



Join Us and Make a
Difference!

Iowa State Parks Volunteer Day

September 25, 2021

Sept 25, 2021 - Statewide Volunteer Day!

Find a park or forest near you to volunteer. Participating parks and forests listed alphabetically and volunteer events vary based on the park's needs. Please call ahead to RSVP if you plan to attend an event.

List of Parks and Forests with events (scroll through document for details on each event):

- Backbone State Park
- Beeds Lake State Park
- Bellevue State Park
- Brushy Creek State Recreation Area
- Cedar Rock
- Lacey-Keosauqua State Park
- Lake Anita State Park
- Lake Darling State Park
- Lake Keomah State Park
- Lake Macbride State Park
- Ledges State Park
- Pikes Peak State Park
- Pilot Knob State Park
- Prairie Rose State Park
- Shimek State Forest
- Springbrook State Park
- Stone State Park
- Walnut Woods/Badger Creek State Recreation Area
- Waubonsie State Park
- Wildcat Den State Park

Backbone State Park

1:00 PM

Meeting Location: Park office near South Campground

Park Address: 1347 129th St, Dundee, IA 52038

Description: De-construct old benches.

What to Bring: Wear appropriate clothes, gloves and safety glasses.

Contact: RSVP to the office at 563-924-2527.

Beeds Lake State Park

9:00 AM

Meeting Location: Beeds Lake Stone Lodge

Park Address: 1422 165th Street, Hampton, IA 50441

Description: Tree removal and clean up.

What to Bring: Wear sturdy shoes, gloves and long pants. Bring water, bug spray, gloves and pruning equipment.

Contact: Ranger Scott Doescher at scott.doescher@dnr.iowa.gov

Bellevue State Park

9:00 AM

Meeting Location: Bellevue South Bluff Nature Center

Park Address: 21466 429th Ave. Bellevue IA 52031

Description: Butterfly garden clean up and wood splitting.

What to Bring: Bring gloves, gardening tools, rakes, shovels, long sleeves, pants and drinks.

Contact: Please call the park office if planning to attend at (563) 872-4019.

Brushy Creek State Recreation Area

1:00 PM

Meeting Location: Park Office

Address: 2802 Brushy Creek Rd. Lehigh, IA.

Description: Park clean-up activities. Maps of trash cleanup locations and garbage bags will be handed out.

What to Bring: Sturdy foot wear, long pants and gloves recommended.

Contact: Brushy_Creek@dnr.iowa.gov

Cedar Rock

10:00 – 11:00 AM and/or 11:00 AM - Noon

Meeting Location: Park Visitor Center

Address: 2611 Quasqueton Diagonal Blvd., Independence, IA 50644

Description: Join park staff to collect prairie grass and forb seeds from the existing Cedar Rock prairie areas. A brief prairie plant identification discussion will begin each session. Collected seeds will be used at Cedar Rock.

What to Bring: Gloves, long pants, hat and water.

Contact: Please contact the park office if planning to attend at (319) 934-3572 or cedar_rock@dnr.iowa.gov

Lacey-Keosauqua State Park

9:00 AM -- Noon

Meeting Location: Shelter #2

Park Address: 22895 Lacey Trail, Keosauqua, IA 52565

Description: Stain logs on Shelter #2.

What to Bring: Wear old clothes; all other protective equipment will be provided.

Volunteers: 20-25

Contact: In case of bad weather, listen to Park Office phone message with cancellation information at (319) 293-3502.

Lake Anita State Park

2:00 PM

Meeting Location: Campground non-electric site shower building.

Park Address: 55111 750th Street, Anita, IA 50020

Description: Paint picnic tables and litter pick up.

What to Bring: Bring gloves, wear old clothing. Supplies will be provided. Bring a drink. Everyone is welcome but young painters must have adult supervision.

Volunteers Needed: 10-20

Contact: Please RSVP at Lake_Anita@dnr.iowa.gov, or call the park office at (712) 762-3564.

Lake Darling State Park

9:00 AM - Noon

Meeting Location: Campground Kiosk

Park Address: 111 Lake Darling Rd, Brighton, IA 52540

Project Description: Picnic table rebuilding. We will be dismantling old tables and replacing old boards with new material/hardware. May be spray painting legs.

What to Bring: Wear old clothes and light gloves.

Contact: RSVP attendance in advance by calling the Park Office (319) 694-2323, or emailing: Nick.Young@dnr.iowa.gov

Lake Keomah State Park

12:00 PM

Meeting Location: Park Office

Park Address: 2720 Keomah Lane, Oskaloosa, IA, 52577

Description: Remove invasive black locust from dam.

What to Bring: Bring gloves, bow saws, cutting tools, and wear long pants and long sleeves.

Volunteers: 10-20

Contact: Call Park Office at (641) 673-6975; email: Lake_Keomah@dnr.iowa.gov

Lake Macbride State Park

9:00 AM - Noon

Meeting Location: Park Office

Park Address: 3525 Hwy 382 NE, Solon, IA 52333

Project Description: Picnic table rebuilding. We will be dismantling old tables and replacing old boards with new material/hardware. May be spray painting legs.

What to Bring: Wear old clothes and light gloves. This is an outdoor activity unless rain; no masks necessary, but allowed if you feel you need to wear one. Come anytime between 9 and noon to help if you can!

Volunteers Needed: 20+

Contact: Email: Lake_Macbride@dnr.iowa.gov

Ledges State Park

8:00 AM - Noon

Meeting Location: East Entrance

Park Address: 1515 P Ave., Madrid, IA 50156

Description: The Monarch Festival will be sponsored by Friends of the Ledges and include kids activities, interactive displays, plant & insect identification, a pollinator hike and much more! Iowa State University Extension staff will be on hand to assist as well. The event will last until noon and visitors are welcome to come and go as they please.

Contact: Park Office 515-432-1852; email: Ledges@dnr.iowa.gov

Pikes Peak State Park

10:00 AM

Meeting Location: Campground Entrance

Park Address: 32264 Pikes Peak Rd, McGregor, IA 52157

Description: Paint the Peak Inn historic building.

What to Bring: Wear old clothes, bring bug spray and water.

Volunteers Needed: 10-20

Contact: Pikes_Peak@dnr.iowa.gov

Pilot Knob State Park

10:00 AM

Meeting Location: Campground

Park Address: 2148 340th Street. Forest City, IA 50436

Description: Paint restroom, split fire wood, Paint pit toilets, weather treat picnic tables in campground

What to Bring: Wear old clothes and work gloves as appropriate for painting.

Volunteers Needed: 10-20

Contact: Please RSVP by sending an email to Pilot_Knob@dnr.iowa.gov and/or friendsofpilotknob@gmail.com

Prairie Rose State Park

4:30 PM

Meeting Location: Meet at the lower shower building parking lot located next to site 39.

Park Address: 680 Road M-47. Harlan, IA 51537

Description: Join park staff for a campground micro litter cleanup. Help keep the park in great condition by picking up small pieces of garbage in and around fire rings, sites, and behind sites in the tall grass. Gloves and trash bags provided.

Volunteers Needed: 10-20

Contact: Park office (712) 773-2701, Prairie_Rose@dnr.iowa.gov

Shimek State Forest

9:00 AM

Meeting Location: Meet at the Lick Creek Unit Upper Campground

Forest Address: 33653 Route J56, Farmington, IA 52626

Description: Join park staff for a campground micro litter cleanup and picnic table work. Help keep the forest in great condition by picking up small pieces of garbage in and around fire rings, sites, and behind sites in the tall grass.

What to Bring: Wear old clothes, bring water.

Volunteers: 5-10

Contact: Please email Patrick Thomas in advance at Patrick.Thomas@dnr.iowa.gov, or call (319) 931-7805.

Springbrook State Park

9:00 AM

Meeting Location: Campground Gazebo

Park Address: 2437 160th Road, Guthrie Center, IA 50115

Description: Repair, stain and seal picnic tables and work in the pollinator plots.

What to Bring: Bring gloves, rake, garden trowel (if you have one) and a water bottle. Wear old clothes.

Volunteers Needed: 20

Contact: If planning to attend, please call in advance to Anne Riordan (641) 295-6028 or email: anne.riordan@dnr.iowa.gov

Stone State Park

8:00 AM

NOTE: This event will take place on 9/18 rather than 9/25.

Meeting Location: Pammel Valley

Park Address: 5001 Talbot Road, Sioux City, IA 51103

Description: Trail repair and workday.

What to Bring: Bring gloves, water and bug spray. Wear work clothes, long pants and boots.

Volunteers Needed: 10-35.

Contact: Park office (712) 255-4698; Stone@dnr.iowa.gov

Walnut Woods State Park/Badger Creek State Recreation Area

9:00 AM

Meeting Location: Meeting location different than park -- meet at Badger Creek State Rec Area boat ramp.

Description: Trim brush and pick up trash around jetties and boat ramp.

What to Bring: Gloves, long sleeve shirt, pants, comfortable boots/shoes.

Contact: Call Park Office to RSVP at (515) 285-4502.

Waubonsie State Park

3:00 PM

Meeting Location: Overlook Parking Area

Park Address: 2585 Waubonsie Park Road, Hamburg, IA 51640

Description: Help harvest native prairie seed for restoration plantings throughout the park.

What to Bring: Wear long pants and close-toed shoes, bring a drink.

Volunteers Needed: 10-20

Contact: If you plan to attend, please call in advance to the Park office 712-326-2786, or email: Matt.Moles@dnr.iowa.gov

Wildcat Den State Park

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (come anytime during that time frame)

Meeting Location: Park Office

Park Address: 1884 Wildcat Road, Muscatine, IA 52761

Description: Invasive species and litter clean-up.

What to Bring: Bring gloves and comfortable hiking shoes. Pruning shears, hands saws and garbage bags will be provided, but you can also bring your own equipment. Work independently or as a group to accomplish various tasks outlined by park staff. COVID friendly snacks and bottled water provided.

Volunteers Needed: 10+

Contact: Park office (563) 263-4337