

# **Newton County Wild**

## **Day 1 - Event Descriptions**

### **Birding Walk – Hosted by The Nature Conservancy**

**Location:** Kankakee Sands Headquarters, 3294 N. US 41, Morocco, IN.

**Time:** 7:00 a.m.

Join us for a morning of bird watching at Kankakee Sands. This activity is appropriate for all levels. We will be learning the art of birdwatching while seeing such rare species as the Henslow's sparrow and grasshopper sparrow.

### **Bike Rides– Hosted by the Newton County Park Board**

**Location:** Willow Slough FWA Headquarters, 1803 S. 700 W., Morocco, IN

**Time:** 8:00 a.m.

Families, cyclists, and outdoor enthusiasts are invited to cycle on Newton County's scenic rural roads. Participants have an option between a 14 mile or 26 mile route, each will include Willow Slough and the Kankakee Sands. To ensure a t-shirt please have registration sent in by May 20th. Forms can be found at [newtoncountyparkboard.com](http://newtoncountyparkboard.com)

### **Intro to Fishing – Hosted by Indiana Fish and Wildlife**

**Location:** Willow Slough FWA Headquarters, 1803 S. 700 W., Morocco, IN

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. - noon

Interested in learning to fish or would you like to help teaching family or friends to fish? The Division of Fish and Wildlife will have staff on hand to help teach the art of fishing. All equipment will be provided so all you need to do is show up and be ready to learn. Participants will learn how to assemble a rod, cast, and will be fishing after just a short period. All ages are welcome.

### **Reptile & Amphibian Sampling– Hosted by Indiana Division of Fish and Wildlife**

**Location: Area 3 Parking Lot, LaSalle FWA**

**Time: 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

Come get your hands dirty in trying to catch some of the local reptiles and amphibians that call LaSalle's wetlands home. This activity will consist of wading in the water and learning how to catch frogs, turtles, and other critters that are in these wetlands. Experts from the Indiana Division of Fish and Wildlife including the state herpetologist will be fielding questions and talking about the different species that are found in this area. Participants of all ages are welcome.

### **Nature Hike at Conrad Station Savanna – Hosted by the Friends of the Sands**

**Location: Conrad Station Trailhead**

**Time: 4:30 p.m.**

Enjoy a 1.6 mile nature hike along a mowed path through the ghost-town of Conrad Station Savanna. Once a thriving town created by Ms. Jennie Conrad, it is now a high quality savanna with red-headed woodpeckers and a lovely show of spring wildflowers.

From the town of Lake Village, travel south on US 41, turn east of CR 725. The trailhead is located ½ mile east of the intersection of US 41 and CR 725 N, at the bend in the road.

### **Bison Talks – Hosted by The Nature Conservancy**

**Location: Bison Viewing Area, 3294 N. 400 W. Lake Village, IN**

**Time: 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

Visit the Bison Viewing Area at Kankakee Sands to see the bison herd and talk with a naturalist about bison and the prairie. There will be many flowers, birds and butterflies to see as well. Talks continue throughout the day.

Join us at the Viewing Area, one mile west of US 41. Google maps address is 3294 N US 41, gravel entrance off of CR 400 W, located ½ mile south of intersection CR 400 W and CR 400 N, Morocco, IN.

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## **Day 2 - Event Descriptions**

### **Fishing Derby – Hosted by the Newton county Park Board**

**Location: Willow Slough FWA Headquarters, 1803 S. 700 W., Morocco, IN**

**Time: 6:00 a.m. – 11 a.m.**

All ages are welcome! The Park Board will be hosting a fishing derby during Indiana's Free Fishing Weekend which allows everyone to fish even without fishing license. There will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes for each age group, as well as door prizes. This free event will feature prizes for mystery weight winners. Free Donuts, coffee and lemonade will also be available. MUST REGISTER TO WIN and MUST WEIGH IN BEFORE 11 AM. Registration will be accepted from 6 until 10:45 am at the Slough Headquarters. Registrants are able to weigh up to five fish. All state and property rules and regulations apply.

### **Birding – Hosted by Indiana Division of Fish and Wildlife**

**Location: LaSalle FWA Headquarters, 4752 W. 1050 N., Lake Village, IN**

**Time: 7:00 a.m.**

Come join us for a morning birding hike starting at the LaSalle FWA headquarters building. This hike will take participants through a variety of habitat types consisting of uplands, woodlands, and wetlands. Hikers will have the opportunity to view a large array of bird species that all call LaSalle FWA home. Please bring binoculars, cameras, or spotting scopes for a more enjoyable experience. Participants of all ages are welcome.

### **Intro to Paddling - Hosted by NICHES Land Trust**

**Location: Willow Slough FWA Headquarters, 1803 S. 700 W., Morocco, IN**

**Time: 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.**

NICHES Land Trust will have 6 canoes available for people that are interested in learning how to paddle at Willow Slough. Orientation time at 9 AM and 10:30 AM. Groups will be on the water for approximately an hour. RSVP to Sam Cody [sam@nicheslandtrust.org](mailto:sam@nicheslandtrust.org) or 765-423-1605

### **Everglades of the North Paddle – Hosted by NW Indiana Paddling Association**

**Location: White Oak Boat Ramp @ LaSalle Fish and Wildlife Area**

**Time: 10:00 a.m.**

The NW Indiana Paddling Association in partnership with the Indiana DNR LaSalle Fish and Wildlife Area, the producers of the “Everglades of the North” documentary, and various partners are hosting a paddle of the Everglades of the North within LaSalle Fish and Wildlife Area on the Kankakee River and its vast wetlands complex. Paddlers should meet at the White Oak Bayou boat ramp beginning at 10:00 am for registration.

From US 41, head west at the entrance of LaSalle FWA. This is across the street from Sumava Resorts. We will have a shuttle bus system in place. Paddlers will leave their boats at the start and proceed to the finish at the State Line Bayou. A bus will return you to the start where we will begin the paddle. It is about a 5 mile paddle total to the State Line Bayou. Along the way there are several old meanders and bayous to explore depending on the water depth. Loaner boats will be available.

**Intro to Shooting Sports – Hosted by Indiana Conservation Officers**

**Location: Willow Slough Shooting Complex, 1631 N. 600 W. Morocco, IN**

**Time: 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

Interested in learning to shoot pistols, rifles, or shotguns? The Division of Law Enforcement will have officers on site to teach you how to safely handle and shoot a firearm. All equipment will be provided so all you need to do is show up and be ready to learn. Participants will learn how to load, aim, and fire a firearm after just a short period. All ages are welcome.

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