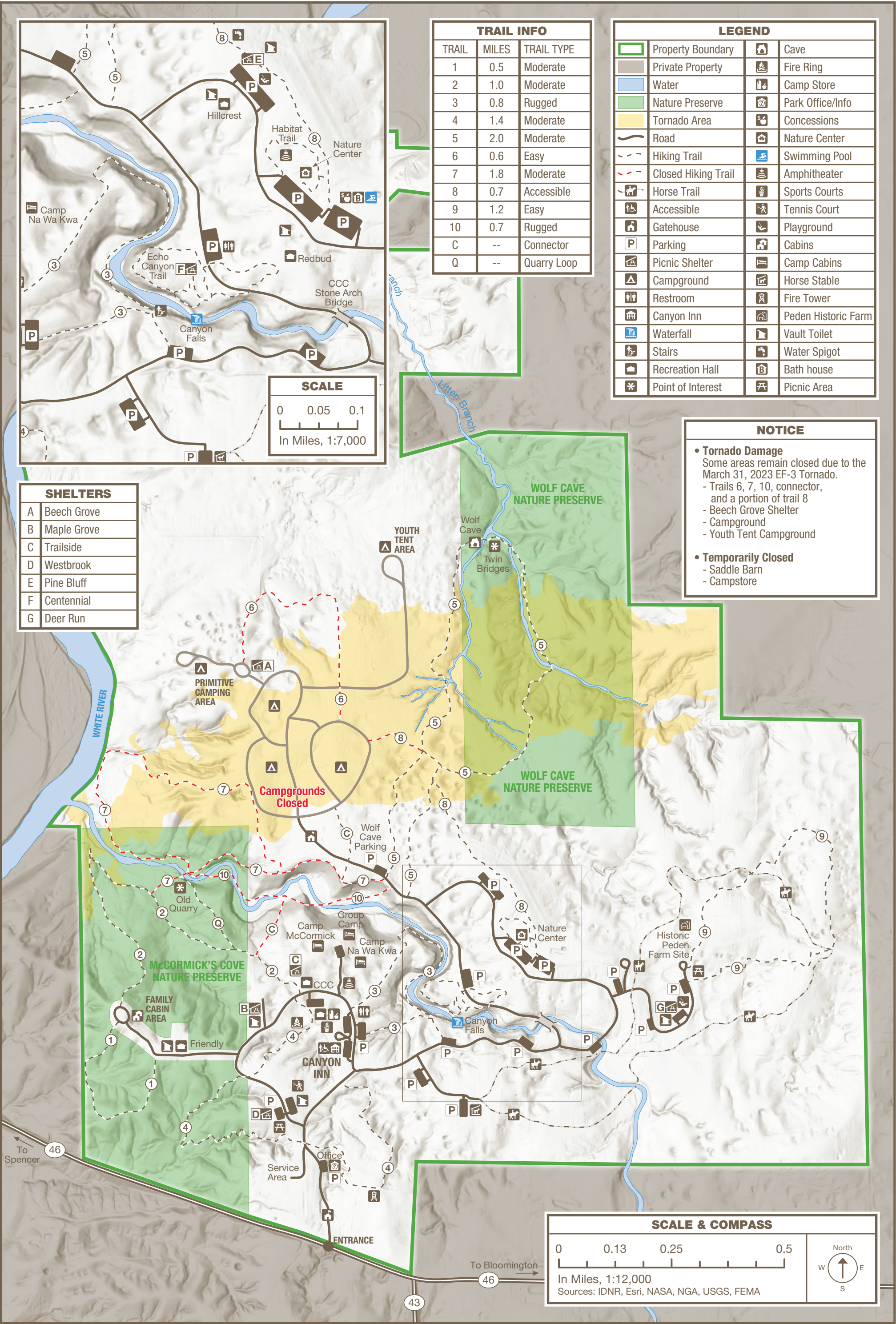


MCCORMICK'S CREEK STATE PARK

250 McCormick's Creek Park Road | Spencer, IN 47460 | 812-829-2235
1,961 Acres | Established 1916



TRAIL INFO		
TRAIL	MILES	TRAIL TYPE
1	0.5	Moderate
2	1.0	Moderate
3	0.8	Rugged
4	1.4	Moderate
5	2.0	Moderate
6	0.6	Easy
7	1.8	Moderate
8	0.7	Accessible
9	1.2	Easy
10	0.7	Rugged
C	--	Connector
Q	--	Quarry Loop

LEGEND			
	Property Boundary		Cave
	Private Property		Fire Ring
	Water		Camp Store
	Nature Preserve		Park Office/Info
	Tornado Area		Concessions
	Road		Nature Center
	Hiking Trail		Swimming Pool
	Closed Hiking Trail		Amphitheater
	Horse Trail		Sports Courts
	Accessible		Tennis Court
	Gatehouse		Playground
	Parking		Cabins
	Picnic Shelter		Camp Cabins
	Campground		Horse Stable
	Restroom		Fire Tower
	Canyon Inn		Peden Historic Farm
	Waterfall		Vault Toilet
	Stairs		Water Spigot
	Recreation Hall		Bath house
	Point of Interest		Picnic Area

SHELTERS	
A	Beech Grove
B	Maple Grove
C	Trailside
D	Westbrook
E	Pine Bluff
F	Centennial
G	Deer Run

NOTICE

• Tornado Damage

Some areas remain closed due to the March 31, 2023 EF-3 Tornado.

- Trails 6, 7, 10, connector, and a portion of trail 8

- Beech Grove Shelter

- Campground

- Youth Tent Campground

• Temporarily Closed

- Saddle Barn

- Campstore

SCALE & COMPASS

00.130.250.5

In Miles, 1:12,000

Sources: IDNR, Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA

North

W↑E

S

THE PARK STORY

McCormick’s Creek State Park’s geology, resources, and beauty attracted early settlers, entrepreneurs, and park visionaries, and they continue to inspire today’s guests.

Roughly 359 to 318 million years ago, a shallow, warm sea covered this area. Sand and lime deposits formed on the ocean bottom and were compressed into the solid limestone bedrock of today. Water dissolved the bedrock, creating karst topography.

The ice age ended roughly 15,000 years ago. Glacial meltwater carved the paths of the White River and the creek for which the park is named.

The Myaamia (Miami) homeland included McCormick’s Creek. The Delaware, Bodwéwadmí (Potawatomi) and other tribes also used the region.

In 1816, John McCormick received a deed for the land that included the creek. Although John never visited the property, his two sons operated mills on the creek. His daughter Nancy married Jesse Peden. Together they farmed her portion of the land. Their son Tom built a large barn. Its limestone supports still stand.

In 1880, Dr. Frederick Denkwalter bought 90 acres of this land to create a spa and sanitarium. He eventually expanded his property to 500 acres.

As Indiana’s 1916 centennial approached, a movement arose to create a state parks system that focused on make Turkey Run the first park. Its purchase was delayed, the goal shifted to buying the Denkwalter property, and McCormick’s Creek became Indiana’s first state park.

The park lacked basic infrastructure until the 1930s when the Civilian Conservation Corps arrived. Among their works are the stone arch bridge, fire tower, gatehouse, and recreation hall.

Today, the park offers a full-service inn, cabins, miles of trails, and a nature center and interpretive programs.

RULES & REGULATIONS

• Please obey all property rules & regulations.

[on.IN.gov/INStateParksRules](#)

ACTIVITIES & FACILITIES

- Look for these icons on the map.
- ★ Indicates temporary closure because of tornado.
- ★**CAMPING:** Modern restrooms, hot water and showers. Electric and primitive sites available. Occupancy limited to 14 consecutive nights. Make reservations at [camp.IN.gov](#).
- ★**CAMP STORE:** Offers a fully stocked camp store with nature-themed gifts. Located by the Inn.
- ★**PRIMITIVE/YOUTH TENT CAMPING:** No showers or modern restrooms. Reserve at [camp.IN.gov](#).
- FAMILY CABINS:** Accommodates up to 6 people with a living area, bedroom, bathroom, screened-in porch and kitchen. Cabin 7 is accessible and sleeps 4 people. Pets and smoking not permitted. Open April-October. Occupancy limited to 14 consecutive nights. Reserve at [camp.IN.gov](#).
- CENTENNIAL & SUNSET CABINS:** Accommodates up to 8 people with a living area, eat-in kitchen, seasonal room, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 1st floor is accessible. Pets and smoking not permitted. Occupancy limited to 14 consecutive nights. Reserve at [camp.IN.gov](#).
- GROUP CAMPS:** Two camps; each has four barracks (holds 25 people each), a mess hall (up to 100 people) and a modern shower house. Make reservations at [camp.IN.gov](#).
- HIKING:** Nearly 11 miles of easy to rugged trails. Trail 8 is paved and accessible.
- CANYON INN:** The restaurant is open to the public seven days a week, year-round. The inn’s outdoor pool is open to inn guests only. Make reservations at [Indianalnns.com](#).
- INTERPRETIVE NATURALIST SERVICE:** Open all year. Exhibits, games, quizzes, and naturalist-led activities. Schedules available at [InterpretiveServices.IN.gov](#) or (812) 829-4344.
- PICNIC AREAS:** Tables, grills, restrooms, play areas. Make reservations at [camp.IN.gov](#).
- RECREATION CENTER:** Indoor and outdoor recreation including volleyball and basketball.
- ★**SADDLE BARN:** Trail rides and Hayrides offered. To make reservations, contact McCormick’s Creek Stables at (812) 829-8848.
- SWIMMING:** Open the Saturday before Memorial Day to Labor Day.
- TENNIS COURTS:** Lighted for night playing. Located behind Canyon Inn.

HIKING TRAILS

- For safety, please stay on marked trails.
 - Bicycles prohibited on hiking trails.
- | TRAIL & DESCRIPTION | DISTANCE | DIFFICULTY |
|--|----------|------------|
| Trail 1 | 0.5 mi. | Moderate |
| A loop trail that begins and ends in the family cabins area. Takes you through large native timber in McCormick’s Cove Nature Preserve | | |
| Trail 2 | 1.0 mi. | Moderate |
| Trail begins behind the CCC Recreation Hall, ventures into McCormick’s Cove Nature Preserve and ends between family cabins 11 and 12. Also offers access to the Quarry Loop Trail for observation of the Old State House Quarry. | | |
| Trail 3 | 0.8 mi. | Rugged |
| A loop trail that begins across from Canyon Inn and offers access to the falls and canyon before ending at Stoney restroom. There are no bridges crossing the creek. Fluctuating creek levels may make areas of the trail seasonably inaccessible. | | |
| Trail 4 | 1.6 mi. | Moderate |
| Begins behind the Canyon Inn pool and travels toward the Recreation Field, McCormick’s Cove Nature Preserve and the CCC fire tower. Trail 4 ends on the road near Canyon Inn. | | |
| Trail 5 | 2.0 mi. | Moderate |
| A loop trail that begins at the Wolf Cave Parking Area, enters Wolf Cave Nature Preserve, loops through a Beech-Maple forest, crosses Litten Branch, and offers access to Wolf Cave before ending near the Wolf Cave parking lot. | | |
| Trail 6 | 0.6 mi. | Easy |
| Begins at Beech Grove Shelter, traverses dense forest and ends in the Class A campground. | | |
| Trail 7 | 1.8 mi. | Moderate |
| A loop trail that begins across from the Wolf Cave parking lot, and travels along the canyon rim before descending toward the White River. Along the way hikers encounter a boardwalk. Fishing is permitted on the river. | | |
| Trail 8 | 0.7 mi. | Accessible |
| A paved trail that begins in the campground, between campsites 14 and 15, and proceeds through woodlands and the Pine Bluff picnic area, ending at the pool and concession stand. | | |

Memories made naturally.

INDIANA STATE PARKS

DISCOVER • CHALLENGE • EXPLORE

HOOSIER QUEST-Pin & Patch Program

Each state park offers you the opportunity to complete tasks to earn a patch or property pin.

[on.IN.gov/hoosierquest](#)

BOOK YOUR STAY • RESERVE TODAY

GET OUT and GO CAMPING

Call or go online to make your reservation for all types of

- Camping
- Family Cabins
- Shelters

Includes state parks, reservoirs and forests.

1-866-6campIN (1-866-622-6746)
 [camp.IN.gov](#)

STAY IN at a STATE PARK INN

Call or go online to make your reservation for a(n)

- State Park Inn
- Inns-managed Cabin

Seven State Parks include Inns: Brown County, Clifty Falls, Fort Harrison, McCormick’s Creek, Spring Mill, Turkey Run and Pokagon.

1-877-lodges1 (1-877-563-4371)
 [Indianalnns.com](#)

For a full list of events, visit [interpretiveservices.IN.gov](#)

CARRY IN

CARRY OUT TRASH

Please carry out all trash you produce to help keep the property clean and beautiful for all to enjoy!

FOLLOW US

OUTDOOR INDIANA

Subscribe to Outdoor Indiana magazine today, Visit [OutdoorIndiana.org](#) or call 317-233-3046.

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TRAIL & DESCRIPTION	DISTANCE	DIFFICULTY
Trail 9	1.2 mi.	Easy
Begins at Deer Run parking area and loops through young and mature forest stands on a sinkhole plain. Peden Farm site is accessed by service road.		
Trail 10	0.7 mi.	Rugged
Trail begins across from Wolf Cave parking lot, descends into canyon by staircase, and proceeds downstream to stairway that connects to Trail 7.		

TRAIL CHALLENGE

- Try one of our challenges and earn merchandise to purchase. Participate in the Centennial Challenge at McCormick’s Creek State Park. Visit the web site and select your park of choice to learn more.
- [on.IN.gov/parks-challenges](#)

DNR PROPERTIES NEARBY

- Find more DNR properties at [on.IN.gov/recfinder](#).
- | |
|--|
| LIEBER SRA (CAGLES MILL LAKE) |
| boating, boat ramps, boat rental, camping, fishing, hiking, hunting, seasonal interpretive center & service, marina, picnic area, play/sports area |
| MORGAN-MONROE STATE FOREST |
| boating, boat ramps, camping, fishing, hiking, hunting, picnic area, shelterhouse, trapping |

TRUE TALES

- **MOTHER NATURE’S FURY:** On March 31, 2023, McCormick’s Creek State Park was in the path of an EF-3 tornado. The tornado destroyed the campground and caused significant impacts to Wolf Cave Nature Preserve.
- **ARCHITECTURE:** A late 1800s limestone quarry operated near the creek. Some of its limestone was used in constructing the state Capitol.
- **HISTORICAL FIGURE:** In 1923, Lucy Pitschler became Indiana State Parks’ first interpretive naturalist, leading hikes throughout the park.

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

MCCORMICK'S CREEK STATE PARK

McCormick’s Creek State Park

250 McCormick’s Creek Park Road

Spencer, IN 47460

(812) 829-2235

[on.IN.gov/mccormickscreeksp](#)

[mccormickscreeksp@dnr.IN.gov](#)

[on.IN.gov/stateparks](#)