



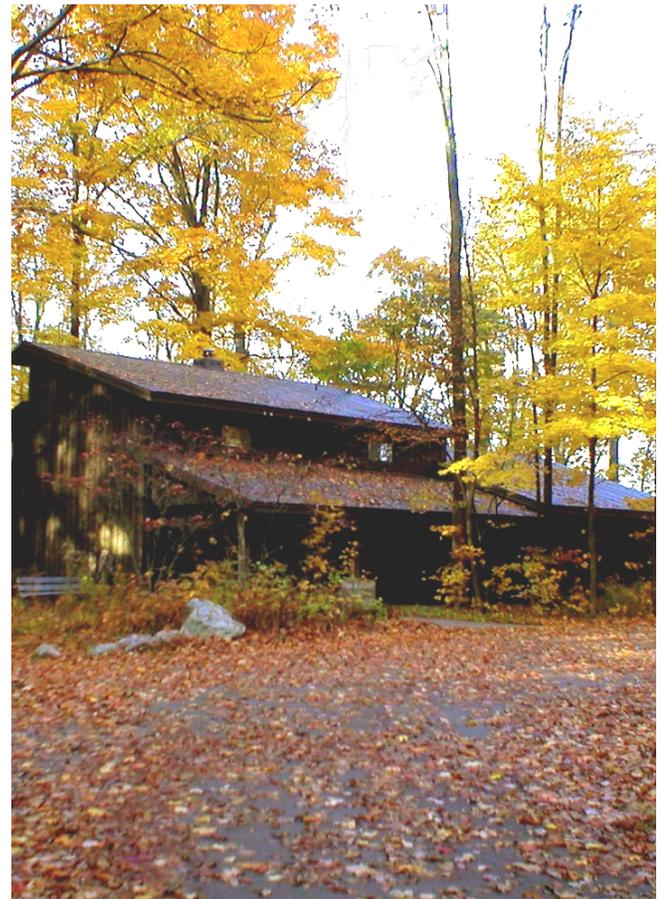
Thirteen Lines

Spring 2026 March-May

SPRING INTO FUN

The warmer days are around the corner, and our parks are buzzing with exciting events and programs for the whole family! This year, Maple Syrup Days is celebrating its 35th sweet anniversary, and we can't wait to welcome visitors to enjoy the tapping demonstrations, pancake breakfasts, and family-friendly activities that make this tradition so special. Plus, mark your calendars for our Youth Nature Bound camps, Conservation camp, and the By Gone Days camp - there's something for every age and interest to explore, learn, and make lasting memories.

Inside this issue, you'll find all the details on upcoming events, registration information for summer programs, highlights from our community projects, and tips for enjoying our parks this spring. We're excited to share what's happening and hope to see you and your family out enjoying all the fun our parks have to offer!



SWEET TIMES AHEAD

CELEBRATE 35 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF MAPLE SYRUP DAYS!

Get ready for a sweet celebration! Maple Syrup Days returns on March 20 and 21, and our park staff is hard at work preparing a fun-filled weekend for the whole family. Enjoy syrup making demonstrations, delicious treats, and hands-on activities as we celebrate the 35 year anniversary of this beloved spring tradition.



May 14
10 am - 12 pm

Sign Up & Details

lagrangecounty.org

Join us for a walk or run through the sugar bush at Maple Wood Nature Center!

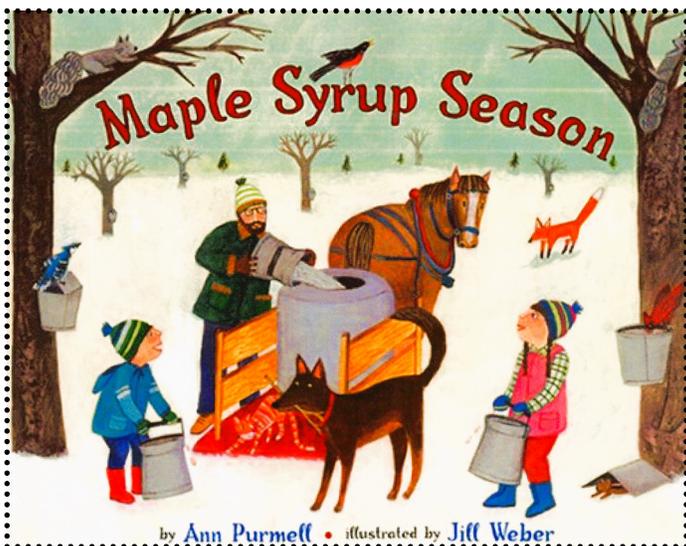
Celebrate syrup season with a fun early spring walk or run through the maple woods while the sap is flowing! This fundraising event features a non-timed 5K Fun Run and a 1-mile Stroll along handicapped-accessible limestone trails and adjoining paved roads.

All ages and abilities are welcome, and families are encouraged to come enjoy everything the park has to offer. Afterward, warm up and treat yourself to goodies around the campfire—we can't wait to see you there!

Or Scan Me!



STORY BOOK TRAIL AT MAPLE SYRUP DAYS DURING MAPLE SYRUP DAYS IN THE PANCAKE WAITING LINE



Our Storybook Trail features a **20+ page story** displayed for families to read together while waiting in line for **delicious pancakes and sausage!**

This year, waiting in line is part of the adventure!

Scan the QR codes along the trail to:

- Watch a short Maple Syrup Days video and enter to win a **FREE sweet maple treat.**
- Test your skills and see if you're a true **Maple Syrup Master.**

Read. Scan. Learn. Celebrate.

Be sure to snap some sweet photos and tag us — we love seeing your memories! We're celebrating our **35th Anniversary**, and we want **YOU** to be part of HISTORY!



35th 2026 Maple Syrup Days Anniversary March 21 & 22

Maple Wood Nature Center

4550 E. 100 S. LaGrange, IN

Pancake Breakfast \$

**Served 7 am - 1:30 pm

Cash or Check ONLY

Adult \$10 each

Child (ages 4-11) \$5 each

South Milford Lions Club

Sugar Shack Tours (free)

Tours 8 am - 2 pm

Syrup Store \$

Open 8 am- 2 pm



Horse-Drawn Wagon Rides < free >

Tours 8 am - 2 pm

Dekalb County Horsemen's Association

Entertainment Tent

Open 8:30 am- 2 pm

Magic Shows & more

It's time for Maple Syrup Days! Bring the whole family for pancakes, outdoor fun, & activities

- Outdoor treats - kettle corn and sap tea are cash only.
- Parking is free along the road. Parking inside park is reserved for ADA only.
- Dress for the weather, enjoy the festivities, and stock up on maple treats at the syrup store.

Visit lagrangecounty.org for full details or call the Parks office at 260-854-2225.



STITCH & CONNECT

QUILTING CLASSES AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER 9AM-3PM

March 28—We are continuing the Underground Railroad Series with two featured blocks: Birds in the Air (left block) and Flying Geese (right block). An alternate block will also be introduced, to be determined.



***March class held at Dallas Lake Lodge.**

April 18—Join us for the final block in the Underground Railroad Series: Carpenter’s Square. During the class, we’ll also discuss options for finishing your quilt if you’d like to bring your project to completion. An alternate block will also be offered.



May 16—Join us for some fun as we start our Disappearing Four Patch pattern. Once again, instructors will be on sight for assistance and an alternate block will be introduced as well.



Sign Up & Details

Registration is required. Instructions will be provided when you register. The class fee is \$25 (with \$5 supporting the Parks Department). Instructors will be available during class to answer questions and offer guidance. Call Julia 260-367-1449 or Ira 260-463-1438 to sign up.

SEW & TELL:

Share projects, ideas, and laughs

Sewing Group at Maple Wood Nature Center

Meets the fourth Wednesday of each month April - October

April 22 and May 27 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

What is a UFO? If you said Unfinished Object—this sewing group is for you! This gathering is open to everyone. Bring your sewing machine and work on a project while getting help, sharing ideas, and connecting with fellow sewing enthusiasts.

Please bring a sack lunch and a snack to share. A \$5.00 donation to LaGrange County Parks is requested. **RSVP to Linda Grobis at 260-351-3609.**



ENCHANTED FAIRY DOOR TRAIL

April 25 9 - 11 am

Step into a world of woodland wonder! Hidden along the trails, tiny fairy doors are waiting to be discovered. Join us for a magical spring adventure at **Maple Wood Nature Center** where families of all ages can explore nature, create fairy doors, and let their imaginations bloom!



BUTTERFLY MONITORING TRAINING

Develop your love of butterflies



Indoor Training: May 7 from 6-9 pm at Maple Wood Nature Center

Outdoor Training: June 7 from 1-4 pm at Pine Knob Park

Hosted by John Brittenham of Blue Heron Ministries

Registration deadline: May 4

Register with John: johnbrittenham@gmail.com or 260-242-2759

All levels of experience welcome. Full details, visit our website.
lagrangecountyparks.org

May 7
6 - 9 pm

BIRD PHOTOGRAPHY OUTDOOR SESSION

Explore One of Our Most Popular Parks Through a New Lens on World Migration Day!

Join us for a guided bird photography walk at **Delt Church Park!** Meet at the **East River Pavilion.** Discover the beauty of native birds as we explore the trails and learn how to capture stunning images right in our own backyards. So, whether you're a beginner or a hobby photographer, this session will help you: 1) spot & identify local bird species 2) learn simple camera tips for outdoor photography 3) use lighting & natural backgrounds to enhance your shots 4) practice techniques while walking the park trails. Bring your camera (DSLR, mirrorless, or smartphone welcome!) and enjoy a relaxing morning of nature, learning, and creativity.

May 9
9 am - 12 noon



CANVAS & MOCKTAILS

Paint. Sip. Relax.

Unwind in a beautiful natural setting while creating your own masterpiece! Join us at **Maple Wood Nature Center** for a guided painting experience paired with handcrafted, alcohol-free mocktails. Whether you're planning a girls' night, date night, or just craving creative time, this evening is designed for fun and relaxation.

Cost is \$35/person. Call the Parks office to reserve your spot.



May 22
5 - 8 pm



TEX FLEX AT DELT CHURCH PARK

May 30
Time TBD



PDGA Disc Golf Tournament

More information coming soon!



Patchwork Trails

PATCHWORK TRAILS

A partner program with
LaGrange County Library

Patchwork Trails combines exercise, education, friendship, and fun! Each walk will showcase seasonal beauty unique to each property.

Mark your calendars with the following dates. Each guided walk will begin at 6pm.

Stay tuned! Locations to be determined!

Check our Facebook Page or website for location updates.

April 21

May 19

June 16

July 21

August 18

September 15



EVERY PARK, EVERY TRAIL

Fitness Walking Club

Every Park, Every Trail Fitness Walking Club brings people together to move, explore, and feel stronger—one walk at a time.

- All fitness levels welcome
- A Park Rep. will be present for check-in.
- Trail maps may be found at the trailhead, on our website, or on the AllTrails App.

To kick off this eight week session, we will begin on Earth Day!

April 22 6PM Maple Wood Nature Center

May 2 9AM Delt Church Park

June 3 6PM Dallas Lake Park

July 25 9AM Mike Metz Fen

August 26 6PM Delt Church Park

Sept 26 9AM Maple Wood Nature Center

Oct 21 6PM Duff Memorial Park

Nov 14 9AM Pine Knob Park



SUMMER FUN AT LAGRANGE COUNTY PARKS

COME EXPLORE THE OUTDOORS WITH US!

Invest \$10 a day and give your kids an unforgettable summer with Adventure Bound, Conservation Camp, By-Gone Days, and Nature Bound—three exciting camps at different parks packed with water, nature, and nonstop fun! Registration fills up quick, so don't be late! All camps are 9am-3pm daily, unless noted differently. Call the Parks office to register - 260-854-2225. Pack a lunch, grab your friends, & see you at Camp!

By Gone Days
June 6 - 12
Grades 1 - 5

\$50

Step back in time at David Rogers Park and experience simple fun from days gone by.

Nature Bound I June 22 - 26 Grades 1 - 3
Nature Bound II July 13 - 17 Grades 3 - 5
Nature Bound III July 20 - 24 Grades 6 - 8

\$50

All NB camps are held at Dallas Lake Park. Come connect with nature through active, hands-on adventures and outdoor exploration!

Conservation Bound
July 27 - 31 Grades 6 - 9

\$50

Held at Pine Knob Park. Enjoy hands-on outdoor adventures, learn conservation skills, & MORE!

Adventure Bound June 15 - 19 Grades 6-8

\$75

Starting at Dallas Lake Park- and packed with hands-on outdoor fun! We will also be having several field-trips throughout the week!

JUMP IN - SWIM LESSONS ARE HERE!

SUMMER FUN STARTS IN THE WATER

Make a Splash This Summer! Give your child the gift of confidence in the water with our Summer Swim Lessons at Dallas Lake Park.

\$50

Certified instructors will guide beginners and swimmers of all levels in a safe, fun, and supportive environment. Spots are limited. Stay tuned - registration will begin in late April when schedule is announced.



LaGrange County Parks
505 W. 700 S.
Wolcottville, IN 46795
(260)854-2225
parks@lagrangecounty.in.gov
Office Hours: Monday-Friday
8:00am-Noon, 12:30-3:30pm
Park Hours: 8:00am-Sunset
Find us on 

Park Addresses

Maple Wood Nature Center: 4550 E 100 S, LaGrange
Dallas Lake Park: 505 W 700 S, Wolcottville
David Rogers Park: 2355 W 550 S, Wolcottville
Delt Church Park: 6455 S 200 W, Wolcottville
Duff Memorial Park: 6225 N 300 E, Howe
Pine Knob Park: 2825 E SR 120, Howe



LaGrange County Board
of Parks and Recreation:

Dr. John Egli, President
Eric Maginn, Vice President
Julia Wolheter
Paul Baker
Perry Miller
Michael Holcomb

Park Ranger Randy reminds all visitors to practice Leave No Trace principles during their park and beach visits and to please observe posted speed limits to help keep our children safe. Let's all work together to keep our parks clean, safe, and enjoyable for everyone!

