

# Indiana Dunes State Park

1600 N. 25 E.

Chesterton, Indiana 46304

NC # (219) 926-1390

Park Manager: Brandt Baughman

Asst. Park Manager: Mickey Rea



**Nature Center Staff:**

Brad Bumgardner

Cookie Ferguson

Kaitlin Rogers



**February Nature Center Hours:**

**9:30 am - 4:30 pm CST Thursday-Sunday**

[www.interpretiveservices.in.gov](http://www.interpretiveservices.in.gov)

*Need a Park Map?*

*All programs are free (unless otherwise noted) and open to the public after paying the park entrance fee. Our interpretive programs are designed to entertain and enrich folks of all ages. Children under 12, bring a parent.*

## Saturday, February 6

**10am A Big-foot Walk!** Join the Naturalist at the Nature Center for a look at the types of snow that falls and how animals get around in it. Then we'll strap on our snowshoes and see how well we do. We'll look for Big Foot tracks and make some "big-footed" tracks of our own! (If there isn't 3+ inches of snow, we'll do a hike and look for tracks.) Total time about an hour. CF

**2pm A Big-foot Walk- Part III!** Couldn't make the first search? We'll strap on those snowshoes again and this time we should find some big footed prints. (If there's no snow, we'll do a snow dance before we go on a hike.) We'll be out about an hour. Meet at the Nature Center. CF

## Sunday, February 7

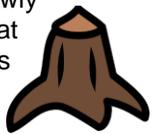
**10am A Superb Owl Bird Count!** Meet at the Nature Center to help feed the birds and then help the Naturalist do the first big day bird (and Critter) Count. We'll get out tally sheets and see how many animals come to dine at the feeders. (We may put out some extra feeders we make to help our count numbers.) Come on out! CF

**2pm First Flowers of Spring for Valentine's Day!** Looking for that perfect Valentine flower for next week? Join the Naturalist for a hike to find the first flower of Spring in the park. Snow or cold--this flower doesn't care. It has to be the first, fragrant flower to charm the woodland's edge. We'll be out about an hour...dress for the weather. CF

## Saturday, February 13

**10am Bird Banding Demonstrations.** Explore the science of bird banding this morning at the Nature Center. We'll throw up the banding nets and look at everything we learn by investigating these birds up close and in the hand. We'll be banding for an hour or so. Come join us! BB

**2pm Winter Hike into Beaver Bayou!** Join us at the Nature Center for a stroll to the newly created beaver damn, lodge, and the neat flooded area they have created. With leaves down, they should be easier to see. Grab the family and join us! BB



## Sunday, February 14

**2pm "I Love the Dunes" Hike.** To celebrate Valentine's Day, join us for this hike through the dunes. Countless people have loved the Indiana Dunes through time. In fact, it is this love that has protected these special areas. We'll remember some of the things that folks have appreciated, and how their love helped create the park. Meet at the Nature Center. KR

**2pm Winter Alive!** Join us in the Nature Center auditorium for a fun look at how the Dunes State Park animals are surviving the winter. We'll have some live animals on hand as well! Come on out and join us! KR

## Saturday, February 20

**10am Snowshoe Shuffle!** Meet the park interpreter in the Nature Center for a little introduction to this unique mode of winter transportation. Then we'll jump on a pair and take a short walk through the winter woods. It's great fun and exercise! If there isn't enough snow, we'll still offer a short hike. Join us! KR

**2pm Behind the Scenes of the Dunes NC.** Ever wonder what's behind that door? Join the naturalist in the Nature Center Auditorium for a fun look at unveiling the mystique behind the Nature Center. We'll look at hidden displays and give a behind the scenes tour afterwards. KR



## Sunday, February 21

**10am Feed the Birds.** Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. KR

**2pm Just a Few Furs.** Investigate the local furballs that live in the dunes! We'll explore how our mammals survive in the cold winter. Good chance to see and feel many of our local inhabitants pelts. Meet in the Nature Center Auditorium. KR

## Saturday February 27

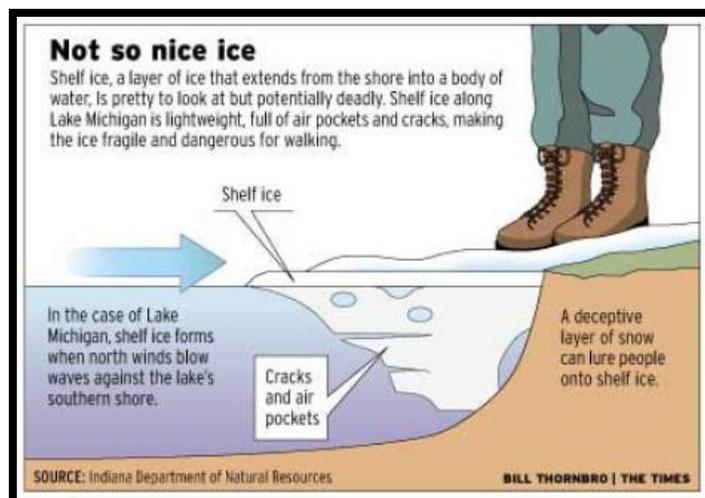
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**2pm Winter Beach Walk.** Bundle up and join the Naturalist for a winter hike to explore the recent storm damage from this past fall and possible ice shelf formations. We'll hike down the beach a short ways and back in this 45 minute stroll. Meet at the Beach Pavilion. BB

## Sunday, February 28

**10am Feed the Birds.** Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. BB

**2pm Dunes Birding: Crash Course!** Join Dunes State Park Interpreter, Brad Bumgardner, for a 3 hour introduction to all things birding. We'll cover everything from the history of ornithology, common dune birds, bird banding, leading bird walks, and more! The workshop takes place in the Nature Center auditorium. Registration is required (\$10 workshop fee) and can be made by calling the park at 219.926.1390.



# Make Plans for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Indiana Dunes Birding Festival!

May 5-8, 2016

