

# DISCOVER

News About the North Dakota Parks And Recreation Department



## Statistics & Facts

The 2008-2013 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), nearing completion, shows that walking is still the top-rated outdoor activity for North Dakotans.

**Top activities**—The statewide survey showed the following as the top ten outdoor recreation pursuits by state residents:

Walking, jogging, hiking.....	86.5%
Pleasure driving.....	71.75%
Picnicking.....	69.67%
Biking.....	59.75%
Swimming.....	56.17%
Camping.....	48.83%
Boating, waterskiing.....	47.08%
Golf.....	42.58%
Basketball.....	39.42%
ATV, off-road, snowmobiling.....	37%

**Admission prices**—Slightly over 49 percent of survey respondents indicated that admission price is not an important consideration in outdoor recreation decisions; 30.58 rated admission prices somewhat important; and 19.33 percent very important.

**Pleasure driving**—78 percent of respondents indicated they would leave their original route to their destination to travel on a scenic byway. High gas prices are a consideration with over 63 percent indicating that current gas prices would affect the likelihood of traveling on a scenic byway.

**Trails**—Development of more motorized and non-motorized trails was the most suggested improvement by respondents to current outdoor recreation needs.

The 2008-2013 SCORP, with results from both the survey and regional public meetings, will be published and available on the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department's web site, [www.parkrec.nd.gov](http://www.parkrec.nd.gov), by the end of January.

*Hike a new state park trail—*

## Trail development projects underway

**M**ajor trail enhancements are underway in nearly all state parks this year, according to the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department.

“Trail development is one way we can encourage an active, fit lifestyle for park users,” says Jesse Hanson, planning and natural resources division coordinator for the department. “Each time we’ve improved our park trails, we’ve received excellent feedback from the public, and just as important, seen increased use.”

### Beaver Lake

Completed this past fall was a four and a half mile multi-use trail at **Beaver Lake State Park** near Napoleon. Constructed using a Recreational Trails Program grant, the new trail will allow use of parts of the park the public did not have access to in the past. The new trail can be used for mountain biking, hiking and nature walks, and runs from the campground to the south area of the park.

“This trail is routed through a unique area of rolling prairie, allowing users to view native grasses, prairie wildflowers in the spring and nesting birds,” Hanson says. “We will be encouraging school groups in particular to come to the park in the spring to hike the trail during field trips.”

### Fort Abraham Lincoln



A new multi-use trail at **Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park**, Mandan, was constructed using Federal Highways/DOT funds. This four-mile-plus Legacy Trail starts at the base of Blockhouse Hill, travels north through ravines, then heads to the western boundary of the park, past the post cemetery and then links to the paved bike trail near the park's visitor center.

Tentatively named Scout Trail, it will include a trailside kiosk about the Sioux and Arikara scouts who served at old Fort Abraham Lincoln. A dedication ceremony will be held next spring.

The trail will be an excellent area for snowshoeing and cross country skiing during the winter months.

### Little Missouri

Two additional trail reroutes were completed in August at **Little Missouri State Park** north of Killdeer. The new routes are part of extensive work being done on park property to develop sustainable trails that are less apt to erode the fragile Badlands terrain.

Trail use in this park is limited to horseback riding and hiking.

The park is comprised of 905 acres of state-  
**Trails—cont'd on page 8**

*Left, the new 4.5 mile trail system at Beaver Lake State Park provides access to the south area of the park. Below, trail work at Little Missouri.*



## News from the Director

Again, the pages of this fall/winter issue of Discover include an update of what has been happening since the May issue and what is being planned for the 2008 season. We may not have definitive timelines for respective projects or developments now; however, we can assure you will read about those in detail in the spring issue.



### Director's Letter

Work is diligently progressing on the online reservation program. At this juncture we are not far enough along to determine the exact start-up date. Please review the article inside to gain insight on specific details regarding the content, capabilities and guidelines that are underway. If the program can be rolled out in 2008 you will be notified in advance.

Fall work is ongoing to complete continued repairs in preparation for next season as well as transition to winter programs. Additionally, planning for project development and also repairs are underway. The cycle continues with intent to both maintain the integrity of the state park system and make the improvements approved in the 2007-2009 budget. Progress on the variety of projects and initiatives underway are reported inside.

Gifts and donations, as reported thoroughly in the spring issue, can be accepted for any number of improvements and programs as the donor desires and those gifts can be directed to any park of your wish. All donations are tax deductible contributions. More options and suggestions are provided in this issue. Please consider a gift, leave a legacy.

Although the new budget cycle just began in July we are preparing the new budget items as I write. Within the next five months we will receive the directive and directions for formal preparation. As we continue our preparation please know your thoughts and ideas for planned improvements are welcome. Please write or call.

In closing know that you can call me directly any time to discuss donations or program ideas. We are managing your state park system, your ideas are important.

  
Doug Prchal

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**MISSION—Provide and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities through diverse parks and programs that conserve the state's natural diversity.**



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### Gifts to Support North Dakota State Parks for Generations to Come

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, please call me to discuss methods I may use to donate to North Dakota State Parks. I am interested in learning more about funding opportunities in the following areas—

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

No, do not contact me. However, I would like to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the State Parks Gift Fund to benefit the following state park or program area—

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Clip & return to**  
**ND Parks & Recreation Department**  
1600 East Century Avenue, Suite 3, Bismarck, ND 58503

## Gifts and Donations – Results continue

It is with pleasure we report a number of gifts and donations since the Spring newspaper. We reported the graciousness of the Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni Chapter fund raising that placed a bronze statue at Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park in June. Within the past month that group transmitted the balance of funding creating an endowment to ensure future care of the statue. A extremely selfless act.

In August the department was contacted by a resident inquiring about multi-use trail planning underway in the Pembina Gorge. The individual owned 20 acres of property they wished to donate for public use and asked whether that tract would support trails plans. It did and the land was donated to the department.

July brought more pleasing news when a retired couple from Pennsylvania left a gift of \$1,000 with the park manager while visiting Lake Sakakawea. Their gift is intended to plant trees and shrubs to enhance the park. They were very pleased with their experience and felt this gift would be put to good use. What a challenge this is to our residents.

During October a memorial gift was given to Cross Ranch State Park by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service employees in memory of a former staff member's mother. Those funds will be used for educational programs.

Recall the article this past spring noting the department does accept gifts and the variety of ways those gifts and donations can be directed. Also remember, you can designate funds to go directly for use in a park or specifically for a program. Please call us at 701-328-5357 to visit on any thoughts or ideas you have considered for your park system, or mail in the donor form at the bottom of this page.

### Donor Recognition

The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department gratefully acknowledges the support of the following individuals and organizations. Large or small, your donations enhance the quality of North Dakota's State Parks System and outdoor recreation. The following list covers gifts received from July 1 to November 16.

Friends of Turtle River State Park  
Fort Ransom Sodbusters Association  
Robert & Donna Seyfarth, Pennsylvania (*Lake Metigoshe & Lake Sakakawea state parks*)  
Lewis & Clark Fort Mandan Foundation (*Cross Ranch State Park*)  
Oak Grove Lutheran School, Fargo (*Cross Ranch State Park*)  
Mark Larson, Minot (*Lake Sakakawea State Park*)  
Jacquelyn Stordal, Minot (*Pembina Gorge Project*)  
North Dakota Agriculture in the Classroom Council (*Turtle Mountain Outdoor Learning Center, Lake Metigoshe State Park*)  
Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni Chapter (*Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park*)  
In Memory of Flora Young, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (*Cross Ranch State Park*)

# Fort Stevenson marina approved for new location

The wait is over for word on construction of a new marina at Fort Stevenson State Park. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers let bids for the construction project late this past summer. A letter to proceed and contract have been issued to Martin Construction, Gladstone, North Dakota. The construction schedule will proceed through 2008 with the marina facility open for public use in the spring of 2009.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held November 20 with Governor Hoeven, Senator Dorgan, Corps representatives and local officials making statements regarding the project, scope and timeline, along with benefits and values.

Prolonged drought conditions put the previous marina, located in deTrobriand Bay, out of service in 2000. Constructed in 1983, the marina has been operational only 12 of the past 24 years.

The Corps contract scope is limited to constructing the basin, embankment, protective rock cover, boat ramp, parking and utility services. Operation of the new facility will be contracted to a private operator during 2008 to allow planning and preparation for an opening in 2009. The basin is designed for 72 slips but water levels at opening will dictate initial slip numbers available for public lease. Fuel and sewage pump-out, along with concession operations, are planned at the facility. All of these facilities will be the responsibility of the private operator.

Lake access will be assured throughout the 2008 visitor season. Contract language has provided for priority to maintain a serviceable boat ramp while



Mississippi River Commission members viewed the location of Fort Stevenson's new marina during a news conference this fall. Being interviewed, from left to right, are Gov. Hoeven, Terry Fleck with the Friends of Lake Sakakawea, Fort Stevenson Manager Dick Messerly and Planning and Natural Resources Division Coordinator Jesse Hanson.

construction of the marina is underway. Park events and other activities will not be impacted.

## Campground upgrades, visitor center exhibits construction highlights

Campground upgrades and visitor center exhibits highlight state park construction projects for the coming year.

At Fort Stevenson State Park, contractors are finishing Phase 2 in the park's new modern campground. Water, sewer and electrical hookups are being installed for the remaining 15 campsites in the park's North Loop Campground.

Engineering and design work are underway for upgrading utilities at Lake Sakakawea State Park's Van Hook Campground. Construction is expected to start in the fall of 2008. Water hydrants and upgraded electrical service will be installed at each campsite, replacing a system that has not been able to handle

the heavier loads needed by modern recreational vehicles. Part of this project will also be increasing the capacity of the park's dump station.

Planning work is also underway for improvements to Turtle River State Park's campground. Water and electrical hookups to all campsites will be upgraded, with construction work next spring and fall.

New exhibits will be installed this winter at both Cross Ranch and Turtle River visitor centers. At Cross Ranch, construction has been completed on an addition to the park's River People Visitor Center, which added 700 square feet of exhibit space. Exhibits there will focus on Missouri River transportation. The building's heating and cooling system was also upgraded to a geothermal system while the addition was being built.

At Turtle River State Park, exhibits about the Civilian Conservation Corps will be installed this winter in the park's new visitor center.

A 3,264 square foot addition is currently being designed for the Pioneer Heritage Center at Icelandic State Park. The addition, to go on the west side of the building, will include nature exhibits, meeting space and a full basement. The building's heating and cooling system will be converted to geothermal at the same time. Bids for this project are anticipated to be opened next spring.

At Grahams Island State Park on Devils Lake, the park's boat ramp will be expanded to four lanes, with construction to begin next fall.

The new wheelchair accessible comfort station at Beaver Lake State Park is expected to be completed shortly and will go into operation next spring. The new comfort station will allow the park to extend its full services into the fall to



New buildings nearing completion this fall are, top, visitor contact station at Sully Creek State Park near Medora, and bottom, new wheelchair accessible comfort station at Beaver Lake State Park.

accommodate the numerous hunters who use the park as a base for hunting in the south central part of the state.

Finally, visitor contact stations are under construction at Sully Creek and Little Missouri state parks and will be in use next spring. The log cabin-style buildings replace the old trailers that had been used for the past several years.



Examples of CCC and WPA construction in North Dakota State Parks include, from left to right, park founders' monument at Beaver Lake State Park; wellhouse at Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park; dam and rock work and the CCC Memorial Shelter, both at Turtle River State Park; and an early snapshot of Lake Metigoshe State Park's kitchen and dining hall.

## Park permit commemorates 75th anniversary of FDR's New Deal

The 2008 North Dakota State Parks annual vehicle entrance permit commemorates the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the New Deal, Franklin D. Roosevelt's sweeping array of social and economic programs enacted during the Great Depression to solve the nation's economic crisis.

The 2008 permits can be purchased at state park offices across the state or at the department's Bismarck office at a cost of \$25 for a regular annual vehicle permit. North Dakota residents ages 65 or older are eligible for a discount and can purchase the permit for \$20. Former POWs and disabled veterans are eligible for either a free permit or a discount. Credit card customers (Visa, MasterCard or Discover) can also purchase their permits by calling the department at 328-5357 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For holiday shoppers, the permits are available with a gift envelope.

Shortly after Roosevelt's inauguration in 1933, Congress passed numerous pieces of legislation, including the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Tennessee Valley Authority, Rural Electrification Administration and the Social Security Administration. Two of the best known New Deal programs were the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA). These two programs put millions of the nation's unemployed back to work on public projects, ranging from tree planting, flood control and forest fire suppression, to the construction of state and federal parks and recreation areas. The CCC, dubbed Roosevelt's Tree Army, provided employment for nearly 33,000 of North Dakota's young men.

Workers in these two programs built parks and community facilities across North Dakota, including Theodore Roosevelt National Park, the International Peace Garden, State Historic Sites and many of the National Wildlife Refuges that grace the state today.



Their efforts were invaluable to North Dakota's fledgling State Park System and can still be seen at Beaver Lake, Doyle Memorial, Fort Abraham Lincoln, Lake Metigoshe and Turtle River state parks.

At **Beaver Lake State Park**, WPA projects in 1935 and 1936 included construction of roads, picnic grounds terracing and erection of a stone cairn.

The WPA also planted trees and constructed a pier at **Doyle Memorial State Recreation Area**. This park is currently leased and managed by the city of Wishek.

CCC work at **Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park** from 1934 to 1942 included construction of infantry post blockhouses, museum, earth-lodges, shelters, roads and cornerstones marking the locations of building on the infantry and cavalry posts.

Work at **Lake Metigoshe State Park** began in 1934, when workers with the Transient Bureau built a lodge and kitchen/dining room on the site. The dining hall is still in use today. The park was also the location of WPA projects such as landscaping and road, drainage and building improvements.

CCC and WPA projects were built at **Turtle River State Park** from 1934 to 1941. They included construction of a dam, bathhouse (now the CCC Memorial Shelter), Woodland Lodge, picnic shelters, bridges and staff housing.

**Next summer, a dedication ceremony will be held at Turtle River State Park's new visitor center. Exhibits about the work of the CCC at both Turtle River and the International Peace Garden will be installed in the building next spring.**

## State Parks open for cross country skiing, snowshoeing and sledding

Looking for a new spot to practice your cross country skiing and snowshoeing? Once snow arrives, North Dakota's state parks will have an assortment of cross country ski trails designed to challenge novice and advanced skiers. In particular, Cross Ranch, Turtle River, Lake Metigoshe and Icelandic state parks offer excellent cross country skiing opportunities when winter descends on North Dakota.

While groomed trails can be found throughout the state, there are also areas where skiers can blaze their own trails through undisturbed snow. Ski trail conditions are updated every Thursday on the department's web site, [www.parkrec.nd.gov](http://www.parkrec.nd.gov), throughout the winter.

Snowshoers, hikers and pets must stay off the groomed portions of state park ski trails...in particular, the "grooves" or tracks that skiers glide along.

Park Name	Ski Trail Length & Description
Cross Ranch (Sanger)	10 miles marked & groomed trails, warming house, log cabin rentals
Ft. Abraham Lincoln (Mandan)	Skiing allowed, no maintained trails
Ft. Ransom (Ft. Ransom)	6.5 miles marked & groomed trails, warming house. Sheyenne Valley Snowmobile Trail passes through the park and snowmobile use is restricted to designated snowmobile trail only.
Ft. Stevenson (Garrison)	3 miles marked & groomed trails
Grahams Island (Devils Lake)	1.6 miles groomed, 3.5 miles near West Campground ungroomed
Icelandic (Cavalier)	5 miles marked & groomed
Lake Metigoshe (Bottineau)	11 miles marked & groomed, ski and snowshoe rentals, warming house, sledding, full service cabins
Lake Sakakawea (Pick City)	Skiing allowed, no maintained trails
Lewis & Clark (Williston)	4 miles marked & groomed trails
Turtle River (Arvilla)	5 miles marked & groomed trails, warming house, sledding hill

## Work continues on online reservation system

The North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department is working with the state's Information Technology Department to develop an online management system that will allow the public to use the internet to make campsite and cabin reservations in North Dakota's state parks.

The agency hopes to make an announcement early next year on when the new system will be available to the public. Currently campsite reservations can only be made through a call center.

The new management system will allow users to access information either through a graphical map or text interface, with a long-term goal of being able to intertwine this system to the state's GIS hub. Internet users will be able to search for a state park campsite or cabin by using multiple criteria such as date, location and amenities.

The department will continue to take phone reservations and accommodate first come, first serve campers. As in the past, phone reservations will be handled by NOVO1, a Williston-based telemarketing company.

Those who plan to use the online management system are strongly encouraged to obtain a North Dakota login ID a few weeks prior to the startup date, if they have not already done so when using another North Dakota online service. For example: hunters and fishermen may have already established a login ID when they purchased a license online from the North Dakota Game and Fish Department; the same login ID can be used for the state parks' online management system.

Information on the exact date when the online system is going live will be available on the North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department's web site, [www.parkrec.nd.gov](http://www.parkrec.nd.gov), after the first of the year.

## Campground Hosts needed for Beaver Lake, Little Missouri

Volunteer Campground Host positions in North Dakota State Parks for next summer are filling fast, according to Program Coordinator Nina Pettys. However, she is looking for more applicants interested in working at either Beaver Lake or Little Missouri state parks.

"The positions at Little Missouri are unique in that the Hosts should be comfortable working around horses," Pettys said. This park, located in the North Dakota Badlands near Killdeer, routinely draws over 20,000 visitors each summer, including 3,000 who bring their own horses to ride the park's nearly 50 miles of rugged trails.

Beaver Lake State Park, located near Wishek and Napoleon, is a small, year-round prairie park. Fishing, swimming and boating on the lake are popular draws.

Volunteer Campground Hosts typically work for a one to three month period and receive free, full-service camping for the duration of their stay. For more information, check the department's web site at [www.parkrec.nd.gov](http://www.parkrec.nd.gov), or contact Nina Pettys at 701-263-4651.

## Children and the Outdoors – A Plan for Action

by Doug Prchal, Director  
North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department

Over the past decade personal accounts and research have identified evidence of children and families being disconnected from the outdoors. Spending time in the outdoors has diminished due in part to family members not being introduced to or engaged in various outdoor activities during their childhood. The advent of the information age, technology, computers and video games introduced new experiences. Over the course of a generation these interests replaced actual outdoor experiences with something called virtual reality.

In the span of a couple of decades a radical change has occurred with the way children experience and understand the outdoors. For baby boomers and their parents, freedom was experienced in the outdoors. The natural environment was their playground; today the outdoors is, to many, uninteresting, unfamiliar, unknown and dangerous. Kids today are aware of global threats to nature, they know about the rain forest, acid rain, global warming and holes in the ozone layer. Even with this knowledge they are lacking physical contact and intimate interaction with nature.

The bond with the natural world, by folks born over the past two to three decades, is breaking. A wealth of research directly links our association with nature to mental, spiritual and physical health. As these generations spend less time in the outdoors, their physical and psychological senses narrow, thus limiting the richness of life's experiences.

North Dakotans are endowed with a wealth of outdoor opportunities, and data collected last season shows that nearly half of our state park visitors are families with children. The rural nature of our state affords ready access to outdoors. Although this close-to-nature setting minimizes a disconnect with nature, surely some North Dakota children and young parents are still disconnected, which deserves our collective attention.

The plan for action is beginning in North Dakota to ensure we stay connected to natural settings for the values they provide in development and overall quality of life. Visits with Game and Fish, Education, Health and local park districts are ongoing to establish ideas for further opportunities to explore and engage the outdoors. A national initiative is also underway between the national and state park agencies, education, health and the private sector. This collective group will craft a plan of action focused on a series of strategies to increase public awareness and value of maintaining a connection to nature between children and their families. Additionally, work will include establishing goals to improve knowledge of the collective nation's and respective state's natural resources. In the development of these initiatives emphasis will be placed on the health and welfare of present and future generations through connection to the outdoors.

State parks will continue efforts to increase the demographic of families with children visiting state parks. This challenge will require a thorough understanding of visitor needs and enhancing programs and events that encourage family-focused experiences. Exploring these opportunities has begun. We welcome your thoughts as we work towards these challenges. One way you can help is invite a family to explore the wonders of North



### National Parks, state parks departments join to help connect children to the outdoors

At the National Conference on Parks held in Williamsburg, Virginia, in September, the National Park Service and the National Association of State Park Directors signed an agreement targeted at improving the health of America's children.

The resolution pledges that state and national parks will work together to combat obesity, reduce incidences of childhood diabetes, attention disorders and other mental and physical problems resulting from the lack of outdoor exercise and contact with nature.

In his remarks at the conference, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne pledged to rally the federal agencies he oversees to work collaboratively with the states. "I hope we can reach a day when families and children move seamlessly from state parks to national parks, with doors open everywhere and pathways that lead from one program to another, from one life-changing and life-enriching experience to another," he said. "A day when children beg their parents to take them to a park as much—and maybe more—than they beg them to buy a new video game."

The agreement calls for state and national park agencies to—

- Focus on individual initiatives to increase public awareness of the value of connecting children to nature.
- Join in a dialogue to discuss common issues and implement solutions to create a seamless system of services.
- Share information on developing and expanding natural resource education and recreation opportunities for children and their families.
- Engage other federal, state and local partners in the issues and solutions.
- Promote a national campaign to recognize the importance of connecting children and their families to nature.

Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park interpreter **Jeff Hoffer** returned to work November 26 after a 23-month service deployment. A 1<sup>st</sup> lieutenant with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 136<sup>th</sup> Infantry, based out of Moorhead, Minnesota, he served 18 months in Anbar Province, Iraq, as a rifle platoon leader. He was part of the longest deployed unit in the history of the Iraq War to date.



**Briefly**  
audiences on various environmental education topics such as “Leave No Trace” ethics, forest succession, woodland wildlife, forest habitats, tree identification and more.

**Michael Duerre**, Pembina Gorge Project Coordinator for the North

**Terri Greenwood**, seasonal interpreter at Lake Metigoshe State Park since 2000, was the recipient of the North Dakota Forest Service’s “Environmental Educator of the Year” 2007 Trees Award.

The Trees Awards Program recognizes individuals and groups who make substantial contributions to forestry activities. In particular, Terri was recognized for the numerous programs she has presented to park



*Terri Greenwood, center, was presented with a Trees Award plaque by NDSU President Joseph A. Chapman and State Forester Larry Kotchman at the FargoDome.*

Dakota Parks and Recreation Department, successfully completed basic law enforcement training at the North Dakota Law Enforcement Training Academy in Bismarck this fall.

Sixteen seasonal employees have been awarded the department’s 2007 Service Award in recognition of their long-term employment. The department employs about 150 part-time employees who work from two to nine months each year. Seasonal employees who accrue in excess of 2,500 hours of work during their employment with the department are honored each summer.

Service Award recipients and their hours of service included: 20,000 hours—**Duane Moen**, Devils Lake State Parks. 15,000 hours—**Vernon Vogle**, Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park. 12,500 hours—**Sharon Goehring**, Cross Ranch State Park. 10,000 hours—**Jacqueline Brusseau**, Icelandic State Park. 7,500 hours—**Terry Morrison**, Lake Sakakawea State Park; and **Becky Danskin**, Lake Metigoshe State Park.

5,000 hours—**Sherwin Seeger**, Lake Sakakawea State Park; **Terry Anderson**, Fort Ransom State Park; **Stacy High**, Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park; and **Ray Halvorson**, Fort Stevenson State Park.

2,500 hours—**Ryan Taylor**, Lake Sakakawea State Park; **Cheryl Hartsoch** and **Russell Sveen**, Lewis and Clark State Park; **Ken Urbach**, Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park; **Lorrie Narum**, Little Missouri State Park; and **Shayla Johnson**, Devils Lake State Parks.

## Byways coordinators attend conference

The North Dakota Scenic Byways and Backways Conference was held on October 18-19 at the Radisson Hotel, Bismarck. Byway and backway leaders throughout the state, interested stakeholders, along with state and federal partners, were involved in this year’s conference which focused on marketing.

The Scenic Byways Program is a voluntary effort to identify and promote scenic roadways. The state of North Dakota has nine distinctly recognized roadways, with two of them being nationally designated.

Patricia McNally, marketing and communications director for the Federal Highway National Scenic Byways Program in Washington, DC, spoke about the efforts being done to increase public awareness about the unique and distinctive collection of American roads. She also brought with her the important message of developing a creative and consistent look when marketing the byways/backways. Dennis Adams, a byways specialist from the America’s Byways Resource Center in Duluth, was also on hand to provide valuable information to North Dakota’s byway leaders.

For more information on North Dakota’s Scenic Byway program, please visit [www.parkrec.nd.gov](http://www.parkrec.nd.gov).



*Patricia McNally*

## Snowmobile Safety Classes and law changes

The snow shall soon be flying! We are starting our Snowmobile Safety Certification Courses for this winter. Below is a list of upcoming classes for December:

- Monday, December 3, 5:30-9 p.m.—Dickinson West River Community Center, 2004 Fairway Street
- Thursday, December 6, 5:30-9:30 p.m.—Wahpeton, Hughes Shelter, Chahinkapa Park
- Friday, December 7, 6-9 p.m.—Lisbon Fire Hall
- Saturday, December 8, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.—Fargo Depot
- Monday, December 10, 6-9:30 p.m., Bottineau Tech Center
- Thursday, December 13, 6-9:30 p.m.—Minot, First District Health Unit, 801 11th Ave. SW
- Friday, December 14, 5:30-9 p.m.—Carrington Public School
- Monday, December 17, 5:30-9 p.m.—Williston, Upper Missouri Valley Fairgrounds
- Thursday, December 27, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.—Minot, First District Health Unit, 801 11th Ave. SW
- Thursday, December 27, 5:30-9 p.m.—Rolla Public School

Many more will be scheduled for later in December and January so check our website, [www.parkrec.nd.gov](http://www.parkrec.nd.gov), for additional dates or call 328-5357.

We would like to remind everyone to ride safe and take necessary precautions. Make sure you dress appropriately (wear your helmet, wear a waterproof outer shell and dress in layers) and take appropriate gear with you (survival kit, extra spark plugs and belt).

There is also a change in the snowmobile regulations for this biennium. Along with state park offices, snowmobile dealerships or other approved agents may now sell the Out-of-State Trails and Lands Access Permit. All out of state snowmobilers are required to purchase this permit for a cost of \$15 per year. The permit must be in the operator’s possession when that individual is operating the snowmobile within the state.

The change also allows dealers or other agents authorized by the director of the Parks and Recreation Department who sell this permit to retain \$1 of the \$15 per year fee. The remainder of the fee is deposited in the state snowmobile fund. If you have any questions, would like to register for a class or schedule a class in your area, please contact us at 701-328-5357.



Historic Elmwood Home

## Historic Elmwood Home and property transferred to Grafton Park Board

The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department has transferred ownership of the Historic Elmwood Home and property to the Grafton Park Board. The home will continue to be managed by a local board of directors, as it has for the past 20 years.

The home, on the National Register of Historic Places, was built in 1895 by C.A.M. Spencer, North Dakota's second Attorney General. Located along the Park River in Grafton, the house and 20 acres of land were donated to the department in 1986, and has been used for community events and special occasions.

According to Doug Prchal, director of the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department, the department has been working with the Elmwood board to transfer ownership of the property to local control. "This has been a good partnership over the years," Prchal said. "Our ownership allowed access to preservation funds to improve the property, and I am certain the success will continue under the board and park district."

## 2008-2009 North Dakota State Parks Guide now available

An updated edition of the North Dakota State Parks Guide is now available. The 16-page booklet contains information about all state parks managed by the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department, along with brief descriptions of the state's National Parks and National Historic Sites and the International Peace Garden.

Copies may be ordered free of charge on calling the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department at 701-328-5357. They will also be available shortly at highway rest areas, state park offices or through the North Dakota Tourism Division's web site, [www.ndtourism.com](http://www.ndtourism.com).

## New youth safety course instructor hired

**Jeremy Losinski** has joined the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department staff in Bismarck as a Recreation Education Specialist. He will be teaching snowmobile and off-highway vehicle youth safety courses.



Jeremy Losinski

A native of New Ulm, Minnesota, he is a graduate of Minnesota State University, Mankato, majoring in Automotive Engineering Technology and Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services with an emphasis in Resource Management. Previously, Jeremy was employed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources at Flandrau State Park.

## New Deal Puzzles



# 75

years ago, President Franklin Dalano Roosevelt made a huge impact on our state, federal and city parks with the creation of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). About 200 young men were assigned to each camp for six month periods where they were paid to do outdoor works.

Fill in the bubblegram below to discover what the men did at these

Planted          **E**    and       **S**     
 Built                 **D**    and       **D**        
 Built        **T**           
 Fought           **R**     
 Built        **B**            

Now, unscramble the "bubble" letters to find the mystery word!

      **K**       **N**          **O**       **V**      

Word Bank-

FIRES  
PREYS  
BRIDGES  
ROADS

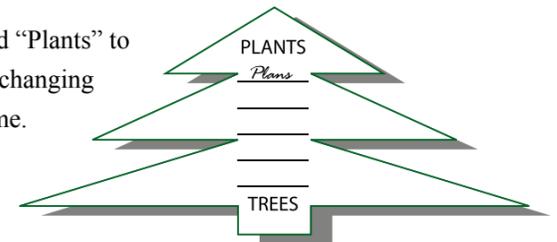
PRAYS  
PLAYS  
BUILDINGS  
TRAILS

GRASSES  
TREYS  
PARKS  
TREES

### Letter Swap

Change the word "Plants" to "Trees" in 6 steps by changing only one letter at a time.

Use the Word Bank above for clues.



### The Dust Bowl Years (1931-1939)

E	D	S	R	E	M	R	A	F	D	R	N	D	S	L
A	N	O	I	S	O	R	E	R	O	E	B	R	N	A
F	I	F	C	T	T	U	X	M	T	V	E	Y	O	L
Y	W	D	O	B	I	Y	K	S	O	R	B	O	F	C
P	C	I	N	J	Z	P	L	X	I	B	Z	E	P	Q
X	G	A	S	R	H	I	B	T	W	R	S	F	J	X
P	I	Y	E	P	O	T	O	H	R	G	L	Q	Z	D
M	G	R	R	S	L	P	D	U	S	T	K	R	U	E
R	F	D	V	R	B	O	T	O	E	H	P	G	T	Q
N	U	S	A	Q	K	S	W	H	F	S	P	O	R	C
F	I	J	T	Y	D	G	W	E	G	I	W	C	I	T
T	L	P	I	T	A	U	O	F	I	U	A	V	V	Q
F	R	C	O	E	N	O	B	M	T	S	O	S	S	Q
E	R	K	N	T	G	J	V	I	M	Z	U	R	F	S
O	R	G	P	L	A	I	N	S	R	E	T	K	D	A

Up, down, across or sideways... find these words in the puzzle.

CONSERVATION	DUST	PLOW
CORN	EROSION	SKY
CROPS	FARMERS	SOIL
DROUGHT	HOT	SUN
DRY	PLAINS	WIND

Answers-page 8

**Order Form  
2008 ND State Park Permits**

Your 2008 ND State Park permit may be ordered by mail at a cost of \$25 each. North Dakota residents ages 65 and older may purchase the permits at a discounted cost of \$20 each. The permits come with a card and envelope, which make them ideal for gift giving. Make checks or money orders payable to the ND Parks & Recreation Dept., or supply the credit card information below, and mail to:

**ND Parks & Recreation Dept.**  
1600 E. Century Ave., Suite 3  
Bismarck, ND 58503

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Ph. \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle license number(s) on which annual permit will be used: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity	Cost	Total
_____ 2008 Annual Permit	\$25/each	\$ _____
_____ ND Residents 65 & older	\$20/each	\$ _____

Date of birth (required for senior discount) \_\_\_\_\_

*(Disabled veterans & former POWs must apply in person at parks or Bismarck office)*

\_\_\_\_\_ # Gift envelopes needed (no charge) Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Method of Payment**

Check     Visa     MasterCard     Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

V-Code (last 3 digits on back of card) \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



Above—multi-use trails were completed this past spring at Indian Hills State Recreation Area and Resort near White Shield. Completion of the NuxBaa Gaa Trail, funded through a Legacy Trail grant, increases the resort's trail system to five miles and provides sweeping views of Lake Sakakawea. The trail is open to mountain biking and other non-motorized uses.

*Cont'd from page 1*

## Trails being developed

owned land, plus trail easements on another 3,687 acres of private land. A trail master plan will be developed for trail segments on private land to continue efforts to improve trails at the park.

### Upcoming Projects

Bids have been let to develop a single-track, multi-use trail at **Fort Stevenson State Park** near Garrison. This Legacy Trail, to be built through a Federal Highways/DOT grant, starts at the park's Guardhouse and runs east and west, with views of Lake Sakakawea from most of the trail.

Another Legacy Trail is to be built next spring at **Lewis & Clark State Park** near Williston. This two-mile, hard-surfaced trail around the perimeter of the campground will be wheelchair accessible, with more rest areas, pull-offs and tighter design parameters to allow for safe use by those with limited mobility.

Planning is underway to expand and enhance the trail system at **Fort Ransom State Park**, allowing future connections to State Forest Service land and the nearby town of Fort Ransom. Trails in this park will be open for horses, mountain bikers, hikers and cross country skiers.

At **Sully Creek State Park** south of Medora, which is a trailhead for the Maah Daah Hey Trail, the primitive camping area will be expanded and additions built to the park's corral system. Work there will be completed by next spring.

Finally, planning is continuing on the development of a multi-use trail system in the **Pembina Gorge** in northeastern North Dakota. Potential trail corridors will be evaluated over the winter months, with preliminary trail concepts to be developed next spring and summer.

A snowmobile trail system is already in place in the Gorge, and will be part of the corridor that will provide year-round, multi-use trail opportunities in the future. In addition to the trail system, trailheads, parking areas and interpretive signing will be part of the final plans and development.

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Recreation Department**  
1600 E. Century Ave., Suite 3  
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*From page 7*

### Just for Kids answers—

*Bubblegram*—planted trees and grasses; built roads and bridges; built trails; fought fires; built buildings.

*Mystery Word*—Franklin D. Roosevelt.

*Letter Swap*—plants, plants, plays, prays, preys, treys, trees.

### The Dust Bowl Years - Answers

E	D	S	R	E	M	R	A	F	D	R	N	D	S	L
A	N	O	I	S	O	R	E	R	O	E	B	R	N	A
F	I	F	C	T	T	U	X	M	T	V	E	Y	O	L
Y	W	D	O	B	I	Y	K	S	O	R	B	O	F	O
P	C	I	N	J	Z	P	L	X	I	B	Z	E	P	Q
X	G	A	S	R	H	I	B	T	W	R	S	F	J	X
P	I	Y	E	P	O	T	O	H	R	G	L	Q	Z	D
M	G	R	R	S	L	P	D	U	S	T	K	R	U	E
R	F	D	V	R	B	O	T	O	E	H	P	G	T	Q
N	U	S	A	Q	K	S	W	H	F	S	P	O	R	O
F	I	J	T	Y	D	G	W	E	G	I	W	C	I	T
T	L	P	I	T	A	U	O	F	I	U	A	V	V	Q
F	R	C	O	E	N	O	B	M	T	S	O	S	S	Q
E	R	K	N	T	G	J	V	I	M	Z	U	R	F	S
O	R	G	P	L	A	I	N	S	R	E	T	K	D	A