

WELCOME: This is the second year for the Hoosier Hikers to offer a Seasonal walking event at the Indiana Dunes State Park. Previously, the Indiana Volkssport Association offered a regular traditional event on a rotating basis. As a seasonal event, Volkssporters will be able to navigate a route along the Park's trails that is bound to bring enjoyment and adventure at your leisure.

WHAT ARE VOLKSSPORTS? A Volksmarch is a non-competitive walking event. The walk is generally 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.

PROCEDURE: The primary means of registration for this event is through the AVA Online Start Box (OSB) at <https://my.ava.org>. When you register through the OSB, you may download the Map and Directions for this event and complete the event at your own pace. Upon completion, please return to the OSB to record your completion and receive credit. On-site registration and physical stamping will only be available for Guided Group Walks.

START/FINISH: The location of the Primary and Alternate Start/Finish Points will be provided with the Map & Directions, when you register using the OSB, or as provided to you for a Guided Group Walk. When you register through the OSB, you may do the event anytime during daylight hours (dawn to dusk) and must complete the event by dusk. The average walker can complete an eleven kilometer trail, rated 2-B, in about 2-1/4 to 2-1/2 hours.

FEES: Everyone is welcome. However, event registration, which includes a fee, is required of all participants. The basic registration fee for ALL participants is \$4.00. There is a park gate admission fee of \$7.00 for Indiana plated vehicles and \$20.00 for out-of-state plated vehicles only at this Indiana State Park, beginning in 2026. For cyclists and pedestrians entering the Park, the admission fee is \$2.00.

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 2026 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 header. 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. The award will be offered until current supplies are extinguished and may not be re-ordered, pending selection of a new A-Award.

**SPECIAL EVENT STAMPS: Walking the USA A-Z
Anniversaries Hurrah**

TRAIL DESCRIPTION: The walk route makes use of the state park's existing trail system. The 5-K route winds through mostly flat wooded areas and is rated 1-B. The 6/7-K route is rated 2-B. The trail ratings are based upon the current AVA rating scheme. The trails may not be suitable for wheelchairs or strollers. In the event of relatively extreme weather conditions some trails may have restrictions or temporary re-routes.

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

REFRESHMENT: Water is available at the primary start/finish and at the start/finish for Guided Group Walks. It is recommended that participants carry water with them along the routes, especially during the summer months. Restrooms (heated with hot water) will only be available at the primary start/finish, when open. The alternate start/finish, as well as some locations along the routes, may only offer a vault latrine. You may wish to have available headcover, walking sticks and water.

PRE-REGISTRATION: No pre-registration is offered by the Hoosier Hikers for this event.

REFUND POLICY: NO refunds given.

WEATHER: These events will be held rain, shine, or snow except in the case of extreme weather conditions posing a threat to life, limb and property.

DISCLAIMER: The Hoosier Hikers, INVA (Indiana Volkssport Association), the AVA (American Volkssport Association), the State of Indiana, Indiana Dunes 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: Indiana State Route (SR) 49 is the only road leading to the Indiana Dunes State Park. SR 49 intersects with US 12, US 20, US 30, Interstate I-94 at Exit 26 and the Indiana Toll Road (I80/90) at Exit 31. At all intersections with SR 49 make the appropriate turn to follow SR 49 in a Northerly direction to the Indiana Dunes State Park at 1600 North 25 East, Chesterton, Indiana 46304. There is brown signage at each of the intersections on the five major highways directing traffic to the Park. Upon entering the Park follow the Park's signage to your chosen Start/Finish Point, per the Map & Directions obtained through the AVA Online Start Box.



**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 FOR OTHER LOCAL
YEAR-ROUND AND SEASONAL EVENTS IS
AVAILABLE AT**

<https://my.ava.org/find-an-event.php>

**USE THE SEARCH FUNCTION FOR INDIANA,
MICHIGAN OR ILLINOIS**

THE HOOSIER HIKERS INVITE YOU TO



**A SEASONAL VOLKSSPORTING EVENT
AT THE INDIANA DUNES STATE PARK
FROM MARCH 1 TO NOVEMBER 30, 2026**

**5 KM, 6 KM, 7 KM, 11 KM & 12 KM
VOLKSMARCH (WALK)**

CHESTERTON, INDIANA



INVA # 929

MA2026/130442 (WALK)

ENJOY A STROLL WITH THE HOOSIER HIKERS AT THE INDIANA DUNES STATE PARK

The Hoosier Hikers, a club affiliated with the American Volkssport Association (AVA), invite you to participate in a series of three Group Walks that incorporate the highlights of the IVV (Internationale Volkssportverband) sanctioned seasonal walking event at the Indiana Dunes State Park, which is open from March 1 to November 30.

The group walks are scheduled, as follows:

Saturday, March 7	Walk Start Time 10 am (EST)	Start Vic Nature Center
Saturday, April 25	Walk Start Time 10 am (EDT)	Start Vic Wilson Shelter
Saturday, October 17	Walk Start Time 10 am (EDT)	Start Vic Nature Center

All walks start from the parking area nearest the above indicated park facility at the Indiana Dunes State Park. Please note that, though the Indiana Dunes State Park is in the Central time zone, the above times are for the Eastern time zone. To convert to local time (Central time) subtract one hour.

Please arrive no later than one half hour prior to the walk's start time (9:30 am - Eastern) to register. Registration for this event is also available for the duration of the seasonal event through the AVA online start box at <https://my.ava.org>. Persons who register on-site will receive a physical stamp in their IVV record books.

Upon completing registration participants may be segregated into two or more groups. Those choosing to walk short route of 5 – kilometers (3.2 miles) route, and those choosing to walk the 11 or 12 – kilometer (6.8 or 7.5 miles) route.

For specific information regarding this event, to include information regarding an award for participating in this event and current gate fees, please reference the event brochure in which you found this insert.

-INSERT-

ENJOY A STROLL WITH THE HOOSIER HIKERS AT THE INDIANA DUNES STATE PARK

The Hoosier Hikers, a club affiliated with the American Volkssport Association (AVA), invite you to participate in a series of three Group Walks that incorporate the highlights of the IVV (Internationale Volkssportverband) sanctioned seasonal walking event at the Indiana Dunes State Park, which is open from March 1 to November 30.

The group walks are scheduled, as follows:

Saturday, March 7	Walk Start Time 10 am (EST)	Start Vic Nature Center
Saturday, April 25	Walk Start Time 10 am (EDT)	Start Vic Wilson Shelter
Saturday, October 17	Walk Start Time 10 am (EDT)	Start Vic Nature Center

All walks start from the parking area nearest the above indicated park facility at the Indiana Dunes State Park. Please note that, though the Indiana Dunes State Park is in the Central time zone, the above times are for the Eastern time zone. To convert to local time (Central time) subtract one hour.

Please arrive no later than one half hour prior to the walk's start time (9:30 am - Eastern) to register. Registration for this event is also available for the duration of the seasonal event through the AVA online start box at <https://my.ava.org>. Persons who register on-site will receive a physical stamp in their IVV record books.

Upon completing registration participants may be segregated into two or more groups. Those choosing to walk short route of 5 – kilometers (3.2 miles) route, and those choosing to walk the 11 or 12 – kilometer (6.8 or 7.5 miles) route.

For specific information regarding this event, to include information regarding an award for participating in this event and current fees, please reference the event brochure in which you found this insert.

-INSERT-