CAMP INDIANA SPRING 2021

POKAGON STATE PARK

Pokagon State Park is located near Angola, Indiana, however, if you visit during the winter months, it would look like a scene right out of Disney's *Frozen*. Pokagon is known as Indiana's winter wonderland. Visitors can ski, sled, ice fish, and race down a twin track toboggan run. While there is ton of recreational winter fun, there is a lot more to Pokagon State Park. The park is bordered by some of the various lakes that can be found in Stuben county. Lake James is located along the west and south, and Snow Lake is along the north. The lakes, wetlands, and rolling hills of the park were created thousands of years ago by the Wisconsin Glacier as it receeded back north.

The area was originally called Lake James State Park when it was named to be the fifth Indiana State Park in 1925, but the name was later changed to Pokagon State Park to honor the rich indigenous history of the region. Leopold and Simon Pokagon (father and son) were the last most notable leaders of the Potawatomi. The Potawatomi Inn, opened in 1927, was named after the indigenous people who had settled in the area.

In the 1930s, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) came to Pokagon State Park and got to work. The CCC was an organization that was created by President FDR to provide relief for American workers who were suffering during the Great Depression. The CCCworked for eight years creating some of the best-known buildings at Pokagon, such as the Gate House, the Spring Shelter, the Saddle Barn, and the first three incarnations of the toboggan run. The CCC planted hundreds of trees and created their own roads and trails. One of the most recognizable buildings the CCC built was the CCC Shelter, which was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1992.

As mentioned earlier, one of the favorite spots in the park is the toboggan run. Visitors can race at speeds of up to 35-40 miles per hour on the quarter of a mile track. What fun!

Snowflake Maze

How fast can you trace and solve the mazes?