RICHARD BONG STATE RECREATION AREA MARCH & APRIL 2026 EVENTS

MARCH

TUES MARCH 03

Special Astronomy Event

2:30 a.m. —7 a.m.

LUNAR ECLIPSE VIEWING

with Hawthorn Hallow Astronomers

Please join our BNA volunteer astronomer, **Tom Harper**, and experts associated with **Heide Observatory** at Hawthorn Hollow for this fun and interesting early morning event: one that we do not get to see very often! Meet at Richard Bong State Recreational Area (RBSRA) – parking lot F. https://maps.app.goo.gl/QWhf22Tif8eRDojU7

THU MARCH 12

KNEE HIGH NATURALIST

Foxes & Friends

10 - 11:30 a.m.

Foxes and Friends! Bring your 3 to 5 year old and enjoy a morning of child-centered nature exploration! Meet at Shelter 1. If you have a large group, varied ages, or any special circumstances, please leave a message at 262-878-5609.

FRI MARCH 20

SPRING EQUINOX HIKE

9:30–11:30 a.m.

Celebrate the equinox with a spring hike at Richard Bong! Bring a nature journal or just enjoy the crisp weather and unique season! Meet at the Visitor Center.

SAT MARCH 28

NATURE JOURNAL & SKETCH

1 - 3 p.m.

Take the chance to slow down and observe nature. Record your observations in your own way! Whether your forte be words or art, you can find the perfect way to capture a unique moment at the park! Meet at the Visitor Center. Bring your own supplies or use some of ours.

SAT MARCH 28

ASTRONOMY AT BONG

8-10 p.m.

Meet at Parking Lot F to uncover the mysteries that light our natural sky each evening, with local astronomy enthusiast–Tom Harper! Bring your own telescope or binoculars and/or take a peek through Tom's special scope!

APRIL

THU APRIL 09

KNEE HIGH NATURALIST

Cranes & Egrets

10 - 11:30 a.m.

Cranes & Egrets! Bring your 3 to 5 year old and enjoy a morning of child-centered nature exploration! Meet at Shelter 1. If you have a large group, varied ages, or any special circumstances, please leave a message at 262-878-5609.

SAT APRIL 18

NATURE JOURNAL & SKETCH

1 - 3 p.m.

Take the chance to slow down and observe nature. Record your observations in your own way! Whether your forte be words or art, you can find the perfect way to capture a unique moment at the park! Meet at the Visitor Center. Bring your own supplies or use some of ours.

WED APRIL 22

Earth Day Event

EARTH DAY CRAFTS

1 - 2 p.m.

Learn about the Earth's place in the universe and our role in protecting the special planet, we call home. Create Earth Day crafts using recycled materials. Bring your own recycled supplies or use some of ours. Meet at the Visitor Center.

EARTH DAY HIKE

2:30 - 4 p.m.

Hike the park and celebrate Earth! Meet at the visitor center, but be prepared to travel to another hike location. Location TBD by trail conditions.

SAT APRIL 25

SPRING ASTRONOMY DAY

SOLAR OBSERVATION 1 - 3 p.m.

Urban Pond Parking Lot, Near Shelter 2

NIGHT SKY OBSERVATION 7-10:30 p.m.

Parking Lot F, near the Observation Deck

Bring your own scopes or peek through Toms!

STAY UP TO DATE

FIND THE CALENDER OF EVENTS ONLINE AT:

BONG NATURALIST ASSOCIATION

SCAN ME

https://bongnaturalistassociation.org/

PARK INFORMATION

Richard Bong State Recreation Area

26313 Burlington Road

Kansasville, WI 53139

Program Information & Accommodations:

Natural Resources Educator: Emily Cole

Emily.Cole@wisconsin.gov

Bong Naturalist Association: Friend's Group

BongNaturalistAssociation@gmail.com

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.

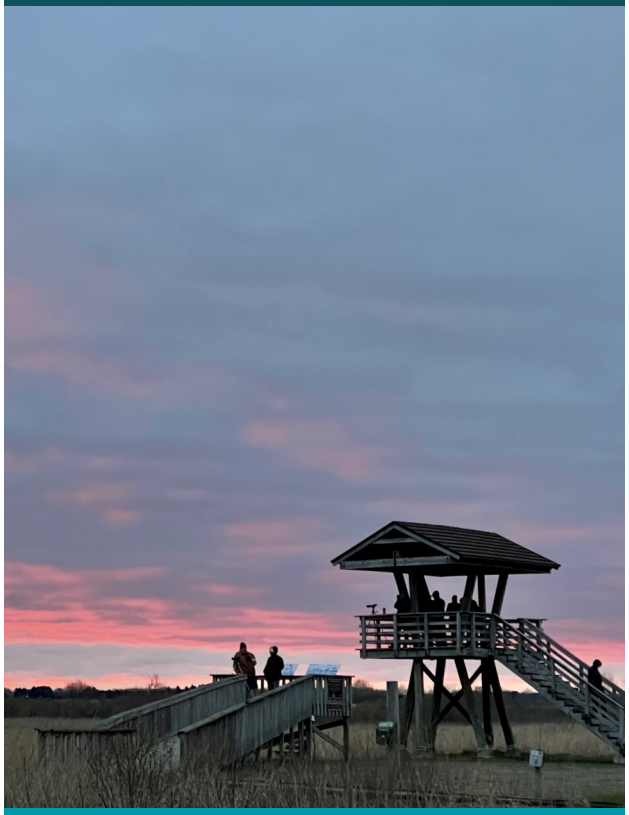
Available Topics

Topics are not limited to the following, please reach out to: Emily.Cole@wisconsin.gov

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

RICHARD BONG
STATE RECREATION AREA

March & April 2026



NATURE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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