

# St. Joseph County Parks

## Winter Activity Guide 2019-20



St. Patrick's County Park • Bendix Woods County Park • Crone Restoration Area  
Spicer Lake Nature Preserve • Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park • Chamberlain Lake

### Look inside for:



#### Tapping Day

Bendix Woods County Park  
Saturday, February 15



#### Snow Shoeing

Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park  
December–March



#### Cross-Country Skiing

St. Patrick's County Park  
December–March

[www.sjcparks.org](http://www.sjcparks.org)



The best of winter—tubing at the St. Joseph County Parks!



# Calendar of Events

For program information or reservations call 574/654-3155.

All programs have a minimum and maximum registration number; register early!

## November

24 Sunday

### Holiday Classic

#### Disc Golf Tournament

Ferrettie-Baugo Creek County Park

Fee: \$25 registration fee, includes lunch

Join the fun! Doubles "Best Shot"

Tournament with Championship, Amateur, and Recreational divisions. Sign up as a pair or register solo and we will find someone to play with you. All proceeds go towards course improvements. To register or for more information go to DiscGolfScene.com.

## December

11 Wednesday

### Winter Saunter for Adults

Bendix Woods County Park: Nature Center  
1 to 3pm

Come mingle with other adults and join a park naturalist for a guided saunter as we discover the joys of the winter woods! Afterwards, warm up with hot coffee and a light snack!

15 Sunday

### Christmas Magic with the Kringles

Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park:  
Baugo Station

2 to 3pm OR 3:30 to 4:30pm

Fee: \$10/family up to five people;

\$2/additional person

Welcome the holiday season with a unique celebration! Decorate a cookie, make a natural holiday ornament and enjoy hot chocolate while you warm up by the fireplace. Meet the Kringles and hear a holiday story. Don't forget to take pictures! Registration and payment are required by December 9.



## January

1-31

### January Winter Photo Contest

Bendix Woods, Ferrettie/Baugo Creek and St. Patrick's County Parks

Forget the winter blues! Wintertime at St. Joseph County Parks means plenty of family adventures to look forward to, from skiing and tubing to snowshoeing and building a snowman. Share your favorite winter adventure photo, from this season at one of our parks and email it to [jhartzke@sjcparks.org](mailto:jhartzke@sjcparks.org) with your name and phone number for a chance to win a Summer Fun Pack.

3, 10, 17, 24, 31; February 7, 8, 14, 21  
Fridays

### Click and GO!

#### Cross-Country Skiing Lesson

St. Patrick's County Park: Red Barn

3 to 5pm

Fee: \$10/person

Is your goal to learn how to ski with those weird sticks strapped on your feet? Friday afternoons, receive a quick "Click and Go!" lesson on the basics of skiing and hit the skiing trails! Trail conditions permitting.

4 Saturday

#### Cross-Country Ski Lesson

St. Patrick's County Park: Red Barn

9:30am to 12pm

Fee: \$15/person

Ages 15 and up

Learn the basics of cross-country skiing in a friendly and fun group setting. Trail conditions permitting. Back up date is January 11 if weather conditions are unfavorable. Registration and payment are required by January 2.

8-March 4 Wednesdays

### Boomers & Beyond

#### Cross-Country Ski Club

St. Patrick's County Park: Red Barn

Check-in anytime between 11am and 2pm

Fee: \$30 for season

Celebrate winter with fun, fitness and friendship skiing the wintry trails with other Boomers (ages 50+). Relax afterwards in the warming room with a hot beverage. Fee includes rental equipment and trail pass to St. Patrick's County Park.

8 Wednesday

### Winter Saunter for Adults

Bendix Woods County Park: Nature Center  
1 to 3pm

Come mingle with other adults and join a park naturalist for a guided saunter as we discover the joys of the winter woods! Afterwards, warm up with hot coffee and a light snack!

16 January

### Boomers and Beyond Cross-Country Ski Lesson

St. Patrick's County Park: Red Barn

3 to 5pm

Fee: \$10/person

Balance, stride and fly! Join other Boomers (ages 50+) and learn cross-country skiing basics while enjoying the winter landscape. Back up date is January 23 if weather conditions are unfavorable. Registration and payment are required by January 13.

23 Thursday

### Snowshoe Hike

Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park:  
Baugo Station

10am

Fee: \$3/person

Join us for a hike on snowshoes to see what is happening in winter. We'll look for signs of animal life along the creek and pond. Space is limited and registration is required by January 20.

23 Thursday

### Winter Fling for the Little Ones

St. Patrick's County Park: Brown Barn

10am to 12pm

Fee: \$5/family

Winter is a lovely time to get outdoors with kids! Join us for a special morning of activities for children five and under. Experience the best of the season with a warm winter story followed by a cool outdoor adventure (tubing on the hill if there is enough snow!) You can also play in our indoor "snow" tunnel, practice making animal tracks in our snow slime, make a craft, and sample a tasty snack! Registration and payment are required by January 21.



Join our email list for updates, park news, and events! Or, to receive this Quarterly Activity Guide by mail, call 574/277-4828.



## February

1-29

### February Winter Photo Contest

Bendix Woods, Ferrettie/Baugo Creek and St. Patrick's County Parks

Forget the winter blues! Wintertime at St. Joseph County Parks means plenty of family adventures to look forward to, from skiing and tubing to snowshoeing and building a snowman. Share your favorite winter adventure photo, from this season at one of our parks and email it to [jhartzke@sjcparks.org](mailto:jhartzke@sjcparks.org) with your name and phone number for a chance to win a Summer Fun Pack.



5 Wednesday

### Winter Saunter for Adults

Bendix Woods County Park: Nature Center 1 to 3pm

Come mingle with other adults and join a park naturalist for a guided saunter as we discover the joys of the winter woods! Afterwards, warm up with hot coffee and a light snack!

15 Saturday

### Valentine's Day Sweet Ski

St. Patrick's County Park: Red Barn  
Check in at 10:30am Fee: \$20/person

Impress your Valentine with a beautiful morning cross-country skiing the trails of St. Patrick's County Park. While out on the trails stop by the Manion Cabin for a sweet treat between 11am and 1pm. Fee includes gate fee, ski rental, trail fee, and a sweet treat. Registration is required by February 12.

#### Access to All

St. Joseph County Parks' programs and facilities are available to all, regardless of race, color, national origin, limited English proficiency, sex, age or disability. Reasonable accommodations may be requested in advance to provide participation in desired programs and activities. Persons needing services, accommodations and support for accessibility, or for complaints, please call the County Parks' office: 574/277-4828.

15 Saturday

### Tapping Day

Bendix Woods County Park:  
Sauk Trail Shelter

10am to 12pm

The sap will soon be running, and it's time to tap! Volunteers are needed to get the Bendix Woods Sugar Bush ready for making maple syrup! Experienced sugar-makers will take you out into the woods and show you how to tap maple trees and hang sap tubes to collect sap. This activity is outdoors, so be sure to dress for the weather.

## March

5, 6 and 7

Thursday, Friday and Saturday

### Nordic Nights

St. Patrick's County Park: Red Barn

Fee: \$5 trail pass;

\$10 ski rental available

The cross-country ski trails at our park will remain open until 7pm on these evenings if there is adequate snow cover. This is an opportunity for skiers to enjoy the setting sun and take advantage of the natural moonlight.

6 Friday

### Maple Syrup by Moonlight

Bendix Woods County Park:

Glenn Bauer Shelter

7pm Fee: \$5/person

Take a guided twilight stroll through the sugar bush, learn how to tap a tree by lantern light and observe maple syrup being made (weather permitting). Then enjoy a warm beverage and dessert made from pure maple syrup while warming in the shelter. Registration and payment are required by March 2.

15 Sunday

### Lucky Leprechaun

### Orienteering Hunt

St. Patrick's County Park: Brown Barn  
2 to 4pm Fee: \$5/family

Lace up your leprechaun hunting shoes, the hunt is on! Come try your luck at finding leprechauns in the park using an orienteering map! Afterwards warm up by the fire with some hot cocoa and a "pot of gold." Registration is required by March 10.



21 & 22 Saturday & Sunday

### Sugar Camp Days

Bendix Woods County Park

8:30a to 3pm

Fee: \$8.00/vehicle

Join us in celebration as the end of winter nears! Watch sap cook into syrup, enjoy a pancake and sausage breakfast (a New Carlisle Lion's Club fundraiser), tour the Sugar Bush, purchase homemade baked goods made with pure maple syrup, enjoy family music and much more! Stay the day!

**Outdoor  
Elements**

For tips on nature projects and ways to help the environment, watch Outdoor Elements on WNIT Public Television, Sundays at 9am and Fridays at 7:30pm.



# Places for Natural Fun!

For more information about your County Parks visit [sjcparks.org](http://sjcparks.org) or phone 574/277-4828.

**St. Patrick's County Park**  
(Administrative offices and shelter reservations)  
South Bend, 574/277-4828

**Bendix Woods County Park**  
(Program reservations)  
New Carlisle, 574/654-3155

**Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park**  
Osceola

**Chamberlain Lake Nature Preserve**  
South Bend

**Spicer Lake Nature Preserve**  
New Carlisle

**Crone Restoration Area**  
South Bend

*St. Joseph County Parks are smoke-free.*



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**Parks Board:** Virginia Calvin, Larry Catanzarite, John Ferrettie, John P. Gleissner, Thomas Panzica, Donna Pfeil

**County Board of Commissioners:** Andrew Kostielney; Deborah A. Fleming, DMD; Dave Thomas

**County Council:** Robert Kruszynski Jr., Corey D. Noland, Richard Pfeil, Rafael Morton, Diana L. Hess, Mark Telloyan, Mark A. Catanzarite, Joe Canarecci, Mark Root



**ST. JOSEPH COUNTY**  
ESTABLISHED 1830

## St. Joseph County Parks Winter Activity Guide 2019-20



### Sugar Camp Days Saturday & Sunday, March 21 & 22 Bendix Woods County Park

Celebrate the maple syrup season!

- Traditional sugaring demonstrations
- Wagon Rides • Live Music
- Pancake and Sausage Breakfast
- Maple Syrup for Sale

\$8/vehicle



# Winter Leisure Activities

For program information or reservations call 574/654-3155.

## Innertubing

**When:** December 26–January 5, daily  
January 11–March 1, weekends only  
(snow conditions permitting)

**Site:** St. Patrick's County Park:  
Brown Barn;  
Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park:  
Baugo Station

**Time:** 11am to 5pm

**Fee:** Gate fee plus \$4/person

Winter fun for everyone! Innertubing hills are supervised. Innertubes are provided as available. Sleds and toboggans are not permitted. Not recommended for children three years of age or younger. Check our Facebook page or Twitter feed for hill status.

## Preschool Tubing

St. Patrick's County Park  
Every Thursday, January 9–February 20  
1 to 3pm

Snow conditions permitting

**Fee:** \$3 per adult-child pair;

\$2 for each additional person

**Ages:** 3 to 5 yrs. old

Fun for families with preschoolers, snow tubing is a perfect way to spend a snowy afternoon together. Leave the older kids at home—this one is just for the little ones! Check our Facebook page or Twitter feed for hill status.

## Private Innertubing Parties

Private parties are great events for your club, school, church, business or family event. Parties are available during the week and after public hours on the weekends at both innertubing sites. To print off registration information log onto [sjcparks.org](http://sjcparks.org). Parties are only confirmed when payment is received.

## Cross-Country Skiing at St. Patrick's County Park

**When:** December 26–January 5, daily  
January 8–March 8, Wed.–Sun.  
(snow conditions permitting)

**Site:** St. Patrick's County Park:  
Red Barn

**Time:** 11am to 4pm

**Fee:** Gate fee plus \$5 adult daily trail fee, \$4 youth daily trail fee (ages 15 and under) OR \$20 adult seasonal trail fee, \$15 youth seasonal trail fee  
Season passes not valid for special events; \$10 ski rental available

Ski two parks for the price of one! St. Patrick's and adjacent Madeline Bertrand County Parks have teamed together to offer a uni-trail pass. Trail passes purchased at either park will be honored at both parks. Ski trails are groomed at both parks throughout the week. Rental includes skis, boots and poles. Parental signature is required for renters age 16 and under. All equipment is due in by 5pm. Check our Facebook page or Twitter feed for trail condition updates.

## Skiing Under the Stars

**When:** Fridays, January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31,  
February 7  
(snow conditions permitting)

**Site:** St. Patrick's County Park:  
Red Barn

**Time:** 6 to 9pm

**Fee:** \$7/person includes beverage & homemade cookies  
\$10 ski rental available

Enjoy skiing by the light of glowing luminaires on snow-covered trails. At the Manion Cabin enjoy hot chocolate, coffee or water and homemade cookies to revive you for the return journey.

## Snow Shoe Rental

**When:** December 26–January 5, daily  
January 11–March 1, weekends only  
(snow conditions permitting)

**Site:** Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park:  
Baugo Station

**Time:** 11am to 4pm

**Fee:** Gate fee plus \$3/person

Snow shoeing is a great way to enjoy winter sights and sounds. Plus, it never hurts to get a little added exercise in the winter! Parental signature required for renters age 16 and under. Equipment is due back by 5pm (additional fee applies for late return).

## Disc Golf

**When:** Open daily

**Site:** Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park  
Pro Shop located in Gate House

**Time:** 10am to park closing,  
Pro Shop hours vary

**Fee:** Daily pass: \$4/adult; \$3/youth (age 15 and under)  
Annual pass: \$35/adult; \$20/youth  
Annual gate/disc golf  
combo pass: \$55

Bring your friends! Bring your family! See what disc golf is all about. Check out the Pro Shop for all your disc golfing needs. We carry INNOVA disc golf bags and a great selection of INNOVA discs, including tie-dyed discs!



## Group Canoe Rental

Monday, April 6 we will begin taking reservations for group canoe rentals (ten or more canoes) on the St. Joseph River. To print off reservation information log onto [sjcparks.org](http://sjcparks.org).



Every time you shop at Amazon, start with a “smile!” and the Friends of St. Joseph County Parks will receive a donation from Amazon. Use this link to get started!  
<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/35-1459569>

Winter activity guide sponsor:

### Lehman’s Orchard/ Winery/Farm Market

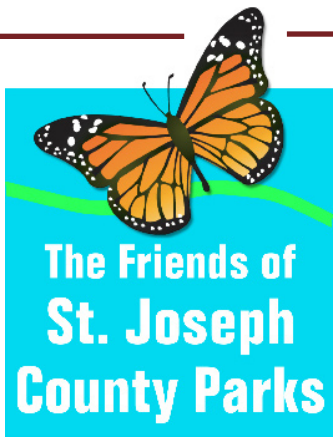
Estate-grown, sustainable, tree-ripened, hand-picked fruit.  
 U-Pick and already-picked strawberries, currants, raspberries, blackberries, blueberries, sweet and tart cherries, peaches, pears, and apples!  
 Call 269/683-9078 for crop updates.  
 Mon-Fri 12-5, Sat 9-5, Sun 12-5.

## Picnic Shelter & Facility Rental



The **Glen Bauer Shelter**, next to the historic STUDEBAKER tree sign at Bendix Woods County Park is perfect for a holiday wedding or gathering.

For more information about shelter rentals at any county park call 574/277-4828 or visit [sjcparks.org](http://sjcparks.org).



Your **donation** supports land acquisition, and facility and program enhancements.

Visit [www.sjcparks.org](http://www.sjcparks.org) to donate online, or mail your contribution to:  
 St. Joseph County Parks Foundation,  
 50651 Laurel Rd, South Bend, IN 46637.

With your donation of \$35 or more you become a member of the St. Joseph County Parks Foundation / Friends of St. Joseph County Parks.

Members receive: annual St. Joseph County Parks entry pass, Activity Guide and newsletter, and an invitation to the Parks Foundation cookout and other member events.

### V.I.P.

Volunteers and donors help the county parks in many ways! Thank you to these recent volunteers & donors:

- Susan Antonovitz
- Brooke Artley
- Nancy Beall
- Bethel Ecology Class
- Judy Carlson
- Mike Denman
- Mary Dominick
- Chuck Eaton
- Bryce and Suzanne Ernzen
- Catherine Farrough
- Patty Fowler
- Tyler Jackson
- Cameron Kois
- Cody Leda
- Lippert Components
- Brad Morris
- Notre Dame Alumni Family Volunteer Camp
- Notre Dame Upward Bound
- Press Ganey
- Running Wild Volunteers
- Southside Disc Golf Club
- St. Joseph County Fire Chiefs Association
- Linda Strain
- Neal Walerko and family
- Emma Wiczorek

### Winter Hours & Gate Fees

**Bendix Woods, St. Patrick’s and Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Parks:**  
 December–March 7: 10am to 5:30pm  
 March 8–April 5: 10am to 7pm

**Park entrance fee** in effect during winter activity season:  
 \$4/in-county vehicle, \$5/out-of-county vehicle, \$8/vehicle at special events.

**Spicer Lake Nature Preserve**  
 Opens one hour later and closes one hour earlier than above times. No entrance fee.

**Note:** Fees for special events or programs may be different from, or in addition to, park entrance fees. Consult the activity listing in this guide or [www.sjcparks.org](http://www.sjcparks.org) for more information.

**Holiday closings:** The County Parks will be closed on Dec. 25 for the county-observed holiday. On Dec. 24, Bendix Woods, Ferrettie/Baugo Creek and St. Patrick’s County Parks will close at 3:30pm. Spicer Lake will be closed on Dec. 24, 31, January 1, 20 and February 17.