

WELCOME: We are returning to Potato Creek State Park to beat the heat of the Dog Days with a mid-Summer Volkssporting event that is guaranteed to cover your brow with sweat, if not freeze your butt off. This event offers you a choice of walking five or ten kilometers, or you may do an eleven-kilometer bike event. Potato Creek State Park is among the newest of Indiana's state parks. It is fairly flat topography and hard-wood forest provides year-round outdoor recreational activities that are enjoyed by many Volkssporters.

WHAT ARE VOLKSSPORTS? A Volksmarch is a non-competitive walking event. The walk is about ten kilometers or 6.2 miles in length. Other Volkssporting events include swimming, biking, and skiing. These events are hosted by clubs in more than forty nations worldwide. The purpose of Volkssporting events is to encourage physical fitness, promote fellowship, and to enjoy the outdoors. Because these events are not contests of speed or endurance, you may participate at a pace that is safe, comfortable, and enjoyable. When Volkssporting events are sanctioned by the International Volkssport Verband (IVV), individuals may receive credit for event participation and/or distance. This credit is recorded in IVV Record Books, which presently cost \$6.00 each. After completing a pre-determined number of events and/or distance, your achievement will be recognized with a pin, patch, and certificate by the IVV. Further information will be available at the start/finish point.

SPONSOR: The Hoosier Hikers (AVA Club #723) of South Bend, Indiana.

START/FINISH: The start/finish point is in the vicinity of the Nature Center at Potato Creek State Park, 25601 State Road 4, North Liberty, Indiana, 46554. You may start the event anytime between 8 a.m. and 12 p.m. (EDT), and must complete the event by 4 p.m. The average walker can complete a ten-kilometer trail in about two hours.

FEES: Everyone is welcome. However, event registration, which includes a fee, is required of all participants. The fee for the state park award, which includes IVV Credit and an identifying bar, is \$17.00. The fee for only the identifying bar and IVV credit is \$9.00. The basic registration fee for ALL participants is \$4.00, which is already included in the cost of the awards. There is a park gate admission fee of \$7.00 for Indiana plated vehicles and \$9.00 for out-of-state plated vehicles.

PROCEDURE: At the start point obtain a start card with a number and sign in on the register. Walk the Volksmarch route at your own pace. The event routes may be marked with engineer tape and signs. Along the way have your card stamped at each checkpoint. After completing the route, turn in your card at the finish point to receive your medal and/or IVV Credit, as appropriate. NOTE: ALL participants must register at the start point and return the card at the finish point.

IVV CREDIT: Participants completing this event are eligible for IVV event and distance credits.

STATE PARK AWARDS: For all events in an Indiana State Park during the year 2024 there is a 2-1/4-inch single die cast medal with a scenic photo from an Indiana State Park. To this medal an identifying bar for the park may be attached. The bar may be purchased separately from the medal. Events at other state parks will offer other identifying bars. Completion of the trail and payment of the registration fee is required to receive the award.

SPECIAL EVENT STAMPS: Walking the USA A to Z and Little Free Libraries.

TRAIL DESCRIPTION: The walk routes make use of the state park's existing trail system. These trails wind through mostly flat wooded areas. Two hills may be encountered along the route. The trails are rated 2-B based upon the current AVA rating scheme. The trails are not suitable for wheelchairs or strollers. The bike route makes use of an existing bike trail.

SPECIAL NEEDS: A special needs trail will be available upon request.

REFRESHMENT: Water will be available at the start/finish and at all checkpoints. However, it is recommended that participants carry some water with them along the route, because of the possibly hot weather (this ain't dreaming) and lack of water along stretches of the routes. Restrooms (not air conditioned) will be available at the Start/Finish and may be located near other stretches of the trail.

PRE-REGISTRATION: NO pre-registration is offered.

REFUND POLICY: NO refunds given.

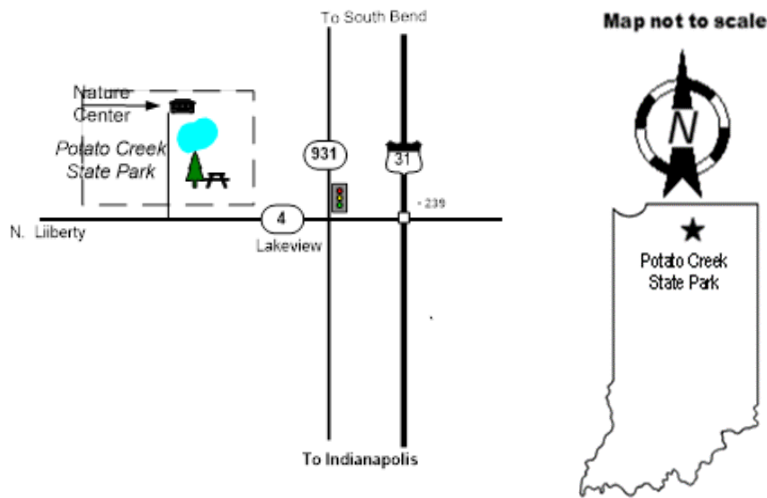
WEATHER: These events will be held rain, shine, or snow.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS: Covid-19 protocols may be in effect and practiced, depending on local circumstances.

DISCLAIMER: The Hoosier Hikers, INVA (Indiana Volkssport Association), the AVA (American Volkssport Association), the State of Indiana, Potato Creek State Park, and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources are not liable for accidents, theft, or material damage. Every reasonable effort will be made to make the events safe and enjoyable. Children under the age of twelve must be accompanied by an adult, and pets must be kept on leashes.

POINT OF CONTACT: Bob Buzolich at (574) 339-9140, or via email to sonofbuzz@prodigy.net.

DIRECTIONS: Potato Creek State Park is four miles West of U.S. 31 on State Road 4. From the gate house at the park entrance, you should follow the signs to the Nature Center. The Start Point is located in the vicinity of the Nature Center. Address: 25601 State Road 4, North Liberty, Indiana, 46554.



**ARE YOU SEEKING A GOOD START
FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION
IN THIS YEAR'S CENTENNIAL PROGRAM?**

**WHY NOT DO A SECOND EVENT
WHILE YOU ARE IN THE AREA?**

**INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE
AT THE START/FINISH POINT
FOR LOCAL YEAR-ROUND EVENTS.**

THE HOOSIER HIKERS INVITE YOU TO



**A 5 KM & 10 KM VOLKSMARCH
AND A 11 KM BIKE EVENT
POTATO CREEK STATE PARK
NORTH LIBERTY, INDIANA**

AUGUST 3, 2024

START: 08:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M. (EDT)

FINISH BY 4:00 P.M.



**INVA # 912
MA2024/126923 (WALK)
MA2024/126922 (BIKE)**