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Visit South Bend Mishawaka Rolls Out the #OnlyInTheBend Parks Pass

South Bend, Ind — Visit South Bend Mishawaka has launched its first ever #OnlyInTheBend Parks Pass to encourage more visitation to parks and recreation areas spread throughout St. Joseph County. From revitalized city spaces along the St. Joseph River to a popular state park and more, the #OnlyInTheBend Parks Pass includes 20 places to explore.

Battell Park, Bendix Woods County Park, Beutter Park, Beverly D. Crone, Restoration Area, Central Park, Chamberlain Lake Nature Preserve, East Race Waterway, Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park, Howard Park, Leeper Park, Lydick Bog, Mary Gibbard Park, Merrifield Park, Military Honor Park and Museum, Pinhook Park, Potato Creek State Park, Potawatomi Park, Rum Village Park, Spicer Lake Nature Preserve and St. Patrick's County Park are all featured, encouraging visitors to truly reach a cross-section of area parks and recreation options. "This is a great way to showcase the great outdoor spaces we have around the county" said Jake Brown, content manager at Visit South Bend Mishawaka.

The free pass is location-based so you need to be in the park to check-in. To sign up, go to the website explore.visitsouthbend.com and fill out the form. Then you will receive a text message and it is ready to go immediately. After that you can keep it on your phone for when you are out exploring. There is no app to download. A fun gamification aspect is included where you can check-in to win prizes. If you check-in to five parks you get a pair of sunglasses and if you check-in to all 20 you get a fanny pack (while supplies last). Please note, while the pass is free, any entry fees to parks will still be applicable.

Visit South Bend Mishawaka has put an emphasis on promoting outdoor recreation this year as the pandemic eases and people seek outside experiences wherever possible. The pass makes it fun and easy to visit some places still on your list or to revisit some of your favorite St. Joseph County outdoor spaces.

Visit South Bend Mishawaka promotes tourism and develops the visitor experience in St. Joseph County as the lead destination organization.

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