

EAGLE CREEK PARK HIGHLIGHTS, HISTORY & WILDLIFE

Eagle Creek Park is the largest park in Indianapolis, and one of the largest municipal parks in the United States, covering approximately 1,400 acres (5.7 km2) of water and 3,900 acres (16 km2) of land. The Park serves primarily as a nature reserve and is home to a rich variety of flora and fauna. The Eagle Creek Park Foundation serves to promote volunteerism and provide funding for the Park and its programs.

History

Native Americans: Before Eagle Creek Park and Reservoir were built, the area was home to Native Americans. Miami and Lenape native peoples hunted and fished along the creek prior to and after European settlement. At the time of Indiana's statehood in 1816, the population of European settlers were concentrated mostly in Southern Indiana. As populations of settlers grew, Native Americans were forced to move north and west. The Treaty of St. Mary's and boundaries established by the New Purchase caused the Miami and Lenape nations to give up rights to all land in the central part of Indiana in 1818.

Early Settlers: After the New Purchase, the area was divided into counties and townships. From 1822 to 1837, land was sold by the federal government. David Wilson and James Delong were among the first settlers to buy land in what is now Eagle Creek Park, and roads that bear their names can be found on park property. Reed Road and Reed's Place picnic area were named for a family that bought land in the area in the 1870s. Orsa Reed helped with the construction of J.K. Lilly's library (now the Ornithology Center) in the 1930s.

Native Wildlife

Indiana's native flora and fauna are a precious and vital part of our environment. Eagle Creek Park features a wide variety of native fish, birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians. The park is also home to many native plants, including wetlands species. The images pictured here (right) are just a few of the plants and animals found in the park. Create your own adveture; an electric bike is the perfect way to explore the park's diverse environment and native wildlife that call our state home.

EXPERIENCE SCENIC EAGLE CREEK PARK, WITH HISTORIC POINTS OF INTEREST, NATURAL BEAUTY & MUCH MORE!



Red-Bellied Woodpecker



Red-Tailed Hawk

White-Tailed Deer





Blue Vervain

False Map Turtle





Northern Leopard Frog





American White Water Lily

Eastern Tiger Swallow Tail Butterfly

Self-Guided BIKE TOUR



WITH RIDING MAP & PARK HIGHLIGHTS

Explore One of America's largest City Parks on an Electric Bike!





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