



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IDNR seeking campground hosts for 2026 camping season

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) is seeking campground hosts for the 2026 camping season for state parks, recreation areas and historic sites across Illinois.

Campground hosting is a perfect position for anyone who enjoys camping and helping others. Hosts are often the first to greet state park visitors. They check on arrivals and departures, write camping permits, acquaint campers with park facilities and regulations, answer questions about local and statewide attractions, help visitors plan outings and more.

Campground hosts have the privilege of free camping in their own RVs, motorhomes or trailers at designated sites within state parks.

“Above all, the quality all campground hosts possess is a passion for working with the public,” said **Calvin Beckmann, IDNR chief of parks and recreation**. “If hosting sounds appealing to you, we would love to hear from you.”

Anyone interested in being a campground host can complete and submit a [campground host program packet](#) at the desired site. Questions can be directed to the [superintendent at the appropriate site](#).

The following IDNR sites currently have host positions available:

Carroll County

[Mississippi Palisades State Park](#)

Clinton County

[Eldon Hazlet State Recreation Area](#)

Christian and Sangamon counties

[Sangchris Lake State Park](#)

Franklin County

[Wayne Fitzgerald State Recreation Area](#)

Hardin County

[Cave-in-Rock State Park](#)

Henderson County

[Delabar State Park](#)

[Big River State Forest](#)

Henry County

[Johnson-Sauk Trail State Recreation Area](#)

Lake County

[Chain O' Lakes State Park](#)

[Adeline Jay Geo-Karis Illinois Beach State Park](#)

LaSalle County

[Illini State Park](#)

Madison County

[Horseshoe Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area](#)

Marion County

[Stephen A. Forbes State Recreation Area](#)

Randolph County

[World Shooting and Recreation Complex](#)

Saline County

[Saline County State Fish and Wildlife Area](#)

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About IDNR

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources was established in 1925 as the Illinois Department of Conservation, bringing under one umbrella oversight of fish and game, forestry, public works, and lakes. Today, IDNR's work encompasses management of about 400 sites across Illinois, including state parks and historic sites; wildlife, fisheries, forestry, and natural heritage; Lake Michigan water allocation and coastal management; conservation police; mines and minerals; oil and gas; issuance of licenses, permits, and numerous grants; the World Shooting and Recreational Complex in Sparta; and the Illinois State Museum. Visit <https://dnr.illinois.gov> and follow us on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) and [LinkedIn](#).