



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way · Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
www.dnr.illinois.gov

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

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CONTACTS: Chris McCloud
(217) 785-0075
chris.mccloud@illinois.gov

Illinois Department of Natural Resources Newsbits

Highlighting programs and events for the month of September 2013

Pere Marquette State Park Rendezvous: Visitors are invited to step back in time to the days when frontier fur trappers met with fur traders and buyers in a reenactment festival at Pere Marquette State Park in Grafton, Illinois on Sept. 7-8. The first-ever Pere Marquette State Park Rendezvous will be a traditional Pre-1840 Rendezvous, with buckskinned re-enactors portraying primitive traders and campers. There will be period demonstrations, black powder and longbow shoots, camp music, and food harkening back to the Illinois frontier. The Pere Marquette State Park Rendezvous features free admission, with hours of 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Sat., Sept. 7 and 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Sun., Sept. 8.

ICF Raffle: Tickets are available now for the 2013 Illinois Conservation Foundation Raffle supporting youth programs at the Torstenson Youth Conservation Education Center in Pecatonica, IL. Raffle tickets are \$100 each or three for \$250. Raffle prizes – including a grand prize of up to \$100,000 – will be presented at a drawing in Sangamon County on November 1, 2013. The raffle is being conducted in accordance with the Raffles Act. All business operations of the raffle take place exclusively in Sangamon County. Raffle tickets are available online at www.ilcf.org and by mail at: ICF, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271.

New Hunting and Trapping Digest: The Illinois Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations 2013-2014 edition is now available at many IDNR license and permit vendor locations. The digest is also posted online in PDF format through the IDNR website at this link:
www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Documents/HuntTrapDigest.pdf

Firearm Deer Permits: Permit applications will be accepted through Sept. 9 for random daily drawings for 2013 Illinois firearm and muzzleloader deer permits. For details, check the IDNR website at
www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/deer.

Resident Archery Deer and Fall Turkey Permits: Resident combination archery deer permits, resident antlerless-only archery deer permits, and resident archery fall turkey hunting permits are now available over-the-counter from DNR Direct license and permit vendors. Find a vendor near you at this link:
<http://dnr.illinois.gov/DNRDirectMonitor/VendorListing.aspx>

Non-Resident Deer and Turkey Permits: The remaining non-resident 2013 Illinois combination archery deer permits, as well as non-resident antlerless-only archery deer permits and non-resident archery fall turkey permits, are available over-the-counter (OTC) from DNR Direct license and permit vendors. Find a vendor near you at this link:
<http://dnr.illinois.gov/DNRDirectMonitor/VendorListing.aspx>

Youth Deer Permits: Resident and non-resident Illinois Youth Firearm Deer permits are available over-the-counter (OTC) from DNR Direct license and permit vendors. The Youth Deer Hunt is now a three-day season -- Oct. 12-14 during the Columbus Day weekend.

Controlled Pheasant Permits: Information is now available online for hunters to apply for 2013-14 Illinois controlled pheasant hunting opportunities available at 19 IDNR sites. Fifteen of the sites are operated by the IDNR, while four other sites are managed by concessionaire T. Miller, Inc. For application information, check the IDNR website at www.dnr.illinois.gov or www.tmillerinc.com.

Public Duck and Goose Hunting Area Permits: Hunters may apply online through Sept. 10 for the second lottery for the Illinois 2013 Public Duck and Goose Hunting Area Permit program. The second lottery is for those hunters who were unsuccessful resident applicants from the first lottery, residents who didn't apply in the first lottery, and non-residents. The third lottery deadline will be Sept. 24. All initial applications must be made online at
<http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/waterfowl/Pages/OnlinePermitApplication.aspx>

INPC Meeting: The 215th meeting of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission will be held on Tues., Sept. 10 beginning at 9 a.m. at Giant City Lodge, 460 Giant City Lodge Road, Makanda, IL. The meeting is open to the public. For more information, phone 217-785-8686.

Science Series: Archaeology at the Jameson Jenkins Lot in the Lincoln Home neighborhood in Springfield is the September program in the Ill. St. Museum Science Series on Wed., Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. Presented by Dennis Naglich and Claire Fuller Martin of the Illinois State Museum, and Dale Phillips of the Lincoln Home National Historic Site, the program focuses on the archaeology project at the Jenkins home in the Lincoln Home area. Jameson Jenkins in 1850 assisted escaped slaves heading north through Illinois. The program is free and open to the public at the ISM Research and Collections Center, 1011 E. Ash, Springfield. For more information:
www.museum.state.il.us/events

Super Saturdays: The Ill. St. Museum's 'Super Saturdays' program for children is on Migrating Monarchs on Sept. 14, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Every fall, monarch butterflies fly thousands of miles to spend the winter in the forests of Mexico. Children will learn about the lifecycle and migration of Illinois' state insect during the free event. The Ill. St. Museum is located in the State Capitol Complex at 502 S. Spring, Springfield. For more information: www.museum.state.il.us/events

Archaeologist for a Day: Kids 9-16 can be an archaeologist for a day on Sept. 14 at the Dickson Mounds Museum in Lewistown. Youth will work alongside professional archaeologists and learn excavation and artifact identification techniques, and how to process finds. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., and the program fee is just \$2 for Ill. St. Museum Society members and \$4 for non-members. Dickson Mounds is located between Lewistown and Havana off Illinois Routes 78 and 97. The museum is open free to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. every day. For more information, call 309-547-3721.

Illinois State Parks Guide: The latest edition of the Illinois State Parks guide is available in print and online. The booklet is a useful guide to an eventful day in a state park picnic area, a weekend at a state park lodge or campground, a hike in a state forest, a ride on a state trail, or hunting and fishing trips to a state fish and wildlife area. The Illinois State Parks guide is posted on the IDNR website in PDF format at <http://dnr.state.il.us/publications/pdf/00000715.pdf>
To order a free copy of the booklet, visit the IDNR publications webpage at www.dnr.illinois.gov/publications

Stratton Lock and Dam: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has posted the IDNR Stratton Lock and Dam Life Extension Project for public comments as part of their review for the Corps' 404 permit. The Stratton Lock and Dam Life Extension Project will replace the existing sluice gates and extend the lock. The existing sluice gates control water levels on the Chain O'Lakes and Fox River. The new gates will have the same capacity as the existing gates, so flood potential will not be impacted. The lock will be extended to more than double the lock capacity. The link to the Corps' Public Notice page is shown below, and interested parties can view the public notice by clicking on the permit application number LRC-2011-00763. The Corps will accept comments thru September 25, 2013.
<http://www.lrc.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PublicNotices.aspx>

ICF Seeking Executive Director: The Illinois Conservation Foundation (ICF) Board of Directors is accepting applications through Sept. 30 for the position of Executive Director. The Executive Director is a full-time position reporting directly to the Chairman of the Board and the ICF Board of Directors. The Executive Director is responsible for fundraising and management of the organization, including strategic and policy planning, board relations, fund development and donor relations, and shares responsibilities as spokesperson for the organization with the Chairman. Since 1994, the ICF has partnered with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to raise financial resources designated to help protect and enhance the natural wonders of Illinois. The ICF is a grassroots conservation effort, conceptualized by Illinois' first Conservation Congress. More than 40,000 supporters partner with ICF to help realize those goals. The ICF is a 501 (c) (3) organization with all funds held in private accounts. For detailed job description and application information, check the ICF website at <http://www.ilcf.org/index.php/95-staff/111-ed-job-description>

Wingshooting Clinics: The IDNR and participating partners sponsor wingshooting clinics at sites throughout Illinois to help improve the shooting skills of participants. Youth/Women's clinics are designed to teach participants basic firearm safety and the fundamentals of wingshooting. Hunter clinics are designed to enhance the wingshooting skills of hunters and provide sound wingshooting practice techniques. Upcoming clinics will be conducted on weekends through late October. For a complete schedule, check the webpage at this link: <http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/landmgt/programs/wingshooting/WingshootingDates.htm>

Johnson-Sauk Trail Youth/Women Wingshooting Clinic: Johnson-Sauk Trail State Recreation Area, the IDNR and the Rock Island and Henry County Chapters of Pheasants Forever are sponsoring a wingshooting clinic for beginning shotgunners at Johnson-Sauk Trail SRA near Kewanee, IL on Sat., Sept. 14. The clinic is for young wingshooters (boys and girls) ages 10-15 years of age and women. Registration begins at 9 a.m. The clinic runs from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The professional wingshooting teachers are certified IDNR or National Sporting Clays Association wingshooting instructors. There is a registration fee of \$10. All supplies including shotguns and ammunition are provided, as is lunch. To make a reservation, call Bill Candler at 309-848-0080 or 563-726-3323 (space is limited to 24 students). This clinic is hands-on and includes extensive

live fire at clay targets. There will also be a short classroom session on basic firearm safety and handling, firearm nomenclature, and hunter safety, which will be presented by an IDNR Certified Volunteer Hunter Safety Instructor or a NSCA Certified Wingshooting Instructor.

Doza Creek Waterfowl Hunting: Waterfowl hunters should be alert to a regulations change in effect for the 2013-14 waterfowl season at the Doza Creek Waterfowl Management Area. Doza Creek WMA is a trolling motor-only site for use during waterfowl season. The new rule states “All outboard motors fixed to any vessel will have to be inoperable by either removal of the prop or fuel tanks.” The Doza Creek WMA is a 460-acre sub impoundment managed for migrating waterfowl and is managed as part of the Kaskaskia River State Fish and Wildlife Area located in Baldwin, IL. For more information, contact the site superintendent at 618-785-2555.

Trail of Tears State Forest: Prescribed fire will be utilized this fall, during October and November, in portions of the Trail of Tears State Forest in Union Co. to promote a healthy forest habitat. Short-term closures of one to two days may occur within the North Forest Road portion of the site. The areas in question are adjacent to Fire Trails #30 - 39. Visitors can check the IDNR website for closure information, or call the Trail of Tears site office at 618-833-4910 prior to their visit.

Confiscated and Abandoned Property Auction: IDNR will conduct an auction of its inventory of confiscated and abandoned property at the IDNR Jack Perschbacher Service Center, 505 Tenth Street, Pawnee, IL, on Sat., Sept. 14. Bidder registration will begin at 7 a.m. with the auction beginning at 9 a.m. Potential bidders may inspect the merchandise beginning at 7 a.m. the day of the sale. Buyers will be responsible to pay an 8% buyer’s fee in addition to the price they bid. Larry Richie Auctions, Inc. will be the auctioneer. Pictures and descriptions of items to be auctioned may be viewed at www.larryrichieauctioneer.com. As required by law, all proceeds from these auctions are deposited into the State Wildlife and Fish Fund.

Youth Deer Hunt Drawing for JEPC: Youth hunters interested in participating in the Youth Deer Hunt on Oct. 12-14 at Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA must submit a postcard to the site office by Sept. 12 to enter a drawing for 75 hunters to be allowed to hunt in the site’s two Open Units. The drawing will occur on Sept. 14. Interested youth should provide a postcard with their name, address, phone number, and their age. Successful applicants will be notified, and must purchase a Youth Deer Hunt permit for Cass County, available over the counter at IDNR license and permit vendor locations. The JEPC Control Unit and Quail Management Unit are both closed to youth deer hunters; youth hunting will only be allowed in the two Open Units. Applicants should address postcards to JEPC, 10149 County Highway 11, Chandlerville, IL 62627. For additional information, phone 217-452-7741.

Youth Deer Hunt Drawing for Coffeen Lake SFWA: IDNR will conduct a drawing on Wed., Sept. 18 for three youth to hunt deer at the Coffeen Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area Upland Management Area during the Illinois Youth Firearm Deer Season, Oct 12-14. Participating youth must have a valid Montgomery County Youth Firearm Deer permit. To be eligible for the Sept. 18 drawing, the youth’s name, mailing address, and contact phone number must be printed on a postcard and received at the Coffeen Lake SFWA site office by close of business on Sept. 17. Late entries will not be accepted. Successful applicants will have until Sept. 30 to apply for and report their Montgomery County Youth Firearm Deer permit number to the Coffeen Lake site office. The mailing address to apply is Coffeen Lake SFWA, PO Box 517, Coffeen, IL 62017. For more information, contact the Ramsey Lake State Park office at 618-423-2215 or by e-mail at dnr.coffeenlake@illinois.gov.

JEPC Trapping Permits: A public drawing for the allocation of Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area trapping permits will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Sept. 21. Registration will begin at 1 p.m. at the site headquarters, located approximately five miles southeast of Chandlerville. One permit for each of the five trapping zones will be allocated through a lottery-type drawing. All persons attempting to enter the drawing must have a current 2013 trapping license in their possession and be in attendance. DP (dog proof) traps, live traps, and traps of similar action may be used. Homemade dog proof traps must be designed with a foothold trap no larger than a #2 in an enclosed wood, metal, or durable plastic container, with a single access opening no larger than 1.5 inches diameter. All body-gripping traps must be totally submerged. For more information, contact Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA, P.O. Box 646, Ashland, IL 62612, or phone 217/452-7741.

Sangchris Lake Trapping Permit Drawing: One trapping permit will be awarded at a public drawing to be held on Sat., Oct. 19 at the site headquarters of Sangchris Lake State Park, 9898 Cascade Road, Rochester, IL 62563. Registration for the drawing will begin at 10 a.m. at the site office, and the drawing will be held at 11 a.m. Trapping will be permitted in the designated area from the statewide opening until Jan. 25, 2014, and include the extended spring season for mink and muskrat through Feb. 15, 2014; and, beaver and otter trapping, which are allowed through Mar. 31, 2014. A 2012 or 2013 trapping license or trapper education card will be required to register for the drawing. Two names will be allowed on the permit and registrants must be in attendance for the drawing. For more information about trapping opportunities, contact Sangchris Lake State Park at 217-498-9208.

Trapping Permits Drawing in Pittsfield: The IDNR will conduct a public drawing for the allocation of three Furbearer Trapping Permits --- two for the Ray Norbut State Fish and Wildlife Area in Pike Co. (one for the main site near Valley City and the other for a satellite property near East Hannibal) – and the other permit for Weinberg-King State Park - Spunky Bottoms Unit in Brown Co. The drawings will be held at the IDNR Pittsfield District Field Office at 7 p.m. on Wed., Oct. 16. Registration will begin at 6 p.m. at the office, which is located on Highway 106 West in Pittsfield. The permits will be valid for a two-year period. All persons entering the drawing must have a current 2013 trapping license in possession. The person whose name is drawn must be in attendance. Trapping will be allowed on the sites in conjunction with the statewide season dates and regulations. Some restrictions may apply. For additional information, call Weinberg-King State Park (217-392-2345) or the IDNR Pittsfield office (217-285-2221).

Boating Infrastructure Grants: Local governments, privately-owned marinas and boatyards have until Sept. 25, 2013 to apply for grants available to provide temporary docking facilities for large boats through the Boating Infrastructure Grant Program. Funds for the program come from federal excise taxes on fishing equipment and motorboat fuels through the Sport Fishing and Boating Safety program, and can provide up to 75 percent of an approved project's cost. The program is intended to enhance boating for transient, non-trailerable recreational boats - those 26 feet long or longer. The applicant must provide the other 25 percent of a project's cost. Eligible facilities must accommodate boats of 26 feet or longer, must be used by transient boaters who do not stay more than 10 consecutive days and must be open to the public. Projects could include boat slips, mooring buoys, navigational aids, safe harbors and initial dredging to provide transient boats with safe channel depths. All proposals must be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through the IDNR Federal Aid and Special Funds Section at 217-782-2602.

Clean Vessel Grants: The Illinois DNR is soliciting applications for grants to be awarded through the federal Clean Vessel Act grant program. Local governments and operators of private marinas, boat yards and yacht clubs may apply for the grants to build or upgrade marine sewage disposal systems and renovate pump-out stations used by recreational boaters. These grant funds help provide facilities for boaters to dispose of their waste in an environmentally safe manner. Applications must be sent to the IDNR by November 1, 2013. The Department will forward proposals to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for consideration. Applicants whose projects are approved will be reimbursed for up to 75 percent of allowable expenses to construct or renovate stations and waste reception facilities. Grant funds are generated from excise taxes on fishing equipment, import duties on tackle and boats and motorboat fuel taxes. Detailed information about the program and application forms are available by calling 217-782-2602 or by writing the IDNR Federal Aid and Special Funds Section, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271.

ICF Scholarships: The Illinois Conservation Foundation offers the Conservation Achievement Scholarship to promote the value of our natural world and encourage the next generation of leaders to engage in personal efforts to preserve and enhance a sustainable outdoor environment. This opportunity is available to outstanding high school seniors in Illinois who have demonstrated effective, voluntary, long-term dedication to the preservation, protection, enhancement and/or promotion of Illinois' natural resources. Three scholarships, of \$2,000 each, will be awarded for the 2013-2014 school year. These scholarships are one-time awards that are not renewable. Scholarship funds may be used for the following expenses related to the two- or four-year college or university degree that the scholarship recipient is pursuing: tuition; college/university fees; textbooks; room and board at the college/university. Funds are mailed directly to the college/university of the successful applicants. The application deadline is Nov. 30, 2013. For more information, contact the ICF at 217-785-2003 or dnr.icf@illinois.gov. Web link: <http://www.ilcf.org/index.php/programs/scholarships>

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