

Focus on Fun at Governor Dodge State Park



As you plan your summer travels, don't forget to include a visit to Governor Dodge State Park, where fun is always in season. The park's 5,270 acres offer amazing opportunities for outdoor fun of all varieties in the heart of Southwest Wisconsin's beautiful Driftless area. With or without an equine companion, you'll find lots of activities to enjoy.

For trail riders, the best 6 months of the year begin on May 1st with the season opening of the park's 25 miles of horse trails. Along the 15-mile Driftless trail that circles the park's perimeter, you'll explore rolling terrain from deeply forested valleys to prairie vistas. Get ready to show off your horse's flashiest gait and your best parade wave to the boaters on Twin Valley Lake as you traverse the wide grassy trail atop the dam. Look for

some of the Friends of Governor Dodge- Equestrians to be out celebrating opening day on May 1st.

On June 7th, the Governor Dodge-Equestrians will focus on fun with a photo scavenger hunt ride and hike fundraiser with the title Focus on the Future. Bring your camera to document success in locating the scavenger hunt items and to use the selfie stations located along the route. This fun event includes lunch, musical entertainment, silent auction and lots of camaraderie. It's also open to non-riders, who will join the park naturalist on a scavenger hunt hike. Registration is now open-visit, with FREE T shirts to those who register by May 12. Visit www.GovDodgeEquestrians.com for details.



Throughout the season, shorter rides take in the varied scenery at the park. Be sure to plan a stop at the Cox Hollow concession stand, recipient of the 2019 Friends of Wisconsin State Park's **Gold Seal Award for best ice cream in a state park!** The cones are delicious, and HUGE! Hungry for a great burger? Consider a side trip to the Pleasant Ridge Store, a Dodgeville tradition located at the intersection of County Highways ZZ and YZ. Exit the Governor Dodge horse trails at the northeast corner of the park (up the long hill past the group campsites and then left) and ride a short distance east along the shoulder of County Hwy ZZ to reach Pleasant Ridge. With a shaded high line rest area for the horses, this iconic bar offers indoor and deck seating where you can stretch your legs, have an excellent sandwich, and drink in the view along with your cold beverage.



Camping at Governor Dodge with friends or family? Check out the swimming beaches at the park's two lakes or rent a kayak, canoe or paddleboat to explore their meandering shorelines. Hike to one of the park's signature landmarks like Stevens Falls, the large or small caves or the Deer Cove Rock Shelter. Join the Friends of Governor Dodge for a free ice cream cone at a shared trails Open House and Ice Cream Social on August 1st, or for cake and ice cream at Smokey the Bear's birthday party on August 8th. Both events are held at the shelter adjoining the horse campground.

The Friends of Governor Dodge-Equestrians hope to see you at our beautiful park this summer. When you're there, please check out the iron ranger donation boxes at the horse campground and the day ride area. All contributions go directly toward the new equestrian campground!





Scavenger

Hunt

Horse Ride Guided Hike

Sunday, June 7, 2020

Silent Auction & Lunch Included

Rain or Shine 9:30 a.m.—1:30 pm

Park vehicle sticker and trail pass fees WAIVED this weekend

Governor Dodge State Park

4175 State Hwy 23 N

Dodgeville, WI 53533

All Proceeds Fund NEW Equestrian Campground

Register by May 12 for FREE T-shirt!

Horse riders follow a marked trail, riding at their leisure in small groups. **FUN!**

No horse? No problem! Join a park naturalist on a **FUN and informative hike.**

\$30 per participant, includes lunch, silent auction and entertainment! **FUN!**

Stop by for Lunch \$15 **FUN!**

Details at www.GovDodgeEquestrians.com