

Aug -Sept 2026

8/1- 2 **Nature Quest for Young Explorers**
Weekend Youth Programs
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m./Email
Lisa.Sons@Illinois.Gov to register.

8/9 **Journey Through the Tallgrass-Prairie Hike with a Naturalist**
7 a.m./Registration opens 7/9 on Starved Rock Eventbrite online

8/16 **Art in the Park Workshop**
Nature's Palette: Create your own Paint from Nature!
10 a.m./Registration opens on 7/16 on Starved Rock Eventbrite online

8/29 **Bats in the Spotlight**
Bat presentation and night hike.
6:30 p.m./Registration opens on 7/29 on Starved Rock Eventbrite online

9/7 **Honoring the Hands that Built Our Parks- Labor Day Hike**
10 a.m.

9/12 **3 Hots and a Cot**
The Civilian Conservation Corps at Starved Rock State Park.
10 a.m.

9/19 **Engage with Nature: Bird Banding and Migration at Starved Rock**
8 a.m./Registration opens on 8/19 on Starved Rock Eventbrite online

9/26 **The Matthiessen, Hegeler, and Carus Connection**
10 a.m.

 **Starved Rock and Matthiessen State Parks**
 **[DNR.ILLINOIS.GOV](https://www.dnr.illinois.gov)**

Photo courtesy of Kathy Casstevens



Support Future Events at Starved Rock State Park!

Funding for program presenters and program supplies is made possible by the Starved Rock Foundation.

Donations are welcome! Please visit www.starvedrock.org for more information or scan code here.



October 2026

Visitor Center is Closed on Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, and the Day After.

10/3 **Brew Your Own Bliss-Illinois Herbal Teas and Coffee from Native Plants.**
10 a.m.

10/11 **Ho Chunk History, an Illinois Indigenous Tribe**
10 a.m.

10/17 **Leaf Peeping and Tree Seeking Hike with a Naturalist**
10 a.m./Registration opens on 9/17 on Starved Rock Eventbrite online

10/24 **Ghosts of Starved Rock's Past Evening Event**
Tours at 6, 6:15, 6:30, 6:45, 7, and 7:15 p.m.
Registration opens on 9/24 on Starved Rock Eventbrite online

Nov-Dec 2026

Visitor Center is Closed on Christmas and New Year's Day

11/1 **Howloween! Family Fun with your Furry Friend!**
10-3/Event information found at bit.ly/47Rv7Yb. Registration opens on 10/1 on Starved Rock Eventbrite online.

11/8 **Nature's Beat: Drum Circle Harmony.**
1 p.m./Registration opens on 10/8 on Starved Rock Eventbrite online

11/28 **Finding Thankfulness in Nature**
Trail Hike with a Naturalist
8 a.m./Registration opens on 10/28 on Starved Rock Eventbrite online

11/30 **Starved Rock Photography Show Entries Due**
Entries can be turned in between 10/1 and 11/30.
Entry Form Required: bit.ly/4nxySql

12/5- 1/1 **Starved Rock Photo Show**
Open to the public daily from 9-4

12/13 **Art in the Park Workshop**
Nature Journaling with Master Naturalists
1 p.m./Registration opens on 11/13 on Starved Rock Eventbrite online

12/21 **Winter Solstice Nature Hike**
5 p.m./Registration opens 11/21 on Starved Rock Eventbrite online

[DNR.ILLINOIS.GOV](https://www.dnr.illinois.gov)

2026 Programs & Events

STARVED ROCK STATE PARK

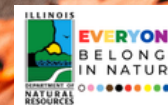


Photo courtesy of Matthew Klein

Jan-Feb 2026

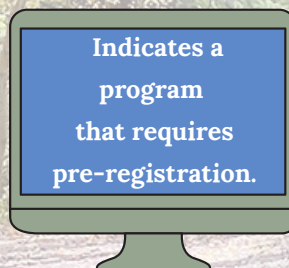
Visitor Center is Closed on
Martin Luther King Birthday, Lincoln's Birthday, and
President's Day.

- 1/3** **Starved Rock Photography Show**
Award Ceremony
10 a.m.
- 1/24-25** **Eagle Watch Weekend**
Live bird of prey shows, eagle viewing hikes, and
children's programming.
Event schedule found at bit.ly/46g8agg
- 1/31** **Trek Through Time: Guided Icefall and Ice Age**
History Hike
10 a.m./Registration opens 12/31 on
Starved Rock Eventbrite online
- 1/31** **Last day to enter the Starved Rock Art Show**
Entries can be turned in between 1/3 and 1/31.
Entry Form Required: bit.ly/3IoSqhF
- 2/1** **Hogging the Spotlight**
Live Groundhog Program
1 p.m./Tickets at Visitor Center,
day of the program.
- 2/7-3/6** **Starved Art Show**
Open to the public daily from 9-4
- 2/14** **Owl You Need Is Love!**
Live Animal Program
5 p.m.
- 2/14** **Outdoor Owl Prowl**
6:30 p.m./Registration opens 1/14 on
Starved Rock Eventbrite online
- 2/28** **Art in the Park Workshop**
Transform Your Artistic Skills while learning the
Zentangle Method.
10 a.m./Registration opens 1/28 on
Starved Rock Eventbrite online

March - April 2026

- 3/7** **Starved Rock Art Show Award Ceremony**
10 a.m.
- 3/14** **Exploring Starved Rock's Past**
Post Civil War to the Roaring Twenties
1 p.m.
- 3/28** **Art in the Park Workshop**
The Art and History of Pottery Making
10 a.m./Registration opens 2/28 on
Starved Rock Eventbrite online
- 4/8-10** **Nature Sleuths Spring Break Youth Programs**
10 a.m.-12 p.m./Email Lisa.Sons@Illinois.Gov to
register.
- 4/11** **Early Pioneer Life in LaSalle County**
1 p.m.
- 4/25** **Chasing Spring**
Waterfalls and Wildflowers Hike with a Naturalist
4:30 p.m./Registration opens on 3/25 on
Starved Rock Eventbrite online
- 4/26** **Illinois' Native Reptiles**
Live Animal Show
1 p.m./Tickets at Visitor Center, day of the
program.

All Programs are Free!
Registration might be
necessary.



May, June, & July 2026

Visitor Center is Closed on Juneteenth.

- 5/2** **Around the World with Animals**
Live Animal Show
11 a.m. & 1 p.m./Tickets at Visitor Center,
day of the program.
- 5/9** **Springtime Symphony**
A Naturalist-Led Bird Watching Hike
7 a.m./Registration opens 4/9 on
Starved Rock Eventbrite online
- 5/25** **Nature's Tribute: Memorial Day Hike**
10 a.m.
- 6/6-7** **Nature Quest for Young Explorers**
Weekend Youth Programs
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m./Email
Lisa.Sons@Illinois.Gov to register.
- 6/13** **Casting Memories**
Family Fishing Clinic
9 a.m./Registration opens 5/13 on
Starved Rock Eventbrite online
- 6/21** **Summer Solstice Nature Hike**
9 a.m./Registration opens 5/21 on
Starved Rock Eventbrite online
- 6/27** **Junior Ranger Day**
Family Fun Event
10 a.m.-1 p.m./Event information found at
bit.ly/47Rv7Yb
- 7/4** **From Quarry to Conservation Hike**
Celebrating Natures and America's
Independence
10 a.m.
- 7/11-12** **Nature Quest for Young Explorers**
Weekend Youth Programs
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m./Email
Lisa.Sons@Illinois.Gov to register.

Photo courtesy of Paula Guttilla

Looking for more info?

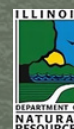
Scan the QR code for more
program details or visit the IDNR
at <http://bit.ly/42GrkcH>



The Visitor Center is Closed on:

New Year's Day	Election Day
Martin Luther King Day	Veteran's Day
Lincoln's Birthday	Thanksgiving
President's Day	Day after Thanksgiving
Juneteenth	Christmas Day

Program or event questions?



Please email lisa.sons@illinois.gov
or call the Park Office at
815-667-4726 M-F, 9-4