

Thank you for spending the day with us!

We hope you've enjoyed learning about a variety of outdoor pursuits and return often to your local parks to participate in some newly-discovered activities in the out-of-doors. We also hope that as you spend more time outdoors, you'll give careful consideration to caring for your local natural resources for the next generation to come.

We'd like to extend a very special thanks to the 2024 sponsors of Outdoor Explore! Without their support, an event of this magnitude could not happen.



\$ 1001 - \$ 5,000



SUBARU of INDIANA AUTOMOTIVE, INC.



\$ 501 - \$ 1000



Tippecanoe County
Soil & Water
Conservation District



\$ 251 - \$ 500



\$ 250



Please be sure to join us again next year as our event continues to grow!
Outdoor Explore! is scheduled annually the second Saturday of June.

SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 7, 2025



Outdoor Explore!

Tippecanoe County Amphitheater

June 8, 2024

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Brought to you by the
Tippecanoe County Park and Recreation Department
and our countless volunteers
working together through the power of partnership.

OUTDOOR EXPLORE! ACTIVITIES

10 AM - 4 PM

1. **REGISTRATION** – All attendees must register to allow participation in any Outdoor Explore! activity.
2. **CANINE SPORTS** - Discover sports you can play with your canine companion, hosted by members of the **Greater Lafayette Kennel Club**. Throughout the day, enjoy demonstrations which may include disc dog, agility, scent work, rally obedience, dog parkour, and treibball. Visit with local dog experts who will help you get started in these and other activities with your dog.
3. **WOODS ON WHEELS** - Expand your knowledge about Indiana's forest resources by visiting the Woods on Wheels interactive exhibit; engaging games and hands-on exhibits showcase Indiana's most renewable resource; our forests! Presented by **Indiana Hardwood Lumberman's Association, Indiana Department of Natural Resources and Purdue University Department of Forestry & Natural Resources**.
4. **LEAVE NO TRACE** - Are you a good outdoor citizen? Step into the hiking boots of an imaginary hiker and discover why some common outdoor behaviors can have unintended negative consequences. Hosted by **Indiana Master Naturalist Mark Peterson**.
5. **NATURE INSPIRED ART** - Capture some of nature's beauty artistically with **Buffy Rogers (Retired Art Teacher)** as you create a painting using watercolor and an element of nature in print form. Markers will be provided to add detail and texture. If desired, also add a literary element of creativity by crafting a simple Haiku poem. No previous art experience required!
6. **BIKING TEST DRIVE** - Hop on a bike and let's go for a ride! The team from **Virtuous Cycles** will provide several different bike styles to try out, and provide information about new educational programming and local bike systems and events. Biking is a great way to enjoy Indiana's natural beauty along paved and single track trails; let these biking experts help you plan your next cycling adventure!
7. **MOUNTAIN BIKING** - Cycle a lap on the Amphitheater trails or join guided trail rides led by the avid bikers with the **Tippecanoe Mountain Bike Association**. Guided rides will be offered at 11 am, 12 pm, 1pm and 2 pm. Check out trail building tools, learn how to become involved in trail creation and maintenance and discover local biking opportunities.
8. **BIKE MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY** - Conduct a bike safety check before you hit the streets or trails, pick up some basic safety and maintenance tips, and check-out the latest biking equipment from the experts at **Hodson's Bay Company**.

27. **EL MATA ANTOJOS FOOD TRUCK** - You're sure to work up an appetite with all that outdoor exploring, so tantalize your taste buds with authentic Mexican treats and beverages from **El Mata Antojos Food Truck!**
28. **SELFIE STATION** - You know what to do!!
29. **EVENT BOTTLE SALES** - Purchase your own **\$5.00 souvenir Outdoor Explore! bottle** now to help reduce cup waste and receive FREE lemonade and iced tea refills throughout the event today and for years to come.
30. **PARK PLACE** - Once you've filled your passport with stickers, stop by Park Place to claim your family's free Outdoor Explore! Souvenir. You can also visit with park employees from **Tippecanoe County Park & Recreation Department, Prophetstown State Park and Delphi Canal Interpretive Center and Trails** to discover local venues where you can actively pursue many of your new outdoor

The Tippecanoe County Park & Recreation Department would like to thank you for attending Outdoor Explore! Our desire to advance the education of citizens about local natural resources and stewardship led to the creation and continued development of this free event for the citizens of Tippecanoe County and beyond!

If you're interested in learning more about your local natural resources and becoming active in the community, please be sure to check out the following Facebook pages for more information:

- Outdoor Explore!
- Wednesdays in the Wild
- Indiana Master Naturalist

We would also like to give a big shout-out of thanks to El Mata Antojos Food Truck and Gibson's Shaved Ice, our exhibitors, and individual volunteers for your commitment of time, energy, and/or equipment to help make this such a great community event!



If you've enjoyed your day with us, please help us spread the word about Outdoor Explore! Like our Facebook page, share photos, or add #OutdoorExplore! to your social media post.

17. **FORESTRY** - Unravel the mysteries of our local forests with **Lenny Farlee** of Purdue University as he shares basic tree ID tips and hints about where different species prefer to grow. Then test your new knowledge as you try to ID trees on your next hike on Indiana's trails!
18. **NATIVE GARDENING** - Cultivate your curiosity about native plant gardening with the experts from the **Master Gardener Association of Tippecanoe County**. Quiz yourself on your native know-how and ID skills, match pollinators with their host plants, and discover the beauty that native plants can add to your landscape.
19. **ARCHERY** - Nock your bow at the archery booth and try to hit a bull's eye with the experts from the **Indiana Bowhunters Association!** You'll also gain information on types of archery equipment, how to use a bow safely (including the proper way to nock your bow) and discover local archery opportunities.
20. **GEOCACHING** - Power up your devices and combine a treasure hunt with technology: you've entered the world of geocaching! **Karen Wiggins, Indiana Master Naturalist**, will share an overview of this hobby, review the tools needed, and then take you out on the trails in search of your first cache.
21. **HIKING & BACKPACKING** - Hit the trails after you learn what it takes to go backpacking with **Indiana Master Naturalist Norbert Welch**. Discover what to consider as you pack for a trip into the wilderness: equipment, clothing, maps, precautions, and safety on the trail will be shared, helping you to be better prepared for your first - or latest - hiking adventure!
22. **ROCK CLIMBING** - Scale new heights as you discover the growing sport of rock climbing! The pros at **Climb Lafayette** will instruct you on the equipment needed, the best locations to climb, and test your climbing aptitude as you attempt to climb a beginning rock challenge.
23. **DISC GOLF** - Toss a disc with the folks from the **Wabash Disc Golf Club**; you'll learn the basics of the sport, hone your putting skills, and test your new abilities on a 3-hole course.
24. **FIRST AID** - **Tippecanoe Township Fire Department** will allow visitors to sit behind the wheel of their fire truck and be available to provide first aid to our participants if needed.
25. **RESTROOMS & WATER FOUNTAINS** - Located on each end of the Amphitheater shelter.
26. **GIBSON'S SHAVED ICE** - Chill out and treat yourself to a local favorite! You'll be hard pressed to choose from the delicious array of **Gibson's Shaved Ice** flavors.

9. **ASTRONOMY** - Gaze through a variety of telescopes, provided by the **Wabash Valley Astronomical Association**, and check out solar features and the power of star-gazing optics at this booth. Take a stroll through our solar system - at a much smaller scale, of course! You'll also discover other ways to engage in local astronomy activities.
10. **OUTDOOR PHOTOGRAPHY** - Focus on capturing your natural experiences through photography with **Rena & Ross Aiken of Camera Outfitters LLC**. A variety of photography equipment (including binoculars) will be available to learn about and try out. Try your hand at "Binocular Bird Bingo" to win a prize! Special photo ops will be set up to provide a fun way to remember your day at Outdoor Explore! Learn tips and techniques from the pros so you can "take only pictures, leave only footprints" on your next outdoor adventure.
11. **INDIANA MASTER NATURALIST** - Test your nature know-how by identifying a variety of Indiana natural objects, then learn about opportunities available to further your knowledge from **Certified Indiana Master Naturalists**.
12. **BEEKEEPING** - View a live bee observation hive and learn about the history and hobby of beekeeping with **Chuck Dailey, Certified Master Beekeeper**. You'll also learn about the importance of pollinator plants and how to identify different bees, wasps, and hornets.
13. **OUTDOOR COOKING** - Acquire a taste for outdoor cooking as you explore the history and practice of dutch oven cooking with **West Lafayette Parks Naturalist Kyle Gebhart**. Help to prepare and cook a variety of cobblers, cakes, potato, and macaroni and cheese dishes - and then enjoy the tasty results!
14. **WEENIE ROAST & GLAMPING** - Grab a hot dog and a stick at our "Glamp Site" for a FREE weenie roast while supplies last, hosted by **Roxy & Henry Fritz**. Roast (or burn!) a weenie over an open fire, then check out the "Glamp Site" featuring a motor home on display from **Happy Campers RV Sales, Rental, Parts & Service**. Now you can enjoy the great outdoors while bringing along the luxuries of home!
15. **OUTDOOR YOGA** - Connect to the rhythms of nature by taking your yoga practice outside. Join yoga teacher and nature lover **Debra Steinhauer** to try some poses, get tips and tricks for practicing in harmony with nature, and learn what poses can enhance your other outdoor activities. No previous yoga experience required.
16. **TENT CAMPING** - Build a campfire (without the flame) and learn how to improve this basic camping skill from **Dean and Sindie Ballotti**. Other camping skills will be shared, including how to organize your car camping trip, packing hints, how to set up a tent, cook on the trip, and be safe while enjoying nature.



We encourage you to fully enjoy the day by visiting all activities at the **Tippecanoe County Amphitheater**. Each location in red will have a passport sticker to place in your program. Once you complete the passport, be sure to visit the Tippecanoe County Park & Recreation booth @ Park Place to claim your family's free Outdoor Explore! souvenir. And if you're looking to beat the heat, don't forget to head over to the **Tippecanoe County Bicentennial Nature Area** to sample some of our on-the-water outdoor activities, including: FishIN', Paddle Sports, and more! You may just get wet!