



Indiana Parks Alliance

Protecting state parks & nature preserves

P.O. Box 1591; Indianapolis, IN 46206

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If you are looking for a “bucket list” of place to go and things to do in 2017, the Indiana Parks Alliance (IPA) has just what you need.

During the centennial celebration for Indiana State Parks in 2016 and in preparation for the 50th anniversary of the Nature Preserves Act in 2017, the IPA asked Hoosiers to select their top “outdoor bucket list” visit locations at Indiana State Parks and State-Dedicated Nature Preserves.

The top 15 vote-getters were:

1. Hike a trail of boulders left by the last glacier and climb the ladders of Trail 3 at Rocky Hollow-Falls Canyon Nature Preserve at Turkey Run State Park.
2. Explore the Pioneer Village at Spring Mill State Park.
3. Watch the sunset on Lake Michigan at Indiana Dunes State Park.
4. Wade in the creek below the waterfall at McCormick’s Creek State Park.
5. Visit a state park nature center to watch birds and learn about park wildlife.
6. Linger and enjoy the sunset at Hesitation Point in Brown County State Park.
7. Walk on the world-renowned 386 million year-old fossil beds at Falls of the Ohio State Park.
8. Ride the refrigerated toboggan run at Pokagon State Park.
9. Visit Monroe Lake to search for bald eagles in winter.
10. Sit by the fire in the historic Lonidaw Lounge in Potawatomi Inn at Pokagon State Park.
11. Stand alongside the Great Mound at Mounds State Park and listen to the wind.
12. Explore one of Indiana’s most impressive old-growth forest at Donaldson’s Woods Nature Preserve in Spring Mill State Park.
13. Walk across the Cataract Covered Bridge at Cataract Falls State Recreation Area (Cagles Mill Lake).
14. Explore the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Plaza at Lincoln State Park.
15. Hike the narrow “backbones” of Pine Hills Nature Preserve.

Information about Indiana State Parks is at stateparks.IN.gov, and information about State-Owned Nature Preserves is at dnr.IN.gov/naturepreserve.

If 15 items is not enough for your bucket list, the remainder of the vote-getters can be seen online at indianaparksalliance.org.

“There are some iconic features in our state parks and nature preserves,” said Tom Hohman, president of IPA. “This list is a great guide for parents, grandparents and just about anyone, so you can make sure you discover what Indiana has to offer on public lands, and also find your own favorite outdoor places to enjoy.”

The Indiana Parks Alliance supports Indiana State Parks and State-Owned Nature Preserves through advocacy, fundraising and assistance for local property friends groups. IPA also works in partnership to support fundraising initiatives of the Indiana Natural Resources Foundation (INRF) that are designated for Indiana State Parks or Nature Preserves, such as the Discovering the Outdoors Fund.

Support for IPA comes from memberships and donations. A variety of membership options are available. Donations are tax-deductible. Visit www.indianaparksalliance.org for details and membership information.

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