

QUICK & EASY  
ONLINE FORM AT [IKC.CAVES.ORG](http://IKC.CAVES.ORG)



Indiana Karst Conservancy  
P.O. Box 2401  
Indianapolis, IN 46206-2401

Yes, I would like to help the Indiana Karst Conservancy (IKC) protect Indiana's unique cave and karst features! Enclosed is:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for IKC membership dues at \$15 per year (dues expire March of each year, please pro-rate @ \$1.25/month)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ donation to the general IKC fund

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ donation restricted to a specific IKC project (eg: Land Acquisition). Please specify:

I know of an area worthy of protection, please contact me.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to the "Indiana Karst Conservancy, Inc." and mail to the:

**Indiana Karst Conservancy,  
P.O. Box 2401  
Indianapolis, IN 46206-2401**

The IKC is an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with membership dues and donations fully tax deductible. A cancelled check is considered an acceptable receipt but if you would like a separate receipt, please specify.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Photo credit U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

**National Speleological Society**  
[www.caves.org](http://www.caves.org)

Find **Indiana Karst Conservancy**  
on **Facebook!**



USE THIS QR CODE  
TO DONATE OR  
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PLEASE VISIT  
OUR WEBSITE AT  
[IKC.CAVES.ORG](http://IKC.CAVES.ORG)



**INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY**  
**P.O. BOX 2401**  
**INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46206-2401**

VISIT [IKC.CAVES.ORG](http://IKC.CAVES.ORG)  
OR EMAIL [IKC@CAVES.ORG](mailto:IKC@CAVES.ORG)



**INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY, INC.**  
PROTECTING CAVES THROUGH ACTIVE CONSERVATION

## INDIANA KARST CONSERVANCY

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The Indiana Karst Conservancy (IKC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and conservation of Indiana's karst features. It is affiliated with the National Speleological Society and was founded in 1986.

The IKC actively protects karst features and their associated archaeological, biological, and geological significance. The IKC works with a variety of conservation partners and individuals to raise funding for the acquisition, management, and protection of karst areas throughout Indiana.

Many abuses arise from a lack of understanding and knowledge about the sensitivity of these fragile environments. The IKC supports research and promotes education related to the appropriate stewardship of these unique areas.

## WHAT IS KARST?

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'Karst' is a word first applied to a plateau in the alps of Yugoslavia. The term has become popular throughout the world and characterizes regions of limestone or other soluble rocks, sink-holes, sinking streams, springs, and caves.

South central and south-eastern Indiana contain extensive sinkhole plains with as many as 1,000 sinkholes per square mile, large valleys with no surface drainage, and rivers and streams that disappear into the ground. Some features are of national significance and host endemic species that can't be found anywhere else in the world.

Unfortunately, many of these fragile environments have been permanently damaged or are currently at risk. An organized effort has been made to increase awareness of the importance of karst features throughout Indiana and protect them for future generations.

## CONSERVATION

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Many beautiful and unique caves and karst features in Indiana have been irreversibly damaged or destroyed by vandalism, pollution, and in some cases, construction and development.

Fortunately, these vital features often take up only a small portion of land, presenting an opportunity for the IKC to become involved in property management and land acquisition.

After purchase, these properties are open for individuals and groups to enjoy with a few exceptions for scientific research or when other special protection considerations require limited visitation (i.e. protecting a hibernating species).

## VISITATION

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With advance permission, the IKC properties can be used for a variety of activities such as recreational caving trips, camping, hiking, bird-watching, and other outdoor activities. There are special instructions for each property in order to ensure the safety of individuals, especially when scheduling a caving trip.

Please visit the IKC website ([ikc.caves.org](http://ikc.caves.org)) to contact the appropriate property managers before considering a trip. There is no cost for visitation, though donations are accepted.

## HOW CAN I HELP?

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Yes! You can help protect and preserve Indiana's karst features by becoming a member of the IKC for only \$15 per year. Members will also receive the *IKC Update*, a quarterly newsletter. Other ways to help include making an additional monetary donation or by volunteering to assist with conservation efforts such as tree planting, invasive species removal, litter clean-ups, and more.

Just fill out the form included in this brochure or save some postage and use the online form at [ikc.caves.org](http://ikc.caves.org) - it's quick and easy! PayPal and most major credit cards now accepted!

The IKC is an entirely volunteer organization - its strength is in its membership. The main source of funding comes from vital membership dues and generous donations. By becoming a member, you have the opportunity to help protect cave and karst features indefinitely, while helping to educate the public about the environmental importance and beauty of our unique karst landscapes and cave systems.

**PLEASE ACT NOW,  
BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE...**

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