

FALL 2011 EVENTS SCHEDULE

**Pere Marquette State Park
13112 Visitor Center Lane
Grafton, IL 62037
(618) 786-3323, ext. 1**

All interpretive programs offered at Pere Marquette State Park are free of charge.

August 27—Saturday

Have you ever wanted to learn about bobcats? Come discover the mysteries of the bobcat with us. Meet at the Visitor Center at 10:30 A.M.

September 10—Saturday

Nature Hike. Join us for an up close and personal look at the beauty of the park. Hike will be 2 miles. Meet at the visitor center at 1:00 P.M.

September 17 & 18- Sat. & Sun. Grafton's 175th Anniversary.

Plans for the weekend include a reenactment of the opening of the river road, "Life on the river", patriotic boat parade, fetch and fish aquarium, and fireworks. For more information visit www.enjoygrafton.com.

October 7 — Friday

Meet at the visitor center for a program on owls at 8:00 p.m. After the program we will take a night hike to listen for owls. The hike will start at the visitor center and there will be a considerable proportion that will be uphill. You must be able to hike on hilly terrain. The hike will be approximately 2 miles. Join us as we roast marshmallows and hot dogs after the hike. Please bring one flashlight per family. Marshmallows, hotdogs and drinks will be provided

October 8 — Saturday

Have you ever seen the white pelican? Soaring on 10 foot wingspans, pelicans are magnificent. Learn to identify a white pelican, what they eat and why they are here this time of year. We will meet for a short talk, then take a drive to observe these

birds. Dress warm and bring binoculars. Meet at the visitor center at 9:00 A.M.

October 8—Saturday

Join the park interpreter as we learn about the natural history and wildlife of the park as we hike along one of the parks most interesting trails. Learn how the park originated and see rocks that were formed before the age of the dinosaurs. Wear good shoes and bring binoculars. Meet at the visitor center at 1:30 P.M. The hike will last about 2 hours.

October 9—Sunday

Program on history and wildlife of Pere Marquette State Park. If you are new to the area or would like further information about the area this program is for you. Meet at the visitor center at 10:30 A.M.

October 9 - Sunday

Join us for an all ages volleyball game in front of the lodge at 1:30 P.M. Refreshments will be provided.

October 14 — Friday

Nature movies will be shown in the visitor center from 5-7 P.M.

October 14 — Friday

Meet at the visitor center for a program on owls at 8:00 p.m. After the program we will take a night hike to listen for owls. The hike will start at the visitor center and there will be a considerable proportion that will be uphill. You must be able to hike on hilly terrain. The hike will be approximately 2 miles. Join us as we roast marshmallows and hot dogs after the hike. Please bring one flashlight per family. Marshmallows, hotdogs and drinks will be provided.

October 15- Saturday

Feeling adventurous? Take a 6 mile hike with us and explore some of the parks most interesting trails. We will walk past creeks, 100 year old trees, and stop at two scenic over looks. Wear good hiking shoes. Bring a snack, a camera, and binoculars. We will be focusing on exercise and stamina. Meet at the visitors center at 8:30 a.m.. We will return approximately at 12:00 p.m.

October 21 — Friday

Meet at the visitor center for a program on owls at 7:00 p.m. After the program

we will take a night hike to listen for owls. The hike will start at the visitor center and there will be a considerable proportion that will be uphill. You must be able to hike on hilly terrain. The hike will be approximately 2 miles. Join us as we roast marshmallows and hot dogs after the hike. Please bring one flashlight per family. Marshmallows, hotdogs and drinks will be provided.

October 22 — Saturday

Lewis and Clark program

On October 22, 2011 staff dressed in period attire from Lewis and Clark State Historic Site in Hartford, IL will discuss the importance that Illinois played in the success of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Learn about this rich and often overlooked history and learn about this famous expedition that began here in Illinois. This morning session will be free and open to the public, with a discussion lasting from 9-10:30 followed by activities for our younger explorers from 11-noon.

October 22—Saturday

A walk through the colors of fall. Take a nature hike to see the brilliant colors and experience the other wonders of nature first hand. Meet at the visitor center at 1:30 P.M. for this 2 mile 2 hour hike. Don't forget your walking shoes and camera.

October 28—Friday

Awesome Autumn. As the season turns cooler and the colors turn warmer, come on a scenic drive with us as the forest blazes with a beauty unique to Pere Marquette State park. Meet at the visitor center at 10 A.M. There will be a lottery to decide who gets to ride in the van. The others will follow in their own vehicles. We will stop for lunch along the way at a restaurant and return back to the visitor center at approximately 2 P.M.

October 29- Saturday

Feeling adventurous? Take a 6 mile hike with us and explore some of the parks most interesting trails. We will walk past creeks, 100 year old trees, and stop at two scenic over looks. Wear good hiking shoes. Bring a snack, a camera, and binoculars. We will be focusing on exercise and stamina. Meet at the visitor center at 8:30 a.m. We will return approximately at 12:00 p.m.

June 9, 2012—Saturday

Two Rivers Family Fishing Fair

Come to the park from 10-4.

The fishing fair offers fun for the whole family. We will have everything from the trout pond, to the 5,000 gallon aquarium, plus much more. It is free and each youth that attends and participates will leave with a prize.

Check with us on the web at www.dnr.illinois.gov or call the Visitor Center at 618-786-3323.

We are already planning Bald Eagle Days programs for next winter! Don't forget to check our website or give us a call for reservations beginning November 15th. For Eagle packages at Pere Marquette Lodge, call 618-786-2331.