

for Indiana's best selling author and one of the world's earliest nature photographers. She watched the wetlands drained and the majestic trees felled to make way for productive farmland. This made her realize that society was growing further and further away from the natural world. Her literature was an opportunity to bring the outdoors inside. People of all ages, regardless of where they lived, could enjoy natural areas and the creatures that inhabit them simply by reading one of her books, whether it was a fictional story such as *A Girl of the Limberlost* or a nature study like *The Moths of the Limberlost*. (2009 is actually the 100th anniversary *A Girl of the Limberlost*!)

The Gene Stratton-Porter State Historic Site located near Rome City not only preserves her home, but also her legacy of environmental thinking. The 125 acre site has woods filled with wildflowers, a formal garden, access to some of Sylvan Lake's best ice fishing, and more.



Visitors who enjoy to the site may also take an interpretive nature walk with the site naturalist, pick up free wildflower guides or enjoy environmentally-oriented events such as Go Green with Gene, the Wildflower Walk & Brunch or Owl-oween throughout the

year. Educating people about today's natural world is the legacy Gene Stratton-Porter still shares with us today. She once wrote, "In the economy of Nature, nothing is lost." This is the same message that echoes throughout today's green movement.

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