

Thursday, February 15, 2018  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Contact: Christa Foster  
309-547-3721

## **Schools Should Apply Now for Earth Day in the Parks at Dickson Mounds**

LEWISTOWN, IL –Applications are now being accepted through February 28 for the 2018 *Earth Day in the Parks* events from the IDNR. Schools should apply now to be eligible to participate in the April 20 event at Dickson Mounds Museum. Students will be planting native wildflowers and grasses to enhance the Museum’s new outdoor exhibit components.

Application forms, information, and a list of participating Illinois state parks can be found at the Web address shown below. *Earth Day in the Parks* is an event to promote stewardship of our natural resources by Illinois school children. Students will be helping the environment and wildlife, participating in outdoor activities to increase their fitness and learning that their actions can make a difference in the world. Students are encouraged to return to the state park to see and study the results of their work. Some classes may want to perform additional volunteer work at the park.

Teachers of any of grades three through 12 in Illinois schools are eligible to apply. The drawing will be held and all applicants notified of their status on March 1, 2018.

<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/education/Pages/EDITPinstruct.aspx>

The Illinois State Museum–Dickson Mounds is located between Lewistown and Havana off Illinois Routes 78 and 97. The museum is open free to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day. Tours and special programs are available for groups with reservations. For more information call 309-547-3721 or TTY 217-782-9175. Also visit us on Facebook at Illinois State Museum–Dickson Mounds or online at the Dickson Mounds link on the Illinois State Museum website at [www.illinoisstatemuseum.org](http://www.illinoisstatemuseum.org).