

Effigy Mounds National Monument preserves outstanding representative examples of significant phases of prehistoric Indian mound-building cultures in the American Midwest; protects wildlife and natural values within the monument; and provides for scientific study and appreciation of its features for the benefit of this and future generations.

As part of the Centennial Initiative, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the National Park Service have identified five major goals for achieving this vision: Stewardship, Environmental Leadership, Recreational Experience, Education and Professional Excellence. The vision for Effigy Mounds will be multi-faceted and will focus on resources, visitors, partners, communities and current/future employees.

The future protection and enjoyment of the park depend upon a sound planning effort as we complete our General Management Plan, Resource Stewardship Strategy and Interpretative Plans. Park resources will receive an unprecedented level of protection with completion of these planning documents.

Throughout the Centennial Initiative and beyond, the park will engage youth, adults, communities and all visitors in learning experiences that strive to teach respect for this sacred land. We will protect threatened or endangered species and habitat, restore open fields, protect free-flowing rivers and exhibit greater understanding of our cultural resources.

Knowing that we cannot accomplish this work alone, the park will seek partners to assist with our endeavors. We will continue to build and strengthen partnerships, particularly with our 16 affiliated tribes, to provide insight for the best park management practices and sensitivity to spiritual values in daily operations. Identifying individuals and organizations willing to support the ideals of the NPS will establish a solid foundation to build beyond 2016. The monument will need to nurture these alliances to make these plans viable; therefore, the park's strategy foresees projects coming on line in the last half of the Centennial Initiative.

To attain this vision requires staff members to receive quality training to attain excellence in performance, stimulate professional growth and leadership, and provide understanding of local and national park system values. The monument will develop its staff by effective training and work assignments.