



Illinois Department of Natural Resources Concession and Leases Overview

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Department of Natural Resources Concession and Lease Management

- At properties within the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (DNR), certain services for the benefit of park visitors are provided by individuals or companies from the private sector who operate facilities under a license and concession agreement or lease with the State of Illinois.
- Concession operations are subject to and given authority by Illinois Code 20 ILCS 805-805-330. The primary intent of Concession and Lease Management is to provide diverse recreational opportunities and high quality interpretation programming, while protecting the natural and cultural resources found in Illinois State Parks. DNR concessions are required to comply with a wide range of laws and regulations including State of Illinois Procurement Laws.
- Concessionaires and lessees run a wide range of operations such as Bait Sales, Bicycle Rentals, Cabin Rentals, Electric Watercraft rentals, Equestrian Services, Firewood Sales, Food, Refreshments, Restaurants, Lodging, Camp stores, Theater Productions, Swimming Pool, Golf Course, Ice Sales, Canoe/Kayak and Boat rentals, Pontoon boat, Paddleboard & Paddleboat Rentals, and Gasoline Sales & Marina Services.



Concessions

Concessions:

- The Illinois Department of Natural Resources provides 262 areas where you may enjoy the facilities and services provided by IDNR or by one of approximately 70 concessions that are operated by a concessionaire through an agreement with the IDNR. Under a typical concession contract at an Illinois State Park, the concessionaire will sign a contract allowing it to operate for profit and then pay DNR rent in the form of a percentage of gross revenues.
- The DNR Concession and Leases Section manages the contracts and leases that play a significant role in providing services to the many visitors of the Illinois State Parks.



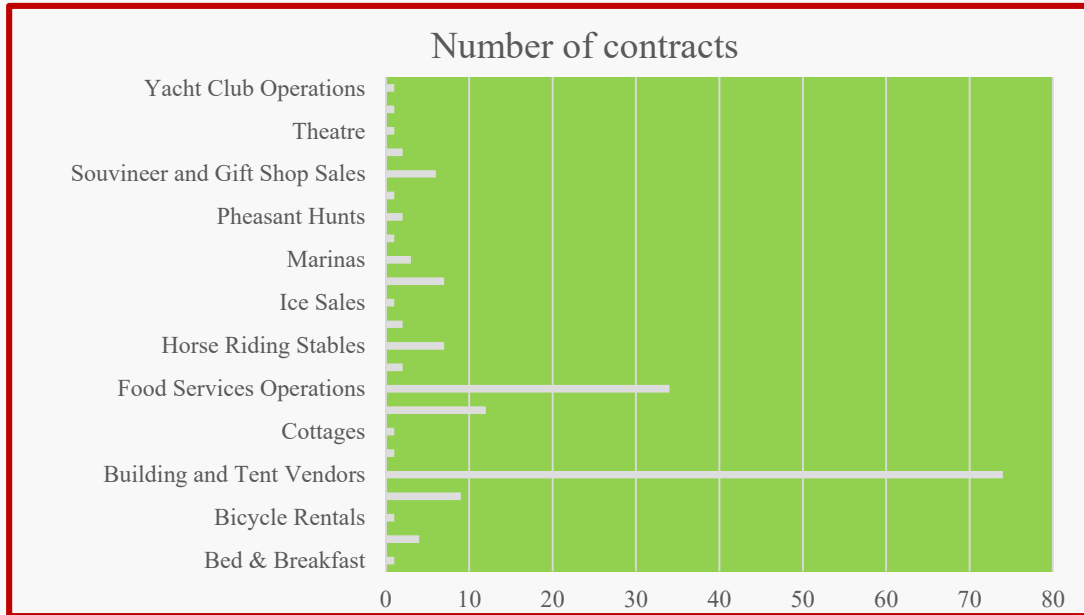
Concessions

Concessions:

- Concessions are proposed through the General Plan development process and by entrepreneurs, park staff, public request, and partner agencies.
- Concessions must be compatible with a parks classification and General long term plan.
- Concessions are intended to enhance visitor experiences, are not attractions unto themselves, and are not solely for their revenue producing potential.
- Prospective concessionaires interested in developing a new concession opportunity should develop a one-page concept brief and present it to the applicable park site superintendent and follow-up with the DNR Concession and Leasing staff in Springfield.



Concessions



Note: Multiple services can be offered under a single concessions contract.

<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>Number of contracts</u>
Bed & Breakfast	1
BEPB Vending Machines	4
Bicycle Rentals	1
Boat and Kayak Rentals	9
Building and Tent Vendors	74
Carriage Rides	1
Cottages	1
Firewood Sales	12
Food Services Operations	34
Golf Courses	2
Horse Riding Stables	7
Ice Cream Sales	2
Ice Sales	1
Lodges	7
Marinas	3
Parking Garage	1
Pheasant Hunts	2
Skiing	1
Souvineer and Gift Shop Sales	6
Swimming Beach	2
Theatre	1
Winter Boat Storage	1
Yacht Club Operations	1
Total	174

Land Leases

Land Leases

- Some of the peripheral or buffer lands and buildings under the jurisdiction of IDNR can be made available for selected uses without adverse impacts to conservation of their natural resources or management of recreational programs. Such leases are accomplished at market value or for alternative considerations, subject to Statutory limitations and conditions.

Utility Licenses

- As a major land holder in Illinois, IDNR has an obligation to try to accommodate necessary utility developments which must cross state property. This is done in a manner which does not destroy the conservation and recreation values of the lands involved. All rights of way are subject to environmental reviews and to a standardized fee structure.



Questions regarding specific lease opportunities may be directed to the site superintendent or to DNR.Concessions@illinois.gov

Agriculture Leases

Ag Leases

- The Illinois DNR Farm Lease Program is subject to the provisions defined in 17 Ill. Adm. Code 150.20.
- Many Department owned, or managed lands contain tillable acreage. It is the Department's policy to minimize the use of unproductive lands for agricultural production in favor of establishing annual or permanent wildlife habitats but also recognizes that certain agricultural practices and farm income on productive acres can provide needed resources for wildlife habitat.
- Contracts are competitively bid unless it meets bidding exceptions cited in Administrative Rule.
- Cropping plans are developed and approved by DNR.



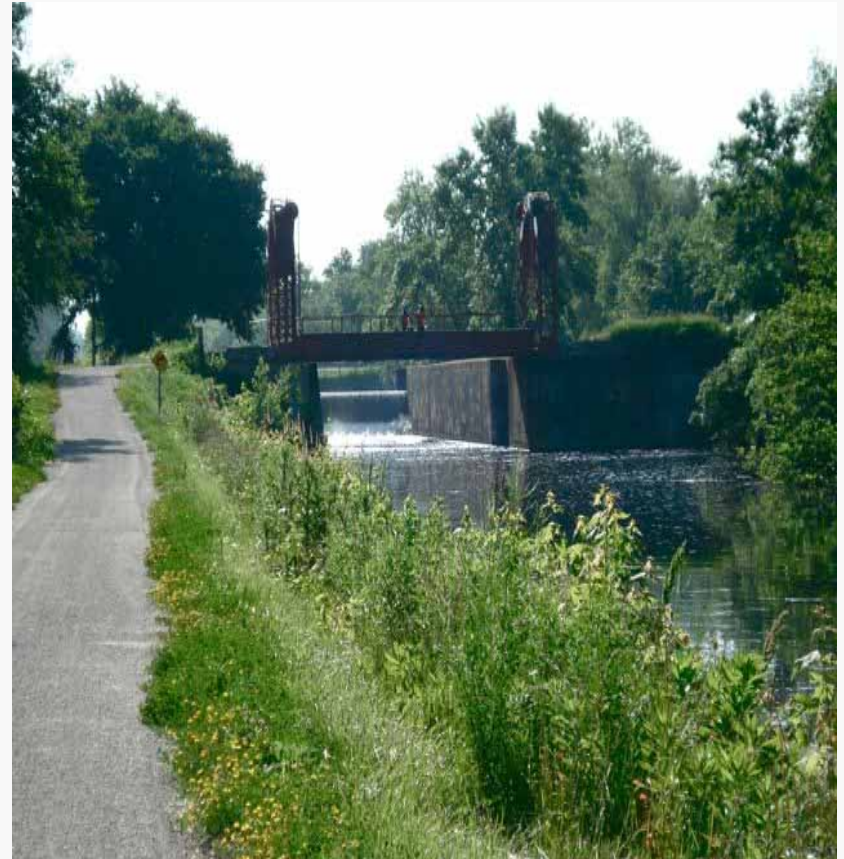
License Agreements

Special Land Use Permits

- Neighboring land owners or other public agencies occasionally need temporary use of IDNR lands for construction access, resource management activities, or other one-time uses. If this can be accomplished without damage to the resources or programs managed by IDNR, permits are issued at no charge to accommodate these needs as a good-neighbor policy.

Legal Agreements

- The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) enters into General Legal Agreements with neighbors and partners to cover a range of necessary operational activities. Some of these include: land leases; utility rights of way; special permits for temporary use or access across IDNR land; annexation of portions of IDNR property to adjacent communities or service districts to provide additional public services and enable these communities to expand across state property to adjacent areas; and management agreements with other agencies of local, state, or federal government.





More Information

Contact the Concession and Leasing Section

One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702-1271
217-782-9633

For more information visit the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (DNR) website

- From the DNR main webpage, click on “Parks/Recreation, then choose “Concessions and Leases”.

Via email:

Pam.gray@Illinois.gov OR
DNR.Concessions@illinois.gov



Please notify DNR of issues or topics that are unclear or that could better help you navigate the Concession & Leasing system.