

Discover Indiana's State Parks, Reservoirs and State Forests with self-guided activities designed to help you explore, wander and experience them in a new way.

Enjoy attending interpretive programs, volunteering, and completing the three activities listed inside this pamphlet. Each time you finish a requirement, have the property's interpreter sign and date your pamphlet. Once you finish all requirements, turn in this pamphlet to get a Discover Patch for the suggested donation of \$1 to help offset costs of the program.

Each person must complete his or her own requirements to earn a patch. There are no age limits, but the program is designed for children at least 5 years of age. People of all abilities are welcome to participate.

When you finish the Discover Patch, ask the interpreter for other opportunities in the Explore or Challenge program.

**Have fun!**

**Complete the activities listed on this card.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Attend at least three interpretive programs.

Property \_\_\_\_\_  
Interpreter \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Property \_\_\_\_\_  
Interpreter \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Property \_\_\_\_\_  
Interpreter \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer for at least one hour. Ask the interpreter for a volunteer assignment. If needed, the hour can be divided into portions.

Property \_\_\_\_\_

Interpreter \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Property \_\_\_\_\_

Interpreter \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Property \_\_\_\_\_

Interpreter \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Select three activities listed in this brochure. These activities help you better discover, learn about, and enjoy Indiana State Parks, Reservoirs and State Forests. Report to an interpreter after completing each of the three activities chosen. You can do all three during one visit or complete them one at a time at different properties on multiple visits. Take your time and enjoy.

Property \_\_\_\_\_

Interpreter \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Activity \_\_\_\_\_

Property \_\_\_\_\_

Interpreter \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Activity \_\_\_\_\_

Property \_\_\_\_\_

Interpreter \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Activity \_\_\_\_\_

**Ready to discover Indiana's State Parks and Reservoirs?**

*Earn your Discover Patch*



Indiana State Parks and Reservoirs  
402 W. Washington Street Rm W298

Indianapolis, IN 46204

On the Web at:  
StateParks.IN.gov

or

InterpretiveServices.IN.gov



## Choose Three

### 1. Natural or Cultural

DNR properties are special places where both natural and cultural resources are cared for. Natural resources are things found in nature. Examples are plants, animals, rocks and water. Cultural resources tell us about the people who lived in a place. These include things such as historic buildings, pioneer lifestyles and prehistoric or historic artifacts. Which type of resource do you find at this property? Did you find both kinds? Pick an example of either kind, and tell the interpreter why it interests you. If possible, bring a photo or drawing of the resource you chose.

### 2. Picture This

Draw a picture or take a photo of a DNR employee at work or working on a project. What is that person's job? What is the person doing in the picture or photo? Show your picture or photo to the interpreter.

### 3. Nature's Cycles

Every plant and animal needs food. Most plants use sunshine as "food" to grow new leaves, flowers and seeds. Some animals eat the plants, and some animals eat other animals. Find examples of this "circle of life" and draw a diagram of what you find. Show and explain your diagram to the interpreter.

### 4. Insect Observations

Watch an insect for one minute. What if you were that insect? Draw a picture of how the world would look and how people would look. Share with the property interpreter.

### 5. Fallen Leaves

Walk a trail to find a fallen leaf that is especially pretty. Take your time. There are lots of pretty leaves, especially in the fall. Bring the leaf to the interpreter, and tell why you chose this leaf. When you are finished, be sure to put the leaf back outside so it can decompose and return to soil.

### 6. Night Sky

Find a place far from city lights and get acquainted with the night sky. Turn off any flashlights and spend at least one minute looking at the stars. What patterns do you see in the stars? Do any look like animals, people or objects? Draw a picture or write something to share about what you saw. Share your observation with the interpreter—possibly the next morning.

### 7. Watery Ways

Look carefully at the water in a lake, pond or stream. Can you find anything living in the water? Describe what it looks like and how it moves to the interpreter.

### 8. Smokey Says

Memorize three of these sayings from Smokey Bear. Report them to the interpreter.

- "Always be careful with fires."
- "Only YOU can prevent wildfires."
- "Be sure matches are completely out before throwing away."
- "If fire gets away, get help immediately!"
- "Fires should only be made away from dry leaves, brush, trash and buildings."

### 9. Long Ago

When Indiana's DNR started, people did not have cellphones, television or computers. Many did not have cars. Most people worked hard every day, either farming or in town, but loved taking trips to parks, lakes or forests. Think of three ways that vacationing back then would be different from vacationing now. Tell the interpreter. Would you like to try vacationing the "old-fashioned" way?

### 10. You're the Steward

Stewardship means caring for something. The DNR takes care of Indiana's parks, reservoirs, forests, historic places and more. Tell how you are a good steward, either at this DNR property or at home. Bring a photo or a report to the interpreter.

### 11. Lead a Hike

Take a friend or family member who is older than you on a hike through nature or a historic area. Point out something that you think most hikers would not notice. Tell them why it is special to you. Report together to the interpreter what you saw.