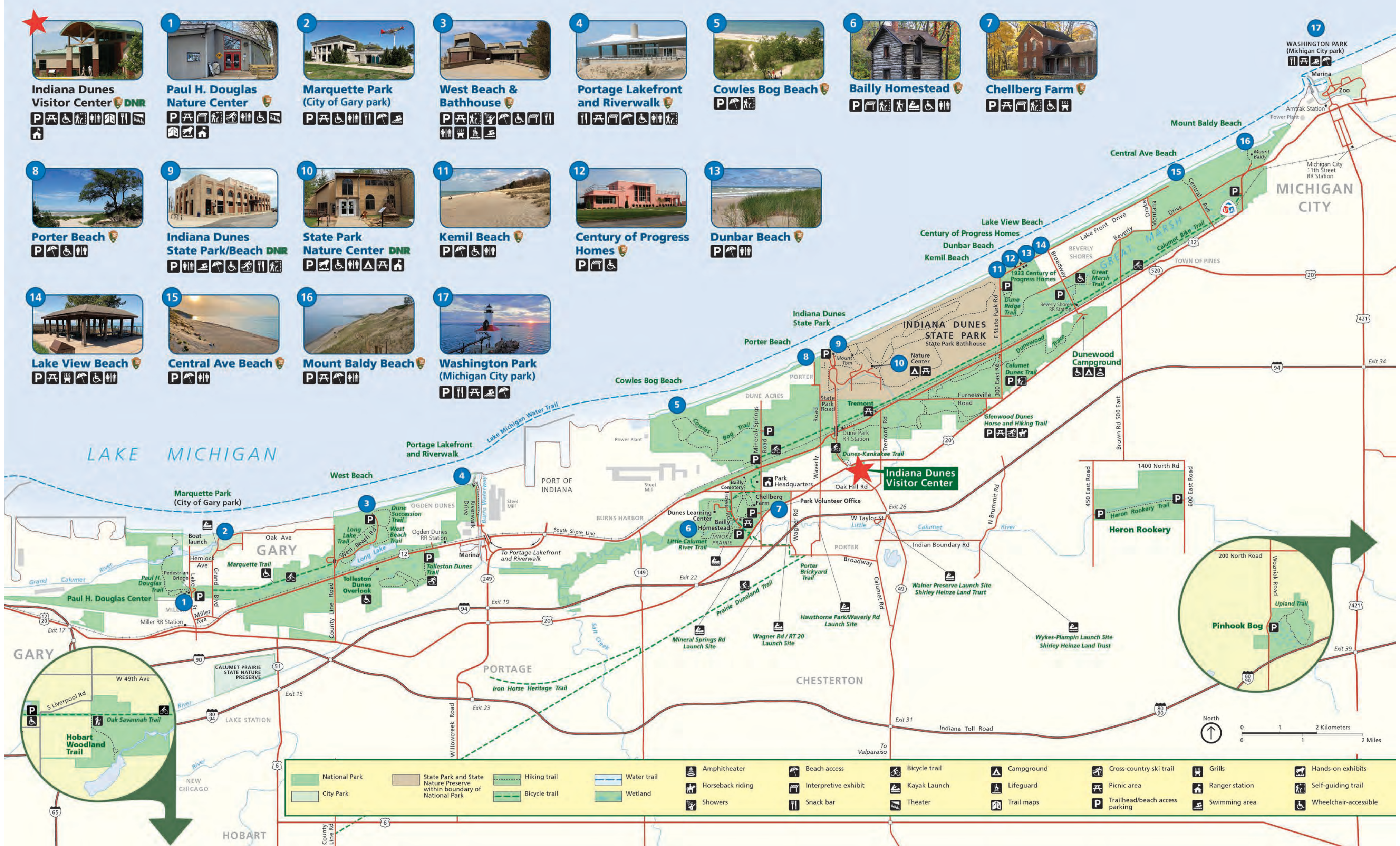
Central Ave Beach
P [Icons]



Mount Baldy Beach
P [Icons]



Washington Park (Michigan City park)
P [Icons]



BEACH PARKING

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

NEW!

Starting this summer, check real-time beach parking space availability by scanning the QR code below or visit: CongestionMonitor.com/INDU

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- ENTRANCE FEES**
7 Day Entry Permit
 • Walk/Bike \$15
 • Vehicle Pass \$25
 • Motorcycle \$20
 • Annual passes & more, see Pg. 4
- Purchase Entry Permits at:**
 • Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
 • West Beach fee kiosk (seasonally)
 • Paul H. Douglas Center
 • www.recreation.gov
- IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**
- Lifeguards only at West Beach and State Park. Attending lifeguards times and days vary. All other 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.
 - Please park in designated parking areas only. Parking along roadways is prohibited.

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&SwimmingatNPS.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.

Ranger-Led Hikes

Warm Weather Hikes

- Mount Baldy Summit Hikes
- Ranger's Choice Hikes
- Mt. Baldy Summit Sunset Hikes
- Beachcomber Hike with a Ranger
- Hike With Your Hound
- Bailly / Chellberg History Hikes

- Miller Woods Hikes
- Diana of the Dunes Dare Hike
- Bike Hike to West Beach
- Moonlight Hike
- Outdoor Adventure Festival
- Migration Birding Hike
- Fall Colors Hike



Cool Weather Hikes

- Turkey Trot Hike
- Ranger's Choice Hike
- Bailly / Chellberg History Hike
- Miller Woods Hike
- Climate Change Hike
- Winter Solstice Hike
- Snowshoe Hikes
- Mt. Baldy Winter Summit Hikes

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.



Sacred Sands Audio Tour

Sacred Sands: A Play For Voices, evokes the human and natural histories of the Indiana Dunes and how a portion of this extraordinary landscape was preserved. Written by author and playwright David Hoppe, and inspired by J. Ronald Engel's 1983 book, "Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes," an audio version of the play has been commissioned by the Indiana Dunes National Park for use along the Portage Riverwalk Trail. Visitors to the park will be able to use their mobile phones to listen to portions of the play at ten designated sites as they traverse the trail. Park visitors can also listen to a continuous recording of the play, which has a running time of approximately 40 minutes. Call 219-734-7100 Extension 101 to listen now.



Family Nature Backpacks

With so much e-learning taking place now, Indiana Dunes National Park is providing a way for families to interact with nature. Nature Exploration Backpacks are now available for daily checkout at the national park's Paul H. Douglas Center and the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.

The backpacks contain scientific instruments like binoculars and

bug boxes that can be used to explore the oak savanna and pond habitats on the trail around the Douglas Center. Families can use other items such as guides, books, and nature games to instigate play and creativity on their hike. The backpacks are an excellent tool for families to learn together and work on their science lessons while enjoying the park. Kids of different

ages will find fun things to do for their specific grade level. There is no need to pre-register as the backpacks are loaned out on a first-come, first-served basis, at no charge. For more information on this or other programs at Indiana Dunes National Park, call 219-395-1824 or visit NPS.gov/INDU.

Adventure Ideas

- Park and stroll along the sandy shoreline of Lake Michigan and the national park to experience the Indiana Dunes at Porter, Kemil, Dunbar, or Lake View Beach.
- Head to West Beach and hike the Dune Succession Trail and take the Diana Dunes Dare to earn a sticker. Stickers are available at the Visitor Center and Douglas Center.
- Go to the Visitor Center and watch our new video about Indiana Dunes National and State Parks. After, feel free to browse for souvenirs at the America's National Parks™ bookstore.
- Travel east along Lake Front Drive in Beverly Shores to view Lake Michigan and the five historic Century of Progress Homes. Take a selfie and be sure to check out the waysides for some interesting facts about these architectural treasures.
- Bring a picnic or meal from our many surrounding restaurants, or buy a goodie from the residing snack bar and enjoy it while relaxing at the Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk, or Lake View picnic areas. You can listen to the birds, or whispering marram grass, while watching a sunset on the beach.



More Adventure Ideas?

The Official NPS App is **HERE**

Download Now

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

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play



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 for in designated areas, like the one at West Beach).

NATIONAL PARK HIKING GUIDE

HIKE	HIKE LENGTH	HIKE TIME	TRAIL SURFACE	
EASY				
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	45 minutes	Paved with some sections of boardwalk and one set of stairs.	*
MODERATE				
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 Mnoke 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.	
MODERATE to RUGGED				
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	Introducing Contour Lines 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:

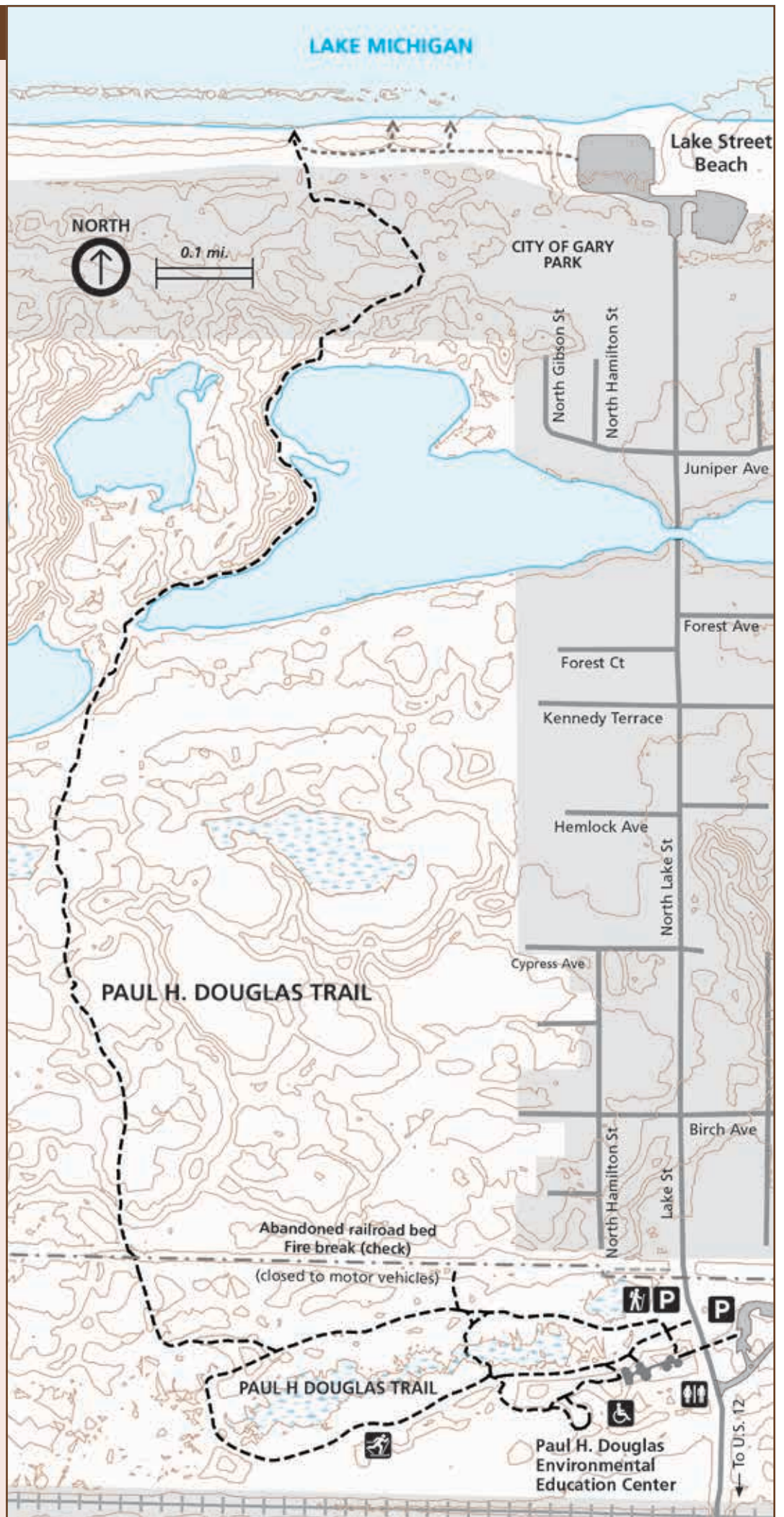
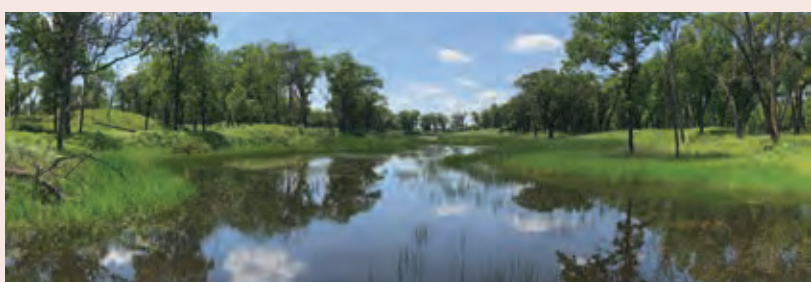
Fall Colors, Lake, River, Swimming, Views, Wildflowers, Wildlife, Dunes, and Lake Michigan

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.

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 in length, hike time of 1.5 hours.

GETTING THERE:

Trailhead Parking Lots

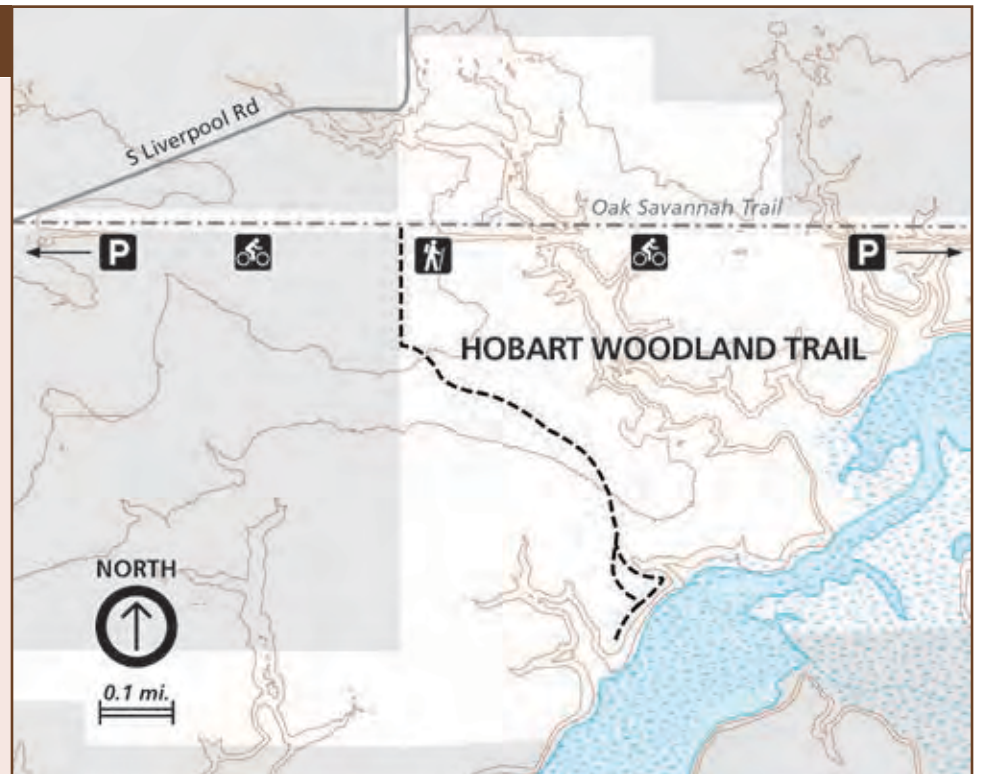
Main Lot (west end): Robinson Lake Park, 5227 South Liverpool Road, Hobart, IN 46342

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

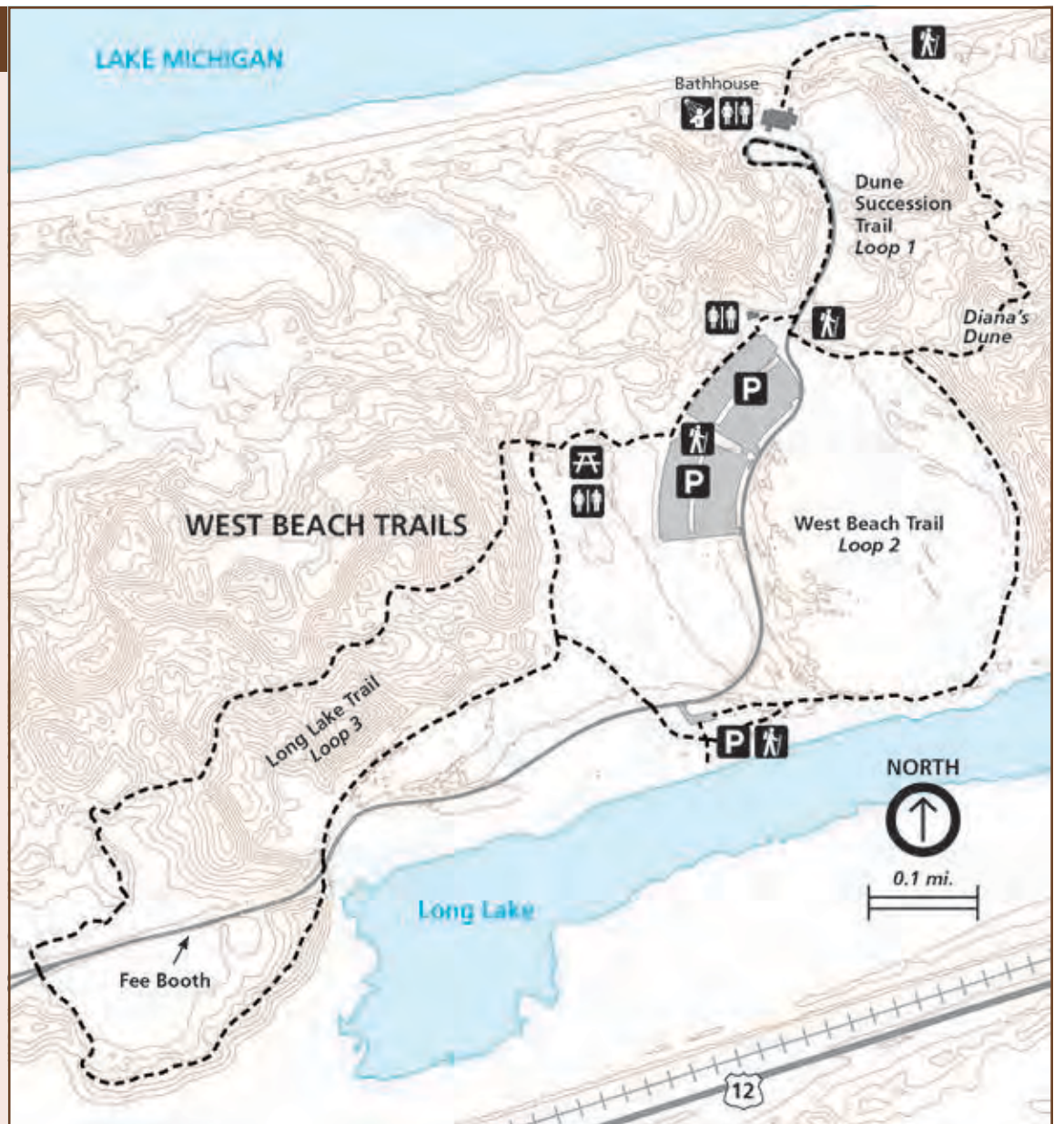
376 North County Line Road, Gary, IN 46403

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

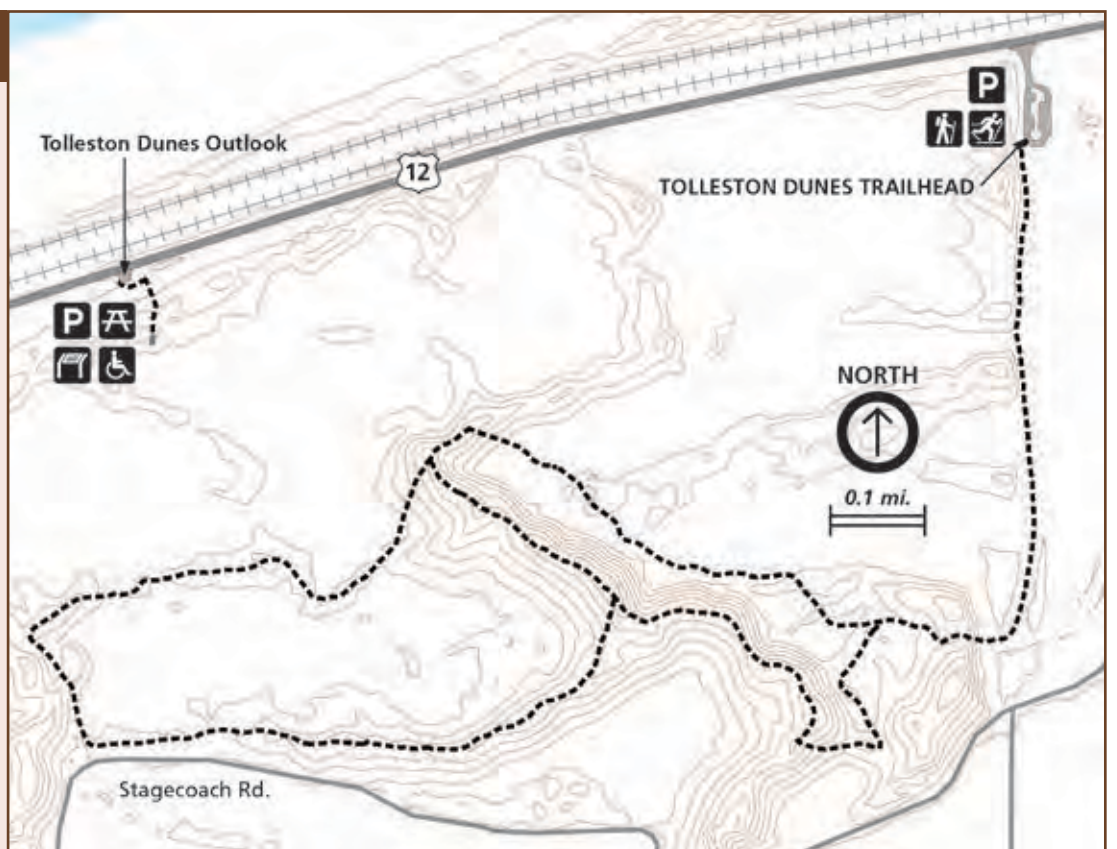
Main Lot: 5800 U.S. Highway 12, Ogden Dunes, IN 46368

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.

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 in length, hike time of 45 minutes.

TRAIL FEATURES:

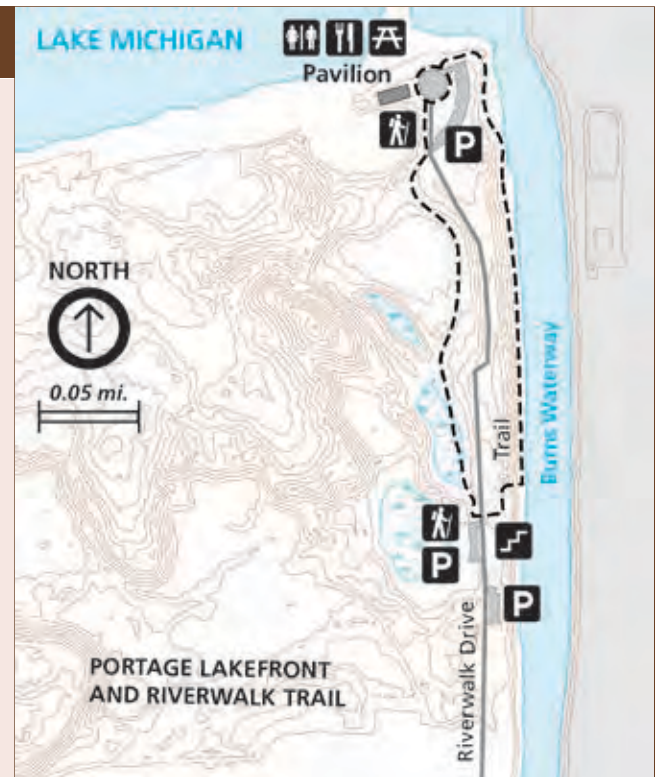
Lake Michigan, Views, Birding, Swimming, Fishing

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:

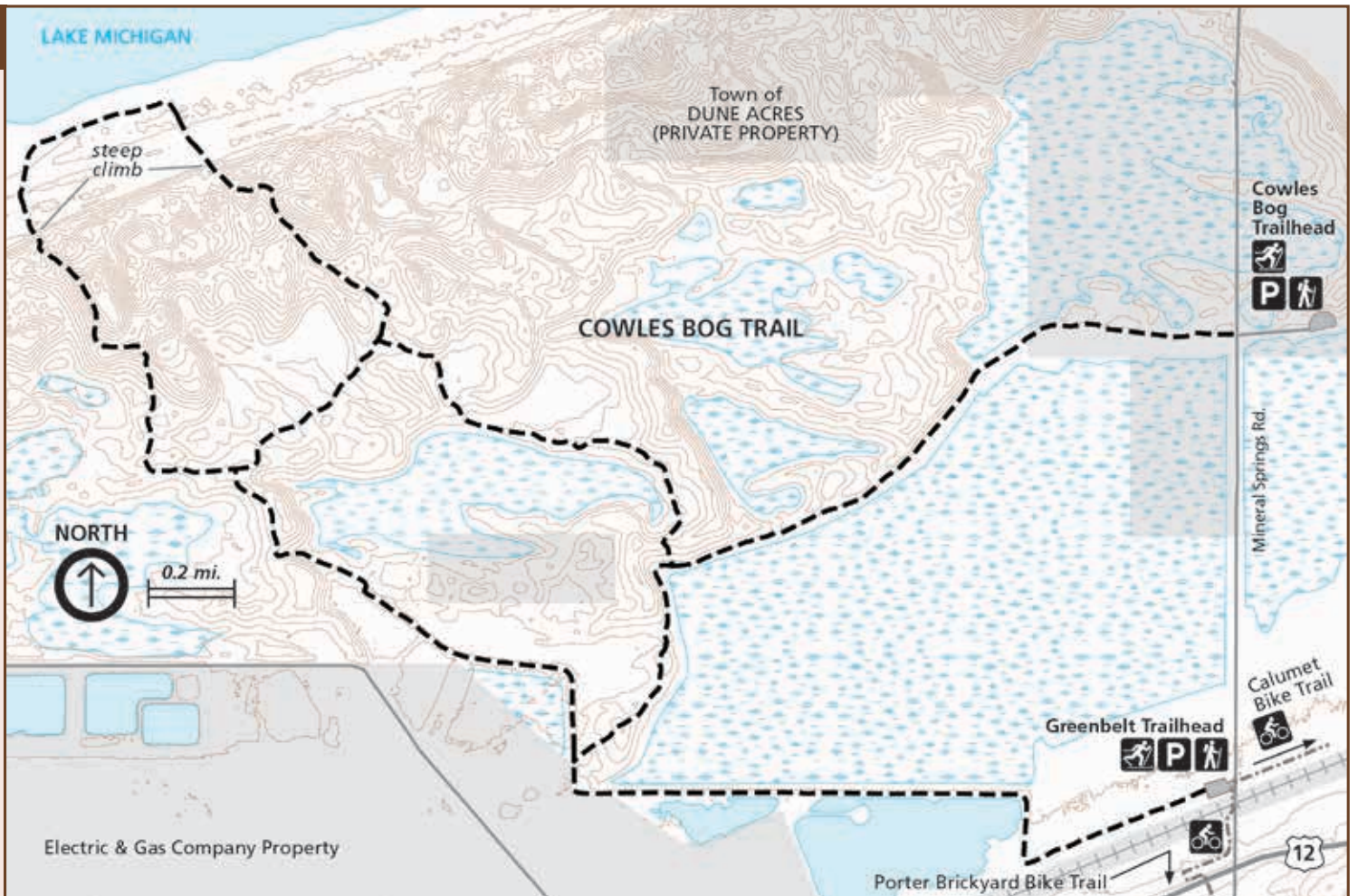
Fall Colors, Lake, Views, Wildlife, Lake Michigan

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:

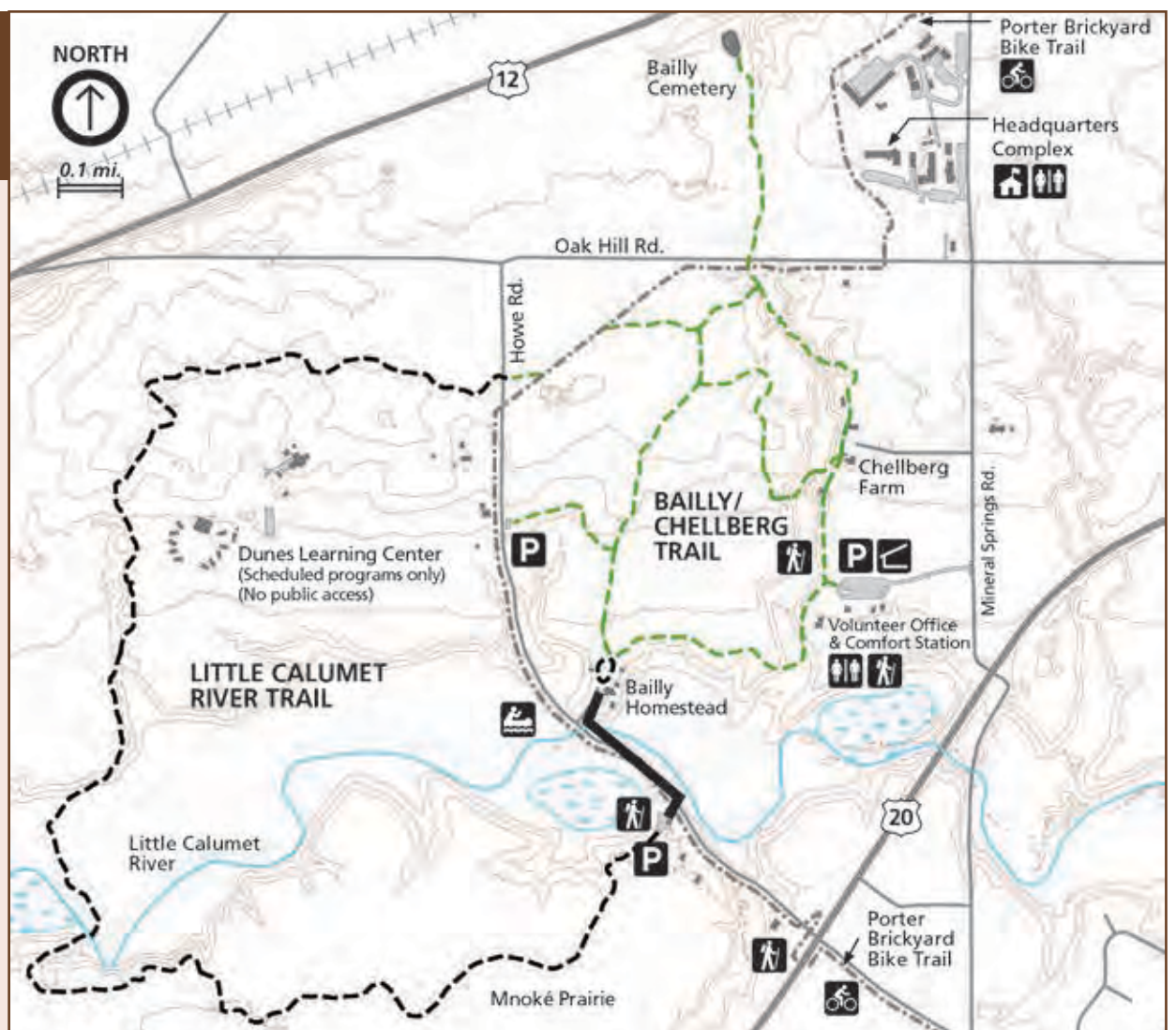
River Crossings, Historic Homes, Birding, Fall Colors, Wildflowers and Wildlife, Mnoké Prairie, Little Calumet River Bridge, and Farm animals

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.

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

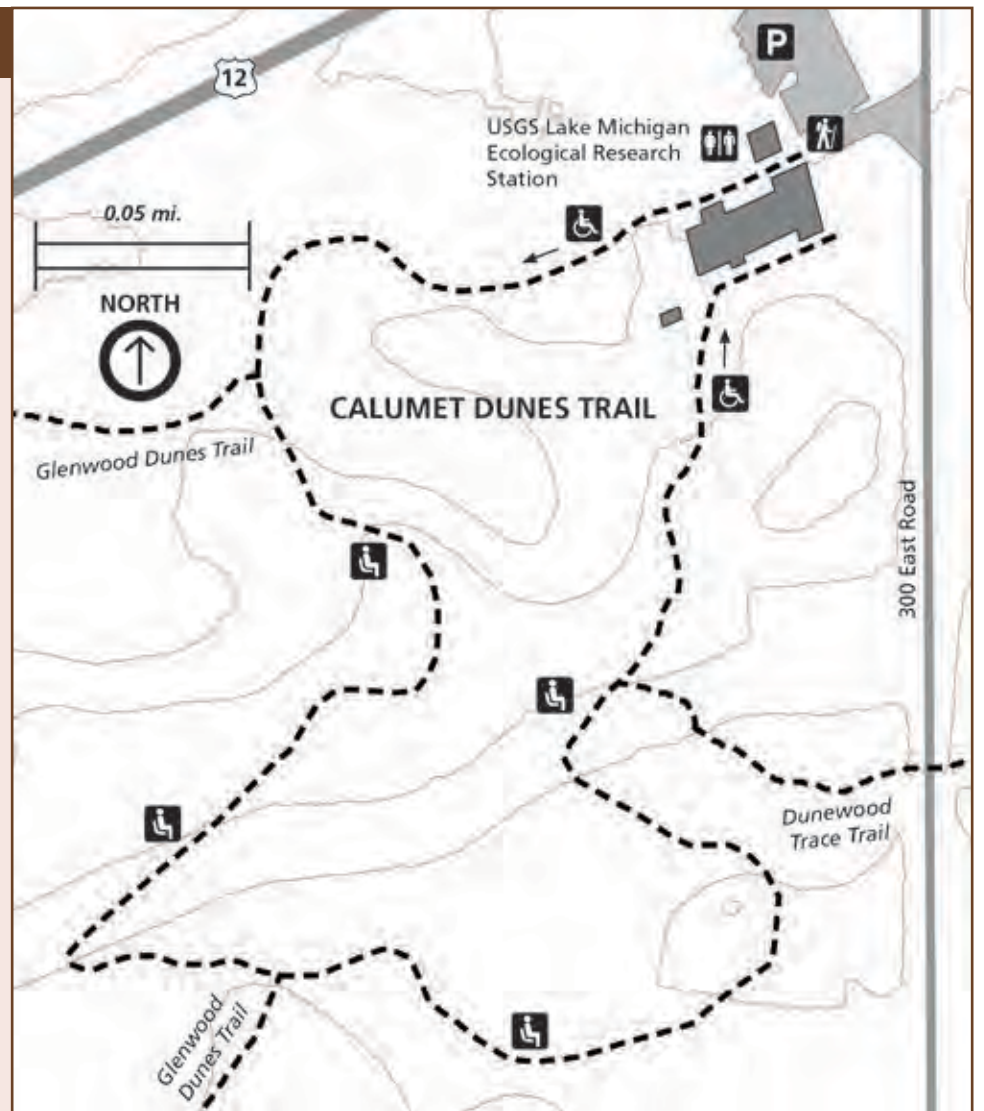
GETTING THERE:

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

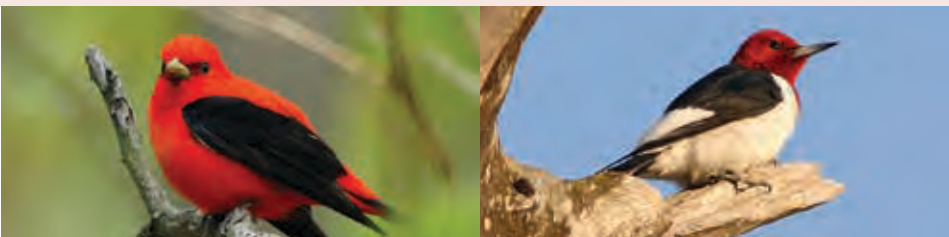
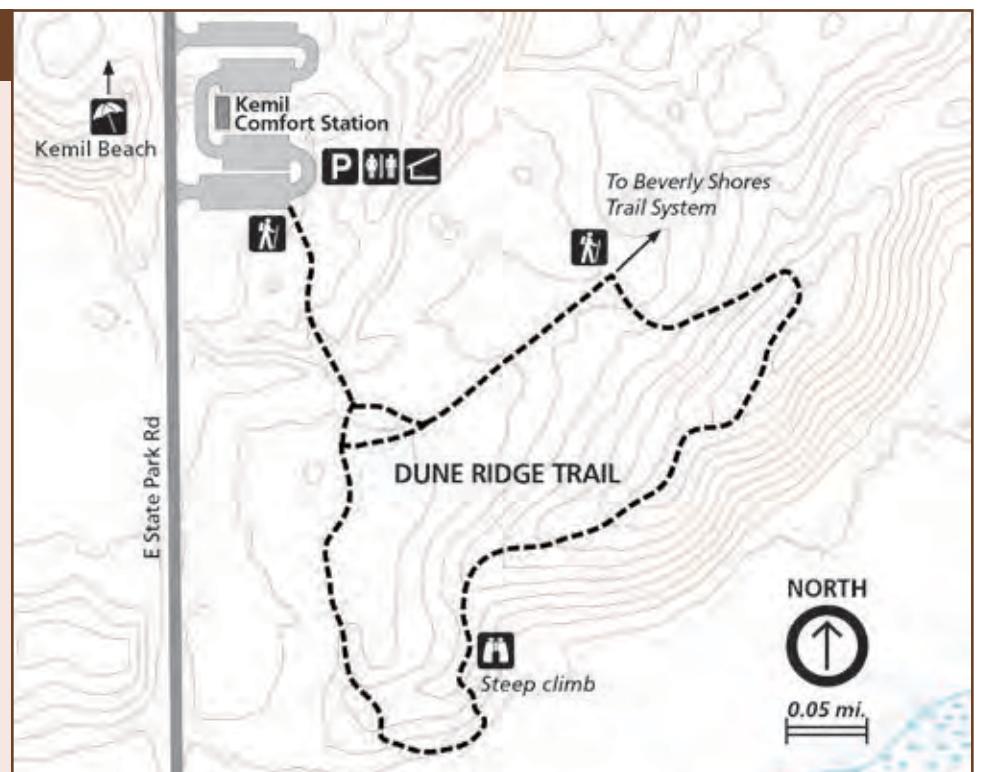
GETTING THERE:

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 views overlooking the Great Marsh system from above.



TRAIL MAPS

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

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

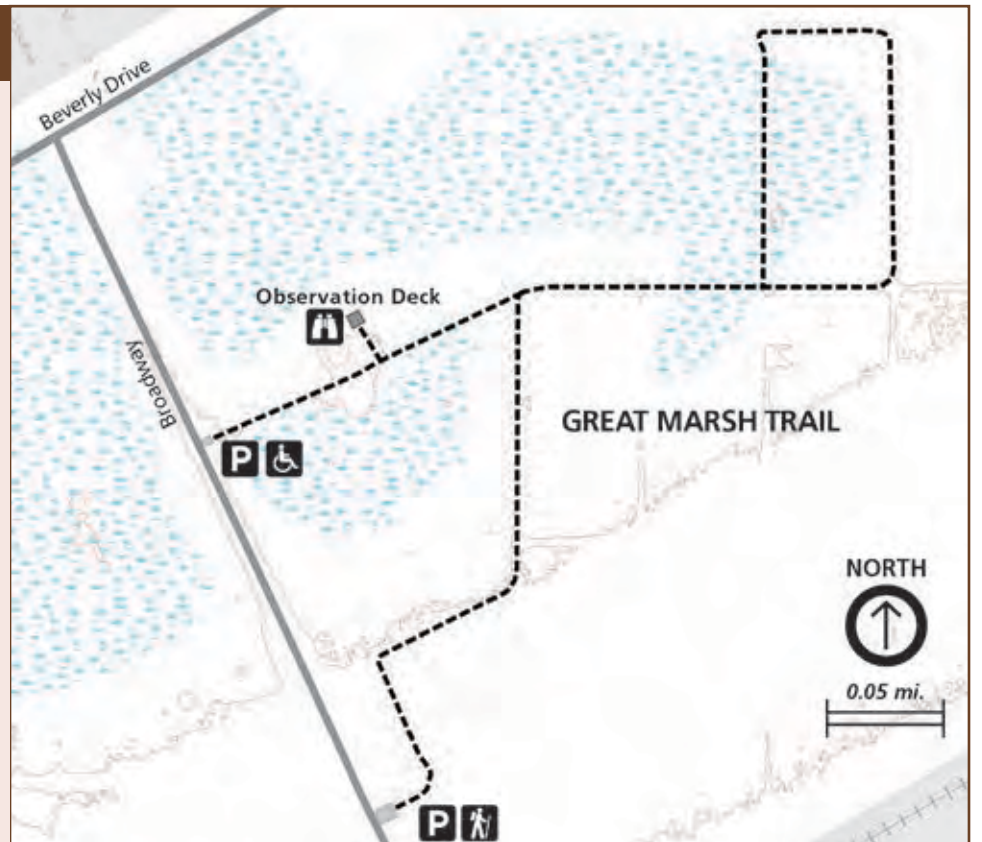
Both lots are north of U.S. Highway 12 on Broadway Avenue, Beverly Shores, IN 46301

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 in length, hike time of 2 hours.

GETTING THERE: Trailhead Parking Lots

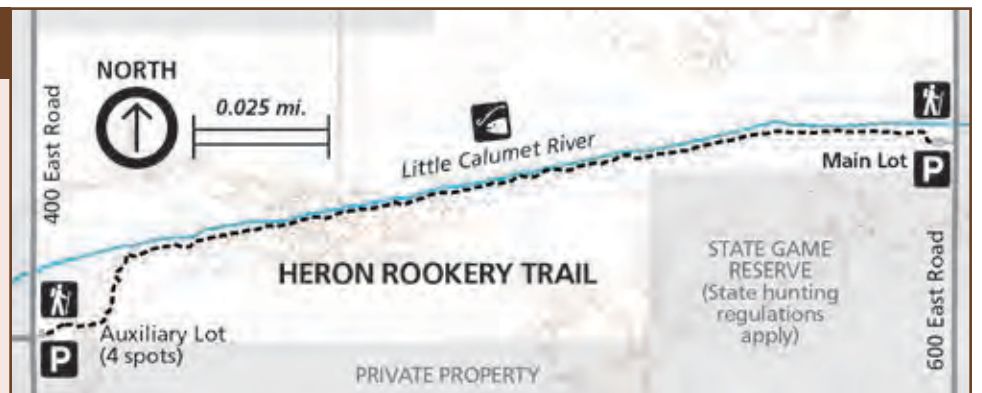
Main (east) Lot: 1336 600 East, Michigan City, IN 46360

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 in 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:

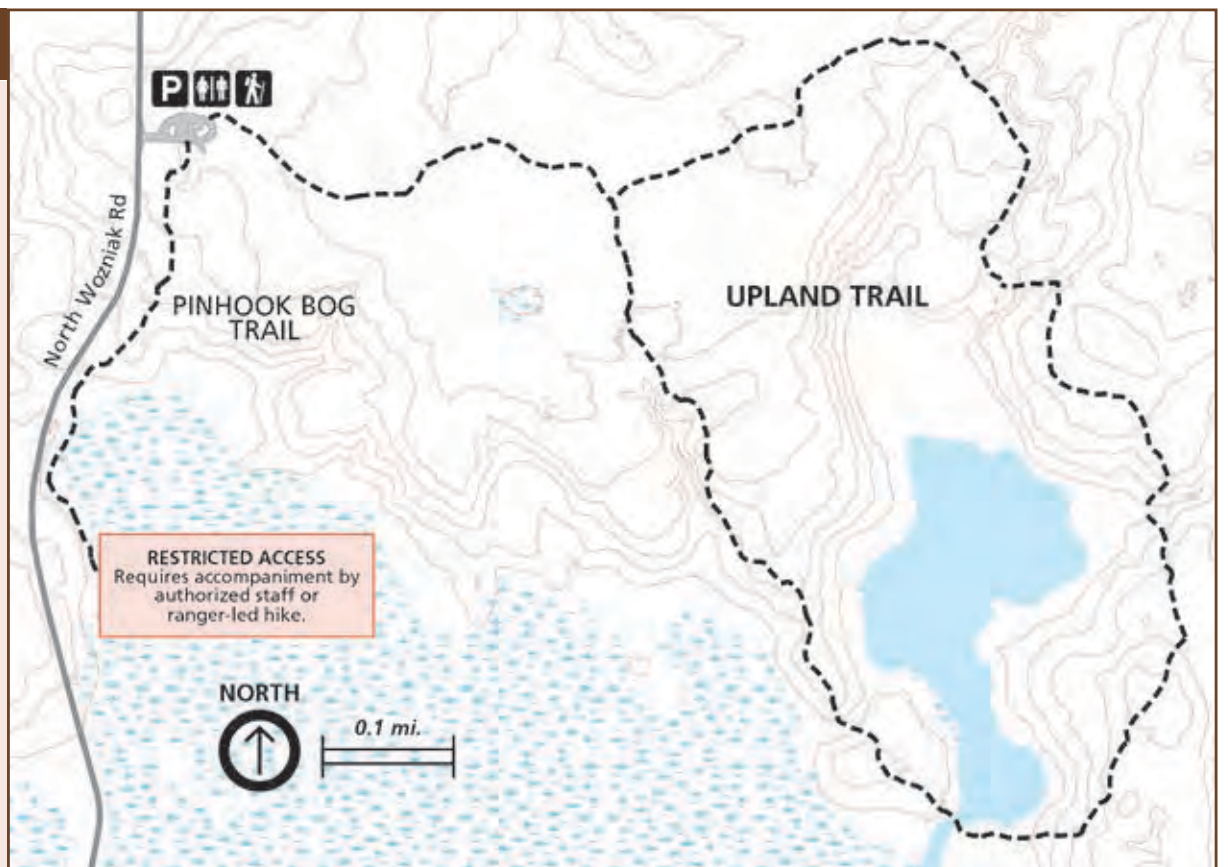
Unique Plants, Wildflowers, Wildlife, Bog (Restricted Access)

GETTING THERE: Trailhead Parking Lot

946 North Wozniak Road, LaPorte, IN 46360

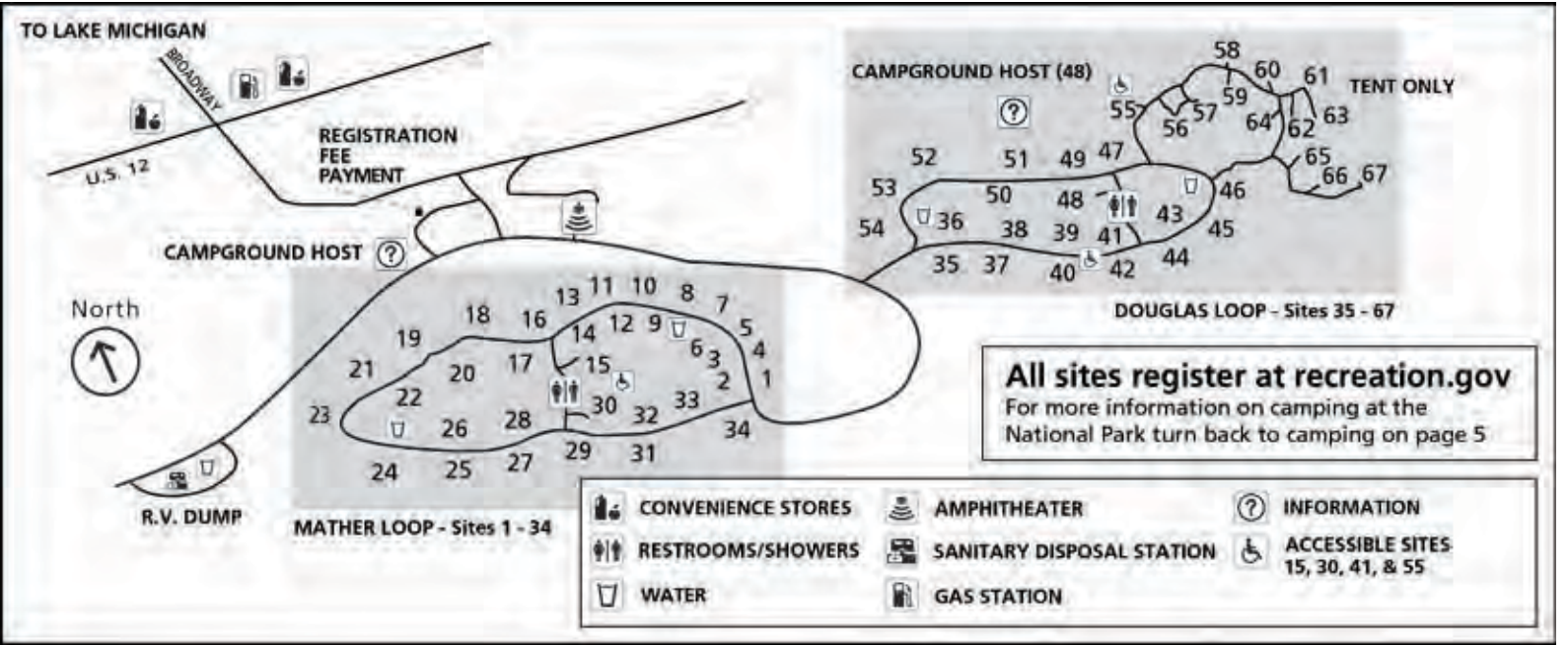
TRAILHEAD GPS COORDINATES:

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.

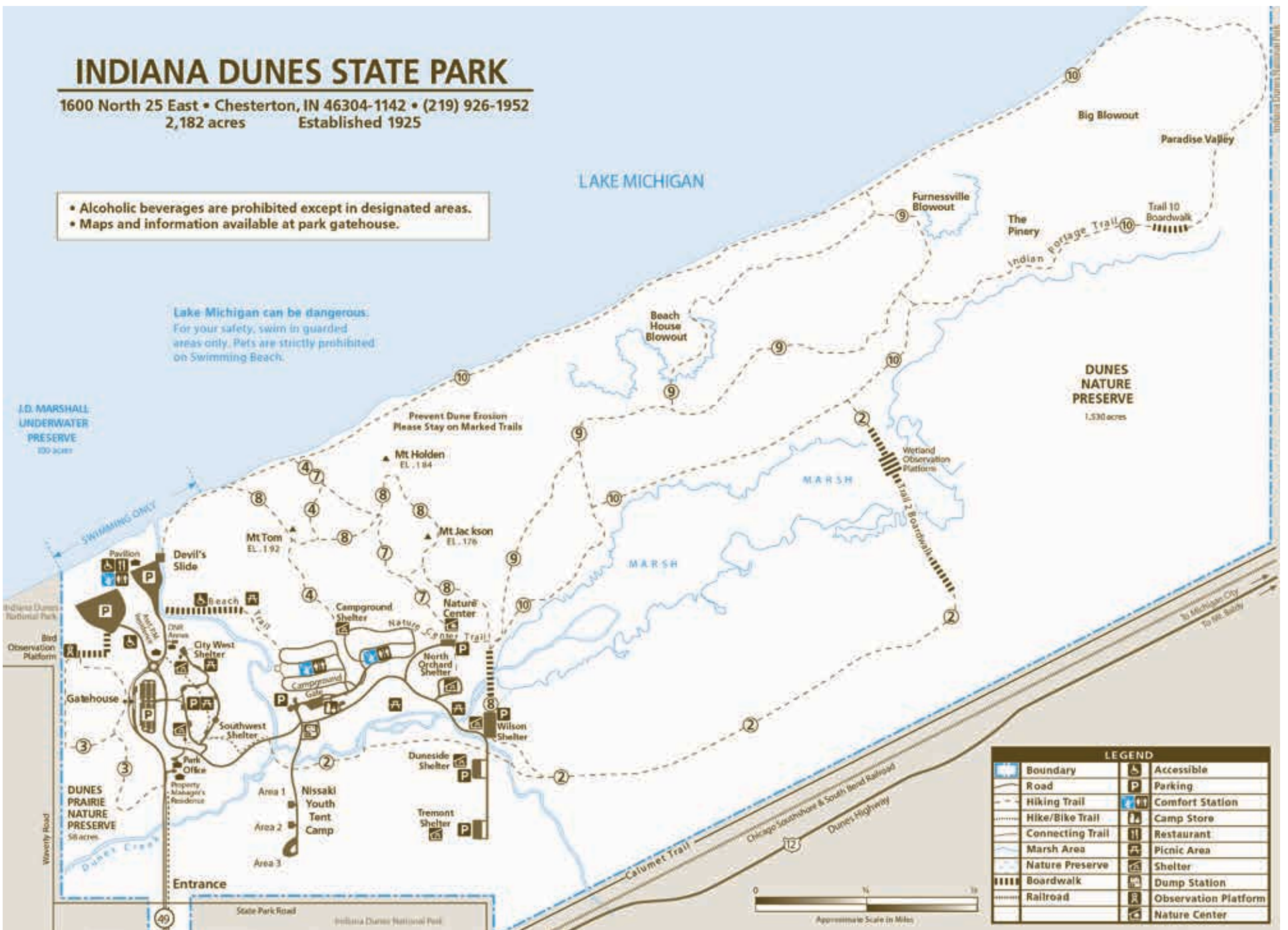
Dunes Nature Preserve, encompassing 1,530

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



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 is 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 NPS.gov/INDU 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 over 15 program opportunities for individuals and groups of all ages and abilities to serve alongside park employees. Most of our positions do not require a formal application. Simply contact us and we will find your place in the Park.

Opportunities Include:

- Artist-In-Residence
- Bark Rangers
- Beach Cruisers
- Corporate & Business
- Campground Host
- Citizen Science
- Drop-In Volunteering
- Railroad Crew
- River Crew
- Scout Programs
- Seasonal Volunteers
- Service Learning
- Special Events
- The Farm And Garden 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: parkconnection@gmail.com



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



Donate to Indiana Dunes National Park

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 educational, one Junior Ranger, and one Drop-in Volunteering program.



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.



Public Notice / Public Service Announcement

Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Smart Parking System PILOT Project Select Parking Locations at Indiana Dunes National Park (INDU) — 2022 Season

Indiana Dunes National Park (INDU) is piloting a project to improve parking and traffic congestion issues at popular parking locations beginning April or May 2022. The project will use technology and guidance sensors to provide information about parking space availability at a given location in real-time via a mobile-friendly website, ensuring that more time is spent enjoying the beach/trails and less time is spent stuck in traffic on any given visit. Once the sensors are installed and the website is functioning, visitors will be able to check whether a select parking lot has available spaces or if it's full in real-time, eliminating the need for visitors to circle the park looking for a space. Visitors will be able to access this real-time information from their smartphone, tablet, or computer via www.congestionmonitor.com/INDU. Parking space availability data will also be displayed in real-time at the Indiana Dunes Visitor's Center at 1215 SR-49, Porter, IN 46304. For the 2022 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 when the parking lot locations are confirmed. Scan the QR code here to the visit smart parking website once finalized.



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



South Shore Convention and Visitors Authority

They operate the Indiana Welcome Center in Highland, IN off I-80/94. 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

