

(Show JP sitting down at a table in front of biodiversity mural at Visitor Center)

Hi! I'm J.P. Anderson. I'm a park ranger at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Like Yellowstone and Grand Canyon National Parks, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is a site in the National Park Service. I believe in our mission to protect special places for everyone. When I became a ranger here in 1991, I began presenting education programs to school groups (show still image of JP leading an education program) about the park's many diverse resources, including its dunes (show still image of dunes), prairies (show still image of prairie), forests (show still image of forests), and 1900s era Swedish-American farm (show still image of farm). My hope is that someday these youth will appreciate and care for the park as much as I do.

Working at Indiana Dunes is incredible. This job involves not only learning about the natural and cultural history, but also relating that to visitors. As a ranger, I am frequently assigned roving duty (show still image of JP roving) which involves talking to visitors along the trails and on the beaches. Most visitors have questions about the park and it is fun to point out the park features and explain the processes at work here. We thought it would be great if everyone visiting the park's website could have a similar opportunity to get information from the roving ranger. These "Inside Indiana Dunes" videos are intended to give our online visitors their own personal roving ranger. While you can't ask questions, you can review our list of topics and if something strikes you, click on it to watch a short video on the subject. Or access the video by clicking on the movie icon on the map (show still image of map) Remember that each video listed is 2 minutes in length and is merely an overview. We barely scratched the surface. There is much more to know. Check out the park's Website for more information. Come to Indiana Dunes to see it for yourself. Experience the park firsthand. In the meantime, thanks for watching our "Inside Indiana Dunes" video.