Mission of the National Park Service

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

Mission of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The mission of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is to preserve for the educational, inspirational, and recreational use of the public and other areas of scenic, scientific, and historic interest and recreational value in the state of Indiana.

Contact Information

PHONE 219-926-7561 or 1-800-959-9174
Phone numbers are changing. Contact park for new numbers.

ADDRESS National Park Service
1100 N. Mineral Springs Rd.
Porter, IN 46304

E-MAIL indu.communications@nps.gov

WEBSITE www.nps.gov/indu

To report criminal or suspicious activity call:
1-800-PARKTIP (727-5847)

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A National Park for Everyone

By Superintendent Constantine Dillon

To many people, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is something of a mystery. Many visitors know the names of their favorite parts of the park: names like Kemil Beach, Porter Beach, Mount Baldy, Chellberg Farm, or Miller Woods. But, they may not realize they are in a unit of the National Park System.

The designation “national lakeshore” may be one reason. What’s the difference between a “national park” like Yellowstone or Grand Canyon and a “national lakeshore”? In a word, nothing. There are 391 units of the National Park System that encompass 49 states and 5 territories. They go by all kinds of designations: national parks, national lakeshores, national monuments, national historic sites, and so forth. By law, the designation of a park makes no difference in how it is managed by the National Park Service. A national lakeshore is a national park. That is why in articles, such as this one, we will often refer to this as a park and not always use the term lakeshore. So, you might ask, if the management and operations of all these areas are the same, why so many different designations? Here’s my answer:

We realize that the names can be confusing to the public and that matters to us. It is important that visitors to Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore understand that they are visiting a national park and that they understand who they can contact for information on visiting the park, hours of operation, rules, and other questions. It is also important to understand that it is the mission of the National Park Service, to first and foremost protect the natural, cultural, and historic resources entrusted to our care.

Portage Lakefront Site of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Opens in Fall

In October 2004, the National Park Service (NPS) purchased the last remaining Lake Michigan shoreline property within the boundary of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. The 57-acre property was former industrial property of National Steel located on the shoreline at the northwest corner of the mouth of Burns Waterway.

The park’s enabling legislation includes authority to enter into cooperative agreements for the development and management of recreational facilities as a way to pay for visitor services that the NPS could not afford and to extend cooperation with local governments. The NPS entered into a cooperative agreement with the City of Portage to build and operate visitor facilities for the NPS on this land.

The project is under construction and on schedule to be completed in October 2008. The site will feature a glass-walled pavilion with a multipurpose area for meetings and events, a small food service area, restrooms, parking for 125 cars, an accessible fishing pier, and walking and bike/bike trails. More details on the project and its opening will be in the fall edition of The Singing Sands.
Protect Your Park

Walk only on designated trails to prevent damage to park resources.

Hike the dunes only on marked trails to prevent dune erosion.

Dispose of your litter and recycled items in marked containers.

Leave all natural and cultural items as you find them to preserve the present and past. Collecting such items as shells, fossils, rocks, and wildflowers is prohibited.

Respect all wildlife from a safe distance. Never feed wild animals. Feeding wild animals is dangerous and harms their health and alters their natural behaviors.

Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species. For example, don't bring firewood into the park. Exotic insect pests that live in firewood can kill native trees. Burn all firewood; take no firewood home.

the West Beach Trail between Ogden Dunes and West Beach, and the Marquette Trail between West Beach and Grand Boulevard. Bicycles are prohibited on all other park trails.

All watercraft are prohibited from all designated swimming areas. Designated swimming areas are identified by buoys from May 1 through September 30. Motorized watercraft are prohibited in all national lakeshore waters.

Alcoholic beverages are prohibited at the Dunewood Campground, West Beach, Porter Beach, and in all park buildings.

Glass containers are prohibited on all beaches.

For more information check out the website at www.nps.gov/indu/photosmultimedia/watersafety_challenges.htm

Enjoy Your Park

PARK HOURS
Unless posted otherwise, all public parking areas are open from sunrise to sunset.

DOROTHY BUELL MEMORIAL VISITOR CENTER
Open daily; closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s Day.

Fun Activities at the Visitor Center
Activity Room
Mid-June through Mid-August
Peak Visitor Hours
Exhibits, Junior Ranger Program, and Nature Games

DUNEWOOD CAMPGROUND
Open daily, April 1 through October 3. The $15/day fee is reduced 50% for Senior Pass/Golden Age and Access Pass/Golden Access card holders. Camping is on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Facilities
• $3 conventional drive-in sites; 25 walk-in sites
• Restrooms and showers
• No electric or water hookups
• Accessible to visitors with mobility impairments
• No limit on recreational vehicle length

Attractions/Services
• Lake Michigan is 1.5 miles north of the campground.
• Several beaches are within easy driving distance.

REGULATIONS
Pets are allowed on most trails, but they must be on a leash at all times. Pets are prohibited year-round on the Ly-co-ki-we (horse/ski) Trail, Porter Beach, and West Beach. Pets are allowed year-round on the beaches from Kemil Beach east to Mount Baldy.

All fishing requires a valid state license and must meet state regulations. Contact the park or Indiana’s Department of Natural Resources for more information. Smelt fishing also requires a Smelt Season Fire Permit. For information on obtaining a Smelt permit call the Ranger Station at 219-926-7561.

Horseback riding is permitted only on the Ly-co-ki-we Trail between March 16 and December 14.

Bicycles are permitted on the Calumet Bike Trail, the West Beach Trail between Ogden Dunes and West Beach, and the Marquette Trail between West Beach and Grand Boulevard. Bicycles are prohibited on all other park trails.

Alcoholic beverages are prohibited at the Dunewood Campground, West Beach, Porter Beach, and in all park buildings.

Glass containers are prohibited on all beaches.

INSECT BITES AND STINGS
Avoid diseases carried by biting pests by checking yourself for ticks after being outdoors. Use insect repellent, and wear light-colored long shirts and pants to help prevent both tick and mosquito bites. Limit outside activities at dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most prevalent.

Beware of yellow jackets and other stinging insects. Avoid loose-fitting clothing and bright, flowered prints. Do not wear sandals; avoid wearing perfume, lotion, and hairspray. Never sweat at a flying insect. Look for insects before you drink from open beverage cans. When eating outdoors, keep food covered. Insect repellents DO NOT work against stinging insects. Seek immediate medical attention if you are stung and have symptoms of a systemic allergic reaction. Systemic reactions include hives, swelling of the eyes, lips, tongue, throat or sting area, intense general itching, difficulty breathing, irregular heartbeat, nausea, and loss of consciousness.

Symptoms of heat exhaustion are exhaustion, nausea, dizziness, a rapid pulse, and pale, clammy skin. If the body is not cooled, a potentially fatal heat stroke may occur. This is a medical emergency and must be treated immediately. The onset of a heat stroke is marked by the absence of sweat and skin that is flushed and hot. To prevent these illnesses, take it easy on hot days, seek shade, drink lots of water, and dress lightly in layers.

Protect Yourself

Inflatable safety

Items to bring to beach
Wear shoes, sunscreen, sunglasses, and a hat. Bring drinking water.

Water Safety

Drop-off
Do not step into places where you cannot see the lake’s bottom.

Rip Currents
Stay out of the water when there are high-breaking waves. If caught in a rip current, swim parallel to the shore.

High Bacteria Counts
Do not go into the water when signs are posted.

Inflatable safety

Use inflatables only when the wind is blowing toward the shore.
Ranger-Guided Programs

**Daily**

8:30 a.m.–6 p.m. (Ongoing)  
Child of the Northwest Wind  
Watch this 11-minute park orientation video to learn about the places to see and activities to do at the national lakeshore.  
Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center

**Sundays**

9 a.m.–11 a.m.  
Trekking the Bog  
Join a ranger for an adventure into Indiana’s only “true” quaking bog. (reservations only, 219-926-7561)  
Pinhook Bog (Meet at the Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center.)

10 a.m.–noon & 1:30 p.m.–3 p.m.  
Junior Rangers by the Lake  
Explore the lakefront while enjoying the beach. Children can complete nature related activities and earn Junior Ranger badges after meeting with a ranger located on the beach.  
West Beach & Mount Baldy

1 p.m.–4 p.m.  
Opening Doors to the Past: Bailly Homestead & Chellberg Farm  
Tour the historic buildings and learn of the local fur trade and farming in the 1800s-1900s.  
Chellberg Farm Barn

4 p.m.–5 p.m.  
Farming the Chellberg Homestead  
Learn about life on a Swedish farm in the 1900s, and help feed the farm animals.  
Chellberg Farm Barn

**Mondays - Thursdays**

Peak Beach Hours  
Starts June 15  
Junior Rangers by the Lake  
Explore the lakefront while enjoying the beach. Children can complete nature related activities and earn Junior Ranger badges after meeting with a ranger located on the beach.  
West Beach & Mount Baldy

**Fridays**

10 a.m.–noon  
Junior Rangers by the Lake  
Explore the lakefront while enjoying the beach. Children can complete nature related activities and earn Junior Ranger badges after meeting with a ranger located on the beach.  
West Beach

4 p.m.–5 p.m.  
Farming the Chellberg Homestead in the 1900s  
Learn about life on a Swedish farm in the 1900s, and help feed the farm animals.  
Chellberg Farm Barn

6 p.m.–7:30 p.m.  
Sunset Walk at West Beach  
Join a ranger for a leisurely jaunt along the beach and into the dunes for a study of the local flora and fauna as the sun sets over Chicago.  
West Beach Bath House

**Saturdays**

9 a.m.–11 a.m.  
Trekking the Bog  
Join a ranger for an adventure into Indiana’s only “true” quaking bog. (reservations only, 219-926-7561)  
Pinhook Bog (Meet at the Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center.)

10 a.m.–noon & 1:30 p.m.–3 p.m.  
Junior Rangers by the Lake  
Explore the lakefront while enjoying the beach. Children can complete nature related activities and earn Junior Ranger badges after meeting with a ranger located on the beach.  
West Beach & Mount Baldy

4 p.m.–5 p.m.  
Farming the Chellberg Homestead  
Learn about life on a Swedish farm in the 1900s, and help feed the farm animals.  
Chellberg Farm Barn

8:30 p.m.–9:30 p.m. (JUN)  
Campfire Program: Creatures Great & Small of Indiana Dunes  
Join a park ranger for an insightful presentation on animals of the dunes and how they have adapted to their individual habitats.  
Dunewood Campground Amphitheater

8:30 p.m.–9 p.m. (JUL)  
8 p.m.–9 p.m. (AUG)  
8:30 p.m.–9:30 p.m. (SEPT)  
Sunday, Sept 20-21  
Campfire Program: Creatures Great & Small of Indiana Dunes  
Join a park ranger for an insightful presentation on animals of the dunes and how they have adapted to their individual habitats.  
Dunewood Campground Amphitheater

**Special Events**

Friday, June 20  
Midsummer (Music Heritage Series)  
Enjoy Swedish songs of romance and love on the eve of the Midsummer celebration.  
Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center

Sunday, June 22  
Midsummer Celebration  
Celebrate the summer solstice with Scandinavian music and dance.  
Chellberg Farm

Friday, July 18  
Movin’ On (Music Heritage Series)  
Recognize the Northwest Indiana transportation corridor in song.  
Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center

Sunday, Aug 10  
Perseids Meteor Shower  
Watch the annual meteor shower.  
West Beach Parking Lot

Friday, Aug 15  
Childhood (Music Heritage Series)  
Listen to songs that inspire children and adults to explore nature.  
Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center

Saturday-Sunday, SEP 20-21, 11 a.m.–5 p.m.  
Duneland Harvest Festival  
Gain insight into lifestyles of French/Canadian fur traders and Swedish immigrants.  
Chellberg Farm & Bailly Homestead
Five unique houses, originally built as exhibits for the 1933 Chicago World’s Fair, sit atop a dune overlooking Lake Michigan. Despite the fact they were originally built to last only one year and have been battered by the ever changing weather on the lakefront, they have retained many of their original features.

The World’s Fair opened in May of 1933 with the theme of science and its role in industrial advancement. These five houses are remnants of the fair’s Home and Industrial Arts Group. All of the houses in the group featured new techniques in architectural design, experimental materials, prefabricated construction, and new technologies such as central air conditioning and dishwashers. The Home and Industrial Arts Group, the most popular venue at the fair, received over a million visitors during the two summer seasons.

We cannot quantitatively measure the long-term influence the houses had on architectural design or construction. However, we can say that interesting developments occurred after the fair. For example, the revolutionary construction system of the Armco-Ferro House—corrugated steel panels bolted together and covered with enameled steel panels—influenced the engineers who later developed the prefabricated all-steel Lustron house.

After the close of the fair real estate developer Robert Bartlett brought the five houses to Beverly Shores by barge and truck. He hoped the houses would entice prospective buyers to his new resort community of Beverly Shores. It was the Great Depression and developers were using ingenious ideas and gimmicks to attract people’s attention. Bartlett held ownership of the houses until the early 1940s when he sold them to private individuals.

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore was established in 1966. Later, Acts of Congress added parts of Beverly Shores. During the 1970s, the National Park Service purchased the houses including the Century of Progress houses and allowed residents to remain in the homes for up to 25 years under the Reservation of Use and Occupancy program.

Through the years, the houses deteriorated. In 1993 the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana (HLFI) placed the houses on its “Ten Most Endangered Sites” list. HLFI is a not-for-profit preservation organization—the largest statewide preservation group of its type in the U.S. Its mission is to lead and assist individuals, organizations, and communities in preserving and revitalizing endangered landmarks through education, advocacy, and financial support to enrich contemporary life.

To further the missions of the National Park Service and HLFI and to ensure the long-term preservation of the houses, the national lakeshore and HLFI entered into an agreement in 1996 to preserve the houses through a residential leasing program. Under the agreement, HLFI subleases the houses to families who have previous experience in historic preservation and demonstrate the financial capability to take on the projects.
The planning for the preservation of each of the *Century of Progress* houses began at the park and was reviewed by the Midwest Regional Office of the National Park Service, the State Historic Preservation Office, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Rehabilitation was chosen as the method of treatment. Of the four preservation treatments defined by the Secretary of the Interior, only Rehabilitation provides the opportunity for contemporary reuse of a building through alterations and additions.

**Florida Tropical House** – This demonstration home was the first to be leased in 1996. When the lessee realized he had taken on too much work, he gave up the lease. Leased again in 1998, the second lessee encountered many challenges, one of which was that the house was sinking. The north side was nearly six inches lower than the south side. During the winter of 2006/07, nearly 100 concrete piles were placed under the house to lift it up. The work was carefully completed to avoid damaging the surrounding dune. During the winter of 2007/08, a radiant heating system was installed. We hope to see the completion of the interior of the house in the near future.

**Cypress Log Cabin** – This house was one of the last to be leased and was the first to be completed. Planning for this project took into consideration the integrity of the house, the proposed use as a year-round residence, the use of complementary new materials (such as oak flooring and cedar siding), and the use of efficient technologies (such as radiant heating systems). Of all the projects, the greatest number of changes were allowed in this house because they were carefully designed to complement the original architecture.

**Armco-Ferro House** – This house’s revolutionary construction system—corrugated steel panels bolted together—was barely standing when the lessee began the rehabilitation project in 2005. The deteriorated roof allowed water to run down through the walls eroding sections of the steel panels, leaving the lessee with much more work than expected. His solution was quite original—he arranged for a local steelworker’s union training program to use the house as their classroom. Many classroom hours later, the interns have installed new structural panels and work is proceeding on the house.

**Wieboldt-Rostone House** – The lessee compared rehabilitation of this house to working on a jigsaw puzzle that has lost a lot of pieces over the years. Since beginning the project in 2002, he has repaired over 200 steel columns; some missing the bottom two feet. This work had to be completed before any other work could be started. There are many reasons why the house should have collapsed years ago. We speculate that it may have been the Rostone panels and the stucco that were holding it all together.

**House of Tomorrow** – HLFI is currently overseeing the stabilization of the House of Tomorrow. When the restoration is complete the house will look as it did in 1934 with glass walls on the second and third floors.
**Educational Programs**

**Learn with a Ranger**

Who do we serve?
Any organized group such as schools (K-12), scouts, university classes, organizations, and preschools.

What do we provide?
Park rangers and docents conduct a variety of free, one to three-hour field experiences throughout the park. Organized groups can choose from a variety of learning activities such as service learning projects, hiking the dunes on marked trails, helping feed the Chellberg Farm animals, or exploring the wetlands in Miller Woods. Hands-on programs allow students to explore and learn in their national park. The programs assist teachers in meeting state education standards.

How do you reserve a ranger-led program?
Call 219-395-1857, or 1-800-959-9174.

When are programs offered?
Year-round. The park begins scheduling for the academic year in late August.

Where are programs offered?
At the cultural history sites of Chellberg Farm and Bailly Homestead, along the Mt. Baldy and West Beach shorelines, at the Calumet Dune Interpretive Center, and the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education inGary, Indiana.

Where can you go for more information?
[www.nps.gov/indu/photosmultimedia/watersafety_challenge.htm](http://www.nps.gov/indu/photosmultimedia/watersafety_challenge.htm). This interactive web quiz is designed to teach some of the basic safety rules of Lake Michigan. Students of all ages can learn about the importance of water safety from this interactive web quiz. The game is recommended to help students prepare for their visit to the national lakeshore. For more information, contact Kip Walton at 219-395-1858.

**Teacher Workshops**

Throughout the year the national lakeshore partners with other education institutions and the Dunes Learning Center to provide professional development opportunities within the park. Educators can earn graduate credit through local universities or continuing education units. This summer two workshops will be held:

- **June 18-20**—Nurturing Young Scientists: Critical Thinking Along the Lakeshore
- **July 16-18**—Environmental Camp for Teachers

For more information on these two workshops or to register, contact the Dunes Learning Center at 219-395-9555.

**Classroom Resources**

The national lakeshore loans videos and traveling trunks to regional educators without charge; however, educators must pick them up and return them to the park. For a complete list of available resources, visit [www.nps.gov/indu/forteachers](http://www.nps.gov/indu/forteachers) or contact the park at 219-395-1857.

**Become a Junior Ranger!**

Children of all ages can participate in this fun, free, family-oriented program. Stop by the Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center (DBMVC) to pick up a *Discovery Guide* for the beach, historic sites, or the entire park; and learn why Indiana Dunes is a special place worth preserving. After completing the activities, stop by the DBMVC to receive your award. For more information, contact Kip Walton at 219-926-7561.

- **Beachcombers**—for families just spending a day at the beach. Download this at [www.nps.gov/indu/forkids/beachcomber.htm](http://www.nps.gov/indu/forkids/beachcomber.htm).
- **Duneland Harvest**—for visitors enjoying the September festival.
- **Junior Ranger Discovery Guide**
- **Junior Ranger Activity booklets**
- **Junior Ranger Challenge Certificate**

**Explore the Park on Your Own!**

Many educators wish to bring their groups to the dunes on their own. National lakeshore activity guides are available at [www.nps.gov/indu/forteachers](http://www.nps.gov/indu/forteachers). The Web Ranger Challenge, at [www.nps.gov/indu/forteachers/onlinegames.htm](http://www.nps.gov/indu/forteachers/onlinegames.htm), is an interactive game recommended to help students prepare for their visit to the national lakeshore.

**Take the Water Safety Challenge!**

Students of all ages can learn about the importance of water safety from this interactive web quiz. The game is designed to teach some of the basic safety rules of Lake Michigan. For more information, contact Stephanie Purcell at 219-395-1644 or stephanie_purcell@nps.gov.

**Resource Management Assistants**

Volunteers are needed to help protect the national lakeshore from the threats of invasive species and habitat fragmentation. Gardeners, landscapers, plant/wildlife enthusiasts, and those with a desire to help improve park resources are encouraged to apply. Positions include greenhouse assistants (propagate plants), field assistants (restore prairies, woodlands, and wetlands), and wildlife assistants (monitor wildlife populations). Contact Laura Thompson at 219-395-1531 or laura.thompson@nps.gov.

**Headquarters Receptionist**

Volunteers are needed to assist with clerical and receptionist duties at park headquarters. Volunteers should be available to work half days or 8-hour days, roughly 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Monday–Friday, except holidays. They will answer phone calls, give people directions, and perform other clerical duties. Training will be provided. Contact Stephanie Purcell at 219-395-1644 or stephanie_purcell@nps.gov.

**NEEDED**

**Volunteer Help**

Volunteer Angel Gochee-Goins explains the many uses of various kinds of sugars in the Chellberg Farmhouse.
Our mission is to empower individual artists with heightened levels of encouragement and opportunity, strengthen our organization so that all members may realize their full potential for excellence, stimulate and expand audiences for the arts in Northwest Indiana, and promote public advocacy for the arts.

Established as the non-profit Association of Artists and Craftsmen of Porter County (AACPC) in the late 1950s, Chesterton Art Center continues to open its doors to new and established artists and to promote arts education, advocacy, and outreach throughout the Duneland community. Its gallery and education center are located in an historic building in downtown Chesterton. More than 200 regional artists exhibit and sell their works there. The AACPC will present its 50th Annual Chesterton Art Fair in August 2008.

The Chesterton Art Center’s programs and services include:
• more than a dozen annual exhibits, featuring artists from Northwest Indiana, suburban Chicago, and southwest Michigan;
• classes for adults, children, senior citizens, and persons with disabilities;
• art receptions, demonstrations, gallery talks, and tours for schoolchildren and scout troops;
• national lakeshore Artist-in-Residence program promotion; and
• national lakeshore Junior Ranger program assistance.

For more information, contact:
Chesterton Art Center
115 S. Fourth Street
Chesterton, Indiana 46304
219-926-4711
www.chestertonart.com

Chicago Wilderness

Chicago Wilderness members’ collective mission is to restore, protect, and conserve the region’s biodiversity, for the benefit of people and nature.

Stretching from southeastern Wisconsin through northeastern Illinois into northwestern Indiana and southwestern Michigan, Chicago Wilderness is a regional nature reserve that contains some of the rarest natural communities in the world.

The Chicago Wilderness Consortium is an alliance of more than 220 public and private organizations working together to protect, restore, study, and manage the natural ecosystems of the Chicago region. Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is a member of the consortium.

Last year, members of the consortium launched Leave No Child Inside, an initiative with a vision to create a region where the children—all of them—have access to local nature, enjoy it, and form the bonds that will make them caring stewards of our lands and waters.

Another major initiative of the consortium is the Green Infrastructure Vision, which is a picture of what our region can look like if we are careful to protect the natural areas, corridors, and open spaces that are critical to our quality of life.

For more information about these initiatives and other projects, please contact:

Chicago Wilderness
8 S. Michigan Avenue, Suite 900
Chicago, IL 60603
312-580-2137
www.chicagowilderness.org

Other Partners
Field Station Cooperative
Friends of Indiana Dunes

Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana
Indiana Department of Natural Resources—Nature Preserves and Coastal Program
Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center
Lake County Solid Waste Management District
Porter County Convention, Recreation, and Visitor Commission
Purdue University Field Station
Save the Dunes Conservation Fund
Shirley Heinze Land Trust
U.S.G.S. Lake Michigan Ecological Research Station

Support the Park with Your Purchases

Eastern National provides quality educational products and services to the visitors to America’s national parks.

Eastern National promotes understanding and support of the National Park Service by providing visitors with the information, materials, and experiences they need to fully understand and appreciate the importance of preserving and protecting America’s national parks for future generations. Eastern National, a non-profit organization, donates a portion of their proceeds to Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore to support interpretive and educational activities and publications such as this edition of The Singing Sands.

Indiana Dunes State Park

Our mission is to manage and interpret Indiana Dunes State Park’s wildlife and natural and cultural resources, provide for compatible recreational opportunities, and sustain the integrity of these resources for future generations.

Established in 1925, Indiana Dunes State Park is one of 24 Indiana state parks administered by the Department of Natural Resources and Indiana Division of State Parks and Reservoirs. The state park contains some of the most diverse flora and fauna of the Midwest. It is also renowned throughout the Midwest for its birding.

The state park offers:
• a new park entrance,
• a year-round campground,
• swimming beach with lifeguards,
• nature center,
• more than 16 miles of hiking/skiing trails, and
• picnic shelters and areas.

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

The nature center has a library, bird observation room, children’s activity corner, information desk, and exhibits about natural and cultural history. Private, public, and school programs are held year-round. Camping reservations can be made by calling 1-866-622-6746. There is a park entrance fee. For more information, contact:

Indiana Dunes State Park
1600 North 25 East
Chesterton IN 46304
219-926-1952
www.IN.gov/dnr

INdiana Dunes State Park
Park Hours: 7 a.m.–11 p.m.
Office Hours: 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

Entrance Fees
Daily: $10.00 with out-of-state plates
$4.00 with IN plates, Mon.–Thurs.
$5.00 with IN plates, Fri.–Sun., holidays
$2.00 per day for walk-ins and bicyclists

Annual entrance permits are available.

Eastern National Bookstore

A variety of educational items are available for purchase at Eastern National bookstore. The online store is at www.easternnational.org or www.eparks.com.
1. **West Beach**
   There is much to do at West Beach, even when the weather is too cold for swimming. Grill a meal at the picnic shelter, walk a marked trail traversing the dunes and forest, learn how plants and animal communities are replacing one another through time, or watch migrating waterfowl at Long Lake in autumn and spring.

2. **Cowles Bog Trail**
   The national lakeshore’s most rugged hike takes you on a five-mile journey through wetlands and over both wooded and moving dunes to an isolated beach.

3. **Baily/Chellberg**
   Explore an 1820s fur trading outpost and a 1900-era Swedish farmstead. Enjoy the Duneland Harvest Festival during the third full weekend of September and Maple Sugar Time on the first two full weekends of March. Follow the trail that starts here and winds through a wide diversity of landscapes, including the Mnoké Prairie, the Little Calumet River, and a mature beech/maple woodland.

4. **Ly-co-ki-we Trail**
   Depending on the season, hike, ski, or ride the four-mile trail through wooded dunes and wetlands. Bring your own skis or horse.

5. **Lake View**
   As the national lakeshore’s only picnic area overlooking Lake Michigan, this site offers grills and covered picnic shelters. Beautiful sunset views make this one of the most popular park spots.

6. **Dunewood Campground**
   Dunewood is just over one-mile south of Lake Michigan and features 78 wooded campsites. Enjoy camping with the convenience of modern restrooms and showers. Fees are charged, and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis.

7. **Mount Baldy**
   Hike the trail to the top of the national lakeshore’s largest moving dune. Mount Baldy, at 126 feet tall, provides stunning views of Lake Michigan and its shoreline.

8. **Pinhook Bog**
   A mat of sphagnum moss keeps everything from trees to insect-eating plants floating above an ancient, now-hidden, lake. This extremely rare and fragile habitat can only be entered during a ranger-led tour.