



The SINGING SANDS

2016 - Vol. 37 No. 1 - 50th Year Anniversary



100 Years Let's Celebrate!

The National Park Service turns 100 on August 25, 2016, and everyone can take part in the celebration!

The centennial will kick off a second century of stewardship of America's national parks and engaging communities through recreation, conservation, and historic preservation programs.

We invite you to find your park and discover the national parks and programs in your own backyard!



Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore turns 50 on November 5, 2016. We invite you to take part in the celebrations happening throughout this special year.

Contact Information

ADDRESS
Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
1100 N. Mineral Springs Road
Porter, IN 46304
(GPS - N41.6336 W87.0544)

PHONE
219-395-1882 visitor information

E-MAIL
indu_communications@nps.gov

WEBSITE
www.nps.gov/indu

www.facebook.com/IndianaDunesNL

https://www.flickr.com/photos/indianadunes

http://twitter.com/IndianaDunesNPS

Call 1-800-PARKTIP (727-5847) to report emergencies, and suspicious or criminal activity.

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Saving the Dunes: Then and Now

by: Nicole Barker, Executive Director, Save the Dunes



It's a simple fact: the dunes would not have been saved for the enjoyment of future generations without the work of passionate advocates. The fight to save the dunes began in the early 1900s. A diverse group of people rallied around the cause as development sprawled from Chicago towards Northwest Indiana at an alarming pace. They succeeded in establishing the Indiana Dunes State Park in the 1920s, but there were still pristine areas along the lake threatened by development. Through two World Wars and the Great Depression, advocates for the dunes never gave up hope.

The Save the Dunes Council formed in 1952 under the leadership of Dorothy Buell, an English teacher who spoke eloquently of the need for preservation. Thankfully, their call for a national park in the dunes was heard by Senator Paul Douglas of Illinois. With a champion in the halls of Congress, the group succeeded in establishing our beloved Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in 1966. The park was created in a compromise that would shape Northwest Indiana's identity going forward—a port would also be developed, and the region would forever have the challenge of balancing the needs of nature, industry and community. Save the Dunes is proud to carry on that work today.

The organization has worked tirelessly in the decades since to address challenges that the founding members might never have imagined. In the years following the creation of the park, notable Save the Dunes members organized opposition to projects

that were inappropriate for the park, such as a proposed nuclear power plant. There has always been a new generation of dunes advocates ready to carry on the legacy.

Today, Save the Dunes is keenly focused on threats to the natural resources and biodiversity of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. As the 7th most diverse unit in the National Park System, there is a lot to lose if we do not properly steward this incredible resource we have in our backyards. The top threats to the dunes today are invasive species, potential climate change impacts, fragmentation, and lack of sufficient funds to address these threats effectively. Save the Dunes is hard at work protecting our special dunes biodiversity by securing funding, planning for climate change adaptation strategies, and spearheading regional collaborations between government agencies, land trusts, nonprofits, heavy industry, and the community.

As we approach the 50th anniversary of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Save the Dunes reflects on the struggles behind us, while adapting to address the challenges of today



Senator Paul H. Douglas leading the charge to save the dunes.

and tomorrow. What began as an inspiring group of passionate volunteer activists has grown into a diverse organization with environmental professionals on staff, working every day to build strong partnerships across the region. Saving the dunes today means working together across many perceived boundaries to recognize our common interests and our shared love of the lakeshore. Through collaboration, mutual respect, positive energy and the right know-how, we can ensure that generations to come will have the dunes to enjoy as a place of wonder and respite. It may take time, but if looking out on the dunes shows us anything, it is that amazing things happen over time in the right environment.

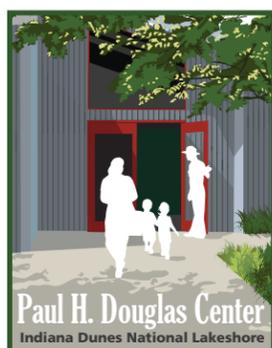
Happy 50th, INDU. I encourage you to learn more about our work at www.savedunes.org, seek us out on Facebook and on Twitter at @savedunesin.



Dorothy Buell directed her enthusiasm, determination, and fearlessness toward a single goal, saving the Indiana Dunes!

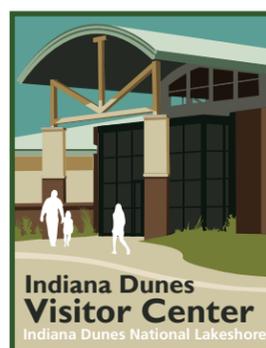
Visitor Centers - A Great Place to Start

Unless otherwise posted, the public areas of the park are open from sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset. Most parking areas are open from 7:00 a.m. until 30 minutes after sunset. Lake View parking area remains open until 11:00 p.m.



Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education

Located on 100 N. Lake St. Miller, Indiana, 46403. Open daily, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Memorial Day through Labor Day. (Winter: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mon. - Sat.) GPS: N41.6061 W87.2678



Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Visitor Center

Located at 1215 North State Rd 49 in Porter, Indiana. Open daily 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. in the summer and 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. in the winter. GPS: N41.6336 W87.0544



Anniversary Programs

Date & Time	Program	Description	Location
November 2015 <i>Call 219.395.1882 for more program information</i>			
Saturday 7 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	An Afternoon with Diana of the Dunes	Presentation and author book signing of one of Duneland's most colorful and mysterious historic persons.	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
Saturday 7 Times vary by season	1st Saturday Night Stargazing	Enjoy the beauty of the night sky through telescopes from the darkest site in the park.	Kemil Beach parking lot
Saturday 7, 14, 21, 28 7:00 am - 10:00 am	Birding with Ken Brock	Ken Brock will be leading a birding program.	Portage Lakefront
Sunday 8 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	An Afternoon with Octave Chanute	Presentation of early flight enthusiast, Octave Chanute and viewing of the visitor center's own Chanute Glider replica.	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
Saturday 28 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm	Water Wonders of the Great Lakes	Professor Oops will teach families about the wonders of our Great Lakes with fun activities for kids of all ages.	Douglas Center
December 2015 <i>Call 219.395.1882 for more program information</i>			
Saturday 5 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Holiday Traditions in the Dunes	Celebrate the holidays through music, dance, crafts, and other activities at various national lakeshore locations.	Bailly Homestead, Chellberg Farm & Douglas Center
Saturday 5 Times vary by season	1st Saturday Night Stargazing	Enjoy the beauty of the night sky through telescopes from the darkest site in the park.	Kemil Beach parking lot
Wednesday 30 Register 219.395.1885	Christmas Bird Count	Help tally the trend of our bird population in a 24 hour time period during the Christmas season.	West End INDU/Douglas Center
January 2016 <i>Call 219.395.1882 for more program information</i>			
Saturday 2 Times vary by season	1st Saturday Night Stargazing	Enjoy the beauty of the night sky through telescopes from the darkest site in the park.	Kemil Beach parking lot
Saturday 9 10:00 am & 12:30 pm	In the Footsteps of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.	Celebrate and honor the legacy and commitment of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights leaders.	Douglas Center
Saturday 9 11:00 am - 3:00 pm	Dunes Learning Center Winter Open House	Family-friendly event with various activities, such as nature crafts, snow shoe hikes, and indoor campfire sing-alongs.	Dunes Learning Center
Monday 18 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Martin Luther King Day of Service	Calling families and friends to come celebrate the works of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by volunteering at the park.	Douglas Center
February 2016 <i>Call 219.395.1882 for more program information</i>			
Saturday 6 Times vary by season	1st Saturday Night Stargazing	Enjoy the beauty of the night sky through telescopes from the darkest site in the park.	Kemil Beach parking lot
Friday 26 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm	You Can't Get There From Here Anymore!	A historic look into the early days and development of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
Saturday 27 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	A Patchwork of History Passed Down	Peggy Whitlow shares her family heritage through traditional quilt making. Family quilts will be on display.	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
March 2016 <i>Call 219.395.1882 for more program information</i>			
Saturday & Sunday 5,6 & 12,13 10:00 am - 4:00 pm	Maple Sugar Time	Get a sweet taste and experience the making of maple syrup throughout time. Admission for all activities is free.	Chellberg Farm
Thursday 3 - Friday 11 Call 219.395.1885	Maple Sugar Time (school groups)	School groups can also experience the making of maple syrup throughout time.	Chellberg Farm
Saturday 19 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	The Prairie Club in the Indiana Dunes	Historical presentation of the first group's efforts to save the Indiana Dunes from industrial growth.	Westchester Township History Museum
April 2016 <i>Call 219.395.1882 for more program information</i>			
Saturday 2 Times vary by season	1st Saturday Night Stargazing	Enjoy the beauty of the night sky through telescopes from the darkest site in the park.	Kemil Beach parking lot
Wednesday 6 & Thursday 7 Call 219.395.1987	Indiana Dunes Science Conference	Learn about current research and how science informs decision making for the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.	Chicago State University
Saturday 9 8:00 am - 1:00 pm	20th Annual FRIENDS Native Plant Sale	Annual plant sale by partners Friends of the Dunes.	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
Saturday 9 10:00 am - 1:00 pm	Dunes Learning Center Summer Camp Open House	Tour the Dunes Learning Center's campus and enjoy refreshments with family fun games and activities.	Dunes Learning Center
Saturday 16 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	50 years of Photography in the Indiana Dunes - with David Larson	Presentation and opening exhibition of David Larson's 50 years of photographing the Indiana Dunes Lakeshore.	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
Saturday 16 - Sunday 24 Call 219.395.1882	National Park Week	Calling all families and friends to hike, bike, horseback ride, or paddle and volunteer in the park.	Various locations
Saturday 23 10:00 am - 4:00 pm	Green Gary	Celebrate Earth Day at this family-oriented event. Exhibits and interactive activities for everyone.	Douglas Center & Marquette Park
May 2016 <i>Call 219.395.1882 for more program information</i>			
Thursday 5 - Sunday 8 See website in description	INDU Birding Festival	Birding programs and expert-led hikes throughout the dune region. Fees may apply. www.indianabirdingfestival.com	Various locations
Saturday 7 Times vary by season	1st Saturday Night Stargazing	Enjoy the beauty of the night sky through telescopes from the darkest site in the park.	Kemil Beach parking lot
Saturday 14 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	In a Pickle or a Jam: "Preserving" The Bounty	Join the creative Chellberg Farm cooks and learn how to preserve the "vegetable garden's bounty" for future use.	Chellberg Farm Kitchen
Friday 20 & Saturday 21 Call 219.395.1882	Miller Woods BioBlitz	Conduct scientific inventory of the Miller Woods.	Douglas Center
Saturday 21 Reservations 219.395.1882	Logs to Lustrons Tour	Ranger-led presentation and tour of 150 years of Architecture in the Dunes.	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
Tuesday 24 Call 219.395.1882	1st Pitch - South Bend Cubs	See Superintendent Paul Labovitz throw out the 1st pitch at a South Bend Cubs home game!	South Bend Cubs Stadium
Friday 27 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Photographing the Dunes - A workshop by David Larson	Capture the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore with a free photography workshop by David Larson.	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center

Additional programs may be available.



Programs subject to change without notice.

Date & Time	Program	Description	Location
June 2016 <i>Call 219.395.1882 for more program information</i>			
Saturday 4 Times vary by season	1st Saturday Night Stargazing	Enjoy the beauty of the night sky through telescopes from the darkest site in the park.	Kemil Beach parking lot
Saturday 4 10:00 am - 4:00 pm	Hobart Prairie Grove Trail Dedication	Explore the new trail system adjacent to Lake George with hiking, biking, and other activities.	Hobart Prairie
Saturday 4 & Sunday 5 10:00 am - 4:00 pm	Before Bailly: Life of Early Settlers Along the Calumet	A celebration of the early settlers life in Northwest Indiana's wild frontier from 1730 to 1830.	Bailly Homestead
Saturday 11 9:00 am - 11:00 am	The Life and Times of Amphibians	Hike with ecologist Dr. Spencer Cortwright and learn the importance of life in marshes, swamps and wetlands.	Cowles Bog
Saturday 11 11:00 am - 3:00 pm	National Get Outdoors Day	Free family fun guided hikes, crafts, animal interactions, kayak demonstrations, live music and picnicking.	Dunes Learning Center
Saturday 18 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	In a Pickle or a Jam: "Preserving" The Bounty	Join the creative Chellberg Farm cooks and learn how to preserve the "vegetable garden's bounty" for future use.	Chellberg Farm Kitchen
Wednesday 22 & Thursday 23 10:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Architecture Camp	Educating local history and architecture to children ages 8-12. Crafts, field trips, and networking with professionals.	Field Station Cooperative
Saturday 25 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Midsummer Celebration	Celebrate the summer solstice with traditional Swedish music, dance, and food.	Chellberg Farm
July 2016 <i>Call 219.395.1882 for more program information</i>			
Saturday 2 10:00 am & 12:30 pm	In the Footsteps of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr	Celebrate and honor the legacy and commitment of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights leaders.	Douglas Center
Sunday 3 11:00 am - Dusk	Lightning Bug Music Festival	Come celebrate summer and music. Tickets are required. www.LightningBugMusicFestival.com	Sunset Hill Park
Saturday 9 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Old Fashioned Toys and Games	Come out and enjoy some good old-fashioned fun times at the farm.	Chellberg Farm
Saturday 16 Reservations 219.395.1882	South Shore Railroad Day	Learn about the South Shore Interurban Rail Cars and the history behind the unique partnership that saved them.	East Troy, WI
Saturday 23 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	In a Pickle or a Jam: "Preserving" The Bounty	Join the creative Chellberg Farm cooks and learn how to preserve the "vegetable garden's bounty" for future use.	Chellberg Farm Kitchen
Saturday 30 Call 219.395.1882	Paddle the Lake Michigan Water Trail	Paddle the shore of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.	Shoreline from Marquette to Washington Parks
August 2016 <i>Call 219.395.1882 for more program information</i>			
Saturday 6 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Old Fashioned Toys and Activities	Come out and enjoy some good old-fashioned fun times at the farm.	Chellberg Farm
Saturday 6 Times vary by season	1st Saturday Night Stargazing	Enjoy the beauty of the night sky through telescopes from the darkest site in the park.	Kemil Beach parking lot
Friday 12 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm	Perseid Meteor Shower	Watch the night sky light up with shooting stars.	West Beach
Friday 19 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm	Music Heritage Series: Songs From 1916	Enjoy traditional music associated with the Ragtime and Jazz Eras, World War I and patriotism.	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
Saturday 20 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	In a Pickle or a Jam: "Preserving" The Bounty	Join the creative Chellberg Farm cooks and learn how to preserve the "vegetable garden's bounty" for future use.	Chellberg Farm Kitchen
Friday 26 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm	You Can't Get There From Here Anymore!	A historic look into the early days and development of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.	Dunewood Campground
Saturday 27 7:30 pm	NPS 100th Anniversary Concert	Celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Parks with a free concert by the Northwest Indiana Symphony.	West Beach
September 2016 <i>Call 219.395.1882 for more program information</i>			
Saturday 3 Times vary by season	1st Saturday Night Stargazing	Enjoy the beauty of the night sky through telescopes from the darkest site in the park.	Kemil Beach parking lot
Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 11:00 am - 4:00 pm	Apples, Apples, Apples	Celebrate apples through cooking and preserving demonstrations, traditional music, crafts and activities.	Chellberg Farm Kitchen
Saturday 24 9:00 am - 2:00 pm	National Public Lands Day	Volunteer by improving trails, painting buildings, attacking invasive plants, repairing fences and more.	Various locations
Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 Call 219.395.1882	Dunes Blowout	Celebrate the connection between landscape, imagination, and performance with actors, dancers and musicians.	West Beach
October 2016 <i>Call 219.395.1882 for more program information</i>			
Saturday 1 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	INDU History Scavenger Hunt	Clues will send participants throughout the national lakeshore to solve puzzles and complete the challenge.	Chellberg Farm
Saturday 1 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	In a Pickle or a Jam: "Preserving" The Bounty	Join the creative Chellberg Farm cooks and learn how to preserve the "vegetable garden's bounty" for future use.	Chellberg Farm Kitchen
Saturday 1 Times vary by season	1st Saturday Night Stargazing	Enjoy the beauty of the night sky through telescopes from the darkest site in the park.	Kemil Beach parking lot
Saturday 8 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	The Great Lakes - A Concert by Lee Murdock	Celebrate our region's most precious natural source – with a concert by singer/song writer Lee Murdock.	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
Saturday 15 & Sunday 16 Reservations 219.395.1882	Century of Progress Homes Tour	A ranger-led tour of five historic homes from the 1933 Chicago World's Fair. Tour spaces sell-out fast.	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
Saturday 29 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Historic Halloween Fun	Join some very "tricky" volunteers as they prepare the farmhouse for the holiday.	Chellberg Farm
November 2016 <i>Call 219.395.1882 for more program information</i>			
Saturday 5 All Day. Call 219.395.1882	INDU 50th Anniversary Party	Celebrate those who fought hard to create this national park and help us to look forward to greater possibilities.	Various Locations
Saturday 5 Times vary by season	1st Saturday Night Stargazing	Enjoy the beauty of the night sky through telescopes from the darkest site in the park.	Kemil Beach parking lot
Friday 18 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm	Music Heritage Series: Songs From A 1966 Coffee House	Gather up the Save the Tunes Council for traditional music associated with a 1966 coffee house.	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center
December 2016 <i>Call 219.395.1882 for more program information</i>			
Saturday 10 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Holiday Traditions in the Dunes	Celebrate the holidays through music, dance, crafts, and other activities at various national lakeshore locations.	Bailly Homestead, Chellberg Farm & Douglas Center

#Findyourpark



Raffi Wilkinson

Raffi Wilkinson, volunteer: No place in the park better shows off the ecology and beauty of the dunes than Miller Woods. Take the trail from the Paul Douglas Center all the way to the lake. From rare oak savannas and interdunal pannes to towering dunes and sweeping views across the lake, this trail really shows off the park.

Miller Woods also highlights the compromise between conservation and industry along the lake.



Jada Walton

I love growing up in the dunes. Taking wildflower hikes with my mom, climbing the dunes with my dad and just exploring the beach with my cousins and friends. I've always thought about leaving this place when I get older but I know I'm going to miss living near the national lakeshore. I'm very lucky to have such a cool place to grow up in.



Enrique Pulido

I would have to say my favorite park is the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore! Why? Because no matter how many beautiful parks I've been too for example Crater Lake, Yosemite, Yellowstone, Sleeping Bear, Point Reyes Etc. No matter what I always think of the Dunes where I started my journey and where my dunes family lives! I feel like when I'm in this park I'm home This park has done so much for me and I only wish I can repay this park for giving me such a great life.

FIND YOUR PARK

Tag and share your park experience
#findyourpark

In celebration of the 100th birthday of the National Park Service in 2016, we invite you to share your favorite park story on the Find Your Park website at www.findyourpark.com. You can share in whatever way you think is best: a photo, story, painting, poem, video, or even a song or dance.



DJ Frampton

The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is a wonderful place where I love to lay on the beach with friends or go hiking on a trail, especially the Cowles Bog trails. There are so many different birds and plants to see and you never know who you might run into, maybe a white tailed deer, brown snake, or even a blue spotted salamander. Working within the park has given me some very special memories that I will cherish forever and this is only the beginning, I can't wait to make even more memories!



Alison Paul

The Douglas Center is a total gem. The natural area there is a great spot for birding and walking with friends and family. Within steps from the road I feel like I'm in a remote, rolling, sandy wonderland. I love the different habitats, animals, tracks, and sounds I hear there - from bird calls to the roll of the nearby trains and crashing waves of lake Michigan. The trail is accessible for most and not too long - it's a great place to walk with loved ones and show off what North West Indiana has to offer. Also, I suggest going in all seasons. It's transformed and winter provides some of the greatest views of landscape and birds that brave the cold.



Penny Callahan

There are so many things I love about our park! This summer being the Teacher-Ranger-Teacher, I was able to experience so many wonderful things. I kayaked with a group this summer and found a new hobby! Kayaking is a wonderful way to enjoy nature. I also found new areas to hike and enjoy the beauty of the park and since 1972, I still love spending time out in what I call the horse trails--Glenwood Dunes. This past summer was one of the best summers ever! I sure do love this park!

Every Kid in a Park Program



www.everykidinapark.gov

Every Kid in a Park is a national program providing 4th graders with the opportunity to earn a free pass, good for a year, to any of the national parks or other federal lands. This Fourth Grade Pass is being rolled out at the start of the school year as part of the lead up to the 100th anniversary of the National Park System in 2016.

- The free pass is available to U.S. 4th graders with a valid Every Kid in a Park paper voucher.
- The pass is valid for the duration of the 4th grade school year through the following summer (September -August).
- Paper vouchers can be obtained by visiting the Every Kid in a Park website and can be exchanged for the Annual 4th Grade Pass at Federal recreation sites that charge Entrance or Standard Amenity fees. The Indiana Dunes Visitor Center and Paul H. Douglas Center are two locations where vouchers can be exchanged for passes.
- Digital versions of the voucher (such as on smart phones or tablets) will not be accepted to exchange for an Annual 4th Grade Pass.
- The pass is non-transferable.
- Educators can help their students get vouchers and passes. Learn more at the Every Kid in a Park website.

Indiana Dunes - The Middle Years (1977 - 2007)

Article by former park superintendent Dale Engquist

Much was accomplished in the early years under the first Superintendent, J.R. Whitehouse. The 1976 expansion bill added over 4,000 acres and initial development began, including West Beach, still the park's largest development. As we celebrate the 50th, we should remember J.R. His achievements were remarkable, especially in a time characterized by bitter conflict, threatening both his job and the park; Interior Secretary James Watts wanted to deauthorize the park.

Environmentalists mourned the loss of the Central Dunes that they had fought so hard for. Their feelings of animosity toward industry were so strong that, when US Steel donated over 200 acres of Miller Woods to us in 1981, it wasn't viewed by Save the Dunes as a gift, but as an 'unholy' compromise with industry.

But, things gradually changed. We restored the Chellberg Farm as a living farm with seasonal festivals, and it became the focal point for community involvement in our volunteer program. NIPSCO donated land and easements in their Greenbelt to add to and provide access to the Cowles Dunes and wetlands. Midwest Steel, rather than entombing their hazardous waste lagoons on Burns Ditch, chose to reclaim the area thereby allowing a remarkable partnership of the park, City of Portage, Porter County, the State and Regional Development Authority to further restore, develop and provide access to the Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk.

Other partnerships developed with the Friends of Indiana Dunes, a preschool in the park, and with the Dunes Learning Center to manage our residential education programs in new camp facilities, proudly built almost entirely by our own park staff. Our partners in Porter County Tourism gave us a new visitor center and Indiana Landmarks Foundation helped us restore the World's Fair homes and other historic structures.

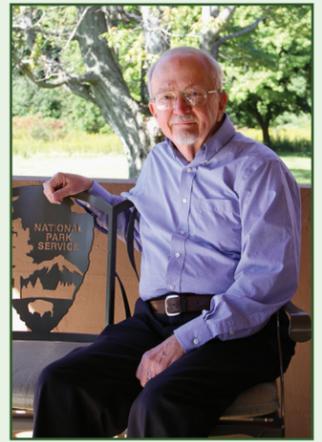
Land acquisition was a continuing effort until we owned most all the land in the park when I retired in 2007. Expansion bills, managing and restoring new lands, overseeing almost 500 "leasebacks" homes purchased but remaining occupied, was a major management burden. In the end we acquired nearly 6,000 individual parcels comprising almost 11,000 acres.

We worked with partners to develop and expand environmental education, especially at the Paul H. Douglas Center and the Dunes

Learning Center. We also developed and implemented science based resource management programs to guide our work in habitat restoration, including implementation of controlled burn programs that also protected our neighbors from wildfires. Much more needs to be done; resource management and protection will be a never ending responsibility.

We now have partners to help us preserve the outstanding resources of Northwest Indiana. Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission has a long range plan that recognizes the importance of our environmental assets. Efforts to include the Little Calumet River in the park failed, but now the State has designated it a special Conservation Corridor, with Save the Dunes, Shirley Heinze Land Trust, and other partners working together to preserve its valuable wetlands and floodplain and provide access for recreation.

A decision was made 50 years ago to authorize a National Park in the midst of heavy industry, surrounding and abutting a variety of residential communities, and crisscrossed with rights-of-way for highways, pipelines, railroads, and utility corridors. It might not have worked, but it has. Its nature makes it difficult to manage and there are new fiscal constraints but, I know that Superintendent Paul Labovitz and his successors, with the support of our partners and friends, will succeed and the park will prosper.



1983 Dale Engquist becomes second Superintendent



Dorothy Buell and the first Superintendent, James R. Whitehouse (circa 1970)

The Future of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore



Help us celebrate fifty years of exploration and learning at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. The year 2016 looks to be a busy one celebrating both the 50th anniversary of Indiana Dunes and the 100th birthday of the National Park Service.

Reflecting back isn't as much fun as looking forward. What can, and will, we be doing here for the next fifty years? Much of the future will include continuing the great work

being done today. The restoration of rare and critical habitats remains an important part of the Indiana Dunes. As important, is the increasing understanding of our role as a National Park, in connecting visitors, neighbors and friends to the natural and cultural world.

Indiana Dunes is a place where people learn how to play outside. Indiana Dunes rangers broker what are transformational experiences for young people and adults alike, in our world where it is easier at times to look at a screen. The direction here is for the team of park rangers to be sunburnt with mud-caked boots full of sand every day. Public programming and good, sound science are the goals.

Also critical is the understanding that Indiana Dunes is more than the beach in the summer. Indiana Dunes is a year-around destination with opportunities for the highest quality national park experience anytime. The Every Kid in a Park program provides a park pass for all public lands to fourth graders and their families. Find Your Park challenges us all to know where our public spaces are located.

Here we are not alone in providing our visitors with outdoor places to refresh and rejuvenate. Our county and municipal park partners invite you in as well. Indiana Dunes State Park invites you over to enjoy one of the nation's best state parks. Park partners like the National Parks & Conservation Association, Dunes National Park Association, Dunes Learning Center, Friends of Indiana Dunes, Save the Dunes and the Shirley Heinze Land Trust collaborate in our region to create this amazing system of protected public open space as our best outdoor classrooms. You can enjoy your national park from the gunwale of a Voyager canoe or the window of a South Shore Line train and anything and everything in-between. However you decide, we hope to see you here during this important 2016 anniversary year and let me know what you think.

Paul Labovitz, Superintendent
paul_labovitz@nps.gov

Happy Birthday!



2016
National Park Service
CENTENNIAL



Thank You!

Our gratitude to the many visitors, organizations, volunteers, partners, neighbors, employees, and the many individuals who have cared for this special place! May it be a special 100th birthday for the National Park Service and wonderful 50th for Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. We want to call out some of the partners involved in planning and implementing the programs and projects lined up for 2016.

Dunes Learning Center
 Dunes National Park Association
 Indiana Landmarks
 Save the Dunes
 Prairie Club
 Indiana DNR
 National Parks Conservation Association
 Porter County Tourism
 Field Museum
 Shirley Heinze Land Trust
 Portage Parks Department
 Friends of Indiana Dunes
 Porter County Museums Associations
 Coffee Creek Conservancy
 East Troy Electric Railroad
 Eastern National
 Gary Department of Green Urbanism
 Northwest Indiana Paddlers Association
 Save the Tunes

Volunteers
 Student Conservation Association
 Chicago State University
 Indiana Geological Survey
 Environmental Protection Agency - Region 5
 Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District
 Field Station Cooperative Preschool
 Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District
 Indiana Dunes Tourism
 South Shore Convention and Visitor Bureau
 Indiana Dunes State Park
 LaPorte County Tourism
 Peggy Notebart Nature Museum
 Portage Parks Department
 Gary Parks and Recreation Department
 Westchester Historical Society
 Indiana University Northwest
 For Goodness Sake Productions
 Wilderness Inquiry

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning
 Commission
 Save the Tunes
 Indiana & Chicago Audubon Societies
 Great Lakes Research & Education Center
 U.S. Geological Survey
 Discovery Charter School
 Lake Hills Elementary School, Michigan City
 Friends of Robinson Lake
 Izaak Walton League
 The Nature Conservancy
 Image Makers Photography
 United Urban Network
 Miller Beach Arts and Creative District
 Calumet Region Photo Club
 Charter School of the Dunes
 Urban Waters Coalition

A Note from our Friends

FRIENDS OF *Indiana Dunes*

**historical logo*

In July 1982, the Friends of Indiana Dunes was established from within the growing number of volunteers at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. This not-for-profit organization pledged to help enhance and foster understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the Indiana Dunes through financial and volunteer support. That same year, the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore terminated the publishing of the Singing Sands Almanac. In 1985, the Friends revived this quarterly publication with the noted naturalist and author, Glenda Daniel, as editor. The

Friends continued to publish the Singing Sands Almanac through the Summer 2006 issue. We are happy to provide funds to print this special anniversary edition.

In August 1986, the Friends of Indiana Dunes became a recognized 501(C)3 corporation. This designation brought greater recognition and growth to our organization and allowed us to begin to provide support to the Indiana Dunes State Park as well as to the national lakeshore.

Through fund raisers, grants and generous donations from our members, the Friends have been able to provide financial support for a variety of special events and programs throughout the past years. In 2016, we are pleased to provide this support to many of the programs that celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

and 100th Anniversary of the National Park Service. The Friends of Indiana Dunes encourage you, the visitor, to enjoy Holiday Traditions, Maple Sugar Time, Midsummer, the 20th Annual Friends Native Plant Sale, Indiana Dunes Birding Festival, the Great Lakes a concert by singer Lee Murdock, and other family oriented activities in the coming year.



*First Singing Sands Almanac
 March/April 1978*

*Dorothy Meyers volunteering at
 Maple Sugar Time*



Alternative Transport



Life is hard. The train is easy.

This anniversary year will see the debut of two new, hassle-free ways to get to the national lakeshore. You'll be able to skip full parking lots on weekends by bringing your bike on the South Shore Railroad or by taking a free weekend shuttle from some South Shore stations directly to national lakeshore beaches.

In April, the South Shore Railroad will begin a pilot program that will retrofit three cars with bike racks. Each car will be equipped with 25-35 specially-designed racks. This service will only be offered on weekends and cyclists must use stations with high-level boarding platforms. This is not a permanent solution, but one intended to tide the railroad over until new cars can be purchased with bike racks. For more information on this program, contact the railroad directly at www.nictd.com/contact-us.

But you don't need to bring a bike to avoid full parking lots and reduce your carbon footprint. The national lakeshore will operate two, 16-passenger shuttles on weekends from 10:00 am–6:30 pm between Memorial Day and Labor Day. An East Shuttle will pick up at the South Shore Station in Beverly Shores and travel to Lakeview, Kemil Beach and Dunewood Campground. A West Shuttle will pick up at the South Shore's Miller Station and stop at the Douglas Center, Lake Street Beach and the City of Gary's Marquette Park.

Purchased through a Ticket to Ride grant from the National Park Foundation, the shuttles run on cleaner-burning liquid propane and are provided in partnership with the Dunes Learning Center and South Shore Railroad. For more information, contact the park's information desk at 219-395-1882 or go to the park webpage at: www.nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/directions.htm.

DNPA

The Dunes National Park Association (DNPA) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Paying homage to the past, DNPA is the 21st Century organization that takes its name from a group formed in Chicago in 1917 to advocate for a national park on Indiana's coast.



Today, more than 2 million people visit and enjoy Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore each year, free of charge. Dunes National Park Association wishes to help Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore foster a climate of partnering that achieves park goals and relevant community/regional goals. DNPA works closely with community organizations, business leaders, governments, and elected officials to encourage investment in the park, strengthening the economic benefits the park provides to the community, and reinforcing the benefit of protecting the parks resource values to the region.

For more information on how you can be a park supporter through DNPA check the website at: <http://www.dunesnationalpark.org>.



DNPA members unveiling a South Shore painting by Mitch Markovitz.

Top Visitor Questions

Where is the beach?

The 15-mile beach can be accessed from many different locations within the national and state parks. **See map on back.**

Where may I climb a dune?

Most of the park trails cross over forested dunes. You must stay on a designated trail when you walk on any dune to protect this fragile resource.

West Beach offers a spectacular overlook on the one-mile Dune Succession Trail. The new Miller Woods Trail extension traverses the dunes to Marquette Park. Please stay on designated trails to protect sensitive dune species.

Do you close the beach when high waves are present or E. coli levels are high?

No. The national lakeshore does not close its beach due to water conditions. Risks are inherent in all natural areas, and you must determine what is safe for you. During summer months, lifeguards are stationed at West Beach and Indiana Dunes State Park. Lifeguards are not present at other locations of the beach.

Call 219-926-7561 followed by prompt #2 for information regarding E. coli levels.

May I take my pet with me for a hike?

Yes. The national lakeshore has over 40 miles of hiking trails. Pets restrained by a leash (6' or less) are permitted on most park trails. Pets are prohibited on the Great Marsh Trail, Glenwood Dune Trail, and at the Nature Play Zone. Pets are only permitted on the beach east of the Kemil access point.

The Glenwood Dunes Trail (intersection of Hwy. 20 and School House Road) is open for horseback riding March 16 through December 14.

Hike with others and stay on designated trails for your protection and that of park resources. Trail maps are available at the two park visitor centers and the park web page.

Do you have a campground?

Yes. The Dunewood Campground is open the last Friday in April through the third Sunday in October and is located at the intersection of U.S. 12 and Broadway near Beverly Shores (see map on back). Its 66 campsites are available on a first-come, first-served basis for a fee of \$18.00 per night. **Credit or debit card ONLY. No cash or checks accepted.**

The restrooms are centrally located and have showers. Electrical hookups are not available.

Use firewood from local suppliers to help prevent the spread of invasive insects. Alcohol is strictly prohibited.

Do you have a Junior Ranger Program?

Yes! Ask a ranger at the Visitor Center to help you select the free Junior Ranger or Junior Explorer program that best fits your visit. There are three Junior Ranger books to guide you on adventures through several park locations. We also offer the Beachcomber Junior Explorer program if you have just a short time at the beach; other Junior Explorer activities are offered at many special events. Once completed, each participant will earn a badge, patch, sticker, or temporary tattoo. Pick up Junior Ranger and Junior Explorer materials at the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center and the Douglas Center, or download them at www.nps.gov/indu/learn/kidsyouth/beajuniorranger.htm, or ask a ranger.

Are there two Indiana Dunes Parks?

Yes, in addition to Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, there is Indiana Dunes State Park. The state park is located next to the national park, and features towering dunes, miles of beautiful beach and trail and a modern campground. Be sure to make a visit.

1 Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education

West Beach is a great destination, even when the weather is too cold for swimming. Enjoy a meal at the picnic shelter, walk a marked trail traversing the dunes and forest, learn how plant and animal communities are replacing one another through time, or watch migrating waterfowl at Long Lake in autumn and spring. Light food service available during the summer.

The ponds, open dunes, and oak savanna habitats in Miller Woods provide abundant wildlife and dramatic scenery. The extension trail to Lake Michigan features beautiful views of small ponds nestled among wooded dunes, and teams with wildflowers in the spring and summer. Families can enjoy the Nature Play Zone. The center has interactive exhibits to explore.

2 West Beach

Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk has an accessible fishing pier, a rehabilitated breakwater, various hike/bike trails, access to the beach, and a 3,500 square foot pavilion that contains a food service area.

3 Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk

The national lakeshore's most rugged hike takes you on a five-mile journey through wetlands and over both wooded and moving dunes to an isolated beach.

4 Cowles Bog Trail

Depending on the season, hike, ski, or horse-back ride the four-mile trail through wooded dunes and wetlands. Bring your own skis or horse.

This covered picnic area over looking Lake Michigan is a great place to relax! Beautiful sunset views make this one of the more popular parking spots. Limited parking spaces are open until 11 p.m.

5 Bailly/Chellberg

Explore an 1820s fur trading outpost and a 1900-era farmstead. Enjoy Maple Sugar Time in March. Follow the trail that starts here and winds through a wide diversity of landscapes, including the Mnoké Prairie, Little Calumet River, and a mature beech/maple woodland.

6 Glenwood Dunes Trail

Depending on the season, hike, ski, or horse-back ride the four-mile trail through wooded dunes and wetlands. Bring your own skis or horse.

7 Lake View

This covered picnic area over looking Lake Michigan is a great place to relax! Beautiful sunset views make this one of the more popular parking spots. Limited parking spaces are open until 11 p.m.

8 Dunewood Campground

Dunewood is one mile south of Lake Michigan and features 66 wooded campsites. Enjoy camping with the convenience of access to restrooms and showers. Fees are charged, and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Credit card or debit card only, no cash or checks accepted. Regular season dates are the fourth Friday in April through the third Sunday in October.

9 Mount Baldy (Temporarily closed)

Hike the trail to the top of the national lakeshore's largest moving dune. Mount Baldy, at 126 feet tall, provides stunning views of Lake Michigan and its shoreline. Do your part to protect the park. Stay on designated trails and avoid walking on plants. To reach the summit, you must first follow the trail out to the beach.

10 Pinhook Bog

A mat of sphagnum moss keeps everything from trees to insect-eating plants floating above an ancient, and now-hidden, lake. This extremely rare and fragile habitat can only be entered during ranger-led tours. Check our program list for open house dates.

Water Safety

Lake Michigan waters can be hazardous. Rough waters occur frequently during periods of high wind and make it unsafe to enter the lake. During the winter, shelf ice forms along the lakeshore and is never safe to walk on. Check with local authorities about conditions and potential hazards. There are no lifeguards at the national lakeshore beach during the fall, winter, and spring.

