

RICHARD BONG STATE RECREATION AREA AUGUST 2026 EVENTS

SAT
AUG
08

ANIMAL FEEDING 2–3 p.m.

Meet at the Visitor Center to watch our education animals eat a meal! Learn about what makes each animal unique and meet the animals that live in our Center!

THU
AUG
13

KNEE HIGH NATURALIST IT'S A FISHY DAY! 10–11:30 a.m.

Bring your 3 to 5 year old and enjoy a morning of child-centered nature exploration! Meet at Shelter 1.

FRI
AUG
14

Meditation & Journal Hike 2–3 p.m.

Meet at the Visitor Center prepared to relax and unwind at the park! Join our naturalist for a unique hike through the prairie focused on activating your sense of wonder (aka: your parasympathetic nervous system)! Join us for a quiet but purposeful hour of resetting in nature!

SAT
AUG
15

Track, Scat, and Fur ID 1–3 p.m.

Meet at the Visitor Center to learn all about mammals here at Richard Bong State Rec Area. Test your skills identifying tracks, scat, and furs. Learn how to find animal signs! Drop in anytime during the program. Meet at the picnic tables behind Visitor Center.

FRI
AUG
21

Orienteering Basics 1–2:30 p.m.

Meet at the Visitor Center. Learn to use a compass and practice your skills with our Naturalist. This program is best suited for ages 7 and older due to the math involved. Children younger than 7 may be successful with 1:1 help from an adult.

SAT
AUG
22

Astronomy at Bong 8:30–10:30 p.m.

Meet at Parking Lot F to uncover the mysteries that light our natural sky each evening, with a local astronomer!

THU
AUG
27

PARTIAL LUNAR ECLIPSE VIEWING 8 – 11:30 p.m.

Join our growing astronomy club at Parking Lot F for a Partial Lunar Eclipse Viewing. Experience a unique astronomical event and utilize special equipment to get a closer look!

SAT
AUG
29

SCHLITZ AUDUBON PRESENTS Owls: Designed for Darkness 1–2 p.m.

Meet in the Visitor Center Auditorium. Do all owls hoot? Do all owls eat mice? The owl ambassadors and staff of Schlitz Audubon answer these and other questions as they provide first-hand encounters with these rarely seen raptors.



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

Participate in six sessions on public lands where you will gain essential resources, practical knowledge, and a strong community network to amplify your effectiveness as a dedicated land steward, inspiring educator, or active citizen scientist. Each session will include guest speakers, indoor instruction, and outdoor field experiences.

The Wisconsin Master Naturalist program is a network of well-informed volunteers dedicated to conservation service, leadership, and lifelong learning. The [Master Naturalist training](#) provides 40 hours of education in a variety of natural history topics and Master Naturalist service areas. Through expert-led trainings, Master Naturalists are equipped to address challenges facing the state by making positive impacts through stewardship, citizen science, and educational activities.

Schedule

Monday, September 21st: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
* Richard Bong State Recreation Area

Thursday, September 24th: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
* Richard Bong State Recreation Area

Monday, September 28th: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
* Richard Bong State Recreation Area

Monday, October 5th: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
* Kettle Moraine State Forest – Southern Unit

Thursday, October 8th: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
* Kettle Moraine State Forest – Southern Unit

Monday, October 12th: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
* Kettle Moraine State Forest – Southern Unit

REGISTER HERE!



<https://wimasternaturalist.org/training/volunteer-training/southeastwisconsin/>

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 to the Rhodes family foundation and Champion Tree Trail

RICHARD BONG STATE RECREATION AREA

AUGUST 2026



NATURE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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