

## Wandering Indiana ~



Rick Schoenian of Sagamore Concrete suggested [Charlestown State Park](#) as a place to visit. The Rose Island hike is the walk to take!

Dan Taylor mentioned Waveland, Indiana, and its connection to TC Steele the famous artist. Mr. Steele is from Waveland and the [State Historic Site](#) honoring him in Brown County is a wonderful trip to hear about some Indiana culture.

Well things are starting to open up a little bit and therefore I have been back out wandering. Two issues ago in Outdoor Indiana magazine they mentioned a new state nature preserve. [Dilcher Turner Canyon Forest](#) which is located southwest of Bloomington off SR 45 in Greene County. One thing that the current atmosphere in the world has reignited in me is being more impromptu with things. Sitting at home on a Friday evening eating dinner with the family, 8:00 pm rolls around and I say, “let’s take a trip to hike at a new nature preserve”. It is an hour plus drive from our house, so we had to hustle. The hike was very enjoyable, the landscape beautiful and unique, and we will be going back. In the spring when the creeks are flowing, the waterfalls would be quite the site. Hiking at dusk on a summer evening is always an enjoyable time. Try it out. You might also get lucky and see a clear sky out in the middle of nowhere and really see the stars!

[Morgan Monroe State Forest](#) has always been a great place to visit while riding on the old Hilly Hundred course or while driving past it along SR37 (I-69 now). I had never thought much about actually visiting the park and not just riding or driving through. For Father’s Day weekend we took a late afternoon drive to the park, took hot dogs, picnic food and drinks and had a great evening at one of the campgrounds. S’mores were also part of the equation. Great place not too far off the beaten path to visit and relax. We also got to experience the newly paved path while hiking. It is a new amenity that has become very popular.

One other form of wandering recently has been my bike riding. Over the past several weeks I have taken a ride from home to a park. My wife will come and pick me up wherever I ride to. Once there we will either ride more or go hiking on a trail. Great places to hang out! Check them out – Vandalia Trail (Plainfield, Amo, Coatesville), DePauw Nature Park, B & O Trail (Brownsburg), and Pecar Park are a few we visited.



Speaking of [Pecar Park](#), congratulations to Washington Township Parks for their IPRA award. Pecar was a park we worked on and feel proud to be a small part of what was constructed. Check it out!

It also should be noted that in Amo, the Brian Burch Memorial Park is up and running and having little league games commencing. This is another proud project of Banning Engineering.

It is nice to have these many unique places close by to visit, enjoy and take family out for a stroll.

~ Jeff Banning