

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



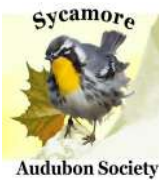
Tippecanoe County
Soil & Water
Conservation District



\$ 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 Bicentennial Nature Area

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. **HANDWASHING STATION** - You know what to do...Wash off!
3. **FISHIN' FUNDAMENTALS** - Cast your cares away as you learn the basics of fishing with **Indiana Master Naturalist LeRoy Carey!** Check out basic fishing equipment and hone your knot-tying skills before picking up a rod, heading to the lake and trying to land a big one! **Adult participants (18+ yrs.) will need an Indiana Fishing License to fish.** Annual license fees (\$23) support conservation of aquatic resources.
4. **FISHIN', FILLETING & FIELD PREP** - Wield a fillet knife at this station as you learn the skills needed to prepare your catch for the frying pan! Basic filleting techniques will be demonstrated by **Indiana Master Naturalist LeRoy Carey**, and this will provide opportunities to learn basic fish anatomy at the same time. How does a life in the water modify the internal systems of these amazing animals? Take a look beneath the scales and fins and find out! **Parent/guardian will need to be present if youth wish to attempt fish filleting.**
5. **LEATHER CRAFT** – Tool around with the hobby of leatherworking, as you learn the techniques of this craft from members of the **Scouts BSA Wabash Valley District.** Then design and make a simple leather bracelet or strap to customize your walking sticks.
6. **KAYAK FISHING** – Get hooked on the growing sport of kayak fishing as you combine your love of fishing and paddle sports! **Katie Smith, Indiana Master Naturalist** will share basic instruction and safety tips and review the various types of kayaks available for fishing, including paddle kayaks, pedal kayaks, and powered kayaks. You'll learn where to kayak fish, as well as the types of fish you might expect to catch. Then, you'll have the chance to hit the water in a kayak rig and cast a line! **The use of a personal floatation device (PFD) will be required for anyone going out on the water.**
7. **PORT-A-JOHN, HANDWASHING & WATER STATION** - Restrooms, hygiene, and rehydration happen here!
8. **WEENIE ROAST** - Hunger pains will not stop an Outdoor Explore! participant! Grab a hot dog and a stick and enjoy a FREE weenie roast while supplies last, hosted by **Indiana Master Naturalist, Gary Stair.**
9. **ROLLIN IN DOUGH FOOD TRUCK** – Keep the hunger pangs at bay with a stop at **Rollin in Dough Food Truck**, where authentic wood fired pizzas will be served up in a wide range of original and specialty combinations!

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

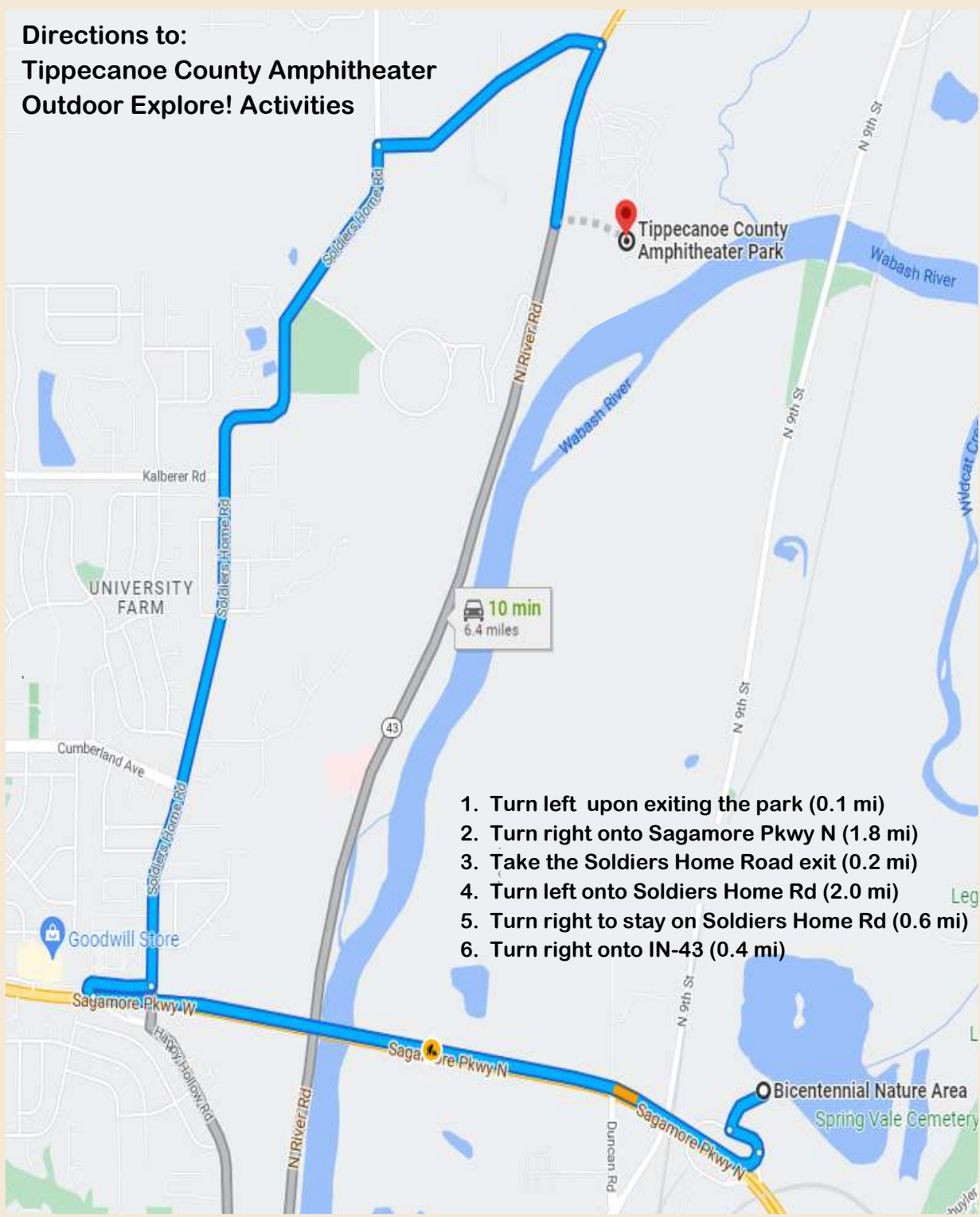
EVENT BOTTLE SALES - Don't forget to purchase your very own souvenir **Outdoor Explore! bottle for only \$5.00** at our other Outdoor Explore! site at the Tippecanoe County Amphitheater. These bottles help to reduce cup waste and you can receive FREE lemonade and iced tea refills at the Amphitheater throughout the event and for years to come. It also can be used to refill your water here at the Bicentennial Nature Area.

If you've enjoyed your day with us, won't you please help us spread the word about Outdoor Explore! by liking our page and sharing your photos or by adding #OutdoorExplore! to your social media post.



We would also like to give a big shout-out of thanks to Rollin in Dough Food Truck, our exhibitors, and individual volunteers for your commitment of time, energy, and/or equipment to help make this such a great community event!

Directions to:
Tippecanoe County Amphitheater
Outdoor Explore! Activities



OUTDOOR EXPLORE! ACTIVITIES
10 AM - 4 PM

10. **WALKING STICKS** – Craft a walking stick to share the load of your weight and any pack that you might be carrying as you hike! **Boy Scout Troop #373** will guide you in selecting a stick, cutting it to size & adding a hand hold wrap at the top of the stick.
11. **WATER SAFETY** – What are the rules and basic safety procedures to be aware of when recreating on the water? Know before you go! Meet with members of the **Tippecanoe County Dive Team**, learn how to practice boating safety, and take time to practice tossing a “throwbag” to a distressed swimmer.
12. **PADDLE SPORTS** - Suit-up with a personal floatation device (PFD) and prepare to learn some of the basics of canoeing and kayaking with the experts from the **Hoosier Canoe & Kayak Club**. Basic safety information will be covered, along with overviews of simple paddle strokes, entering and exiting boats, boat gear and transport, where to paddle and how to find canoe/kayak liveries. Limited on-the-water sessions will be provided on the hour so be sure to arrive early to sign a waiver and register for a session. **On-the-water participants must be 18 or older and able to swim; 12 if accompanied by an adult.**
13. **CANINE WATER RETRIEVAL** - Enjoy lovable Labrador retrievers as they showcase what they do best - retrieve in the water! Simulated demonstrations of duck hunts will provide opportunities to learn about teaching your own dog these techniques. **The Hoosier Labrador Retriever Club** members will be sharing information about club events, hunt training, dock diving and more!
14. **ANIMAL TRACKING** – Become a wildlife detective at this station as you learn how to look for signs of local animal visitors! Then create animal tracks to take home to help you remember the basic characteristics of common animal footprints. Hosted by **Megan Gunn and Grey North, Purdue University’s Department of Forestry & Natural Resources, and Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant.**
15. **PORT-A-JOHN & WATER STATION** – Restrooms and Rehydration!
16. **BIRDING** - Explore the hobby of birdwatching with members of the **Sycamore Audubon Society**. They’ll teach you the basics of using bird field guides & mobile apps in addition to choosing binoculars & scopes. Club members will also share step-by-step instruction in the proper use of binoculars and provide local bird checklists and hints about local birding hotspots.
17. **ORIENTEERING** – Take your bearings on the sport of orienteering with the experts from **Indiana Crossroads Orienteering**, as they teach orienteering techniques and point you in the right direction to try and navigate a simple score course.

We encourage you to fully enjoy the day by visiting all activities at the **Bicentennial Nature Area**. Each location in red will have a passport sticker to place in your program. Once you complete the passport, be sure to return to the Registration Tent to claim your family's free Outdoor Explore! souvenir (while supplies last). And don't forget to head over to the **Tippecanoe County Amphitheater** to sample additional outdoor activities... Outdoor Cooking, Disc Golf, Mountain Biking, Rock Climbing and more!

Park Entrance

- 1 Registration
- 2 Port-A-John & Handwashing
- 3 FishIN' FUNDamentals
- 4 FishIN', Filleting & Field Prep
- 5 Leather Craft
- 6 Kayak Fishing
- 7 Port-A-John, Handwashing & Water Station
- 8 Weenie Roast
- 9 Rollin In Dough
- 10 Walking Sticks
- 11 Water Safety
- 12 Paddle Sports
- 13 Animal Tracking
- 14 Canine Water Retrieval
- 15 Port-A-John & Water Station
- 16 Birding
- 17 Orienteering

Severe Weather Storm Shelter

Event Parking

Event Parking