- Any firearm, BB gun, air gun, CO<sub>2</sub> gun, bow and arrow, or spear gun in possession in a state park must be unloaded or un-nocked and stored in a case or locked within a vehicle except when participating in an activity authorized by written permit.
- 3. Dogs and cats must be kept on leash while in the Park.
- There shall be no vending or advertising without permission of the Department of Natural Resources.
- Camping is permitted only in the campground. Youth groups must be under adult supervision. No youth groups in the family campground.
- Fires shall be built only in places provided. Visitors must put waste in receptacles provided for that purpose.
- Motorists shall observe speed limits as posted and park in designated areas.
- 8. Swimming is limited to the pool only.
- Drinking water shall be taken only from pumps, hydrants, or fountains provided for that purpose. This water supply is tested regularly for purity.
- 10. Report lost or found articles to the property manager.

The programs, services, facilties and activities of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources are available to everyone without regard to sex, creed, color or national origin.

# THE INTELLIGENT USE OF LEISURE TIME

This trail map is given to you with the compliments of the State of Indiana, through its Department of Natural Resources, in the hope that it will direct your attention to the primary purpose for which the state park system has been established.

These recreational areas are parts of 'original America', preserving for posterity typical primitive landscapes of scenic grandeur and rugged beauty.

Along the quiet trails through these reservations, it is to be expected that the average citizens will find release from the tension of their overcrowded daily existence, that the contact with nature will refocus with a clearer lens their perspective on life's values, and that they may here take counsel with themselves to the end that their strength and confidence are renewed.

## VERSAILLES STATE PARK

Box 205 Versailles, Indiana 47042 (812) 689-6424

#### TRAIL MAP

Established 1943 - 5,905 Acres On U.S. 50, near Versailles



In the 1930's the U.S. Department of the Interior, through its National Park Service, acquired most of the land which now comprises Versailles State Park, near Versailles, in Ripley County, Indiana. The NPS developed a considerable amount of the present facilities in what used to be called the Versailles Recreational Demonstration Area. In 1943, the land was transferred to the Indiana Department of Conservation for operation as a state park.

The outstanding topographic features of Versailles State Park are Laughery Creek, which is joined by Fallen Timber Creek, the scenic hillsides with limestone outcroppings, and the upland with its wooded area, fields and brush. Laughery Creek flows south through the park and later flows in an easterly direction to join the Ohio River south of Aurora. The fine specimens of oak, hickory, tulip poplar, beech, maple, black walnut and other native species of trees combine with the varied topography to make an interesting place for state park visitors.

The Department of Natural Resources has constructed at Versailles State Park an earthern dam (which impounds a 230-acre lake), a bridge, a road, a bathhouse/concession building, and a bathing beach, all have been constructed since this department assumed operation of the park.

## **DESCRIPTION OF TRAILS**

- Begins about 100 feet west of picnic shelter, proceeds south, across park road, then can be taken left or right to fire tower and return. This trail leads through fine specimens of oak, hickory, maple, beech, tulip poplar, black walnut and other native tree specimens. Look for limestone sinkholes along the way.
- Begins about 100 feet northwest of picnic shelter, proceeds eastward along top of hill above Fallen Timber Creek, past limestone outcroppings through upland and then returns past campground to picnic area.
- 3. Begins north of Fallen Timbers Bridge, proceeds Eastward along Fallen Timbers Creek crossing the rockbottom creek three times before joining Trail 2. Visitors may observe the numerous invertebrates that inhabit the creek bottom.

#### STAY ON MARKED TRAILS

## HOOSIER HILLS BICYCLE ROUTE



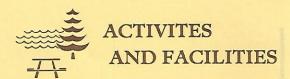
The Hoosier Hills Route runs approximately twenty-seven miles from Liberty Park in Batesville, through Osgood and Versailles, to Versailles State Park. In Batesville, the Hoosier Hills Route connects with the Whitewater Valley Route, which continues northward for approximately sixty-six miles through Whitewater Memorial State Park to Earlham College in Richmond.

The route bisects the northern half of the historic Hoosier Hills Resource Conservation and Development area which was one of the earliest settled and most important sections of the state in the pioneer era (1800-1850).

Proceeding southward from Batesville, where camping is available at private campgrounds, the bike route rolls past Batesville Reservoir, a good fishing spot, then turns westward before crossing Laughery Creek in a scenic, wooded area. The route then proceeds southward again, through gently rolling farmland, turning west just before entering Osgood. Continuing southward from Osgood, the route rolls through more rural countryside prior to turning east into Versailles. Through Versailles, and down a short hill, the route again crosses Laughery Creek through the Busching Covered Bridge, built in 1893, and continues into Versailles State Park.

The Hoosier Hills Route was developed with the assistance and cooperation of the Ripley County Commissioners; the communities of Batesville, Osgood and Versailles; and the Indiana Department of Highways.

CAUTION: This route is also used by motor vehicles; ride in single file near the right edge of he roadway, observing traffic regulations and using hand signals. The Department of Natural Resources in no manner warrants the safety of the roads indicated on this map for use by bicyclists, but they are suggested as more suitable than most other roads in the area. The bicyclist assumes the risk of his own safety when using this route. The use of a tall, safety flag attached to the bicycle is recommended for increased visibility.



**BOATS** — Rental boats by hour or day. Privately owned boats may be launched on lake. Only electric trolling motors, powered by no more than two 12-volt batteries are allowed.

**CAMPING** — Campground equipped with modern facilities. Occupancy limited to two weeks. All sites have electricity and grills. All sites will accommodate tents or trailers. A dumping station is available. No primitive (Class C) campsites.

FISHING — Bass, bluegill and other small game fish, state license required.

**GROUP CAMP** — For organized youth groups under adult supervision. Write to property manager for information, rates and reservations.

**PICNIC AREAS** — Tables, grills, toilet facilities, playground equipment and playfields.

**SWIMMING** — New 25 meter pool with 100 foot water slide and rainmaker. Swimming is prohibited in Versailles Lake.

NATURALIST SERVICE — Free and available from mid-May through August. Hikes, junior naturalist and Hoosier ecologist programs, plus evening activities. Ask for a schedule at the gatehouse, park office, or nature center.

**SADDLE HORSES** — Bridle trails, pony rides, hayrides — inquire at the saddle barn.

#### THIS IS YOUR PARK

All visitors are expected to observe the following rules which are designed to fulfill the purpose for which state parks were established, namely, to preserve a primitive landscape in its natural condition for the use and enjoyment of the people.

### SUMMARY OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

Do not injure or damage any structure, rock, tree, flower, bird, or wild animal within the park (See No. 2). Do NOT gather limbs, brush, or trees (either live or dead) for firewood! It MUST be allowed to remain to rebuilt the natural humus.

