

DIY FIELD TRIPS

Starved Rock and Matthiessen State Parks are open everyday of the year (exceptions will be posted on the IDNR website) from 7 a.m. to sunset. You can bring your own group out and trek the trails at your leisure. An **Activity Permit** is required for groups of 25 or larger.

Hike the Trails: Maps and brown directional signs can be found at every trail intersection and parking lot. Trail Suggestions and Videos can be found at <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/parks/pages/StarvedRock.aspx>.

IDNR Resource Trunks: Educational trunks are available for loan to educators by request. <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/education/Pages/ItemsForLoan.aspx>

Starved Rock Scout Badge in a Backpack Program: Badge programs for both Boy and Girl Scouts are available. More information can be found at <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/parks/pages/StarvedRock.aspx>.

Field Trip Packets for 1st-3rd grade, and 4th-6th grade can be found at <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/parks/pages/StarvedRock.aspx>.

Junior Ranger Program: Suitable for 5-13 years of age. Ask for a Junior Ranger packet at the Visitor Center. <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/parks/pages/StarvedRock.aspx>

Exhibit Hall and Displays: Visit our displays at the visitor center to discover both the natural and human history of Starved Rock State Park.

Movies: Movies about the park's history, geology, and ecology can be requested at the Visitor Center. Movies range from 9 minutes to 15 minutes in length.



Field Trip Assistance: Grant money for bus transportation is available through the Illinois Entice Biodiversity Field Trip Program at <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/education/Pages/fieldtrip.aspx>

Program Times: Programs can be offered throughout the year on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Weekends vary, dependent on staff availability.

Activity Permits: Activity Permits must be completed for groups of 20 or more visitors and sent into the park 2 weeks prior to visit for approval.

Group Size: Group minimum is 10 and maximum is 40 per program/hike. Larger groups may be accommodated if the Natural Resource Coordinator is notified several months ahead of time.

Age Level: Kindergarten through college aged students are welcome!

Supervision: A minimum of one adult per 8 (minors) students is suggested. Adult chaperones are expected to participate in the supervision of the students.

Fees: State programs and hikes through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources are FREE. A \$25 Activity Permit fee is due the day of the visit.

Eagles Roost Cabin: Can be reserved from 9-3 daily. Email to request use of the cabin at DNR.StarvedRock@illinois.gov.

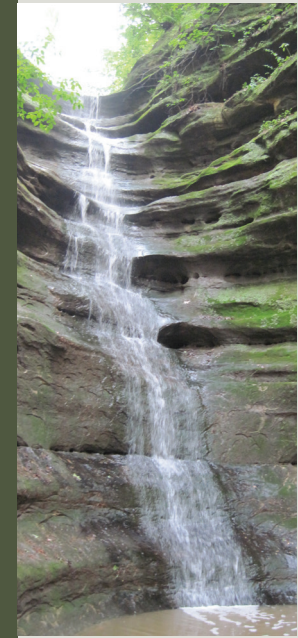
Registration:

Email Lisa.Sons@illinois.gov.
2678 N. IL Route 178, Utica, IL 61373
<https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr>

 Starved Rock and Matthiessen State Parks

STARVED ROCK AND MATTHIESSEN STATE PARKS

State Park Field Trips



Scouts
Schools
Homeschool
Day Camps



Dear Educators,

Thank you for choosing Starved Rock and Matthiessen State Parks as a field trip destination for your students, scouts, and classmates! What better location to engage students in their natural surroundings than the trails, canyons, and sandstone overlooks of these two state parks.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources offers **FREE** guided hikes/programs by request through the Natural Resource Coordinator.

Can't make it out to the park for an on site field trip? The IDNR has **Educational Trunks** available for loan to all educators on topics such as mammals, birds, trees, insects, people of Illinois' past, and more. Further information can be found at <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/education/Pages/ItemsForLoan.aspx>.

I look forward to helping you plan your program whether it be an on site field trip, or an off site classroom visit! Call or email to set up your field trip today!

Thank you and Happy Trails!

Lisa Sons, Natural Resource Coordinator

Lisa.sons@illinois.gov • 815-667-5356

www2.illinois.gov/dnr/parks/pages/starvedrock.aspx



NATURALIST LED FIELD TRIP PROGRAM

The basic field trip at Starved Rock or Matthiessen State Park involves the following activities over the span of 1.5-2 hours between the times of 10:30-12 or 1-3.

- Guided .8 mile tour to Starved Rock and French Canyon. Park Naturalists will interpret the history, geology, and ecology of the park based on the age level of the students or youth group. Reading maps and following park signs will also be discussed.
- 9-15 minute movie at the Starved Rock Visitor Center: Civilian Conservation Corps, On the Wings of the Wind (bald eagles), Orientation, Smokey the Bear and Friends, In the Shadow of the Rock (history and geology).
- Visitor Center Exhibit Hall with museum displays on the regions history, geology, and ecology.
- Junior Ranger Program (Ranger program suitable for 5-13 years of age).

CUSTOMIZE YOUR FIELD TRIP

Customize your park program by speaking with the Natural Resource Coordinator! Will your group be staying at the park longer than a couple of hours?

- Park staff can add various elements to your program such as the IDNR Educational Resource Trunks on mammals, insects, people of Illinois' past, reptiles and amphibians, and more.
- Park staff can extend your guided tour to 2 miles/2 hours and encompass Starved Rock, French Canyon, Wildcat Canyon, Eagle Cliff Overlook, and Lovers Leap Overlook.
- Prep your class before the field trip by downloading a **Field Trip Packet** found on the Starved Rock webpage at <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/parks/pages/starvedrock.aspx>

