

Indiana Dunes Country Education Guide



*The
Indiana
Dunes*
Nature's Masterpiece

Dr. Henry Chandler Cowles

The Father of Ecology

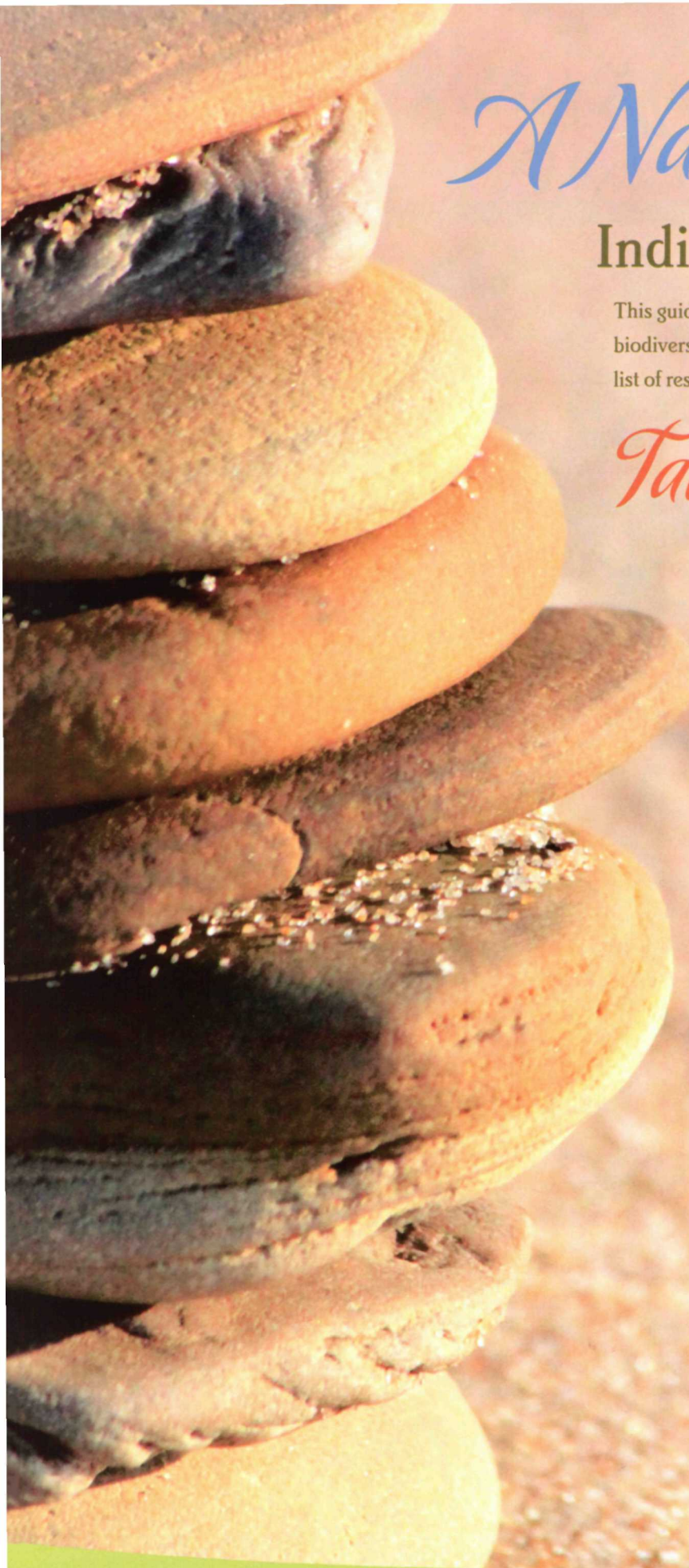
"There are few places on our continent where so many species of plants are found in so small compass... this is in part because of the wide diversity of conditions prevailing there." —Dr. Henry Chandler Cowles

Dr. Henry Chandler Cowles was the first "ecotourist", and his destination of choice was Indiana Dunes Country. An internationally-renowned botanist from the University of Chicago, Dr. Cowles—pronounced "coals"—first visited the Indiana Dunes in 1896. Until he retired as chairman of the botany department in 1934, he and his students conducted extensive field research in the region. His dedication to deciphering the bewildering diversity of plant life in the area led to the naming of Cowles Bog in his honor.

Dr. Cowles' innate fascination with the complex system of dependency and interaction that makes up our natural environment made this area even more fascinating for him. Dr. Cowles' lifelong quest to identify the botanical elements of this slice of natural history, as well as his studies of the changes the area was undergoing as part of its evolution, helped earn him the title The Father of Ecology.

It is not hard to imagine that, during his many trips to the dunes, Dr. Cowles' watchful eyes noticed the rich texture of natural habitats and wildlife intermingling with his beloved flora. The ecosystem that was first spawned by glaciers and then by the receding waters of Lake Michigan is indeed unique and fascinating. Whether you're a serious student of natural science, a casual appreciator of nature's beauty or have interests that lie somewhere between, the ecological wonders of Indiana Dunes Country will stimulate your spirit and soothe your soul.

We invite you to explore, as Dr. Cowles first did more than 100 years ago, the elemental wonders that make Indiana Dunes Country one of the most unique places on the planet.



A Natural Wonder

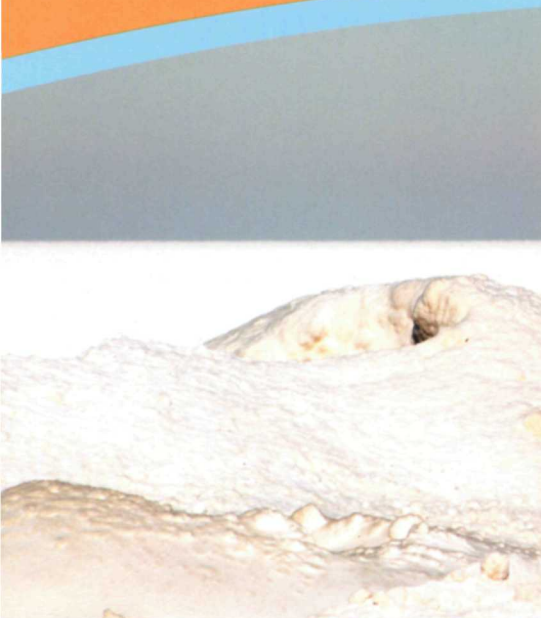
Indiana Dunes Country

This guide will give you a taste of the natural treasure of biodiversity that is the Indiana Dunes, as well as an abundant list of resources to help you satisfy your desire for more.

Table of Contents

<i>4</i>	Geological History
<i>5</i>	The Three Distinct Regions
<i>6</i>	Human History
<i>8</i>	Biodiversity
<i>10</i>	Habitats
<i>12</i>	Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
<i>13</i>	Indiana Dunes State Park
<i>14</i>	Porter County Parks & Recreation
<i>15</i>	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
<i>16</i>	Accommodations
<i>18</i>	Indiana Dunes Country Map
<i>19</i>	Educational and Volunteer Opportunities
<i>19</i>	Indiana Dunes Guides

Geological History



Foredunes

- Precede blowout dunes
- Form parallel to and just behind open beach
- Average 50-75 feet high
- Form when wind is obstructed by plants or other obstacles
- Eventually cover with vegetation and stabilize

Blowout dunes

- Form by winter storms when intense north winds and waves rip dunes apart
- Also form when a disturbance—fire, bulldozer, etc.—strip plants from stabilized dune
- Winds create a “bowl” in the sand
- Vegetation slides in from the edges
- Wind funnels out loose sand and can create a moving dune

Glaciers

At one time, glaciers covered 70 percent of North America. Glaciers are formed in an area where more snow falls than melts, allowing the snow to accumulate over a long period of time. We see this in the mountains and at the earth's poles. The weight of the snow turns the bottom layers to ice. As these ice layers increase, a glacier is born.

In our case, beginning two million years ago, massive sheets of ice crept southward across the continent in four great waves. The last of these, the Wisconsin Glacier, reached as far south as central Indiana some 28,000 years ago. The mile-thick glacial lobe that would become Lake Michigan rested heavily on the land, eroding the soils and rock beneath it, scouring the north flowing river bed that existed before glaciation. When the ice melted, a large lake formed between the glacial moraines of Northwest Indiana and the retreating glacier. Ancestral Lake Michigan was formed 14,000 years ago. So during its journey, the Wisconsin Glacier laid the foundation for the landscape that would become Northwest Indiana.

About 16,000 years ago, the Wisconsin Glacier stopped and retreated northward to south of what is now downtown Valparaiso. Glacial drift—the rocks and soil picked up during this journey—was deposited in a beautiful band of rolling hills. This material is called “till.” The formation it makes is called an “end moraine.” Today, the Valparaiso Moraine Region rests between the Dunes Region to the north and the Kankakee Region to the south.

Nature's forces continue to shape Indiana Dunes Country, primarily in the Dunes Region. Lake Michigan's currents carry the sand grains southward along the east and west shores to their new home at the lake's southern tip. In the summer, you can see two sandy shadows just below the water's blue surface—sandbars that are a testament to the migratory nature of this restless landscape. By fall, those sandbars will disappear as they merge with the beach.

In a process called “saltation,” the grains of sand are swept on shore by the wind, building them into the sometimes gentle and sometimes towering mounds we know as dunes. There are two types of dunes: foredunes and blowout dunes.

The Three Distinct Regions of Indiana Dunes Country

The Moraine Region

While glaciers shaped all of Indiana Dunes Country, the Moraine Region showcases their phenomenal earth-moving power. Picture a force of nature a mile high and as wide as your eyes can see. That was the power of the Wisconsin ice sheet as it pushed slowly south from Canada, reaching central Indiana. The enormous glacier gathered immense amounts of debris—from sand to giant boulders—as it scraped over the land. As the climate warmed about 16,000 years ago, the glacier melted back to the north, depositing debris as it retreated.

The debris formed the hills, known as glacial moraines, and other features people see today when visiting sites like Pinhook Bog and Taltree Arboretum.

The Kankakee Region

Four glaciations took place in Indiana Dunes Country—the last glacier being the Wisconsin Glacier, which melted about 16,000 years ago. The meltwater formed the Kankakee River and its surrounding wetlands—hundreds of thousands of acres. An unimaginable abundance of wildlife lived in these marshes, prairies, and woodlands.

That landscape changed dramatically in the early 1900s as marshlands were drained and converted to agriculture, the Kankakee channelized, and prairies plowed. At several sites within the Kankakee Region, you can see impressive remnants of this native landscape—from the Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area, where tens of thousands of Sandhill Cranes gather during fall migration, to Kankakee Sands, where The Nature Conservancy has restored 5,000 acres of wetlands and prairie.

The Dunes Region

Located along the southern tip of Lake Michigan, the Indiana Dunes attracts millions of visitors each year, but many only know its beautiful beaches.

Just beyond the beaches lie some of the world's largest lakeshore dunes, created by the successive lowering of lake levels, producing three ancient shorelines and today's shoreline, which formed some 1,500 years ago. Lake currents and the wind also formed, and still form, the beaches and dunes. An incredible variety of plants and wildlife make their homes among the dunes and the surrounding grassland, wetland, woodland, and open-water habitats.

Walk the West Beach Succession Trail in Portage and you'll start on a bare sand beach and end in an oak forest, tracing a process in nature that took thousands of years. The process, called succession, involves a group of plants and animals in a particular place gradually being replaced over time by other, very different ones. The concept of succession was introduced by Dr. Henry Chandler Cowles after he visited the dunes, and now the dunes is known as ecology's birthplace.

You may also want to hike Indiana Dunes State Park's renowned trails, one of which takes visitors to 192-foot Mount Tom, climb Mount Baldy or enjoy—and learn about—the many other great dunes region sites.



Human History



The Hunters

Indiana Dunes Country's first inhabitants arrived about 10,300 years ago, after the last glacier retreated. Like all those to follow, they came for the rich bounty the land had to offer. In their case, it was mammoths and mastodons that they hunted with stone tools. Archaeological remnants indicate they were the first of many indigenous cultures to lay claim to the area.

Early Settlers

Soon after, the French fur trappers found their way to this region of rich resources. The first groups settlers would soon follow. Among the first, in 1822, was Honore Gratiem Joseph Bailly de Messein, who moved his family to Indiana Dunes Country from their home in Parc aux Vaches on the St. Joseph River. He established a trading post at the crossroads of several trails used by the Native Americans and near the banks of the Little Calumet River—in what is now the Chesterton area. Bailly's wife, Marie,

The Potawatomi Tribe

The Potawatomi tribe of Native Americans arrived in the area around 1700. They hunted deer, turkey, quail, ducks and geese. The fertile rivers and wetlands were thick with muskrat, mink, beaver and otter. In the marshes, they gathered wild rice and cranberries. From the sand hills, they plucked grapes, blueberries, strawberries and plums. In the frosty cold of early March, they tapped sugar maples for their sweet syrup. To complement this natural bounty, they planted and harvested corn, beans and squash.



was half Ottawa. Fur traders such as Bailly often married women of Native American heritage to enhance their business relationships. To establish his post, the American Fur Company supplied Bailly \$914.62 worth of blankets, scissors, thread, salt, axes, and other items to trade for animal skins.

By 1828, the local fur trade had declined. Various treaties enabled Bailly to purchase 2,000 acres and plat the town of Bailly in the present vicinity of ArcelorMittal Steel. The town never materialized, although Bailly set up a tavern and blacksmith shop near his proposed development. Bailly died in 1835, while his new house was under construction.

From 1835 until 1917, Bailly's family lived in the main house. Bailly Homestead, as it is now called, remains open to visitors of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Near Bailly Homestead on Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore property is Chellberg Farm.

Anders and Johanna Kjellberg (anglicized to Chellberg) left Sweden in 1863, joining a growing Swedish community in Indiana Dunes Country. They bought 40 acres from Joesph Bailly's son-in-law in 1872 and an adjoining 40 acres two years later. Anders was a tailor, a farmer, and a deacon at the local Augsburg Swedish Evangelical Church, which still thrives in the town of Porter.

Three generations of Chellbergs made their living on the farm with cash crops such as wheat, oats, corn, and rye, and by raising animals. Anders' grandson, Carl, worked the farm until 1972, when it was sold to the National Park Service. The park restored the farm to its 1900s appearance and it is open to the public.

Like many of the other settlers, the Chellbergs and the Bailyys came to this area for the opportunities provided by the location and the rich natural resources of the Indiana Dunes.



Bailly Homestead and Chellberg farm both remain open to visitors of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Biodiversity

There are thousands of species of plant and animal life to be found in the various Indiana Dunes Country habitats, and they all play a critical role in maintaining the delicate balance of the ecosystem they call home. This overview is just a glimpse at a few of our local inhabitants.

Pitcher's Thistle

This plant, common only to open sand dune regions of the western Great Lakes, is on the federal endangered species list. It prefers open spaces where it does not have to compete with other plant species for sustenance.

Marram Dune Grass

The gentle wave of this common beach denizen belies its strength. Marram grass thrives while being covered with blowing sand. As the plant is buried it sends out special underground stems called rhizomes. Slender leaves emerge from the rhizomes and more clumps of grass appear. Marram Dune Grass helps to build a dune, paving the way for other plant life.

Lupine

This important plant has dense purple floral spikes. The foliage resembles palm leaves, with seven to ten leaflet segments each. This species is essential to the life cycle of the Karner Blue butterfly, whose larvae feeds on the plant.

Burning for Butterflies

The Karner Blue butterfly, also on the federal endangered species list, makes its home in the dunes. The butterfly's larvae feeds on lupine, a species found in an open oak savanna. When there is fire suppression, the savannas become forests, choke out the lupine and, in turn, prevent the butterflies from feeding. Their current population is one percent of their historic abundance 100 years ago. Prescribed burning conducted by park resource management keeps these savannas open.

Six-lined Racerunner

This lizard earns its name: it's very active and very fast. You'll find it in the sand dunes, on beaches and at the edges of cultivated fields, darting after insects. Adults are six to nine inches long.

Narrow-leaved Sundew

The reddish tentacles glisten with a sticky juice that attracts insects. Insects that land on the tentacles get stuck and begin to struggle. The struggling triggers a rapid cell growth in the tentacles which fold over the insect in about a minute. The insect is completely enfolded in about 20 minutes.



Red-tailed Hawk

These permanent dune residents like to build their nests high in the branches of bare trees. Adults have red faces and white breasts, separated by a darker belly band. They have amazing eyesight and can see two to three times better than humans. There are curves at the ends of their wingspans. These hawks hunt rodents and other small animals. The hawk's voice is a high-pitched descending scream with a hoarse quality: *keeeer*. This is the large hawk you see circling the sky on warm summer days.

Great Horned Owl

The great horned owl's dark brown and gray coat sets off its white throat. The owl's distinctive voice is a series of far-carrying hoots: *hoo, hoo-hoo, hoo, hoo*. The second and third of these hoots are shorter than the first. It can be found in forests, open country or swamps, and it is one of the first birds to nest, building its home as early as January.

Box Turtle

This medium-sized land turtle has yellow markings on its shell. Its name comes from hinges on the back of the shell that allow it to open and close the shell just like a box.

Raccoons

Usually found in woodlands near water, raccoons have adapted so well that they can be found in almost any habitat and will eat almost anything, including any food you might leave lying around. But they stay healthier on their natural diet. While they would rather run than fight, raccoons will defend themselves if cornered.

White-tailed Deer

This is the largest mammal in the area and can be seen regularly in and around Indiana Dunes State Park and the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. It keeps a reddish-brown coat in the summer, a grey coat in the winter, and can always be recognized by its distinctive white tail which rises to attention when the deer is alarmed. They are herbivores and like to eat fresh leaves, grasses and sweet, young sprouts.



Red Fox

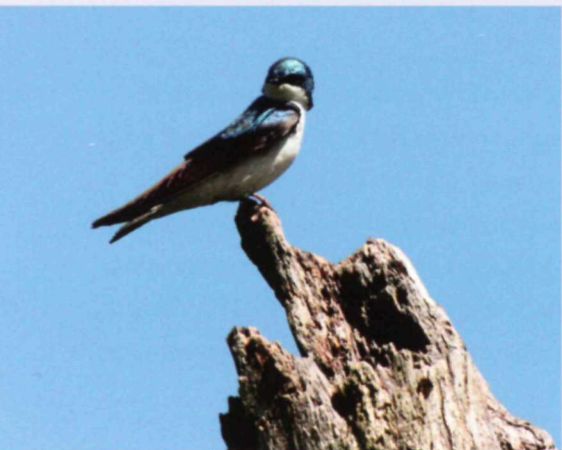
Adults weigh only 10 to 15 pounds, no more than a house cat. But their luxurious coat of red fur, topped off by a white tail tip, makes them appear larger. That heavy coat of fur allows the fox to sleep outdoors all year long. It hunts at night and prefers small rodents. The fox's acute sense of hearing enables it to hear a mouse scratching on a leaf 150 feet away. Its balanced diet also includes birds, apples, sweet corn, grubs and beetles.

Eastern Hognose Snake

The eastern hognose snake gets its name from its upturned snout and broad head. It is usually 20 to 30 inches long and varies in color. These snakes may be black, brown, olive or gray, or may have irregular, dark blotches running down their backs. When threatened, the snake may inflate its head, coil, hiss and strike with its mouth closed. If this fails to scare a predator, the snake may play dead. It can be found in fields and at the edges of forests.

All of the creatures in the Dunes live and thrive best when they stick to their natural diets. Please do not feed them.

Habitats



*This habitat variety
speaks to the diversity of
the plant and animal life
that thrive there.*

Part of Dr. Cowles' fascination with the dunes was the wide variety of clearly-defined natural habitats to be found in a single and concise geographic area. This habitat variety speaks to the diversity of the plant and animal life. Each natural niche whose foundation was first laid by the glaciers and has evolved over time is a rich world of beauty, wonder and symbiosis.

Dry Prairie

Usually found on the front lines of dunes, this habitat consists of pure stands of dune marram grass and sand reed—which are the dominant species contributing to dune formation. Cover provides good hiding places for small mammals including mice, voles, shrews and squirrels.

Terrestrial Shrubland

This area forms between grass-covered dunes and forested dunes. Look for slender saplings of oak, conifers and basswood, as well as wild grape and cherry.

Wetlands

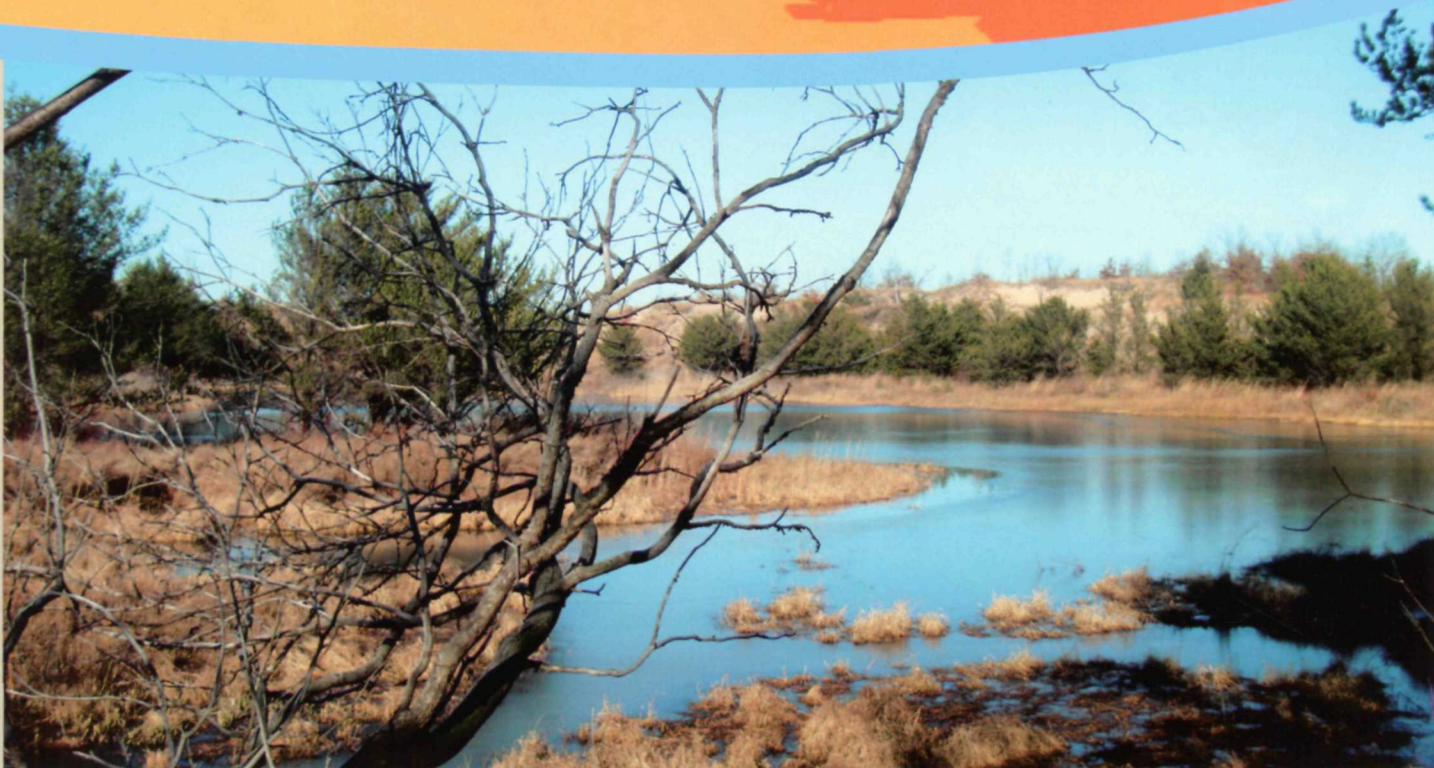
The simple definition of a wetland is an area with damp or spongy soil. But the variety and textures of wetlands in Indiana Dunes Country make this habitat a more complex subject. Wetlands locally include pannes, marshes, swamps and bogs.

Marshes

This wet habitat is dominated by cattails and also includes bull rushes and sedges. Muskrats are one of the more unique species found in marshes. Marshes are easily distinguishable from swamps in that they have no canopy.

Bogs

These acidic ponds have poor drainage and have become covered with a thick mat of vegetation. By pressing down on this mat, you can hear and feel the water underneath. Typical bog plants include sphagnum, pitcher plants (pictured above left), sundew, cotton grass, poison sumac, blueberries and cranberries.



Swamps

This area is dominated by a canopy of eastern cottonwood or black willow. Ground cover includes grasses, sedges and cattails. Most of the ground is covered with water.

Savanna

An area characterized by sparse ground cover and more mature trees than are found in shrublands. There are three kinds of savannas at the National Lakeshore: oak, conifer and mixed deciduous. Remember that oak savannas are breeding grounds for lupine and the Karner Blue butterfly.

Lowland Forest

Look for a dense canopy with a wide variety of species, including red and silver maple, oak, ash, aspen and sassafras. These areas retain water for six months of the year. Here, in addition to the animals found in the upland forests, you can find woodchucks and opossums.

Pannes

These are shallow depressions found behind the front line of dunes and are usually surrounded by grassy areas.

Upland Forest

This is the predominant habitat in the lakeshore area. Black oak is the chief resident, but be sure to look for wild blueberries, white pine, sassafras, bracken fern, wild black cherry, red and silver maple, ash and elm. Naturally, it's home to a wider variety of animals including shrews, squirrels, chipmunks, white-tailed deer, raccoons and rabbits.

Wet Prairie

This area is characterized by a wide variety of grasses and also includes willow, aspen and oak shrubs. The denser ground cover hides more small animals. It is the thickness of the vegetation that keeps the ground more moist and gives the habitat its name.

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

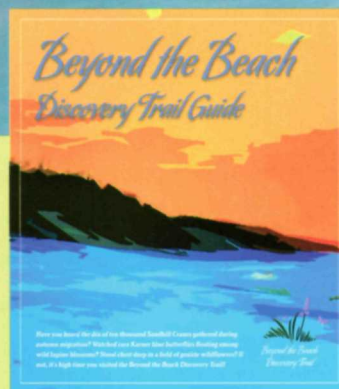
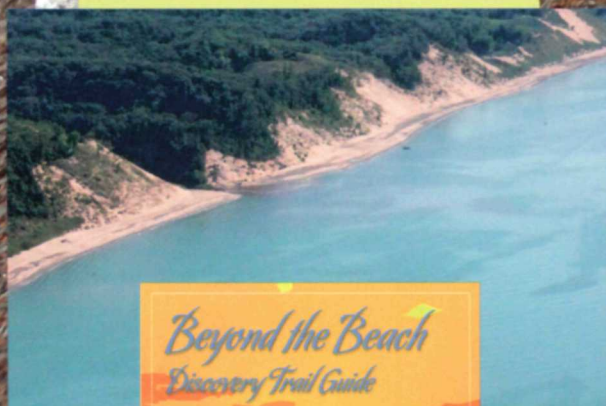


Trail Guide

Learn more about National Lakeshore sites—including their natural features, plants and wildlife—in the Beyond the Beach Discovery Trail Guide or at www.BeyondTheBeachDiscoveryTrail.com or m.indianadunes.com/beyond-the-beach. And keep in mind that the National Lakeshore has a campground and offers great education programs and events throughout the year.

The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore features mile after mile of glorious Lake Michigan coastline, plenty of hiking trails, and unique sites like Pinhook Bog, where visitors can literally walk on water atop boardwalks floating on a mat of sphagnum moss.

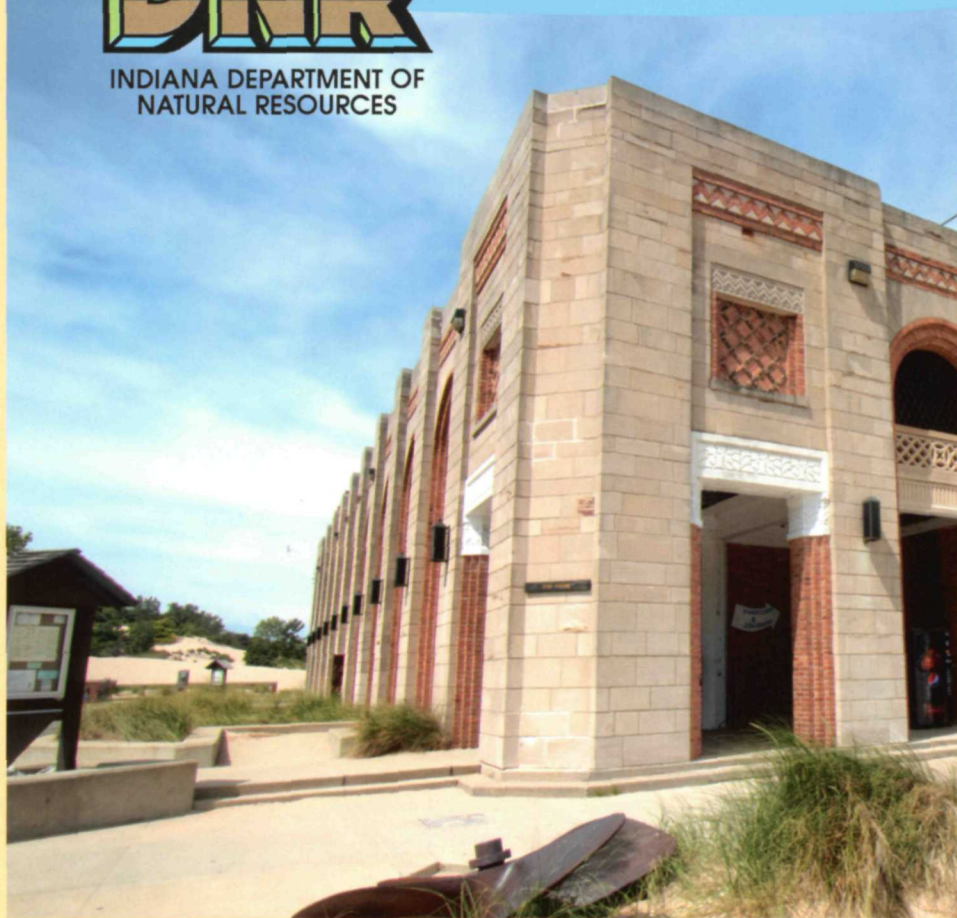
The National Lakeshore—which is primarily in Porter County, but which also touches Lake and LaPorte counties - features beach access points like Porter Access Point, Kemil Road Access Point, Dunbar Access Point and Central Avenue Access Point. It also features beach and hiking spots like West Beach, Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk and Mount Baldy (which has a 123-foot moving sand dune). And it has amazing trails like Tolleston Dunes Trail, Cowles Bog Trail, Little Calumet River Trail, Glenwood Dunes Trail, Great Marsh Trail and Heron Rookery Trail. Add to that great sites like Lake View Picnic Area and the nearby historic Century of Progress Homes, Bailly Homestead and Chellberg Farm, and Pinhook Bog.



Indiana Dunes State Park

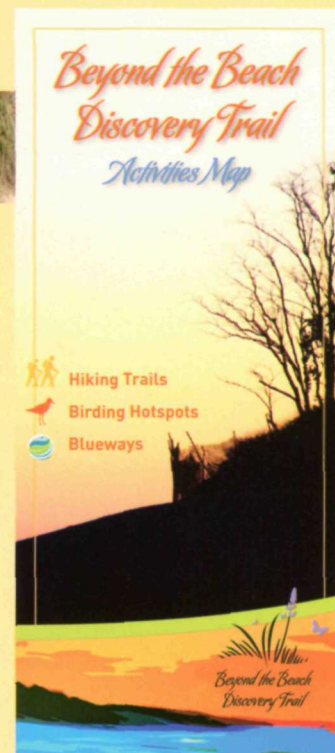


INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES



Recreational Activities

Learn more about recreational activities available at Indiana Dunes State Park— including hiking, birding, and paddling— in the Beyond the Beach Discovery Activities Map or at www.BeyondTheBeachDiscoveryTrail.com or m.indianadunes.com/beyond-the-beach. And keep in mind that the park has a pavilion on the beach, a campground, and great education programs and events throughout the year at the Nature Center.



*I*ndiana Dunes State Park has 2,182 acres of beach, dunes, marshes, swamps, hardwood forests, and white pine groves, and is surrounded by National Lakeshore lands. Dunes State Park boasts a long stretch of lifeguarded Lake Michigan coastline and seven great hiking trails. The trails include Trail 9, which has been called one of the best hiking trails in the nation. The trails range from easy to rugged, and they allow hikers to see such sites as Mount Tom, a 192-foot tall sand dune.

Porter County Parks & Recreation

*P*orter County Parks & Recreation preserves and manages a diverse park system that includes Sunset Hill Farm County Park, Brincka Cross Gardens, Dunn's Bridge and the Calumet Trail.

Sunset Hill Farm is a hub of activity in Porter County, offering a variety of events and festivals, hiking trails, camps, field trips and fitness programs year round.

Brincka Cross Gardens boasts 400 different types of hostas, 450 varieties of daffodils, 25 kinds of crab apple trees, 40 cultivars of ornamental grasses and 25 varieties of forsythias, just to name just a few of the diverse species that thrive there.

The historic Dunn's Bridge offers the only designated public access to the Kankakee River in Porter County, allowing fishermen and paddlers to launch their boat and enjoy the beautiful natural surroundings. Those who enjoy fishing can cast for walleye, bass, crappie, bluegill and northern pike, among others.

The 9.1-mile Calumet Trail is the perfect place to walk, run, bike, cross-country ski, or snowshoe. The grassland prairie habitat is home to a huge variety of wildflower and bird species that add to the picturesque surroundings.

Learn more about these sites—including their natural features, plants and wildlife—in the Beyond the Beach Discovery Trail guide or at www.BeyondTheBeachDiscoveryTrail.com or m.indianadunes.com/beyond-the-beach.



Indiana Dunes Visitor Center

Start your Indiana Dunes Country adventure here with:

- Helpful advice from our destination concierges, who are Indiana Dunes Country experts.
- A short film in our theater about the history of The Indiana Dunes.
- Guides and brochures detailing all the great attractions, restaurants, lodging and more in Indiana Dunes Country.
- An exhibit hall featuring Indiana Dunes artwork from the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore's Artist-in-Residence program, wildlife displays and interactive displays for children.
- A gift shop operated by the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore featuring clothing, books, stuffed animals and other great merchandise.
- Display cases highlighting local businesses and attractions.
- Restrooms and drinking fountains.
- An after-hours lobby with 24/7 access to brochures and a phone that people can use to call directly to local lodging facilities.

Summer Hours: Memorial Day to Labor Day: 8am–6pm
Central Standard Time (CST), seven days a week

Off-season Hours: Labor Day to Memorial Day: 8:30
am–4:30 pm CST, seven days a week

Local telephone number: 219-926-2255

Toll-free number: 800-283-8687

Email: info@indianadunes.com

Web: IndianaDunes.com



The Visitor Center, built in 2006, is a model for low-impact development and the use of environmental best practices. As one enters the property from State Road 49, there is a two-stage stream channel to naturally clean the stormwater runoff before it enters Lake Michigan to the north.

There are bioswales along the outer edge the parking lots on either side of the Visitor Center where native plants absorb pollutants so that cleaner water is returned to Lake Michigan.

The wide variety of native plants on the property attract birds and wildlife. And, in the front of the building, a rain garden was installed to capture and slow rainwater coming from the roof.

Directions: The Visitor Center is conveniently located at 1215 N. State Road 49, Porter, IN 46304. This is just north of the Indiana Toll Road and Interstate 94, and it is just south of Indiana Dunes State Park and US Highway 20. GPS: Lat: 41.6337 Long: -87.0539



Accommodations

Duneland Communities

\$-less than \$50, \$\$-\$50-\$100, \$\$\$-\$100+
 # Rooms/Campsites
 Indoor/Outdoor Pool (IP/OP)
 Full/Continental Breakfast (FB/CB)
 High Speed Internet (Y)
 Pets Allowed (P) Non-Smoking (N)
 Accessible (Y)

AL AND SALLY'S MOTEL 3221 W. Dunes Highway Michigan City (Pines), 219-872-9131 alandsallysmotelinc.com	\$\$	16	OP		Y	N	
AT HOME IN THE WOODS 898 North 350 E. Chesterton, 219-728-1325 athomeinthewoodsbb.com	\$\$\$	3	OP	FB	Y	N	
BEST WESTERN INDIAN OAK 558 Indian Boundary Road Chesterton, 219-926-2200 indianoak.com	\$\$\$	62	IP	FB	Y	N	Y
BLACKHAWK MOTEL 3651 W. Dunes Highway Michigan City (Pines) 219-872-8656 blackhawkmotel.webs.com	\$\$	20	OP			N	Y
CHESTERTON MOTEL 418 Council Drive, Chesterton 219-929-5549	\$	49		CB	Y		Y
COMFORT INN & SUITES 1800 W. US 20, Porter 219-787-1400, comfortinn.com	\$\$\$	70	IP	CB	Y	N	Y
DUNESWALK INN 1491 N. Furnleigh Lane Chesterton, 219-728-6393 duneswalkinn.com	\$\$\$	5			Y	N	Y
DUNEWOOD CAMPGROUND (National Park Service), US 12 & Broadway, Beverly Shores 219-395-1882, nps.gov/indu	\$	78				P	Y
ECONO LODGE 713 Plaza Drive, Chesterton 219-929-4416, choicehotels.com	\$\$	41		CB	Y	P	Y
GRAY GOOSE INN 350 Indian Boundary Road Chesterton 219-926-5781, 800-521-5127 graygooseinn.com	\$\$\$	8	OP	FB	Y	PN	
HILTON GARDEN INN 501 Gateway Boulevard Chesterton, 219-983-9500 chesterton.hgi.com	\$\$\$	120	IP	CB	Y	N	Y

\$-less than \$50, \$\$-\$50-\$100, \$\$\$-\$100+
 # Rooms/Campsites
 Indoor/Outdoor Pool (IP/OP)
 Full/Continental Breakfast (FB/CB)
 High Speed Internet (Y)
 Pets Allowed (P) Non-Smoking (N)
 Accessible (Y)

INDIANA DUNES STATE PARK CAMPGROUND IN-49 North of US 12 Chesterton, 866-622-6746 camp.in.gov	\$	140				P	Y
INSPIRATION WOOD 1199 N. 650 E., Westville 219-983-9922 inspirationwood.com	\$\$\$	7			Y	N	Y
RILEY'S RAILHOUSE 123 N. 4th Street Chesterton, 219-395-9999 rileysrailhouse.com	\$\$\$	2		FB	Y	N	Y
SANDCREEK CAMPGROUND 1000 North 350 E. Chesterton, 219-926-7482 sandcreekcampground.com	\$	150	OP		Y	PN	Y
SPRING HOUSE INN 303 N. Mineral Springs Road, Porter, 219-929-4600 springhouseinn.com	\$\$\$	50	IP	CB	Y	N	Y
WATERBIRD LAKESIDE INN & SPA 556 Indian Boundary Road Chesterton, 888-957-3529 waterbirdinn.com	\$\$\$	22	IP	CB	Y	N	Y

Kouts

DONNA JO CAMPGROUND 1255 South 350 E. Kouts 219-766-2186 donnajocampground.com	\$	75	OP			P	Y
--	----	----	----	--	--	---	---

Key

	Bed & Breakfast		Hotels/Motels
	Campgrounds		Cottages

Portage

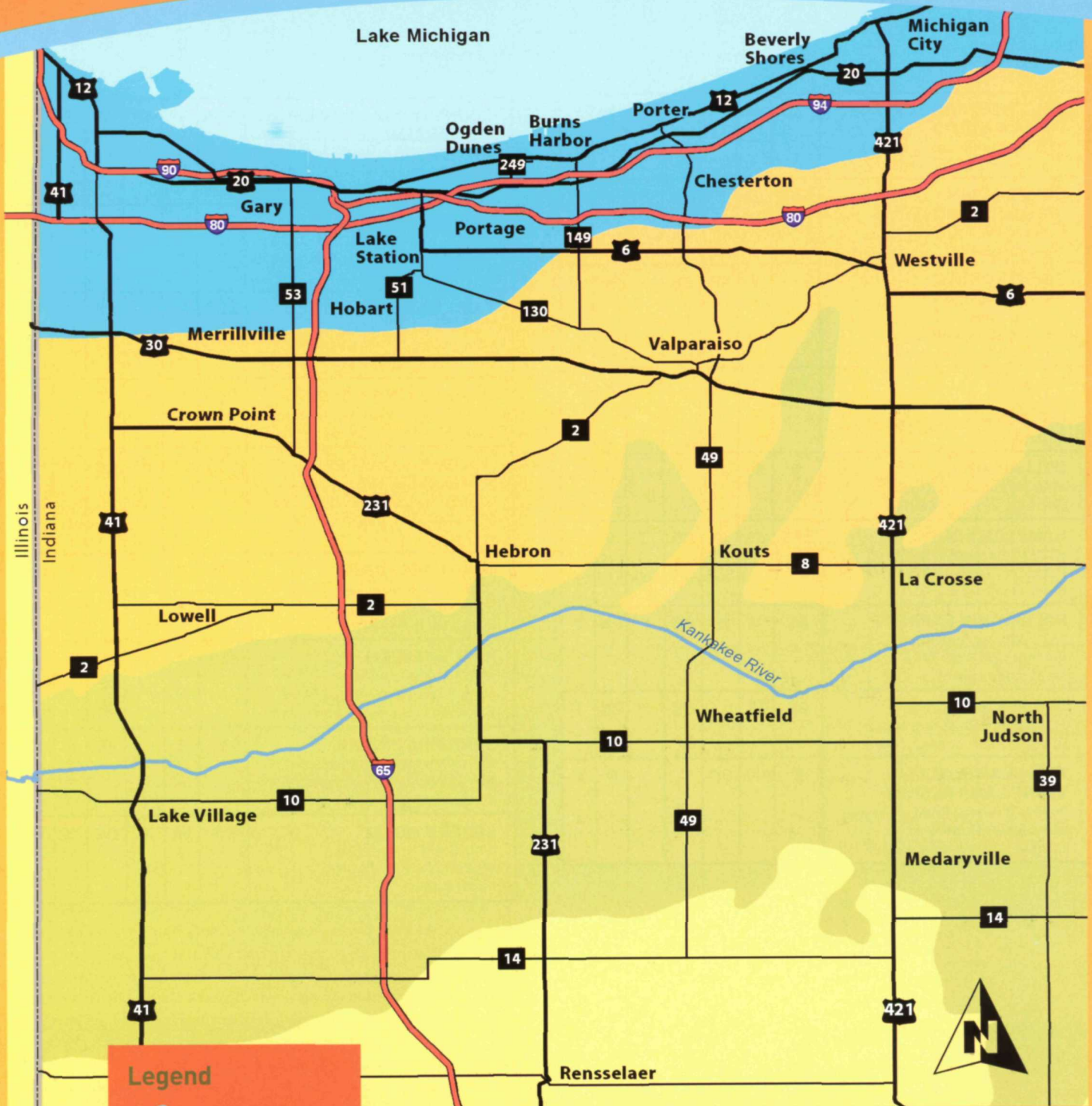
	\$-less than \$50, \$\$-\$50-\$100, \$\$\$-\$100+	# Rooms/Campsites	Indoor/Outdoor Pool (IP/OP)	Full/Continental Breakfast (FB/CB)	High Speed Internet (Y)	Pets Allowed (P) Non-Smoking (N)	Accessible (Y)
BEST WESTERN PORTAGE HOTEL & SUITES 6200 Melton Road, Portage 219-734-6727, bestwestern.com	\$\$	100	IP	CB	Y	N	Y
COMFORT INN 2300 Willowcreek Road Portage 219-763-7177 choicehotels.com	\$\$\$	52		CB	Y	P	Y
COUNTRY INN & SUITES PORTAGE 1630 Olmsted Drive Portage 219-764-0021 countryinns.com/portagein	\$\$\$	100	IP	CB	Y	N	Y
DAYS INN 6161 Melton Road [US 20] Portage, 219-762-2136 daysinn.com	\$\$	119	IP		Y	N	Y
DOLLAR INN 6140 Melton Road [US 20] Portage, 219-763-6601	\$	50				P	Y
HAMPTON INN 6353 Melton Rd. [US 20] Portage, 219-764-1919 hamptoninn.com	\$\$\$	60	IP	CB	Y	N	Y
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS 2323 Willowcreek Road Portage, 219-762-7777 hieportage.com	\$\$	76	IP	CB	Y	PN	Y
SUPER 8 MOTEL 6118 Melton Road, Portage 219-762-8857, super8.com	\$\$	65		CB	Y	PN	Y
YOGI BEAR'S JELLY-STONE CAMP RESORT 5520 Old Porter Road, Portage 800-558-2954 #128 campjellystone-portage.com	\$	926	OP			P	Y

Valparaiso

	\$-less than \$50, \$\$-\$50-\$100, \$\$\$-\$100+	# Rooms/Campsites	Indoor/Outdoor Pool (IP/OP)	Full/Continental Breakfast (FB/CB)	High Speed Internet (Y)	Pets Allowed (P) Non-Smoking (N)	Accessible (Y)
COUNTRY INN & SUITES VALPARAISO 2020 LaPorte Avenue Valparaiso, 219-476-0000 countryinns.com/valpoin	\$\$\$	59	IP	CB	Y	N	Y
COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT 2301 E. Northland Drive Valparaiso, 219-465-1700 courtyard.com/vrpcy	\$\$\$	111	OP IP	FB	Y	PN	Y
FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES 2101 E. Northland Drive Valparaiso, 219-465-6225 fairfieldinn.com/vrpf	\$\$\$	63	IP	CB	Y	N	Y
HAMPTON INN & SUITES 1451 Silhavy Road, Valparaiso 219-531-6424, hamptoninn.com	\$\$\$	77	IP	FB	Y	N	Y
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES 1251 Silhavy Road, Valparaiso 219-464-9395, 888-897-0084 hiexpress.com	\$\$\$	85	IP	CB	Y	PN	Y
INN AT ABERDEEN 3158 S. State Road 2 Valparaiso, 219-465-3753 innataberdeenn.com	\$\$\$	11	OP	FB	Y	PN	Y
PIKK'S TAVERN [B&B rooms above] 62 W. Lincolnway, Valparaiso, 219-476-7455, pikkstavern.com	\$\$\$	2		BRUNCH	Y		
SONGBIRD PRAIRIE 174 North 600 W. Valparaiso 219-759-4274, 877-songbrd songbirdprairie.com	\$\$\$	5		FB	Y	N	Y
SUPER 8 MOTEL 3005 John Howell Drive Valparaiso, 219-464-9840 super8.com	\$\$	58	IP	CB	Y	N	Y

This publication was produced by Indiana Dunes Tourism in cooperation with area attractions and companies. Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information as of January 2013. Indiana Dunes Tourism is not liable for damages resulting from errors, omissions or outdated information. No endorsement of products or services described is implied. Indiana Dunes Tourism welcomes information about new travel-related businesses and attractions in Indiana Dunes Country, feedback about this publication and corrections/updates. Comments can be sent to info@IndianaDunes.com

Indiana Dunes Country Map



Legend

- Dunes Region
- Moraine Region
- Kankakee Region

Educational Volunteer Opportunities

After reading this guide, we hope you have an appreciation, as Dr. Cowles did, for the rich diversity of Indiana Dunes Country. This publication provided just a small glimpse of the area's natural glory. We encourage you to pick up the *Beyond the Beach Discovery Trail Guide* at the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center or view it online at www.BeyondTheBeachDiscoveryTrail.com or m.indianadunes.com/beyond-the-beach to learn more about many of the great sites and to visit them. We also encourage you to take advantage of the education programs offered at the various sites.

Contributions are also encouraged to help support a particular location or to fund specific activities or programs.

Volunteers also play a big role in making sure that the ecological wonders that first captured Dr. Cowles' attention will be here for others to appreciate and enjoy for generations to come.

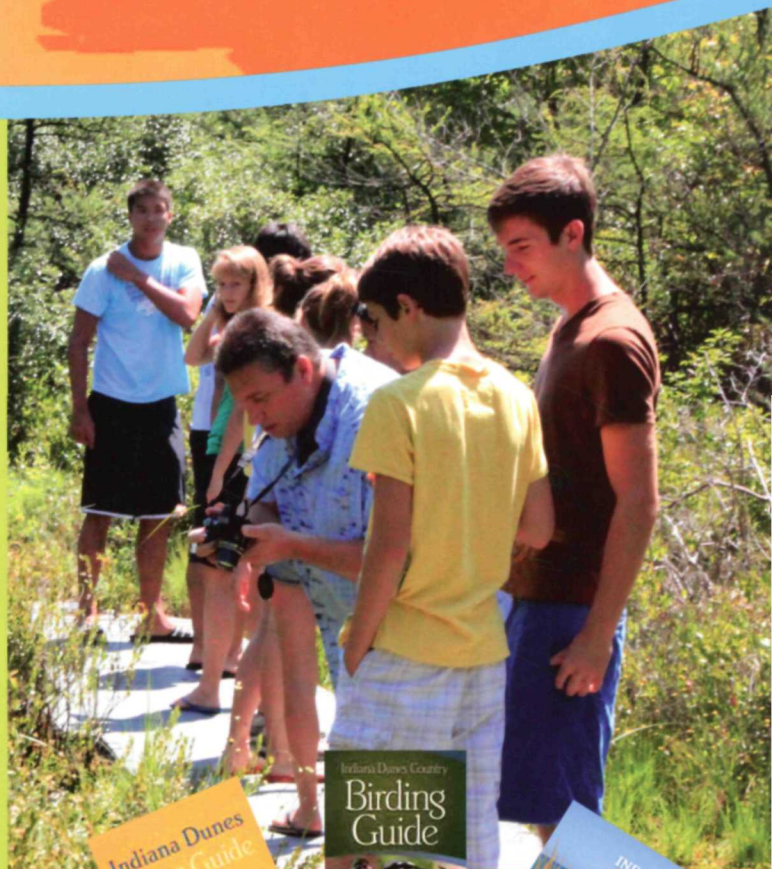
For volunteer opportunities, contact:

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
1100 N. Mineral Springs Road, Porter, IN 46304
Lynda Lancaster, 219-395-1682, www.nps.gov/indu

Indiana Dunes State Park
1600 North 25 East, Chesterton, IN 46304
219-926-1390, www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/2980.htm

Kankakee Sands, Efroymsen Prairie Restoration
3294 N. U.S. 41, Morocco, IN 47963
219-285-2184, www.nature.org/kankakeesands

Thanks to Dr. Mark Reshkin for his guidance in developing this guide.
Photography by Christine Livingston, Indiana Dunes Tourism unless otherwise noted.



Available at the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center

Whether you enjoy hiking, bicycling, birdwatching or festivals, we have a guide for you. Pick up a copy at our Visitor Center, or visit IndianaDunes.com/destination-guides/ to view our guides electronically or to download them.



Indiana Dunes Tourism
1215 North State Road 49
Porter, Indiana 46304
1 (800) 283-8687
www.IndianaDunes.com

Junior Ranger Oath

As a Junior Ranger, I promise to protect the plants, animals, and history of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. I will share what I have learned about national parks, and will continue to explore our national treasures.



Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore



This Certificate Acknowledges That

is an official

Junior Ranger

at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

Date

Park Ranger