

# Monroe Lake

## Program Schedule

on the back!

### Website

[stateparks.in.gov/2954.htm](http://stateparks.in.gov/2954.htm)



### E-Newsletter

[bit.ly/monroeprograms](http://bit.ly/monroeprograms)



### Facebook

[facebook.com/monroelake](https://facebook.com/monroelake)



### Twitter

[@MonroeLake](https://twitter.com/MonroeLake)



**Monroe Lake Office (Paynetown SRA):** 4850 S. State Road 446, Bloomington, IN 47401, 812-837-9546  
**Monroe Lake Naturalist (Paynetown SRA: Activity Center):** Jill Vance, 812-837-9967, [jvance@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:jvance@dnr.IN.gov)

**Campground Reservations (Paynetown SRA):** 866-622-6746, [CAMP.IN.gov](http://CAMP.IN.gov)

**Lake Monroe General Store and Boat Rental (at Paynetown SRA):** 812-837-9909

**Four Winds Resort & Marina, Boat Rental (at Fairfax SRA):** 812-824-2628, [fourwindsresort.com](http://fourwindsresort.com)

**Lake Monroe Marina and Boat Rental (at Cutright SRA):** 812-837-9394, [lakemonroemarina.com](http://lakemonroemarina.com)

**Laura Thorne Training, kayaks - SUPs - wind surfing - lessons (at Fairfax SRA):** 812-797-4747



## Paynetown Activity Center

Open Daily from 1 to 5 p.m. 812-837-9967

Located next to the Swimming Beach inside Paynetown SRA

### Got a question? Ask a Naturalist!

The **Naturalist's Office** is located inside the Activity Center. You can also pick up maps/brochures/flyers or browse our library of field guides and other books.

### Live Snakes & Interpretive Exhibits

Check in on our live snakes! We rotate in a new set of wall/shelf exhibits at the beginning of each summer and feature a large selection of taxidermy animals on permanent display.

### Hoosier Quest: Explore, Discover, Challenge

You can **collect a unique pin** for each Indiana State Park in *Explore* (each property can often be completed during a single day/weekend visit). Individuals can also earn special patches through both *Discover* and *Challenge*.

### Free Fishing Equipment Rental

Renters must be at least 18 years of age with a valid government ID. **Check-out up to 4 sets per person** during open hours; return between 1 and 5 p.m. the next day.

### Daily Craft & Coloring Table

We feature a **different craft each day**; most crafts are suitable for ages 5+. Another table is always stocked with crayons and a selection of coloring pages.

### Kids' Play Area & Small World Play Station

Puppet stage, board and card games, puzzles, large felt board, picture books, touch table, and **Small World play station** (features rotating set of landscapes with miniature animals and habitat elements).

### Jigsaw Puzzle Table

Spend a few minutes or a whole afternoon working on our current jigsaw puzzle (500-1500 piece puzzles designed for older children and adults). A different puzzle is rotated in after each puzzle is completed.

### Recycling Center

Recycle your **aluminum cans** with us! Proceeds fund programs, activities, and exhibits. You can also recycle plastic bottles and paper (no food containers).



**Paynetown Fossil Dig** Love searching for fossils? Check out our Fossil Dig at the **back end of the Overflow Parking Area** at Paynetown SRA! Although rock and fossil collecting is prohibited at Monroe Lake, any rocks and fossils found *in this activity site* can be taken home with you!



# Program Schedule

# JUNE

Locations are at PAYNETOWN SRA, unless otherwise noted.

## ROVING NATURALIST

One of our naturalists typically walks through the Campground area on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday nights, as well as on Sunday mornings.

We may have an interesting item to share, a quick game to play, or an invite to an upcoming program. And don't be afraid to ask us your questions!

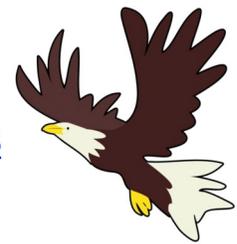
We offer both drop-in programs (from \_\_\_ to \_\_\_), where you may arrive at any point during that time period, as well as programs with a specific start time (at \_\_\_). **If the program has a specific start time, please make sure you arrive on time or we may start/leave without you!**

**Programs listed here are designed for families/individuals.** Schools, scouts, and other organized groups should contact the Monroe Lake Naturalist for info on scheduling a private program (minimum 2 weeks notice required).

## Wednesday, June 1

### Return of the Bald Eagle at 7:00 p.m.

- Sign up for this session at <http://bit.ly/eaglereturnjune2016>
- Registration required by May 29.
- Free, but limited to 20 people.
- Location: Northfork Service Area on McGowan Road



The majestic Bald Eagle, a symbol of America, disappeared from Indiana as a direct result of human activity. This evening, we'll share the story of how this beautiful bird was returned to our state and our skies thanks to a reintroduction program implemented right here at Monroe Lake. The first portion of this program is an indoor presentation. The second portion is a hike to view the remnants of the hacking tower – where the eaglets in the reintroduction program were raised and took their first flight. **2 hours**

## Thursday, June 2

### Paracord Bracelets at 8:00 p.m.

*Location: Activity Center Amphitheater*

Make your own paracord bracelet – and discover how this bracelet could help you survive in an emergency situation (urban or wilderness!). *Cost is \$2 per bracelet.* Supplies limited to the first 20 participants. *45 minutes*

## Friday, June 3

### E.A.B. Alert! at 8:00 p.m.

*Location: Activity Center Amphitheater*

There could be something dangerous lurking in your firewood... help us stop the spread of E.A.B.! The Emerald Ash Borer is an invasive insect that has already destroyed thousands of ash trees in Indiana's forests. Come learn about this dangerous insect and how to spot signs of its presence. You can even make an E.A.B. craft to help you remember what this insect looks like! *45 minutes*





# ENTRANCE FEE ROLLBACK TO JUST 10 CENTS! JUNE 4 - 5

As part of our Centennial Celebration, all Indiana State Park properties will "rollback" entrance fees on both June 4 and 5 to a suggested donation of 10 cents per person. That was the entrance fee in 1916 when our park system began. Donations made at the gate on June 4 and 5 will go directly to support projects at the property that you are visiting that day. (Donations of more than 10 cents per person are, of course, appreciated and will also directly support the park!)

## Saturday, June 4



**Youth Fishing Derby from 8 to 10 a.m. (Please check in no later than 9:15a!)**

*Program Location: Fishing Pier, located across the road from the Swimming Beach*



Cast a line and catch a fish! Kids, ages 16 and under, are invited to participate in this free fishing derby. Borrow our equipment or bring your own; bait will be provided. A **prize drawing** will be held at 10 a.m. for all participants! **New and beginning anglers are welcome**; instructors will be on hand to teach the basics and offer assistance.

**This Hike is for the Dogs! at 9:30 a.m.**

*Location: Meet in the overflow parking lot (by trail head)*

Bring your favorite canine companion(s) and join us for a morning trail hike! We'll discuss the potential risks that your dog could encounter in the outdoors – and how you can keep it safe and happy during your visit to the lake. Treats at the end of the hike for all four-legged participants! *45 minutes*

**Mini Archery**

**from 1 to 2:30 p.m.**



*Location: Activity Center Amphitheater*

Drop by to craft your own tiny bow and arrows set – and then test your skill on our miniature archery course! You'll also learn about the history of bow hunting and basic safety.

**Minibeasts Discovery Hike at 8:00 p.m. Location: Meet at the back end of the Overflow Parking Area**

Lots of legs, probing antennae, slimy secretions, and divided bodies... We'll search out the "minibeasts" that are hiding all over! Who knows what unique creatures may be revealed... *30 minutes*

## Sunday, June 5

**Upcycled Flower Pendants from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

*Location: Activity Center Shelter*

Drop by to transform some old playing cards into a neat flower pendant! **Allow about 30 minutes to complete craft. While supplies last.**

**Turtle Time from 12:30 to 2 p.m.**

*Location: Beach*

Drop by to learn about the aquatic turtles that live in Monroe Lake and make a turtle craft to take home.

## Monday, June 6

### Snake Chat from 1 to 1:30 p.m.

*Program Location: Activity Center*



We'll have one of our live snakes out for you to see up-close and touch! The naturalist will share info about the snake and answer your snake-related questions. *(Snake Chats are held each Monday during the summer. On some Mondays, we'll also be feeding the snakes!)*

## Thursday, June 9

### Light It Up! at 8:00 p.m.

*Location: Activity Center Amphitheater*

There's more than one way to build fire! The naturalist will demonstrate several different techniques and explain how to match the fire style to your needs. At the end of the program, we'll use the fire for a campground purpose: making s'mores! *45 minutes*

## Tuesday, June 7

### Flora Field Day at 9:30 a.m.

- Sign up for this session at <http://bit.ly/florafieldjune2016>
- Registration required by June 4.
- Free; recommended for ages 12 and up.
- Session location: Moores Creek SRA

Want to work on your flora identification skills? Practice with a naturalist! Field day emphasis is on proper use and application of an ID key, which opens the door to identifying thousands of species. The naturalist will work with each attendee based on their prior experience. If you've never worked with flower ID before, this is a great way to learn. If you have prior experience, this is a fun way to practice your skills (and maybe add some new blooms to your life list!). **2 hours**

#### Things to Bring:

- Newcomb's Wildflower Guide (extra copies available, if you don't have your own)
- bug spray (long pants are also a good idea!)
- hat and sunglasses (for sun protection)
- water bottle (pre-filled)
- camera (if you're the picture-taking type)

*Future Flora Field Day Sessions: July 5, August 2, September 6, October 4*

## Temporary Facility Closures

Due to the logistics involved with hosting the IBO Triple Crown, the following facilities at Monroe Lake will temporarily close. Please contact the Monroe Lake Office at 812-837-9546 with questions.

**Fairfax SRA:** Trails, shelters, and all public land to the north of the property entrance road will be closed from June 8 through June 12.

**Paynetown SRA:** The Activity Center will be closed from June 10 to June 12.



## Friday, June 10 thru Sunday, June 12

### 2nd Leg of the IBO Triple Crown

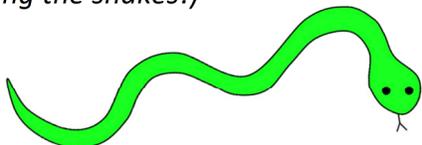
Monroe Lake is co-sponsoring a major archery tournament with the International Bowhunting Organization on June 10-12 at Fairfax SRA. **For more information on the tournament, see <http://www.ibo.net>**

## Monday, June 13

### Snake Chat from 1 to 1:30 p.m.

#### **Program Location: Activity Center**

We'll have one of our live snakes out for you to see up-close and touch! The naturalist will share info about the snake and answer your snake-related questions. (*Snake Chats are held each Monday during the summer. On some Mondays, we'll also be feeding the snakes!*)



## Wednesday, June 15

### Art Inspired by Nature at 8:30 p.m.

#### **Location: Meet at Comfort Station #3 (at the back of the Campground)**

Take a deep breath and relax this evening... the naturalist will walk you over to a shoreline spot where you can sketch or paint nature's beauty. No artistic skill needed - just a willingness to explore the shapes and colors that you see around you! **Bring a camping chair – tables and all other supplies will be provided.** 60 minutes

## Tuesday, June 14



### Nature on the Water Paddling Trip at 9:00 a.m.

- Sign up at <http://bit.ly/naturewaterjune2016>
- Registration is required by June 6.
- Program fee is \$10 per person.
- Limited to 8 people. Restricted to ages 16 and up.
- All participants must have at least 2 hours of prior paddling experience OR have completed one of our Intro to Kayaking workshops.
- Bring your own canoe/kayak, or rent a kayak from us for an additional \$25.

#### **Location: Cutright SRA (Saddle Creek)**

Explore the quieter side of Monroe Lake during these guided paddling trips that journey through backwaters, wetlands, bays, and/or slow-moving streams. Trips highlight beautiful views, hidden wildlife, aquatic plants, and unique land features. **2 to 2 ½ hours**

## Thursday, June 16

### Head in the Clouds at 8:00 p.m.

#### **Location: Activity Center Amphitheater**

Get your head in the clouds – and learn what they mean! We'll discuss different kinds of clouds and what type of weather they forecast (so you can get off the water before a thunderstorm moves in!). The program will wrap up with a yummy "cloudy sky" bedtime snack! 45 minutes



## Friday, June 17

### Plant Prints Leaf Hike at 10:30 a.m.

#### **Location: Meet in overflow parking lot (by trail head)**

Join the naturalist on a hike through the woods to assemble a unique collection of leaves (and learn which leaves – like poison ivy – you should avoid!) – then use your collection to make a beautiful painted print design on fabric. (We'll have basic fabric blocks for you to work with, but you can bring your own 100% cotton t-shirt, hat, etc. to decorate instead.) 75 minutes

### Sail Away from 2:30 to 4 p.m.

#### **Location: Beach**

Drop by to build a miniature sailboat out of simple materials that you can find around the house. Launch it into the lake to test your design prowess!



### Dragonflies at 8:00 p.m.

#### **Location: Activity Center Amphitheater**

Have you noticed any dragonflies flitting around? These beautiful predators can often be spotted along our shoreline and in open meadow areas. We'll take a look at how these insects reproduce and introduce you to a few of the most common species found at Monroe. And then you can make your own unique dragonfly using wire. 45 minutes

# Saturday, June 18

## The Faerie Gathering



### **Flower Pot Garden Gnome from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

**Location: Activity Center Shelter**

Drop by to paint a cute little garden gnome to watch over a flower pot. Allow about 15 minutes to complete; activity will close promptly at 12 p.m.

### **Watercolor Faerie Art from 12:30 to 2 p.m.**

**Location: Activity Center Shelter**

Drop by to paint a faerie (or faerie-tale creature!) with watercolors. Allow 15 to 45 minutes to complete (depending on the person!); activity will close promptly at 2 p.m.

### **Faerie Masks from 2:30 to 4 p.m.**

**Location: Activity Center Shelter**

Drop by to design a mask inspired by nature – perfect for the next time you attend a Faerie Masquerade Ball. Allow at least 15 minutes to complete; activity will close promptly at 4 p.m.

### **Faerie Accessory Workshop: Dining Table at 4:30 p.m.**

**Location: Activity Center Amphitheater**

Participants will make a miniature dining table and chair set out of wood, a great gathering spot for a tiny faerie family. **Limited to 20 participants (addition “helpers” welcome!); program fee is \$6/participant (cash/check only). Register inside the Activity Center beginning at 1 p.m. 45 minutes**

### **DIY Faerie Tic-Tac-Toe from 5 to 6:30 p.m.**

**Location: Activity Center Shelter**

Drop by to decorate your own wooden tic-tac-toe board with a glittering faerie theme! Most people should allow about 30 minutes to complete this craft. **Supplies are limited to about 30 people, first-come first-served. Program fee is \$2 per person.**

### **Faerie Accessory Workshop: Pantry Shelf at 6:00 p.m.**

**Location: Activity Center Amphitheater**

Participants will make a miniature pantry shelf out of twigs and construct a set of tiny bowls, filled with tiny “foods,” to set on the shelves. **Limited to 20 participants (addition “helpers” welcome!); program fee is \$8/participant (cash/check only). Register inside the Activity Center beginning at 1 p.m. 75 to 90 minutes**

### **Faerie Habitat Hike at 8:00 p.m.**

**Location: Meet at Overflow Parking Area**

Discover what makes a habitat ideal for faeries, and how to recognize the signs of faerie activity, on this easy evening hike through the woods. 45 minutes

## Sunday, June 19

### **Nature Play Day from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

Bring your willingness to play – and a digital camera! You’ll visit different stations, complete a fun activity at each one, and then document it with a photo. When you’re finished, show your photos to a naturalist to claim a certificate and prize!

**To begin:** Check in at the tent on the Beach between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**To finish:** Check in at the Activity Center between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.



## Monday, June 20

### **Snake Chat from 1 to 1:30 p.m.**

**Program Location: Activity Center**

We'll have one of our live snakes out for you to see up-close and touch! The naturalist will share info about the snake and answer your snake-related questions. (*Snake Chats are held each Monday during the summer. On some Mondays, we'll also be feeding the snakes!*)

## Thursday, June 23

### **Ants on a Log at 8:00 p.m.**

**Location: Activity Center Amphitheater**

Did you know that ants are one of the most socialized animals in the world? Learn how these insects communicate with each other and how their colonies are able to work together to achieve amazing results! The program will conclude with a classic snack called "ants on a log." *30 minutes*

## Friday, June 24



### **Who's Eating Whom? at 8:00 p.m. Location: Activity Center Amphitheater**

Are you Producer, Predator, or Prey? Explore how animals and plants interact with each other in nature, and join in a fun game that puts YOU into their roles! *45 minutes*

## Saturday, June 25

### **Let's Go Fly a Kite at 11:00 a.m. Bird Beaks from 2:30 to 4 p.m.**

**Location: Activity Center Shelter Location: Activity Center Patio**

Construct your own kite using wild animals as inspiration! Drop by to explore the different types of beaks found on birds. Beaks are definitely NOT one-size-fits-all! We'll head over to the beach to try them out. *45 minutes*

### **Sunny Sunflowers at 8:00 p.m. Location: Activity Center Amphitheater**

Do you love sunflowers? Did you know that Indiana has quite a few native sunflowers? Discover which varieties you might see flowering in the wild later this year, and make a gift card for someone special – that can be planted in the garden to grow, what else, sunflowers! *30 minutes*

## Sunday, June 26

### **Tick, Tack TRACK at 10:00 a.m. Location: Meet at the Beach**

Join the naturalist for a walk along the shoreline to look for animal tracks in the sand, learn to identify some of the common tracks found here, and then make your own plaster cast of a track to take home. *45 minutes*

## Wednesday, June 22



### **Buried History: Monroe Lake Cemeteries Driving Tour at 6:30 p.m.**

- Sign up for this session at <http://bit.ly/buriedhistoryjune2016>
- Registration required by June 18.
- Free, but limited to 20 people.
- Tour meets at Paynetown SRA.

Before the reservoir was built, small communities and family farms were spread throughout the Salt Creek valley. That same valley became dotted with cemeteries of all sizes, from single plots to larger platted burial areas. We'll visit a couple of the cemeteries that still remain, see the remnants of another, and look at the locations where other cemeteries once were before the water poured in – and then visit the cemetery that was created specifically to hold those graves. Along the way, you'll learn something about the people that once called this area "home." *2 hours 30 minutes*

## Sunday, June 26

### Intro to Kayaking

- Registration required by June 21.
- Cost is \$10 per person.
- Limited to 8 people; ages 8 and up.
- Location: Paynetown SRA

If you love seeing wildlife, or just enjoy exploring, kayaking is for you! Kayaks let you reach backwater areas and quiet bays that aren't otherwise accessible; it's a wonderful way to experience Monroe Lake. This workshop is specifically designed for beginners with zero (or very little) paddling experience. We'll teach you all the basic skills and provide supervised paddling time in a quiet water area to practice. **Kayaks, paddles, and lifejackets are all provided. 2 hours**

### 10:00 a.m. Session

Sign up at <http://bit.ly/introkayakjune2016>

### 2:00 p.m. Session

Sign up at <http://bit.ly/introkayakjune2016-2>

## Wednesday, June 29

### Solar Power at 8:00 p.m.

**Location: Activity Center Amphitheater**

Do you want to enjoy the Sun, without suffering the after effects? The Sun offers us both the good (warmth, vitamin D), and the bad (sunburns, skin cancer). We'll look at the best ways to safely spend time in the rays and make a Sun-themed craft. *45 minutes*

## Thursday, June 30

### Standing Tall and Flying High at 8:00 p.m.

**Location: Activity Center Amphitheater**

Many animals serve important roles as "symbols" (like the Bald Eagle in America). Discover how some of these animals became linked with specific ideas or countries – and then pick an animal and design a symbol that represents YOU. *45 minutes*

## Monday, June 27

### Lunch with Nature Series at 11:00 a.m.

- Sign up at <http://bit.ly/lwnjune2016>
- Register by June 24.
- Limited to 12 people, recommended for adults.
- Location: Paynetown SRA, Activity Center

*Join us for our monthly Lunch with Nature Series!*

Bring a sack lunch to enjoy during the main presentation. Afterwards, there is a short hike/activity that highlights the topic. **90 minutes**

**This month's topic is: Chipmunks.**

### Snake Chat from 1 to 1:30 p.m.

**Program Location: Activity Center**

We'll have one of our live snakes out for you to see up-close and touch! The naturalist will share info about the snake and answer your snake-related questions. *(Snake Chats are held each Monday during the summer. On some Mondays, we'll also be feeding the snakes!)*

