

PARKS AND NATURE AREAS OPEN TO PUBLIC ON SPECIAL DATES:

- Sunman Woods (Sunman)
- Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge (Entrance on highway 421 towards Madison)
- The Plex (Batesville) - Baseball and soccer fields are for league play only.
- Ivy Tech Nature Area (1 Ivy Tech Dr., Batesville, IN 47006)

We strive to have accurate information in the passport, but occasionally, things happen beyond our control. Please check the RipleyCountyReads.org pages for updates.

Be sure and read the Storywalks at Sunman Park, Brum Woods, Osgood Trails, and the Daren Baker Memorial Park.

Thanks to this year's awesome Sponsors:

- Versailles State Park
- Friendship State Bank
- Batesville Tool & Die, Inc.
- Schuerman Law
- Ripley County Community Foundation
- Versailles Lions
- Main Street Versailles
- The Reservation
- McDonalds of Southeast Indiana
- Napoleon State Bank
- Southeastern Indiana YMCA

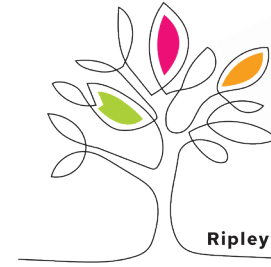
Thanks to this year's awesome Partners:

- WRBI Radio 103.9
- McKay Family Farms
- South Ripley Community School Corporation
- Batesville Community School Corporation
- Milan Community School Corporation
- St. Louis Catholic School
- Jac-Cen-Del Community School Corporation
- St. Nicholas Catholic School
- Sunman Elementary School

- Ripley Publishing Company
- Pat's Bulk Foods



Ripley County READS



Ripley County READS

It's time for the 2024 Ripley County Reads Park Hop!

A scavenger hunt for the whole family!
March 1st – May 4th

Explore the beauty of Ripley County through its diverse parks! Embark on a delightful adventure with your family through the Park Hop—a scavenger hunt that takes you through awesome town parks, magical nature trails, and our own Versailles State Park. It's like a treasure hunt, but with nature as your playground!

Grab your passport and let the fun begin! Visit as many parks as you can, unravel the clues, and mark your passport. Bring your passport and finish your journey at the Park Hop Finale on May 4th to collect your prizes.


Answer clues at 1, 10, or 15+ parks to unlock special tickets for the grand prize drawings. Families can join the party at Versailles State Park Shimmerhorn Shelter on May 4th from 11 am to 1 pm during our Park Hop Finale. Get ready for games and activities including nature walks, an exotic animal encounter, reptiles from the Nature Center, swag bags (first 100 kids get one!), and awesome prize drawings!

And here's the best part – every family gets a chance to win an Indiana State Park Pass! Imagine all the adventures waiting for you and your family. Don't miss out on the fun – let's make this year's Park Hop the best one yet!


Name: _____ Age _____

I visited _____ parks. My favorite thing about the Park Hop was


Answer the scavenger hunt questions below as you visit the parks and nature areas. Turn in your passport at the Park Hop Finale and collect your prize!

 **Pangburn Park** (442 S Tanglewood Rd, Versailles IN 47042) Play baseball, basketball, and on the play-set!


- **How many box-style steps does it take to get to the top of the climbing platform?**

 **Versailles Sports Complex** (1776 S Co Rd 50 W, Versailles, IN 47042) Enjoy the accessible park which includes a hiking trail, playground, little free library, and pavilions. Baseball and soccer fields for recreation league only.


- **What is the name of the soccer field?**

 **Kevin Hensley Memorial Park** (128 N Main Street, Versailles, IN 47042) Murals border the park, which boasts a splash pad, pergola with swings, musical play instruments, benches and Ride & Share bikes. On select dates during the summer, enjoy live music at the Holdsworth Entertainment Pavilion.


- **What monument tops the Never Forget Garden marker?**

 **Versailles State Park** (1387 US-50, Versailles, IN 47042) Enjoy the mountain bike trails, hiking trails, lake, shelter houses, kayaking, swimming, camping, and numerous playgrounds at the park.


- **What is the Environmental license plate number located at the front gate?**

 **Busching Bridge Trail** (Trailhead at 1 Water Park Street, Versailles, IN) - This trail is open for hiking, biking, and walking trail and is part of the Next Level Trails program. The trail is a 1/2 mile trail and then 3/10 of mile on the road to the covered bridge.


- **Name 3 Versailles Mountain Bike Trails named after living things:**

 **Bradt Nature Area** (1004 U.S. 50, Versailles, 47042) Go for a hike and observe wildlife. The nature area includes a small woodland, open meadows, and a constructed wetland complete with an observation deck.


- **What year did the Bradt family donate the property to Versailles State Park?**

 **Holton Community Park** (6803 W Versailles St Holton, IN 47023) Enjoy a game of basketball, playing on the playground, or host an outdoor party under the shelters.


- **How many picnic tables are in the park shelter?**

 **Osgood Trails** (2067 W County Rd 300 N, Osgood, IN 47037) Enjoy the accessible paved trails. Includes fishing pier, walking trails, outdoor exercise equipment and is bike and pet friendly. Keep an eye out for one of several bald eagles who make the trails their home. Be sure and read the Story-walk!


- **What might you spot eagles doing at the park?**

 **The Osgood Sculpture** (127 North Buckeye St., Osgood, IN 47037) at the Osgood Lions Mini Park. The Osgood Sculpture is an interactive sculpture made by local company Iron Timbers using teakwood and hammered copper. Relax and check out "Ozzy" the Bicentennial Bison and the mural by Robert Dafford.


- **Besides Ozzy, where are the four other bison at the park?**

 **Daren Baker Memorial Park** (525 Thompson Lane, Milan IN 47031) Enjoy the shelter, baseball fields, accessible swing, playground, paved walking trail, and lake. Be sure and read the Story-walk!

- **How many benches can you find at the park?**

 **Sunman Community Park** (225 Fitch Ave, Sunman, IN 47041) Play on the play set, baseball fields, enjoy a nice picnic at one of three shelters, and read a book out of the little free library. Be sure and read the Story-walk!


- **Who provides Wi-fi to the park?**

 **Weberding Park** (Dirks Road, between Highway 46 and Lammers Pike in Batesville) Play on the playground, have a picnic in the shelter area on the picnic tables.


- **How many swings can you find at Weberding Park?**

 **YMCA Community Sports Complex** (30 State Road 129S, Batesville, IN 47006) This outdoor area next to the YMCA has a beautiful pavilion, four pickleball courts, and two basketball courts. The outdoor complex is open to the public and can be accessed via walking trails or you may park next to the courts in the YMCA parking lot.


- **Can non-serving player/team score points in a pickleball game?**

 **Batesville/YMCA Walking Trail** (Near the corner of Coonhunters Road [N County Road 300 E] and Polhman Street) This trail connects to the YMCA Outdoor Sports Complex and has benches along the way.


- **To help keep this area clean you are asked to _____ and _____ up after your pet.**

 **Batesville Skatepark and Outdoor Adventure** (671 Pohlman St., Batesville, IN 47006) This state-of-the-art skatepark opened in January, 2023. Currently the park is open to bikes, skateboards, skates, and scooters. A pump track was added in October, 2023. A bouldering wall is in the works for 2024.


- **Name three people on The Skatepark Committee:**

 **Liberty Park** (716 S Park Ave, Batesville, IN 47006) Walk on the walking trail, fish from the reservoir, enjoy the benches, accessible playground, basketball, pickleball and tennis courts, baseball fields, Gaga ball, Disc golf, or have lunch in one of the pavilions or shelter house.


- **Where can you find a blue seal with a red cap in the park?**

 **Brum Woods** (611 South Mulberry Street, Batesville, IN 47006) Bicycle, hiking, and pet friendly trails (with limited accessibility). Be sure and read the Story-walk!


- **What grows during stage two of secondary succession of a forest?**

 **Veterans Park** (401 South Street, Batesville, IN 47006) Play on the swing sets, slides, and climbing playground. Have a picnic under the pavilion or grill on the outside grill.


- **How many orange rods can you find in the geodome?**

 **Village Green** (Batesville Shopping Village) Enjoy a treat from one of the nearby eateries under the pavilion or on one of the benches in this peaceful green space.

- **Who was the architect who designed the Gazebo in the Village Green?**

 **Freedom Park** (133 Six Pine Ranch Rd, Batesville, IN 47006) Play on the playground, walk the trails, and enjoy the day under the shelter or on the nature overlook.

- **The playground was made possible by Lance & Ronda Green and what Community Fund?**

 **Inspiration Park** (located behind Total Tech Connection, 38 S Main St., Batesville, IN 47006) Visit and enjoy the beautiful art sculpture, *Forces of Nature*, designed by local artist Andrea Grimsley and fabricated by Iron Timbers. The park offers bench or shaded seating under the pavilion, perfect for a picnic lunch.

- **How many "Visionaries Of Today And Tomorrow" are named under the Forces of Nature sculpture?**