

Patoka Lake Nature Center

3084 N. Dillard Rd. Birdseye, IN 47513 PH. (812)685-2447

Open Daily 8:30a.m. – 4p.m. Eastern Daylight Time

Visit our website: www.stateparks.in.gov/2420.htm

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July 2015

ALL PROGRAMS ARE ON EASTERN TIME.

*nc ~ Nature Center

*ar ~ archery range

*b ~ beach

*sh ~ shelterhouse

*br~ boat ramp

*cg~ campground

*csh ~ modern campground shelter house

Thursday 2nd 1p.m. Patriotic Boats ~ Learn the art of paper folding to make a boat that really floats! Decorate it with your personal red, white, and blue designs. Learn ways to stay safe on the water this summer. **nc**
9p.m. Commotion at the Campfire ~ Gather around the campfire at the Modern Campground Shelter House for storytelling and night animal sounds while enjoying some smores! **mcs**

Friday 3rd 1:30p.m. Patriotic Pinwheels – Bring the family and make a star spangled decoration for your campsite. \$1/pinwheel. **nc**

9:30p.m. Night Hike – Join the naturalist as we explore our nighttime senses and how they differ from creatures of the night. Bring family and friends and be prepared to enjoy the dark! Hike will meet at the shelter house above the beach. Signs will be posted. **sh**

Saturday 4th 9:30a.m. Roving Rangers – Look for the naturalists as they make their way around the campground with nature trivia and a special LIVE guest! **cg**

10a.m. - 3p.m. Resident Birds of Prey: Bald Eagle and Eastern Screech Owl in backyard shelters.

12:30p.m. Talons, Beaks, and Instincts~ What unique tools do birds of prey use to survive in the wild? How do they hunt for prey? Find out this and more in the backyard at the Nature Center with two LIVE birds of prey! **nc**

THUNDER OVER PATOKA – Fireworks display at the beach at dark (approx. 10p.m. Eastern Time).



Sunday 5th 9a.m. – 12p.m. Resident Birds of Prey: Bald Eagle and Eastern Screech Owl in backyard shelters.

10a.m. Dam Tower Tour - Meet the naturalist at the Patoka Lake Dam off Highway 545 or meet at the Nature Center to car caravan to the Dam for this morning tour. Walk along with Corps of Engineers staff as you tour the inside of the actual dam tower feature! Learn about how the water level is controlled daily and what was done to prevent more serious flooding downstream this spring. (Caravan will leave at 9:30a.m.) **nc**

PIRATE DAY AT THE BEACH – Join the naturalists at the beach for nature inspired activities and relay races. **b**

12:30p.m. Buried Treasure Scavenger Hunt- Dig down deep in the sand to find treasures using clues from nature.

1p.m. Treasure Chest Creations- Design and decorate a chest to store ‘yer buried treasures.

1:45p.m. Pirate Games – Enjoy Tug-of-War, Walk the Plank, and Water Balloon Canons. Bring your beach towels and plan on getting wet!



Thursday 9th 10a.m. - 3p.m. Resident Birds of Prey: Bald Eagle and Eastern Screech Owl in backyard shelters.

1p.m. Turtle Talk and Walk – Venture out into the backyard to learn about the Eastern Box Turtle. Take a walk with the turtle to help her get exercise and Vitamin D while you enjoy seeing her close up. **nc**

Friday 10th 9a.m. to Noon & 1 – 2p.m. What’s The Buzz About? – Bees are extremely important for both humans and wildlife alike. Join us to learn more about our busy little friends like what they contribute and how you can help them recover from current population declines. **nc**

Saturday 11th 1 – 3p.m. Constellation Crafts – In celebration of tonight’s 24th Annual Star Party, come to the Nature Center to learn more about our solar system and make some great crafts to take home. **nc**

6p.m. - 10p.m. *STAR PARTY* Enjoy a special 24th annual presentation by members of the Louisville & Evansville Astronomical Societies and the Stonebelt Stargazers of Bedford, IN as they share their knowledge of the sky above. There will be kid’s activities and giveaways until dark. A special astronomy program will be held under the tent on the beach. Telescopes will be set up for observations as darkness falls. **b**



Sunday 12th 12:30p.m. Hiking the Narries- Hear stories of the past from Fred Dillard's Memoirs and John Ash's book 'Patoka Tales' while taking this short ¼ mile hike. Finish with a tour of the Moery Cabin. **nc**
2p.m. Leather Stamping – Join the naturalists for the age old art of leather craft. Stamp out your own designs and decorate leather to take home. A fee of \$5/person will apply to this project. **nc**

Thursday 16th Animal Tracks Bingo – Learn about animal tracks then play a game of bingo using your new knowledge of tracks! **nc**

Friday 17th 10a.m. - 3p.m. Resident Birds of Prey: Bald Eagle and Eastern Screech Owl in backyard shelters.
1:30p.m. Talons, Beaks, and Instincts~ What unique tools do birds of prey use to survive in the wild? How do they hunt for prey? Find out this and more in the backyard at the Nature Center with two LIVE birds of prey! **nc**

Saturday 18th 1p.m. Leather Stamping – Join the naturalists for an age old art of leather craft. Stamp out your own designs and decorate leather to take home. A fee of \$5/person will apply to this project. **nc**
2p.m. Nature Exploration Hike – Trek along the Garden Rock Loop Trail to learn more about plant and animal life sprouting up in the area, as well as the natural succession of a forest. **nc**

Sunday 19th 11:30a.m. Hopping Herps – What's bounding around your backyard? Is it a frog or a toad? Find out more about these important critters and what separates these two animals from one another. **nc**
National Ice Cream Day! ~ 1p.m. Homemade Ice Cream – Come to the Nature Center to make your own delicious ice cream. Add toppings to your liking! Ice cream is \$2/person while supplies last. **nc**

Thursday 23rd 10a.m.- 3p.m. Resident Birds of Prey: Bald Eagle and Eastern Screech Owl in backyard shelters.
1p.m. Butterflies and Moths– Learn about the most common butterflies and moths in our area and how to attract them to your backyard during a short movie. Enjoy popcorn and refreshments while you beat the heat in the Nature Center. **nc**

Friday 24th 10a.m. - 3p.m. Resident Birds of Prey: Bald Eagle and Eastern Screech Owl in backyard shelters.
12:30p.m. Talons, Beaks, and Instincts~ What unique tools do birds of prey use to survive in the wild? How do they hunt for prey? Find out this and more in the backyard at the Nature Center with two LIVE birds of prey! **nc**
1:30p.m. Friend or Foe – Join the Naturalist for a short stroll and take a closer look at poison ivy, the facts and falsehoods, and a natural remedy found nearby. **nc**

Saturday 25th 9:30a.m. Kayak into Nature~ Meet the naturalist at Wall's Lake Boat Ramp off Highway 145. Discover a bit of Patoka's past during this morning paddle as we make our way to "the lake within the lake". Travel over the remnants of Wall's Lake dam as we paddle the waters of Patoka River. If you prefer, meet the naturalist at the Nature Center by 8:30a.m. to car caravan to the ramp. Non-motorized boat launch permits are required and will be sold at the event for \$5. **br**

2:30p.m. Beach Scavenger Hunt – Look for signs of life at the beach during this family fun scavenger hunt. Get your list of clues and set out to find all the items. The winning team will receive a prize! **b**

Sunday 26th 10a.m. - 3p.m. Resident Birds of Prey: Bald Eagle and Eastern Screech Owl in backyard shelters.
1p.m. Don't Touch That! – While some wild plants are tasty, others can be extremely dangerous. Take a short hike to discover the not-so friendly plants of Indiana forests. **nc**
2p.m. Tree and Leaf ID – Indiana is home to more than 80 native tree species! Learn some of the more common trees of our own backyards. **nc**

Thursday 30th 10a.m. - 3p.m. Resident Birds of Prey: Bald Eagle and Eastern Screech Owl in backyard shelters.
1p.m. Reptile or Amphibian- Meet a LIVE animal to help you determine the difference between reptiles and amphibians. Uncover the truth about these amazing creatures and their diverse lifestyles. **nc**

Friday 31st 10a.m. - 3p.m. Resident Birds of Prey: Bald Eagle and Eastern Screech Owl in backyard shelters.
12:30p.m. Talons, Beaks, and Instincts~ See Friday 24th. **nc**

Coming in August

Saturday, August 1st – Smokey Bear's 71st Birthday- Enjoy cake, games, crafts and a visit from Smokey Bear himself. Bring your cameras to have your picture taken with Smokey!



Saturday, August 22nd – 3rd Annual 'Head for the Hills' Patoka Lake Triathlon
Register online at <http://headforthehillspatokalaketriathlon.itsyourrace.com/>