

Because of its small watershed, the park's four major falls are at their best from December through June. July through November offers meager falls but the easiest hiking in Clifty Creek's spectacular stone bed.

In 1852 the Madison and Indianapolis Railroad began work on a route through the wilds of Clifty Canyon. Abandoned in bankruptcy, the project left extensive grade and stone work, scenic passage for present-day foot trails. The most prominent remnant is a muddy, rock-strewn, 600-foot tunnel, piercing the hillside beneath Oak Grove. It is passable on foot with flashlight.

Nature enthusiasts will find a wealth of opportunity. The park's 425-million-year-old shale and limestone rocks contain numerous marine fossils and are among the oldest bedrock exposures in Indiana. Beneath rugged cliffs, spring wildflowers bloom in a quiet woodland air. Songbirds, hawks and vultures stir in all seasons, while deer and wild turkey inhabit the uplands, along with the occasional fox and weasel. Naturalist programs explore the park in year-round field trips.

Clifty Inn, overlooking the Ohio valley and the historic river town of Madison, provides year-round lodging and meeting facilities. Madison itself offers visitors a rich step back in time along the Ohio's beautiful banks.

You'll find each visit to Clifty Falls State Park rewarding. Enjoy it all year long.

FOR AN ENJOYABLE TRAIL HIKE

- · Carry and use the park map.
- · Young children should never be allowed to hike unsupervised. They must be attended by responsible
- · Wear appropriate foot gear, such as hiking boots or athletic shoes.
- Know your limits. Take your time. Hills on trails are often long and steep.
- · Trails in Clifty Canyon are closed after sunset.

CLIFTY CANYON NATURE PRESERVE

Clifty Canyon Nature Preserve lies within the boundaries of the park. This 178-acre nature preserve is located in the northwest section of the park and has both geological and ecological highlights. Be aware that this nature preserve should be left undisturbed. Off-trail hiking in Indiana state parks is ecologically damaging, frequently unsafe and illegal. Violators will be prosecuted.

THIS IS YOUR PARK

Visitors shall observe the following rules, which are designed to fulfill the purpose for which state parks were established, namely, to preserve a primitive landscape in its natural condition for the public's use and enjoyment.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- No one is allowed immediately above or below waterfalls
- Do not injure or damage any structure, rock, tree, flower, bird or wild animal. Do NOT gather limbs, brush or trees (either dead or alive) for firewood because they rebuild the natural humus.
- Any firearm (except lawfully possessed handguns), BB gun, air gun, CO₂ gun, bow and arrow, paint gun or spear gun in possession in a state park must be unloaded or un-nocked and stored in a case or locked within a vehicle, except when owner is participating in an activity authorized by written permit.
- · Dogs and cats must be attended at all times and kept on a leash no longer than 6 feet.
- Vending or advertising without permission of the Department of Natural Resources is prohibited.
- · Camping is permitted only in the campground. Youth groups must be under adult supervision.
- Fires shall be built only in designated places.
- Please comply with the Carry In/Carry Out trash policy in all day-use areas. Overnight guests shall put waste in receptacles provided for that purpose.
- Motorists shall observe posted speed limits and park only in designated areas.
- Swimming is limited to places and times designated by the Department of Natural Resources.
- Drinking water should be taken only from pumps, hydrants or fountains provided for that purpose. This water is tested regularly for purity.
- Report lost or found articles to the park office.
- · All motorized vehicles shall remain on paved roadway. Bicycles are not allowed on hiking trails unless so designated. Snowmobiles are prohibited.
- Use of metal detectors is prohibited.
- Park closes from 11 p.m. until 7 a.m. No one is allowed in the park after close, except for campers using their sites between these hours.
- · Walking on park roads after dark is prohibited.
- · Removing fossils from the park is prohibited.
- Stay on marked trails. Shortcuts cause erosion and can lead to dangerous areas. Trails close at dusk.

For a complete list of rules and regulations, inquire at park office.

Please let wild animals remain wild.

Feeding wildlife is prohibited. Feeding of wild animals can result in harm to both animals and people. Animals who depend on handouts become a nuisance to visitors and a danger to themselves. Please lock up all food and coolers inside cars or campers. Roll up car windows tightly.

ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

CAMPING—Campground equipped with modern restroom/shower facilities and electricity. Occupancy limited to 14 consecutive nights. Many sites will accommodate trailers. No modern wastewater hookups. Dump station available. All sites reservable through the Central Reservation System.

HIKING-More than 12 miles of moderate to

INN—All rooms have a private bathroom, telephone, TV and heating/AC Unit. Restaurant is open to the public, serving a complete daily menu for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Sunday dinners, banquets and convention facilities are available. Inn's swimming pool available only to inn guests. Wireless Internet access throughout the inn. Reservations available through the Inns Reservation System.

INTERPRETIVE NATURALIST SERVICE—Explore the world of natural resources while enjoying interpretive and recreational programs. Program schedules are available at InterpretiveServices.IN.gov, or inquire at park office, nature center or Clifty Inn. Available year-round.

PICNIC AREAS—Tables, grills, toilet facilities, playground equipment and playfields.

SWIMMING—Park swimming pool with waterslide and wading pool, open Saturday before Memorial Day and no later than Labor Day.

SHELTERS—Reservations for shelters are available through the Central Reservation System.

> For a list of park events, visit interpretiveservices.IN.gov

DNR PROPERTIES NEARBY

- Hardy Lake-archery range, boating, boat ramps, camping, dump station, fishing pier, hiking trails, hunting, interpretive services, picnicking, play/sports area, shelterhouse, swimming beach
- Versailles State Park-25 minutes away
- Charlestown State Park-35 minutes away
- Splinter Ridge Fish and Wildlife Areahunting, wildlife viewing, ice fishing
- Yellowwood State Forest-mountain bike trails, bridle trails, hiking trails, wildlife viewing, picnic area, playground, fishing, ice fishing, hunting, trapping, shelterhouse, boat launch, boat rentals, camping

Pick up an Indiana Recreation Guide for more information.

CENTRAL RESERVATION SYSTEM



Reservations for all types of camping, family cabins, and shelters at state parks, reservoirs and forests can be made online or by calling toll-free

Call: 1-866-6camplN (1-866-622-6746) Online: camp.IN.gov

CLIFTY INN



OPEN ALL YEAR Rooms available. Restaurant open to the public. Information toll-free: 1-877-925-4389

Call: 1-877-lodges1 (1-877-563-4371) Online: Indianalnns.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION



Write: Clifty Falls State Park 1501 Green Rd. Madison, IN 47250 Call: 812-273-8885

Fax: 812-265-6662 Online: on.IN.gov/cliftyfallssp Mapping Address: 2221 Clifty Dr. Madison, IN 47250

SPECIAL NOTE

Receipts from admission and service charges are used to help defray the operation and maintenance costs of the park. List of fees available in the main office.



Please carry out all trash you produce in order to keep your park clean and beautiful for others to enjoy!







See everything Indiana State Parks has to offer at stateparks.IN.gov.



OUTDOOR Subscribe to Outdoor Indiana magazine today, Visit OutdoorIndiana.org or call 317-233-3046.

The programs, services, facilities, and activities of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources are available to everyone. DNR prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information please write to: Department of Natural $Resources, Executive\ Office,\ 402\ W.\ Washington\ Street,\ W256,\ Indianapolis,\ IN\ 46204,\ (317)\ 232-4020.$ **DESCRIPTIONS OF TRAILS** TRAIL & DESCRIPTION DISTANCE DIFFICULTY

.75 miles Rugged Starts at nature center parking lot, proceeds to Observation Tower overlooking Ohio River, then along canyon wall to park road. Long, steep grades in and out of canyon.

3 miles Trail 2 Very Rugged

One-way, no-outlet at North End. Access in and out of the canyon is available only via connecting trails 1, 4, 5, and 8. Trail 2 is primarily the stone bed of Clifty Creek and may be impassable during times of high water. Areas above and below all waterfalls are always off limits. 1 miles Rugged

Starts at park road just south of Poplar Grove. Long

grade descends to mid-canyon, then follows along

canyon. Steep grades rise to Poplar Grove. Easy walking to near side of Beech Grove connecting with Trail 4. .75 miles Very Rugged

Starts at Hoffman Falls parking lot. Short distance to spectacular falls overlook. Follows canyon to Lilly Memorial (spur connects to Clifty Creek), which has a long, steep staircase at Lilly Memorial.

.875 miles Rugged

Starts at Lilly Memorial, long, steep staircase to midcanyon. Follows along canyon past tunnel entrances (spur connects to Clifty Creek), past Oak Grove to Tunnel Falls. Steep staircase from falls overlook to road. The tunnel is open from May 1-Oct. 31. It is closed Nov. 1-April 30 to protect hibernating bats.

.5 miles Mod. Rugged Starts at Hickory Grove, follows canyon just below rim

to Lookout Point. Some very rocky footing. 1.25 miles Mod. Rugged

Starts at Clifty shelter, proceeds past Little Clifty Falls

along rocky footing to Lookout Point. Returns to picnic

area east of shelter via upper Little Clifty Creek gorge. 4.5 miles Rugged

Starts just west of north gatehouse. Proceeds south along west rim of Clifty Canyon. Steep grades to Clifty Creek at north and south ends of trail. (Steep switchback connects to creek across from Oak Grove.) Exits south canyon to park road or Trail 1 to nature center.

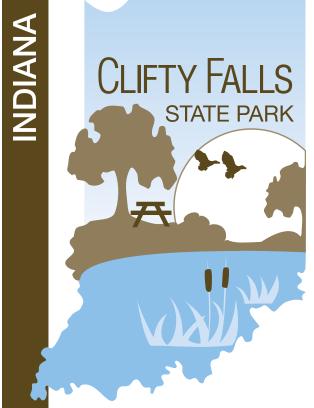
Trail 9 1 miles Moderate

Campground to nature center and Clifty Inn, via swimming pool.

.75 miles Easy Starts at back of swimming pool parking lot, features old field ecology.

PLEASE STAY ON MARKED TRAILS.

DNR Indiana Department of Natural Resources



People have always been fascinated by scenes of geologic splendor, land that provides witness to the awesome forces of nature at work. With its narrow valley, sheer cliffs, and plunging waterfalls, Clifty Falls State Park is such a place.

Located on state roads 56 and 62 just west of Madison, Ind., Clifty Falls State Park was established in 1920 to preserve the falls on Clifty Creek, "a bit of original Indiana."

Initially the park consisted of 617 acres, primarily the canyon and its waterfalls. In 1965 the park more than doubled in size when it acquired adjacent uplands from Madison State Hospital. It now covers 1,519 acres.

Clifty Falls was created during the Ice Age when the southward flowing waters of Clifty Creek met the newly formed Ohio River in a spectacular plunge, a waterfall that may once have been 200 feet high. The falls has since cut its way into bedrock to a point more than two miles north of its original position. Today, at a height of 60 feet, it continues the retreat upstream at a rate of one-quarter inch per year.

.IN.gov/stateparks