

Spring Has Sprung Trail Run

Date(s): Apr. 11th, 19th

Time: 10:30 AM

Location: Visitor Center

Details: Join us for the Spring Has Sprung Trail Run at Pere Marquette State Park on April 11 and April 19 at 10:30 AM! This 3.5-mile run on the scenic Inner Loop is open to all skill levels—run at your own pace and enjoy the beauty of spring. Whether you're a seasoned runner or just looking for a fun way to explore the park, this event is for you. RSVP is required, so call 618-786-3323 or email menachem.smolianski@illinois.gov to reserve your spot today!

Guided Wildflower Hike

Date(s): Apr. 27th | May. 4th, 11th, 18th

Time: 11:00 AM

Location: Visitor Center

Details: Join us on April 27th, May 4th, 11th, and 18th, 2025, to explore the park's vibrant spring blooms. Each hike begins at 11:00 AM, and participants should meet at the Visitor Center. Whether you're a seasoned botanist or simply a nature enthusiast, this is a wonderful opportunity to learn about the park's diverse plant life while enjoying a scenic hike. We look forward to seeing you on the trail!

Movie Night At Pere Marquette

Date(s): Jun. 13 | Aug. 15th

Time: 9:00 PM

Location: Campground Shelter

Details: Movie nights will take place on June 13th and August 15th, 2025, at the campground shelter. Be sure to bring lawn chairs or blankets for comfortable seating and your favorite snacks and beverages. This free event includes delicious s'mores for everyone to enjoy during the movie. The featured film for June 13th is The Lorax, and the movie for August 15th is The Bee Movie. Join us as we celebrate 100 years of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources during this special event. We look forward to seeing you there!

Pere Marquette State Park Information

Visitor Center Hours: Monday - Sunday
8 AM - 3:30 PM

CLOSED ON SUNDAYS NOV 1st- APR 1st

Visitor Center Address: 13112 Visitors
Center Ln, Grafton, IL 62037

Phone Number: 618-786-3323

Site interpreter: Menachem (Lev)
Smolianski

Phone Number: 618-832-0295

Email: Menachem.smolianski@illinois.gov
Have an idea or a program you'd like to see at the park? We'd love to hear from you—reach out and share your suggestions!



PERE MARQUETTE STATE PARK 2025 EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL
RESOURCES

Bald Eagle Days

Date(s): Dec. 26 | Jan. 30st ,31st | Feb. 4th, 7th, 11th, 21st, 24th, 26th, 28th | Mar. 7th

Time: 8:30 AM

Location: Visitor Center

Details: Pere Marquette State Park will be presenting informative programs about bald eagles this winter. Visitors will learn to identify immature and mature bald eagles, why they winter in the area, and more. All programs will begin with a presentation, followed by a driving tour with stops for eagle viewing and a break for lunch. Please note that participants will drive their own vehicles during the tour and cover the cost of their own lunch. The program is free; however, reservations are required. Call 618-786-3323 to reserve your spot. Dress for the weather and bring a camera!

Guided Winter Night Hikes

Date(s): Dec. 10th | Jan. 10th, 17th

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Visitor Center

Details: Join us for a guided 2.5-mile hike starting at 7 PM to explore winter ecology and park history. The hike will take approximately 1.5 hours. The Visitor Center will open at 6:30 PM, and a limited number of flashlights will be available. It is recommended to bring your own flashlight. Reservations are recommended. (call 618-786-3323 to reserve your spot.)

Star Party at Pere Marquette

Date(s): Mar. 1st

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Visitor Center

Details: Join the St. Louis Astronomical Society for a star party at Pere Marquette State Park on Saturday, March 1, 2025, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Visitor Center. Led by Simone Williams, this event offers views of the waxing crescent moon, planets like Mars, Jupiter, and Venus, and constellations such as the Big Dipper, Cassiopeia, and Orion. Telescopes will be provided for viewing opportunities.

Guided Morel Hunt

Date(s): Apr. 12th

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Visitor Center

Details: Embark on an exciting Guided Morel Hunt at Pere Marquette State Park! Join us on April 11th, 2025, for a morning of adventure as we search for these delicious and elusive mushrooms. The hunt begins at 9:00 AM, and participants should meet at the Visitor Center. Spots are limited, so RSVP is required to secure your place. Don't miss this unique opportunity to learn about morel mushrooms and enjoy the thrill of the hunt in a beautiful natural setting. We hope to see you there! RSVP by calling 618-786-3323 or emailing menachem.smolianski@illinois.gov

Namaste with Yogi Marilyn

Date(s): Mar. 22nd

Time: 11:00 AM

Location: Visitor Center

Details: Join us on March 22nd at 11:00 AM at Pere Marquette State Park for a special event combining nature and relaxation. Begin with a guided hike to the stunning McAdams Peak, followed by a peaceful 40-minute yoga session led by Yogi Marilyn. Open to all ages and skill levels, this free event is a perfect chance to connect with nature and unwind in a breathtaking setting. Meet at the Visitor Center, and don't forget to RSVP by calling 618-786-3323 or emailing menachem.smolianski@illinois.gov to reserve your spot!

From Sap to Syrup

Date(s): Mar. 8th

Time: All Day

Location: Visitor Center

Details: Join us March 8th at Pere Marquette State Park for Sap to Syrup Maple Syrup Day—it's going to be sweet! Learn about the history and process of maple syrup production, from tree tapping to the finished product. Enjoy live demonstrations, tastings, and a sugar maple hike at 11 AM. No registration needed. Dress for the weather and join the fun!