

?18th annual Maple Syrup Festival for the young and young at heart

Written by

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? The 18th annual Maple Syrup Festival will ne held February 28 and March 1, March 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Leane and Michael's Sugarbush on Garrison Hollow Road

The Sugar House will be open serving breakfast and dinner. For breakfast or anytime during the day you can enjoy the delicious pancakes supreme or waffle boat supreme which are topped with strawberries or blueberries, ice cream, whipped cream and pure maple syrup with or without sausage

For dinner at The Sugar House enjoy a half maple BBQ chicken or two pork chops with coleslaw, maple baked beans, rolls, drink and desert with carry-out available.

You can also visit the Sugar Store and purchase your own fresh pure maple syrup, maple candy, maple cream or maple cotton candy.

An the grounds of the Maple Syrup Festival many activities are planned for the young and the young at heart including: mule drawn wagons, crosscut sawing, tomahawk throwing, candle making, outdoor craft vendor area, music and much more fun activities and learning experiences.

On Sunday mornings at 8 a.m. will be a Christian worship service and everyone is invited.

Sugarbush tours will be available every hour from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and you can take a self-guided tour of the sugarhouse and see the operating evaporator.

Interested in syrup making visit the Indian and Pioneer syrup making demonstration from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mike and Leane have produced over 13,000 gallons of pure maple syrup over the last 25 years.

The tapping of the trees start in late January, early February and syrup making begins middle late February to prepare for the festival at the end of February.

One new venture is A Farm Vacation at the newly remodeled cozy cottage, Sweet Retreat. Staying at the Sweet Retreat gives you a hands on experience making syrup.

The Sweet Retreat costs \$50 per night. The cottage includes a master bedroom with queen bed, complete kitchen, living room that also serves as the bedroom for children and a roomy bathroom.

Come out and see Indiana's largest producer of pure maple syrup with no admission fee or parking fee.

For more information or direction to the festival call 1-877-841-8851 or visit the website sugrbush@wcrtc.net.