



# Camp-In with Iowa State Parks!



## 5 ways to celebrate state parks and Camp-In this weekend!

Iowa state parks invite you to celebrate [Camp-In Kickoff!](#) Whether you visit state parks for the day, or camp in your backyard, here's five ideas for how to enjoy Iowa's outdoors.



### 1. Pitch a tent in your backyard and tag us!

Share your backyard adventures, or your family's state park explorations, on the DNR's [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) pages. Post a picture and tag it with #IowaStateParks, #IowaDNR or #IowaStateParks100.

Find [a scavenger hunt](#) to help your kids use their five senses while out in nature!



### 2. Explore your artistic side with Iowa State Park coloring pages

Find Iowa state park [coloring pages](#) to download! All coloring pages were drawn by Paula Streeter, an artist with the [20 Artist, 20 Parks](#) program. Coloring pages include an owl, deer, park lodge and more. Paula will be adding new coloring pages to the collection so be sure to check back!



### 3. Try this S'mores Nachos recipe:

- Layer bottom of a pie pan with marshmallows.
- Sprinkle chocolate chips and chunks of your favorite candy bars over the marshmallows.
- Place on fire grill until marshmallows are melted and gooey.
- Remove from heat and line sides of pan with split

graham crackers (be sure to add graham crackers as last step so they don't burn). Dip crackers and enjoy! Find more [kid-friendly camping recipes](#) on the DNR website.



### 4. Get your state park history lesson from Iowa PBS

Check out [Iowa Outdoors 100th anniversary special](#) showcasing park history, trail experiences and photographic inspiration found in state parks. You can also find aerial footage and more Iowa Outdoors episodes!



### 5. Find peace, pick up a peace

If you visit a state park, bring a trash bag and gloves with you and help pick up litter, then dispose of it at home in the spirit of “carry in, carry out.” Many spring clean-up events have been cancelled in state parks, so we appreciate your help!

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Visit the [DNR's Camp-In Kick-Off](#) page to find dozens of ways to enjoy Iowa state parks and the outdoors with your family. Please remember, if you do visit Iowa state parks, stay [safe and plan](#) before you come.

[Find great ideas to Camp-In! >](#)