

# RICHARD BONG STATE RECREATION AREA WINTER 2024-2025 EVENTS

Saturday  
Dec.  
7

## WINTER GREENERY CLASSES

Class 1 (Porch Pots \$35) 9 - 11 a.m.  
Class 2 (Swags \$25) 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Use greenery collected from the park to create beautiful decorations. All proceeds benefit our friend group, the Bong Naturalist Association. Please call (262) 818-1712 or email emily.cole@wisconsin.gov to preregister.

Saturday  
Dec.  
14

## LIVE ANIMAL ENCOUNTER

2 - 3:30 p.m.

Learn all about our education reptiles and amphibians! Watch their feeding routine and learn all about the care of these special creatures! Meet at the Visitor Center.

Saturday  
Dec.  
21

## ZENTANGLE ORNAMENT CRAFT

10 a.m.–Noon

Draw Zentangle “doodles” with marker on a large clear ornament. Turn these into a lovely holiday present to hang from the stand or for yourself to hook on your tree. Materials and directions will be provided. Phone 262-818-1712 to register, class fee \$10. Meet in the Visitor Center State Park Sticker required.

## WINTER SOLSTICE HIKE

1–2:30 p.m.

Meet at the Visitor Center and prepare for a winter weather hike through the park in honor of the Winter Solstice! Please dress for the weather and wear appropriate footwear.

Wednesday  
Jan.  
1

## FIRST DAY HIKE

Noon–2 p.m.

Ring in the New Year at the park! Join a large group hike or take a self-guided hike along the green trail (trail may change due to conditions) with a special send-off at noon and 1 p.m. by our natural resources educator. Stop by the fire for a special First Day Hike sticker!

Saturday  
Jan.  
11

## OWL PROWL

3 – 6 p.m.

Learn all about owls from our Natural Resources Educator, then meet some owls and birds of prey in person. A question and answer session will be held with their caregiver, a local falconer—Ed Foster. Afterwards, head outside and search for owls on property.

Saturday  
Jan.  
18

## KNEE HIGH NATURALIST

10 - 11:30 a.m.

Who’s Here–Winter Tracks! Meet at Shelter 1 with your 3 to 5-year-old and enjoy learning all about tracks! Enjoy a story, craft and hike with your Knee High Naturalist! If you have a large group or need special accommodations, please call 262-

Saturday  
Jan.  
25

## FRIENDSHIP BRACELET FUN

10 a.m. -2 p.m.

Drop in before 1:30 p.m. to make fun friendship bracelets with unique chevron designs! Practice creating your own clasp and try your hand at different designs! Learn a new skill and take home a special craft or two! \$5 class fee for supplies. Meet in the Visitor Center Auditorium before 1:30p.m. to start your craft!

Saturday  
Feb.  
8

## RETURN TO ROMANCE

6 – 8 p.m.

Enjoy a romantic stroll down our lighted walking trails, a then meet in the Visitor Center Auditorium where you will enjoy soft live music by local armature musicians, warm your insides with one of several warm drinks, and snack on locally made sweets and bakery. Please pre-register via the following link or QR code.



<https://forms.gle/9oGZTBxbuyPiFNm46>

Saturday  
Feb.  
15

## KNEE HIGH NATURALIST

10 - 11:30 a.m.

Dear Deer! Meet at Shelter 1 with your 3 to 5-year-old and enjoy learning all about deer! Enjoy a story, craft and hike with your Knee High Naturalist! If you have a large group or need special accommodations, please call 262-818-1712.

## Field Trips and Group Programming!

### Philosophy

We offer a variety of programming and often work with the requesting organization to create a program that best suits their needs and participants. Our lessons are based on nature exploration, inquiry led science and child centered learning.

### Available Topics

Topics are not limited to the following, please reach out to: [Emily.Cole@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Emily.Cole@wisconsin.gov)

#### **Wetland Ecosystems:**

Pond peeking, invertebrate life cycles and amphibian life cycles.

#### **How To Stay Found:**

Beginner compass skills, camping, hiking and outdoor education

#### **Reptile Life and Habits:**

Pond peeking, reptile identification and characteristics

#### **Prairie Plants:**

Prairie ecosystems, plant identification, biodiversity and pollinators

#### **Early Wisconsin Land and Life, Champion Tree Trail and Rhodes Family Homestead**

#### **Foundation:**

Land succession and observation, early Wisconsin pioneers and land use, guided visit the Rhodes family foundation and Champion Tree Trail.

## CHECK OUT THE GIFT SHOP

Want to represent Richard Bong State Recreation Area?

Visit the gift shop, located in Molinaro Visitor Center! We have t-shirts, hats, stickers, patches and more!

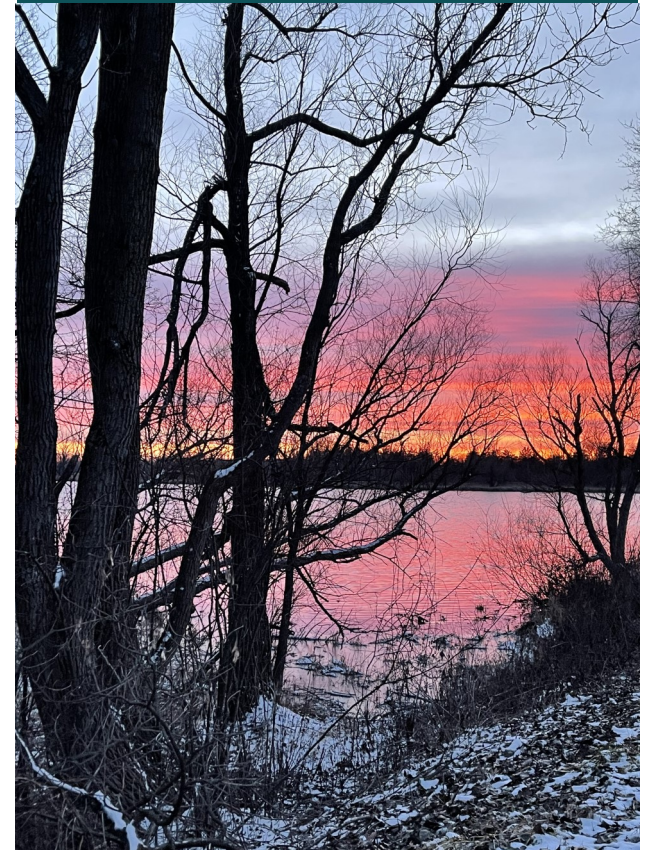
Check out our online store for more selections and personalized items!

[https://  
bongrecreation.itemorder.com/  
shop/sale/](https://bongrecreation.itemorder.com/shop/sale/)



# RICHARD BONG STATE RECREATION AREA

*Winter 2024-2025*



## NATURE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Vehicle admission sticker or daily entrance fee required unless otherwise noted.