

2024

Area Recreation Guide

FREE!
TAKE ONE

SAYLORVILLE LAKE IOWA

COMPLETE MAPS

- SAYLORVILLE
- BIG CREEK
- JESTER PARK

Events | Campgrounds | Attractions | Activities

Making family memories to last a lifetime!

IMPERIAL
R-V Center



- ★ Large selection of new trailers and 5th Wheels
- ★ Large selection of pre-owned trailers and 5th Wheels
- ★ Large selection of parts and supplies
- ★ Excellent service

(515) 964-1424

**ON HIGHWAY 69 IN ANKENY
1727 S ANKENY BOULEVARD**

MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8AM-6PM, SATURDAY: 9AM-2PM

www.imperialrvcenter.com

**Providing family
fun for 53 years**



glrv.com



2 LOCATIONS - 500 CAMPERS

GLRV - Webster City

Jct Hwy 17 & 20

Webster City, Iowa 50595

515-832-5715

GLRV - Des Moines

Jct 135 & Hwy 92

Bevington, Iowa 50033

515-462-9800

Welcome

Area Recreation Guide

SAYLORVILLE LAKE

Come and explore the treasures of Saylorville Lake and rejuvenate your spirit!

Saylorville	6
Big Creek.....	14
Jester Park	18
Recreation area maps	24

Imagine captaining a sailing vessel on Saylorville Lake, reeling in the “big one” at Big Creek State Park, or hiking the trails surrounding the nature center at Jester Park. Golfing, camping, picnicking, paddling, shooting, birding, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, biking... all possible in northwest Polk County. Jester Park, Big Creek State Park, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Saylorville Lake anchor a premier “Outdoor Family Zone” that brings federal, state, county, local and private partners together to create a magnificent destination for Iowans and beyond.

More than 800 campsites are available during the spring, summer and fall recreation season. More than 40 picnic shelters of various sizes can accommodate groups from 20 to 500 people. Numerous boat ramps provide access to 6,000 acres of water on Saylorville Lake and 950 acres at Big Creek State Park for both motorized and non-motorized watercraft. More than 50 miles of paved and natural surface trails accommodate a wide range of use including biking, hiking and equestrian activities. Saylorville Lake is also listed as a global bio-preserve and significant bird area for waterfowl that use the lake during their spring and fall migrations.

Welcome to Saylorville Lake! Spend the day or the weekend enjoying all that we have to offer.



get out
& ride

THE
ADVENTURE
STARTS
HERE!

Best Selection of Bikes in the State!



BIKEWORLD

THE STORE THAT
SUPPORTS THE SPORT

 BIKEWORLDIOWA.COM 

WEST DES MOINES
5003 EP TRUE PKWY.
515-222-1880

URBANDALE
6600 DOUGLAS AVE.
515-255-7047

AMES
126 S 3RD ST
515-232-3669

CLIVE
1710 NW 86TH ST.
515-223-6111

Saylorville Lake

Facility Schedule 2024 Recreation Season Saylorville Lake

CAMPGROUNDS	Number of Reservable Sites	Dates of Full Service	Site Fee with Electric	Site Fee Non-Electric	Fee Booth Telephone #'s
Cherry Glen	121	15 April — 21 Oct.	\$24-\$26	N/A	515-964-8792
Bob Shetler	61	CLOSED	\$22-\$26	N/A	515-276-0873
Acorn Valley*	81	1 May — 21 Oct.	\$14-\$26	\$14 (tents only)	515-276-0429
Prairie Flower	234	1 May — 21 Oct.	\$22-\$26	N/A	515-984-6925

FEE BOOTH HOURS: Monday-Thursday, 3-7 p.m., Friday-Sunday 9-11 a.m., 3-7 p.m. **CHECK-OUT:** Noon **CHECK-IN:** 2 p.m.

CAMPING FEES: Check Recreation.gov for exact campsite pricing. Persons with America the Beautiful (ATB) Senior or Access Passes are entitled to 50% discount on camping and FREE day use at all USACE beaches and boat ramps. Discount is NOT valid on group camping or shelter reservation fees.

PASSES: USACE Annual and ATB passes can be purchased at the Administration office or Visitor Center. Receipt vouchers can be purchased at all boat ramp kiosks and redeemed for the USACE Annual Passes at designated locations within 7 days. Campgrounds DO NOT sell or distribute passes of any kind.

RESERVATION: Recreation One Stop, R1S, will allow you to make individual and group camping reservations for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Forest Service and National Park Service sites by calling one, nationwide, toll free number: 877-444-6777. To find out more about R1S or to make your reservations on line, download the recreation.gov app, or visit the web site www.recreation.gov

*One group site and one youth group site are available for reservation at Acorn Valley Campground.

PHONE #'s

Administration Office:

515-276-4656

Visitor Center:

515-964-0672

R1S Camping & Shelter Reservations:

877-444-6777

ONLINE:

<http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/SaylorvilleLake.aspx>

www.facebook.com/SaylorvilleLake

PICNIC AREAS	Number of Shelters	Special Use Fee w/Reservation	Dates of Availability
Bob Shetler*	2	\$50/Shelter	CLOSED
Cherry Glen*	6	\$50/Shelter	15 April — 13 Oct.
Cottonwood*	9	\$50/Shelter	15 April — 13 Oct.
Oak Grove*	2	\$50/Shelter	25 May — 2 Sept.
Walnut Ridge*^	3	\$50/Shelter	15 April — 13 Oct.
Sandpiper*	1	\$110/Shelter	1 May — 13 Oct.
Lakeview*	1	\$75/Shelter	15 April — 13 Oct.

All shelters are available on a first come basis for free, when not reserved.

All picnic areas open 6 a.m. - 10 p.m. in May—Labor Day

*Open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. in April and the day after Labor Day—October

^Eighteen-hole disc golf course located at Walnut Ridge

VISITOR CENTER

Dates	Days	Hours of Service
April 1 — May 24	Daily	Noon to 5 p.m.
May 25 — Sept. 2	Daily	11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sept. 3 — Oct. 21	Daily	Noon to 5 p.m.
Oct. 22 — March 31	CLOSED	

BEACHES

Open Dates

Oak Grove

25 May — 2 Sept.

Open 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Beach fee is \$5 per private vehicle. Children under 16 are free. Purchase a \$40 Annual Pass for unlimited nationwide use. Senior, Access, & Military Passes allow pass holders to utilize day use areas free of charge.

BOAT RAMPS:

Lakeview & Cherry Glen are open all year (limited road maintenance); Sandpiper is open March through November. Day Use Fees are charged April through September \$5/day or purchase a \$40 Annual Pass good for unlimited, nationwide use. Cherry Glen is closed 10 p.m. - 6 a.m. April 15 - Oct 21.

USACE Saylorville Lake

5600 N.W. 78th Ave.

Johnston, IA 50131-1941

ATTENTION: Updated check-in and check-out times, check-in procedures

Starting in 2024, all U.S. Army Corps of Engineers campgrounds within Rock Island District will have a new check-in and check-out time for registered campers. All registered campers may check in no earlier than 2 p.m. on the day of their reservation. All registered campers will need to be checked out of their site no later than 12 p.m. (noon). This affects Acorn Valley, Bob Shelter, Cherry Glen, and Prairie Flower campgrounds at Saylorville Lake.

Checking in will also be different this year. If a registered camper has an existing reservation, they may proceed to their registered site after 2 p.m. without checking in with the fee booth. Check ins are no longer required at the fee booths.

Reservations are required for all campsites at Saylorville Lake and can be made in advance or day of at www.recreation.gov or by calling 877-444-6777.



New work on the Neal Smith Trail

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Saylorville Lake has recently acquired management of four miles of the Neal Smith Trail south of Sycamore Access towards Des Moines from the Sycamore Access South parking lot down to Saylor Creek. This section was previously managed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. However, the Iowa DNR and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers both agreed to end the lease and return management back to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. This section will now be managed by our staff and volunteers.

Work has already started, with vegetation, shrubs and hazard trees trimmed back along all four miles of the trail. A wider swath has also been mowed along the trail shoulder to allow increased visibility and additional space for walkers, bikers and other recreators to navigate around one another more easily.

Completed improvements:

- Repainted parking lots striping
- Forestry mulching completed along edges of parking areas
- Filled large pothole in parking lot
- Trimmed overhanging tree limbs
- Removed hazard trees
- Replaced wildlife management signs



Improvements currently underway/planned:

- Forestry mulching the edges of the trail from Sycamore Access to Saylor Creek, south of I-80
- Resurfacing multiple sections of rough trail

For the safety of our staff and other users, please use caution when you see us out working in these areas. We appreciate your support and patience as we continue to improve this section of the trail.



20% OFF
BOAT RENTALS FOR
ENTIRE MONTH OF MAY!

**BOOK HERE USING
CODE: MAY2024**
Excludes Memorial Day Weekend



**SLIPS, BOAT CLUB,
BOAT RENTALS, MARINE
STORES, SERVICE CENTER, &
ON-SITE RESTAURANTS**
(515) 984-6541
saylorvillelakemarina.com

Campground improvements

We've been busy. Saylorville Lake campgrounds and day use areas provide a variety of outdoor recreational opportunities for visitors throughout the year. Over the past several years, some of the areas have received such heavy use that upgrades and repairs to water and sewer line systems have become a necessity. As a result, during the 2023 recreation season, Prairie Flower and Cherry Glen campgrounds and the Cherry Glen picnic area at Saylorville Lake were closed to allow for some much-needed improvements to take place.

Between Cherry Glen and Prairie Flower campgrounds, more than \$5.5 million dollars in improvements and repairs were made. Replacement of water and sewer lines were primarily needed due to leaking lines, broken hydrants, and inoperable valves. The sewer lines also had tree root invasions, causing lines to be clogged and broken. Below is a full description of the work that took place during the 2023 recreation season.

Cherry Glen upgrades

Cherry Glen received some major upgrades during the 2023 construction period. Nearly 500 feet of broken sewer lines were replaced, along with relining nearly 2,000 feet of sewer lines. The sewer lagoon treatment facility was completely rehabbed, with sludge removed, work to increase storage capacity, and the replacement of the plastic liner. Due to the sewage lagoon construction, the Neal Smith Trail received some damage from equipment. However, 1,600 feet of the trail near the Cherry Glen lagoon will be replaced with concrete. The dump station in Cherry Glen campground was completely renovated with new water and sewer service and expanded to three lanes. The new





lanes also have an improved slope for proper RV waste disposal. Finally, hazard trees and shrubs were removed in the campground to allow for visitor safety and better aesthetics.

Prairie Flower upgrades

Prairie Flower also received some much-needed upgrades during the 2023 construction period. Water and sewer lines were upgraded to allow for better water flow and fewer issues with plumbing. Approximately 800 feet of broken sewer lines were replaced, and 900 feet of new sewer line and a sewer lift station were added for the new Prairie Flower North Dump Station. The new dump station was constructed on the north side of Prairie Flower Campground, which allows for group loop campers to dump on their way out of the campground, rather than having to go to the south side, and allows campers to easily fill up on water before heading to their campsite. The Prairie Flower South dump station was repaved and expanded to three lanes, which allows for more campers to get water and dump waste at one time, preventing traffic backup. Roughly 11,000 feet of new water lines were installed in Prairie Flower South, along with all new water valves, yard hydrants, fire hydrants and six water meters to assist with isolating and detecting leaks in the future.

Beyond water and sewer line repairs, seven of the Prairie Flower group loops were repaved and the Prairie Flower North shelters got new steel roofs and steel-wrapped shelter posts. The damaged Prairie Flower entrance road by the fee booth was repaved with concrete to allow a smooth ride for campers entering, and concrete was placed on six campsites within the Prairie Flower South campground as well. Hazard trees and shrubs were also removed to make the park more aesthetically pleasing and safer for campers. Finally, a new three-phase power service is being added to Prairie Flower North for future 50-amp upgrades to campsites.

The staff at Saylorville Lake is dedicated to ensuring the safety of all recreational users and keeping Saylorville Lake a great place to recreate and relax with family and friends.



America the Beautiful Passes – Military

A free Military Lifetime pass is offered for Gold Star Families with a valid Gold Star Family Voucher or US military veterans with a valid, veteran ID.



A Military Annual pass is also offered if you are active military, which includes dependents. Check online for required documents needed to obtain the pass. These passes cover 1) entrance fees at National Park Service and US Fish and Wildlife sites and 2) standard amenity fees (day-use fees) at Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, US Forest Service, and US Army Corps of Engineers sites.

Please stop by the Saylorville Lake Visitor Center or Administration Office to learn more and/or receive your pass today.

Bob Shetler to be closed for 2024 recreation season

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, announces the Bob Shetler Campground at Saylorville Lake will be closed throughout the 2024 recreation season to facilitate upgrades and repairs to water and sewer line systems. The fishing areas near the outlet at Bob Shetler will remain available for use during the 2024 closure.

During the closure, significant infrastructure work is scheduled, including installation of 17,000 feet of water lines, boring a new line under the Des Moines River, and new water valves, yard hydrants, fire hydrants, and four water meters that will help to isolate and detect leaks in the future. Additionally, more than 1,000 feet of sewer lines will be replaced, new lift stations to pump waste to the sewer lagoons will be installed and the fish cleaning station septic tanks will be rehabilitated.

All upgrades and repairs are essential to park operations and will serve the public for many years to come.

The Prairie Flower and Cherry Glen campgrounds, along with the Cherry Glen picnic area, are on track to open at the start of the 2024 recreation season. All other recreation areas at Saylorville



Lake, to include Acorn Valley Campground, will be open during regularly scheduled dates. Reservations can be made by visiting: www.recreation.gov or calling 1-877-444-6777.

For more information, contact the Saylorville Lake Project Office at 515-276-4656.

Life jacket loaner stations

At Saylorville Lake, we take water safety seriously, and that's why life jacket loaner stations are now available at all U.S. Army Corps of Engineers designated boat ramps and beaches at the lake. Accidents can happen to anyone, at any time, and it is our goal to make water safety simple for those recreating at the lake.

Over the winter, an Eagle Scout offered to build seven new life jacket loaner stations to help improve water safety at Saylorville Lake. The new loaner stations are much nicer than the previous plastic stations. They have wooden frames, large hooks to hold the life jackets, and a large, easy-to-read, bilingual sign explaining how to properly fit a life jacket and the guidelines for using loaner station life jackets.

Life jackets housed on these stations are available on a first-come, first-served basis, and parents/guardians are responsible for making sure children are in the correct-sized jacket. Remember, it only takes an average of 60 seconds for an adult to drown and 20 seconds for a child. If a life jacket doesn't fit, it can't work properly to save a life. As with all life jackets, loaner or not, it is important to inspect them before each use to be sure they are in proper working condition. Rips or tears can



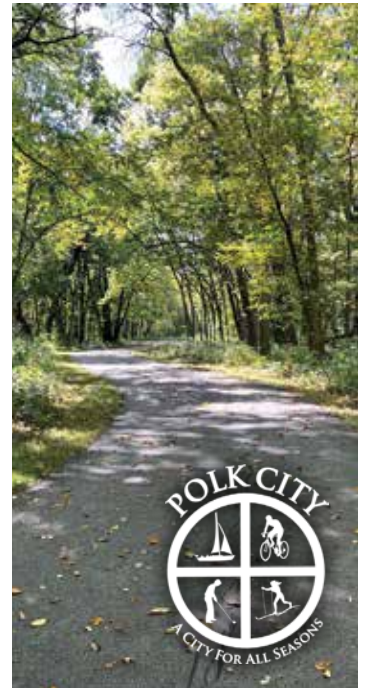
significantly reduce the effectiveness of the jacket. Borrowed jackets should always be returned to the loaner station when done being used so others can stay safe.

Saylorville Lake's life jacket loaner stations can be found at Lakeview High Water Boat Ramp, Lakeview Main Boat Ramp, Sandpiper Boat Ramp, Oak Grove Beach, Cherry Glen High Water Boat Ramp, and Cherry Glen Main Boat Ramp.

For questions concerning proper fit of a life jacket or use of the life jacket loaner stations, feel free to contact a park ranger at 515-276-4656.

DISCOVER POLK CITY

A CITY FOR ALL SEASONS



Nestled by scenic lakes and trails, Polk City features a charming town square and Iowa's only Arnold Palmer Signature Golf Course, blending small town vibes with premier golfing. In Polk City, every season unfolds a new adventure and a warm welcome. Come see why we love it here – and why you will too!

Go
Polk City
CHAMBER + ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



SCAN HERE

for your guide to Polk City!
Find restaurants, events & more!



Working with us: a fulfilling experience

Volunteering with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Saylorville Lake offers a unique and rewarding opportunity to connect with nature, foster community, and contribute to the stewardship of our outdoor spaces. Saylorville Lake relies on the dedication of volunteers to maintain, enhance, and create memorable experiences for visitors, as well as provide quality outdoor recreation while preserving and protecting our natural resources for the future.

Campgrounds and recreation areas often serve as hubs for building a sense of community among outdoor enthusiasts and volunteers alike. Volunteering provides an opportunity to engage with the public, staff, and other volunteers.

Full-time volunteers are required to “work” an average of about 21 hours per week, performing a variety of roles as custodians, fee attendants, mowers, campground hosts or visitor center hosts, as well as other position duties as assigned. In exchange for this service, volunteers receive a full hookup campsite in a corresponding campground or nearby volunteer village. Other perks include special gatherings with staff and fellow volunteers, the possibility to return as a volunteer in future years, the ability to gain life-long friends at the parks and the gratification in knowing you’ve become a good steward of the land.



Volunteering at Saylorville Lake is a fulfilling experience that goes beyond routine tasks. It is an opportunity to immerse oneself in the beauty of nature, connect with a vibrant community, and make a lasting impact on the environment. Come see what being a volunteer with us is like.

Volunteers are provided the following benefits:

- Full hookup campsites for the recreation season
- Gatherings with staff and fellow volunteers
- Free rental of a reservable shelter for family or social gathering
- Uniforms and safety shoes provided

Discover opportunities at:

Volunteer.gov: <https://www.volunteer.gov/s/global-search/saylorville%20lake>

Workamper: www.workamper.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SaylorvilleLake

Saylorville Lake page: <https://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/Saylorville-Lake/>

A promotional graphic for Lakeside Fellowship. The background is a sunset over a body of water. The text is overlaid on the image. At the top, it says "HEY, CAMPERS" in a white box. Below that, in large white letters, it says "COME WORSHIP WITH US THIS SUNDAY MORNING!". Underneath, it says "Check our website for the latest service times." in a white box. At the bottom left, it provides the website "lakesidefellowship.com" and the address "1121 W. BRIDGE RD. POLK CITY, IA 50226". At the bottom right, there is a logo for "LAKESIDE FELLOWSHIP" featuring a stylized building with a cross on top.

Olofson Shooting Range



The Olofson Shooting Range was completely renovated in 2017 by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. The range is operated by the Iowa DNR and staffed by range safety officers. It is designed as a public facility that allows an opportunity to shoot all types of firearms. We feature a new registration/classroom building, 33 shooting lanes on a 30/50/100-yard range, shotgun sports including trap and skeet, along with a 3D and static archery range. This satisfies almost any shooting need in a safe, welcoming environment.

Hours and cost: The range is open year round from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays (closed Monday and Tuesday). The basic charge is \$10 per hour for the range usage or \$6 per round of 25 for the shotgun sports. We do not rent firearms or sell ammunition, so you must bring your own, although we do have targets available.

Olofson Shooting Range is closed: Jan. 1 (New Year's Day), Easter Sunday, July 4, Thanksgiving Day, Dec. 24 and Dec. 25.

Location and contact: We are located at 11652 N.W. Nissen Drive, in Polk City, Iowa. This is conveniently located between Saylorville and Big Creek Lake, just four miles north of Polk City. We can be reached at 515-795-4000.

Classes: We offer classes throughout the year, such as beginning shooting, hunter education, concealed carry, and a variety of outdoor skills topics. These classes are listed on the DNR website at <https://register-ed.com/programs/iowa> and registration is usually required.

Learn more about Olofson Shooting Range at iowadnr.gov/olofson

Whether you are living by the lake, camping or hanging out at home...

WE HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED!

Grills • Propane • Screen Repair • Firewood • Lanterns • Batteries • Tools • RV Supplies

ACE
The helpful place.

ANKENY 3020 SW Oralabor Road • 515-809-1104

Short drive from Saylorville, Big Creek and Jester Park

Monday-Friday 9am-7pm • Saturday 9am-5pm • Sunday 12pm-5pm

JOHNSTON 5800 Merle Hay Road • 515-276-2854

Monday-Friday 9am-7pm • Saturday 9am-5pm • Sunday 12pm-5pm

WWW.ACEHARDWARE.COM

BEER IS ART.

Firetrucker
BREWERY

**ENJOY A
FIRETRUCKER
BEER BY THE LAKE**

FIRETRUCKER BREWERY 716 SW 3RD STREET · ANKENY · IA · 50023 · BEER IS ART · FIRETRUCKER.COM

Big Creek

Park Office

8794 N.W. 125th Ave.
Polk City, Iowa 50226
515-984-6473
big_creek@dnr.iowa.gov

Big Creek Marina/Beach

8550 N.W. 142nd Ave.
Polk City, Iowa 50226
515-984-6083
bigcreekmarina.com

Facilities and activities

Big Creek Lake was created as part of the Saylorville project to protect Polk City from floods. A diversion dam, which forms the 866-acre Big Creek Lake, was primarily developed as a flood control project but also offers a wide variety of recreation. Big Creek State Park and the adjoining public hunting areas provide recreation for visitors of all ages and interests. The focal point of the 3,550-acre complex is the lake.

Picnicking/shelters

Shelters and picnic areas, a beach, playground and several boat ramps provide a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities. Open picnic shelters, located in pleasant settings around the lake, can be reserved through the park reservation system. Shelters at the beach are handicap accessible.

Camping

Camping is not permitted at Big Creek State Park. However, there are several large federal and county camping areas about four miles away on Saylorville Lake.

Trails

A 26-mile paved multi-use trail allows bicyclists and pedestrians to travel from the beach south through the Saylorville Lake area all the way to Des Moines. A connection to the High Trestle Trail can be made by traveling east on 142nd Avenue for two miles. Eleven miles of snowmobile trails provide winter recreational opportunities. Big Creek is also popular with cross-country skiers.

Lake activities

(swimming, boating, fishing)

Big Creek Lake's clear water provides great family swimming fun. Refreshments are available at the beach during the swimming season. A large wooden play structure is located at the beach. Disc golf and volleyball areas provide additional entertainment.

Big Creek Lake provides excellent fishing year-round. The lake's clear waters are stocked with crappie, bluegill, largemouth bass, walleye, channel catfish and muskie. The lake is popular for a variety of boating activities. Any size motor may be operated

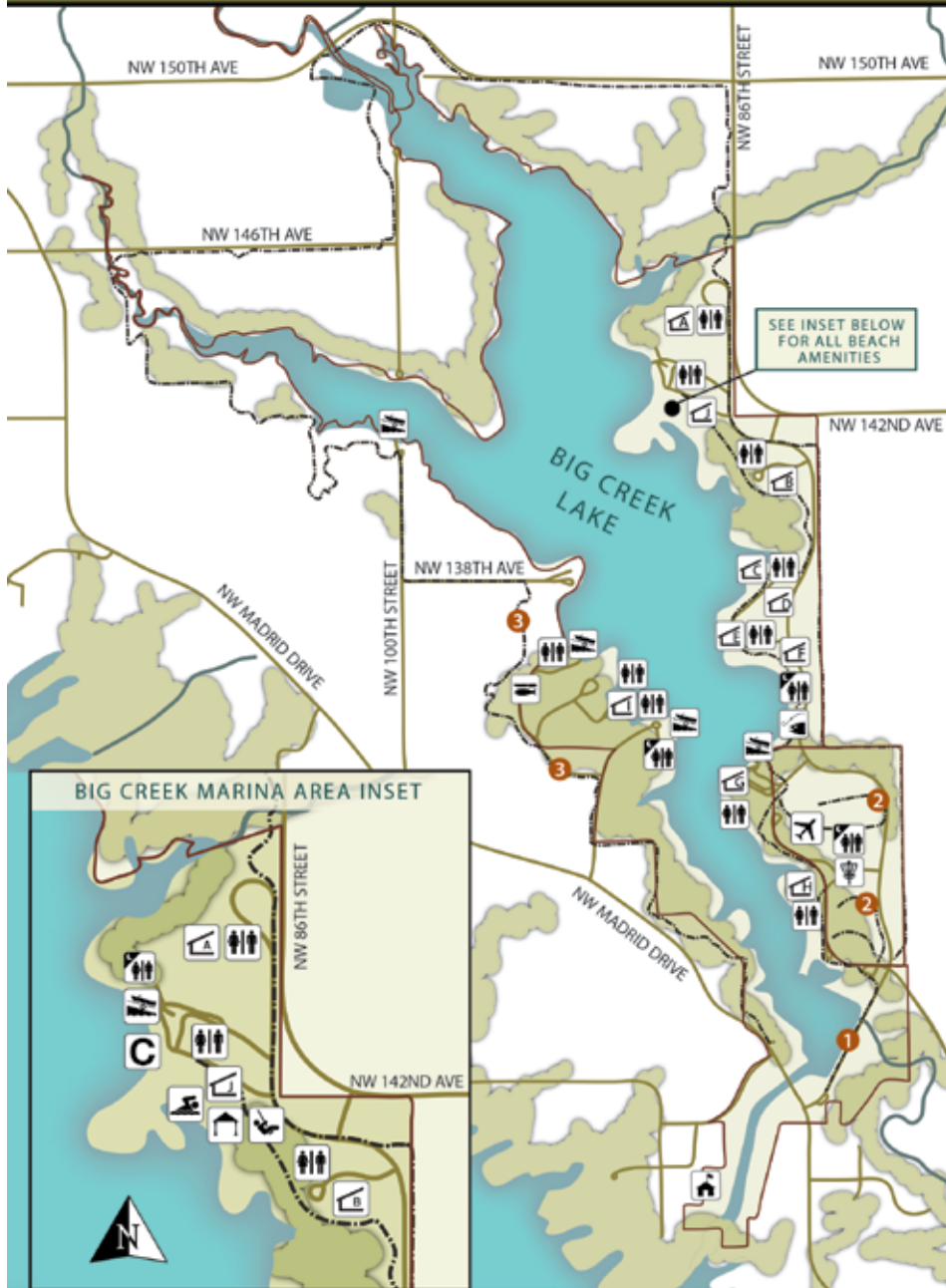
at "no wake" (5 mph or less) speeds on the lake. Five modern boat ramps, three on the west side and two on the east, provide excellent access to the lake. A gravel ramp is located on the upper end of the lake. A fishing pier is accessible to the mobility impaired. Big Creek has a concessionaire that offers pontoon boats, kayaks, paddle boards, bicycles and more. To contact the concessionaire, call 515-984-6083 or visit their website at bigcreekmarina.com.

Hunting

The state park is a wildlife refuge where hunting is not permitted. However, hunting is allowed on the lake itself and in designated public hunting areas around the lake. Upland areas open for hunting are marked with public hunting signs. Favorite game includes pheasants, rabbit, deer and squirrel. Waterfowl hunting is popular on the lake. Information on hunting regulations can be found at: www.iowadnr.gov/Hunting.

Shelters

To reserve the shelters at the park, visit <https://iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com> or call 1-877-427-2757.



MAP KEY

- Beach Area
- Beach Cabanas - 9
- Boat Ramp
- Concession
- Disk Golf
- Fishing Pier / Jetty
- Fish Cleaning Station
- Park Office
- Playground
- Model Airfield
- Restroom - Modern Seasonal
- Restroom - Nonmodern Year-round
- Shelter

SHELTERS

- A. Atlantic Shelter
- B. Beverly Dinghy Shelter
- C. Cadet Shelter
- D. Duster Shelter
- E. Ensign Shelter
- F. Firefly Shelter
- G. Gannet Shelter
- H. Hampton Shelter
- I. Inland Cat Shelter
- J. Beach Shelters 1,2,3

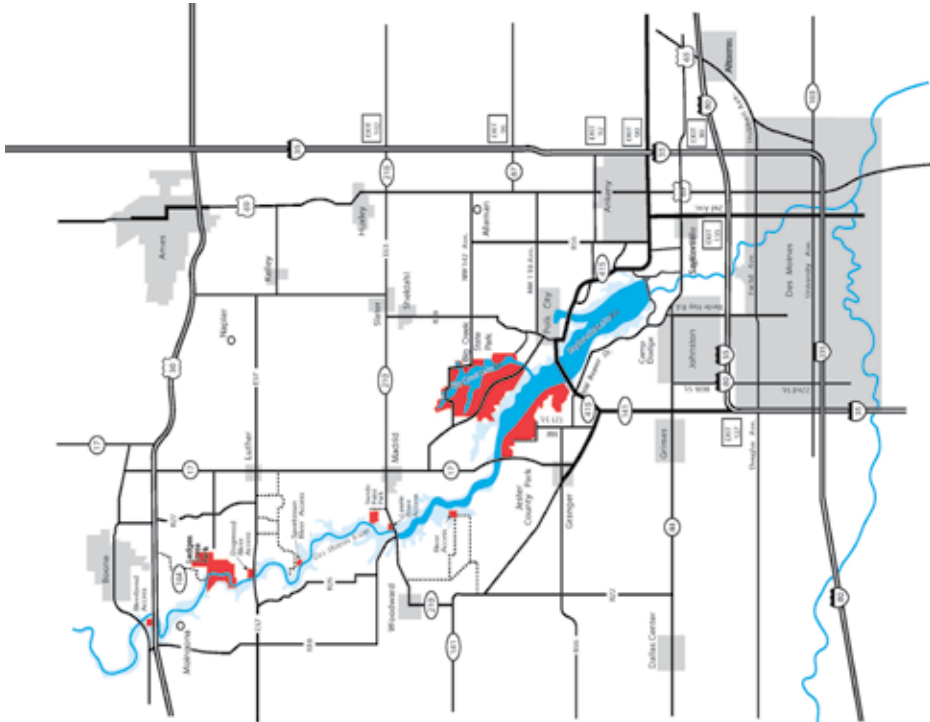
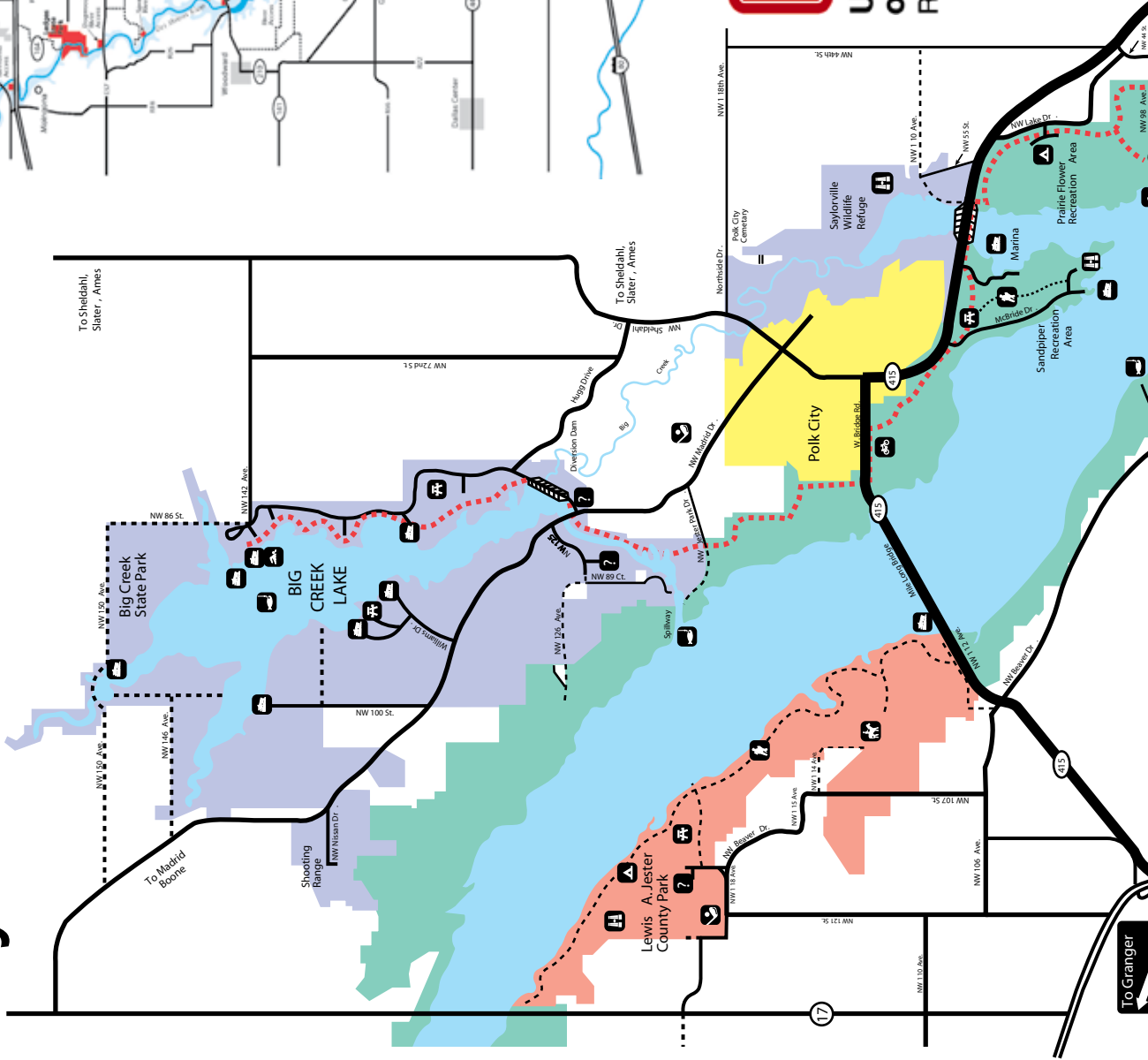
- Trail
- Road
- Park Boundary
- Multiuse Trails
- Water

TRAIL INFORMATION

Trail Name	Trail Activity	Length	Level of Difficulty	Estimated Hike Time
1 Neal Smith - Big Creek Portion	Hiking, Biking, Mountain Biking	3 mi	Easy	1.25-1.5 hr
2 Cross-country Ski	Cross-country Skiing	2.5 mi	Easy	1-1.25 hr
3 Snowmobile (Seasonal)	Snowmobiling	10.8 mi	Moderate	6 hr

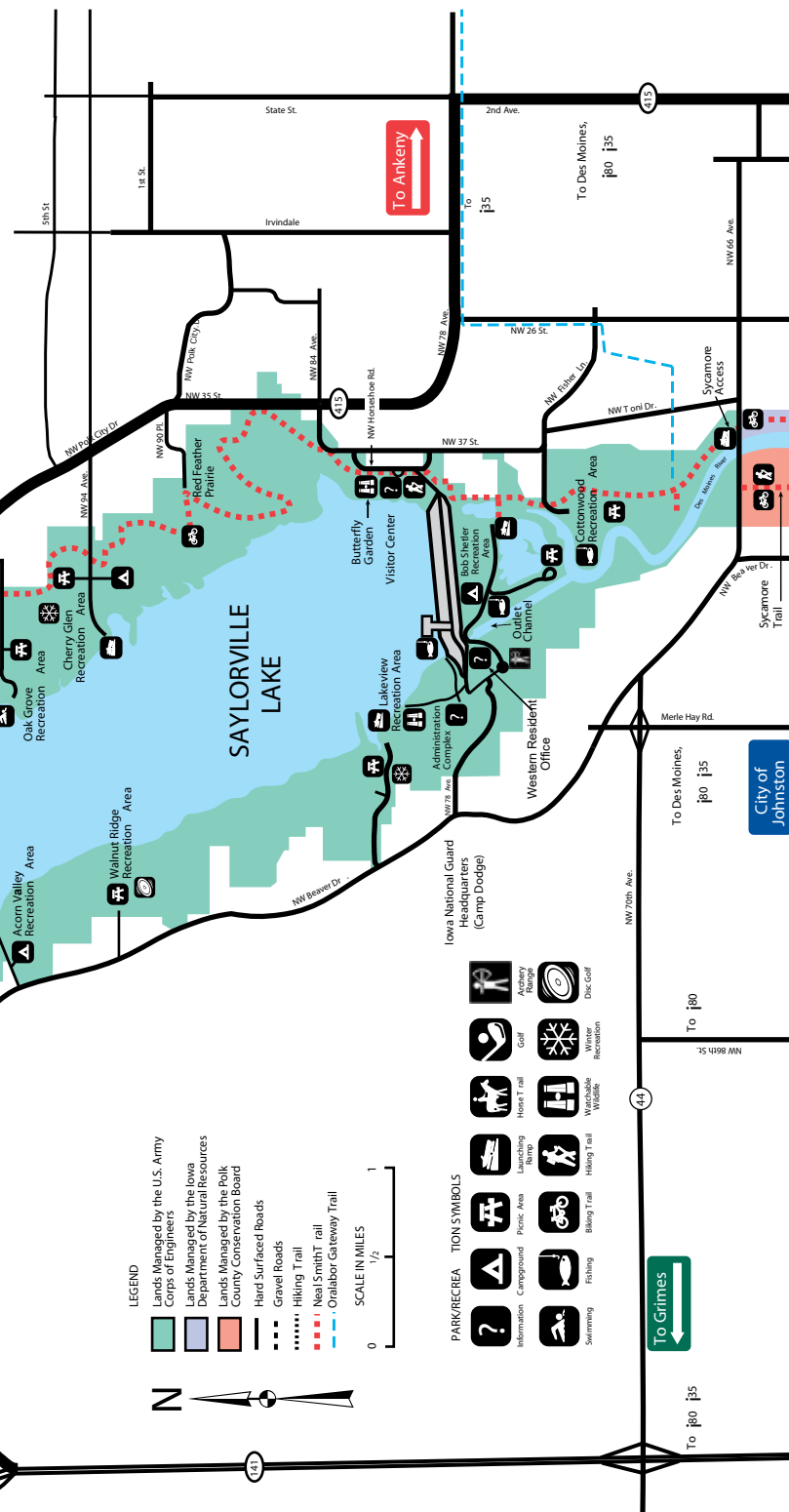
Walking times are figured at a rate of 2 mph.
www.iowadnr.gov/Places-to-Go/State-Parks

Saylorville Lake Area



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Rock Island District





How to Contact Us

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Saylorville Lake
 5600 N.W. 78th Ave., Johnston, Iowa 50131
www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/SaylorvilleLake.aspx

- Administration Office..... 515-276-4656
- Administration Fax..... 515-276-2088
- District Office, Rock Island..... 309-794-4200
- Lake Information, Recording..... 515-276-0433
- Park Rangers/Sheriff..... 515-286-3333
- Saylorville Lake Marina..... 515-984-6541
- Visitor Center/Park Information 515-964-0672
- Shelter and Campground Reservations
www.recreation.gov..... 877-444-6777

- Iowa Department of Natural Resources**
 Big Creek State Park • www.iowaDNR.gov
 8794 N.W. 125th Ave., Polk City, Iowa 50226
- State Park Beach Monitoring..... 515-725-3434
www.iowadnr.gov/things-to-do/beach-monitoring
 - Big Creek State Park..... 515-984-6473
 - Big Creek Boat & Bike Rental 515-984-6083
 - Wallace Building 515-281-5918
 - Conservation Officer
 - Angie Jansen..... 515-238-5006
 - Nate Anderson 515-238-4849
 - Turn In Poachers (TIP) 800-532-2020
 - Fishing Information..... 800-ASK-FISH
 - Shelter Reservations..... 877-427-2757
iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com

Polk County Conservation at Jester Park
 12130 N.W. 128th St., Granger, Iowa 50109
www.leadingyououtdoors.org

- Polk County Conservation 515-323-5300
- Jester County Park - Weekend 515-249-3229
- Jester Park Equestrian Center 515-999-2818
- Jester Park Golf Course..... 515-999-2903
- Jester Park Nature Center 515-323-5350
- Outdoor Rec & Wellness Center 515-323-5330

Jester Park



Make your experience at Jester Park exactly what you need it to be. Looking for adventure? Ride, hike, paddle or run here. Want peace and quiet? The park's chirping birds can be the only sound you hear for hours. Seeking to reconnect with friends and family? Jester Park has time and space for you to create memories with the people who matter most.

So plan your visit already!

Jester Park Nature Center: Gateway to the Outdoors

The nature center is part-classroom and part-community center, but 100% yours to enjoy! Read a book by the cozy fireplace of the great hall. Enjoy a picnic on the patio overlooking the prairie. Or, enrich your understanding of local ecosystems through the hands-on exhibits of wetlands, prairie and woodlands. Admission to the nature center is FREE. Stay as long as you please.

Learn from Experts

You are never too old or young to feed your natural curiosity! Each year, a team of incredible naturalists leads hundreds of hikes, programs, workshops and classes. Visit LeadingYouOutdoors.org or scan the QR code to view the full calendar of events.



Step Back in Time

The permanent Native American Artifact Exhibit located inside the nature center honors the people and wildlife that inhabited this area thousands of years before Polk County Conservation became stewards of the land. Explore fossils, or pottery and tool remnants — all found on park lands.

Educational Ambassadors

Luna, a Great Horned Owl, and Indigo, a Short-eared Owl, reside at Jester Park in a raptor enclosure near the nature center. Both raptors were rescued after injury and can no longer live in the wild. They are important partners to the naturalists, teaming up to educate on Iowa's wildlife through public and school programs. Call 323-5359 for more information.





REPEATEDLY RECOGNIZED FOR A SUPERIOR SALES AND SERVICE EXPERIENCE



New Stivers Ford PRO Elite Commercial Service Center opening 2024

Over 36,000 sq ft and 24 service bays dedicated to your business needs



LINCOLN CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED



EXPERT REPAIR. Rental cars onsite.



Scott Politte, President
Stivers Ford Lincoln of Iowa

Iowa's #1 Ford LINCOLN Dealer*

STIVERSFORDIA.COM 1.800.747.2744



ON THE WAUKEE SIDE OF WEST DES MOINES

*Sales ranking based on car and truck sales report of the Kansas City Region of Ford Motor Company and Lincoln Motor Company for 2023



Play, Naturally
Watch as your child climbs, crawls, or wades through the Natural Playscape, enjoying each opportunity to investigate the natural world. Designed for ages 5+, the organic play area features boulders, earth mounds, logs, and a bubbling rock and waterfall. It is open mid-April through mid-October. While at the playscape, take a short walk to the nearby bison and elk exhibit. The small herd is a big hit with animal-lovers and history buffs!



Nature-inspired Art

Experience art that educates, inspires, informs and arouses your curiosity in the natural world. The Galleries is located inside the nature center and features three different artists each year. Alternatively, the Jester Park Sculpture Trail includes five permanent public works of art. Each sculpture is located along a beautiful loop trail that takes you past ponds and creeks and through timber and prairie alike.

Your Recreation Hub

The Jester Park Outdoor Recreation and Wellness Center, adjacent to the nature center, is the place to start when planning your next adventure. Want to climb? Practice your aim? Paddle? Ski? Hike? At this hub of activity, you can rent outdoor gear or equipment — including kayaks and cross country skis. If you want a shaded experience, try the indoor target range or bouldering wall. Plus, it's a cool place to hang out on a laid-back afternoon. JesterParkNatureCenter.com has operating hours and rates.

Annual Events

Prairie Stomp Summer Music Series
June 20 | 6-8 p.m.
July 18 | 6-8 p.m.
Aug. 8 | 6-8 p.m.

Makers Market
Nov. 24 | 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Sleep Under the Stars

Set up camp at one of the park's nearly 150+ campsites situated along the lakeshore and throughout the surrounding wooded hills. Whether you're camping in a tent or camper, Jester Park has a great mix of primitive and full hook-up sites, as well as first-come, first-served or reservation-required sites. Rates run \$20-\$25 per night based on amenities. Make reservations at MyCountyParks.com for the camping season which runs April through October. When you're ready to build your campfire, wood is available for purchase on-site. S'mores, anyone?



Gathering Space

Many family memories have been made under the sturdy pillars of a park shelter house! If you're a planner, reserve one of the four open-air shelters at MyCountyParks.com. These spaces are ideal for family outings or birthday parties. If you're more spontaneous, snag one of the many picnic tables and open grills that are scattered throughout the park.

Jester Park Equestrian Center

Nestled into the tree line along Saylorville Lake is a best-in-class arena, stable and barn complex. This is where horse-lovers of all ages and abilities can engage with a diverse herd which includes Percheron, Quarter Horse, and Appaloosa (to name a few), or participate in one of many educational programs or camps. Be sure to check out the seasonal trail or wagon rides. Visit JesterParkEC.com for more info.

Jester Park Golf Course and Miniature Golf Course

Take a big swing or just putt-er around! The Jester Park Golf Course is a full golf complex offering an 18-hole championship course, 9-hole Par 3 course, practice facility, 18-hole miniature golf course, and full-service restaurant and bar. For rates or the restaurant menu, check out JesterParkGolf.com.

Walk in the Wide-Open

Exploring Jester Park's eight miles of hiking and multi-use trails is an adventure for your senses. Gaze at the native shagbark hickory



and hackberry trees; take in the aromas and colors of spring wildflowers; or sing along with the black-capped chickadees and nuthatches. Horses and snowmobiles are invited to journey along the Lakeshore Trail only. Refer to the Jester Park map to view the trail system.

Affordable fun on the lake

PONTOONS • HOBIE SAILBOATS
MOTOR BOATS • KAYAKS • CANOES
STAND UP PADDLE BOARDS
PADDLE BOATS

big creek marina
BIG CREEK BOAT RENTALS

FOR RESERVATIONS AND INFORMATION
GO TO WWW.BIGCREEKMARINA.COM OR
CALL 515-984-6083

8550 NW 142ND AVE, POLK CITY
WWW.BIGCREEKMARINA.COM

PLUS BAIT, FREE BEACH & FOOD CONCESSIONS

COME TO PAPA'S!

Papa's Pizzeria

At Papa's Pizzeria, you'll find delicious pizza (of course!) and also all of your favorite appetizers, salads, sandwiches and more!

Our menu includes

<p>Pizza</p> <p>All your favorites and fresh toppings are available in pan or thin crust. Gluten-free and specialty pizzas are also available</p> <p>Appetizers</p> <p>Papa's Breadsticks, Chicken Fingers, Garlic Bread, Garlic Cheese Bread, Jalapeño Cheese Bread, Onion Rings, Fried Pickle Spears, Fries, Cheesy Fries, Nachos n' Cheese, Nachos Supreme, Mozzarella Cheese Sticks, Wings, Sampler Three, Nachos</p>	<p>Salads</p> <p>Side, Taco, Meatza, Chicken Bacon Ranch, Antipasto and more</p> <p>Sandwiches and Wraps</p> <p>Sausage, Meatball, Tenderloin, Taco Wrap, Buffalo Chicken Wrap and more</p> <p>Pasta</p> <p>Spaghetti and Meatballs, Fettucine Alfredo, Mac-N-Cheese</p> <p>Beverages</p> <p>All your favorites with FREE refills on soda (dine-in only) plus Iced Tea, Milk, Chocolate Milk, Apple Juice, bottled Beer, Craft Beer and Wines from Jasper Winery</p> <p>Children's Menu</p> <p>Perfect for kids!</p>
---	---

DINE-IN or CARRY-OUT

515-984-6361
214 Van Dorn • Polk City

ORDER ONLINE! It's fast & easy >>>> www.papas-pizzeria.com

Welcome to Jester PARK



JESTER PARK LEGEND

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| OUTDOOR RECREATION & WELLNESS CENTER | ADA ACCESSIBLE | BISON & ELK EXHIBIT |
| CAMPGROUND | PARKING | NATURAL PLAYSCAPE |
| SHELTER | DUMP STATION | BIRD BLIND |
| CABINS | PLAYGROUND | AMPHITHEATER |
| YOUTH CAMPGROUND | GOLF FACILITIES | LEASHES REQUIRED |
| WALK-IN CAMPSITES | RANGER | TRAILHEAD |
| RESTROOM | EQUESTRIAN CENTER | MULTI-USE TRAIL |
| SHOWER | BOAT RAMP
OPEN AS CONDITIONS ALLOW
OCTOBER - MARCH ONLY | NATURE TRAIL
TRAILS WITH NO NOTED
MILEAGE ARE < 0.1 MILE |



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Rock Island District

WALNUT RIDGE RECREATION AREA

- Shelter
- Universally Accessible Restroom
- Parking
- Volunteer/Contractor Campsite
- Disk Golf Course

GPS Info latitude: 41.72972
longitude: -93.72111

NW BEAVER DR



SAYLORVILLE LAKE

DANGER - Steep Bluff & Loose Rock



Show this ad and enjoy a
half price beer or flight!

**STOP BY FENDERS BREWING ON THE SQUARE
IN POLK CITY FOR A CRAFT BEER!**

Taproom • Beer garden (dog friendly) • Bike parking •
Live Music • Events • Order to go!

212 W VAN DORN ST. | POLK CITY, IA 50226 | WWW.FENDERSBREWING.COM

FOLLOW US FOR CURRENT HOURS & EVENTS!



- AUTO
- HOME
- LIFE
- BUSINESS



213 W Broadway, Polk City
(515) 984-9090

www.cuppinsurance.com



Des Moines West **KOA**



YOUR *Get-A-Way*
THAT'S NOT SO
Far-A-Way

NESTLED IN THE HILLS OF THE ADEL COUNTRYSIDE

- Fun Activities for the Entire Family
- RV Sites
- Hunt Brothers Pizza & Snack Shack
- Deluxe Cabins
- Tent Sites
- Camp Store: Gifts, Groceries, RV Supplies
- Cabins
- Glamping Tents
- Rental RV's
- Stocked Fishing Pond

34308 L AVENUE, ADEL

desmoineskoa.com • 800-562-2181 • desmoineswestkoa@racpack.com



SUTTER LAWN S

OUR SERVICES

- Mowing
- Fertilizing
- Weed Control
- Top Dressing
- Core Aeration
- Seeding
- Mulching
- Cleanups

For more information, call
515-402-3828

Sign up for a lawncare program today!

ORGANIC LAWN CARE OPTIONS

SutterLawns.com LOCAL | DEPENDABLE | HONEST

BOAT SMART FROM THE START!

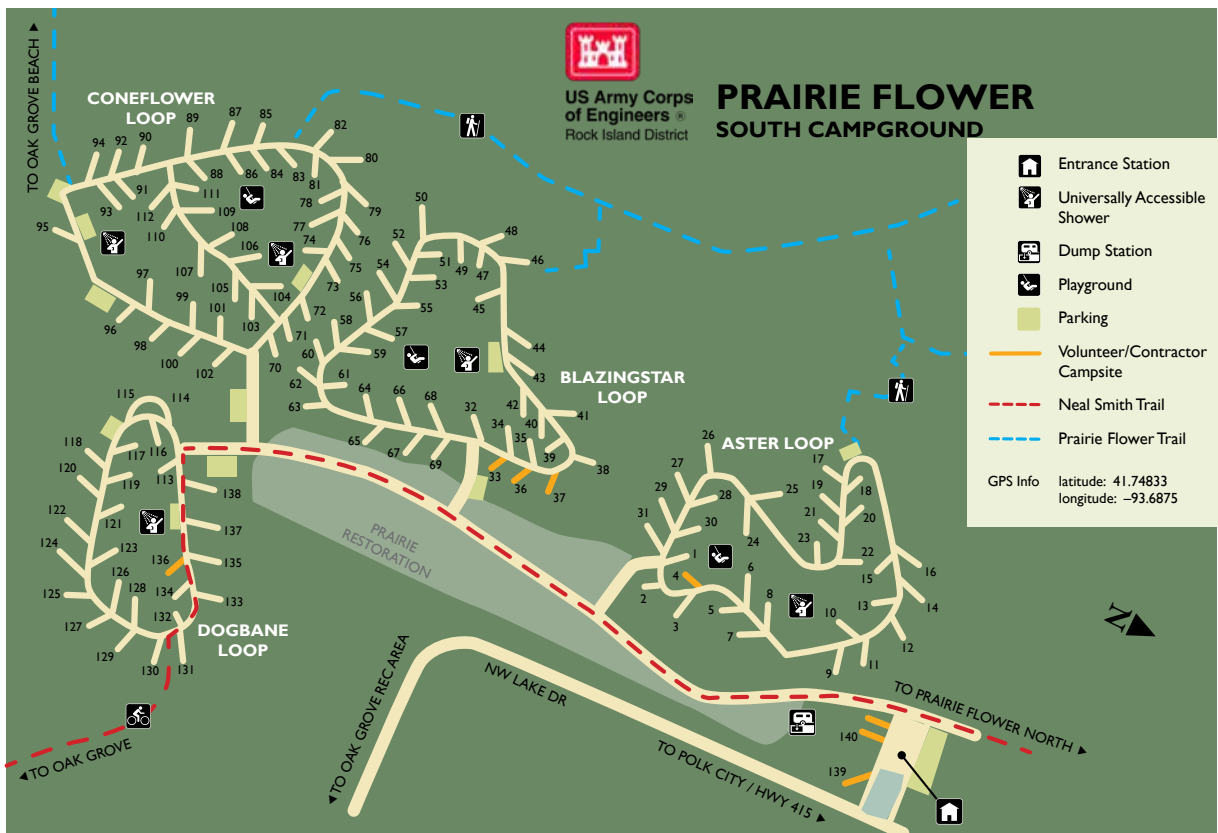
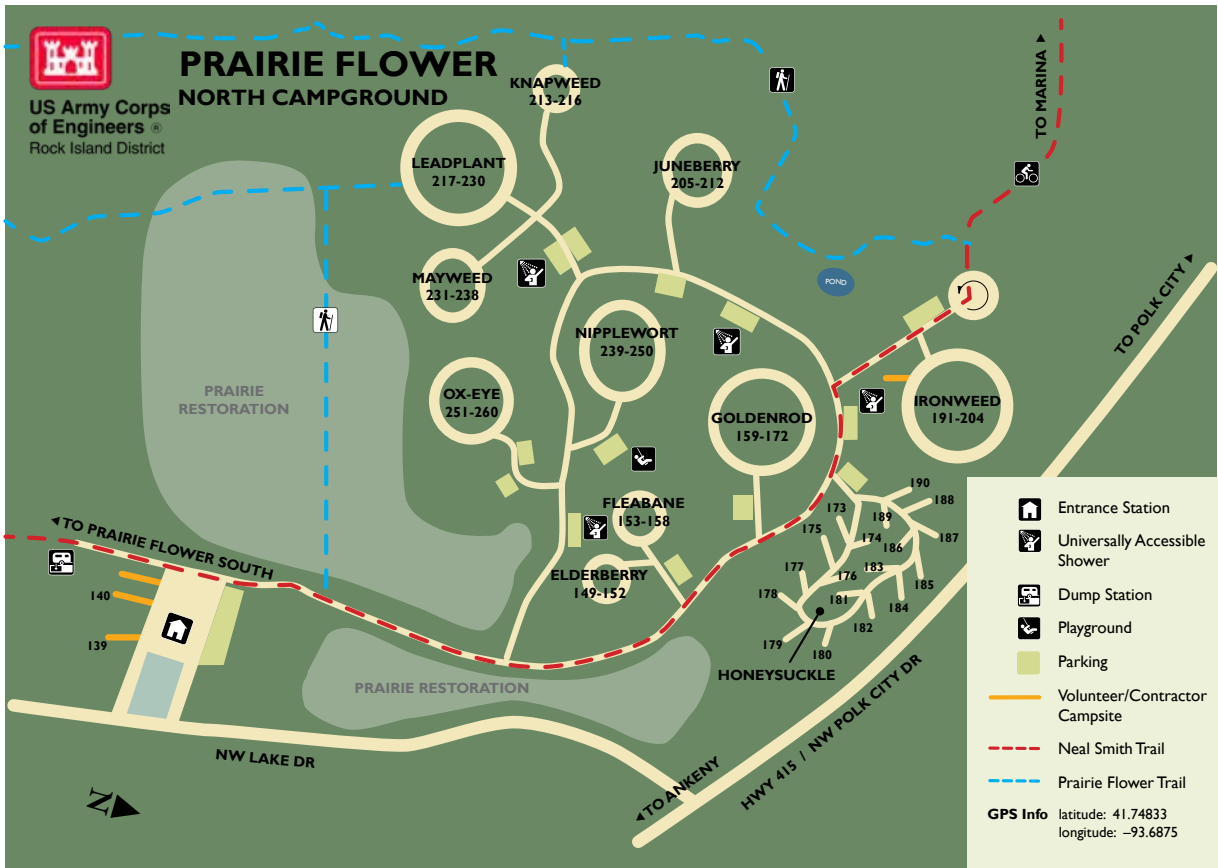
Make sure your vessel has all required safety equipment before heading to the water.

Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns
PleaseWearIt.com

- At least 1 USCG approved life jacket for each person
- USCG approved throwable flotation device
- Type B fire extinguisher
- Sound-Producing device
- Working navigation lights
- Know the vessel's capacity limits
- Obey all buoy markings

US Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District

www.facebook.com/SaylorvilleLake
www.pleasewearit.com





JESTER PARK
RELAX

explore during the day.

by the campfire at night.

camping • hiking • boating • wildlife
viewing • golf • horseback riding •
nature center • outdoor recreation
center • canoe & kayak rentals • cabin
rentals • hunting • picnicking • mini
golf • public art • programs • & more!



JesterParkNatureCenter.com | 515-323-5300



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Rock Island District

OAK GROVE RECREATION AREA



- Shelter
- Universally Accessible Restroom
- Self-pay Station
- Sand Volleyball Court
- Playground
- Beach (No alcohol allowed)
- Windsurfing
- Parking
- Volunteer Campsite
- Neal Smith Trail
- Prairie Flower Trail

GPS Info latitude: 41.73889
longitude: -93.68472



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Rock Island District

SANDPIPER RECREATION AREA

SCENIC VIEWING AREA

POND

POND

NO WAKE ZONE

SAYLORVILLE LAKE

HWY 415 / NW POLK CITY DR

MARINA

- Shelter
 - Universally Accessible Restroom
 - Self-pay Station
 - Boat Ramp
 - Playground
 - Sand Volleyball Court
 - Baseball Field
 - Parking
 - Volunteer/Contractor Campsite
 - Neal Smith Trail
- GPS Info** latitude: 41.75361
longitude: -93.70972



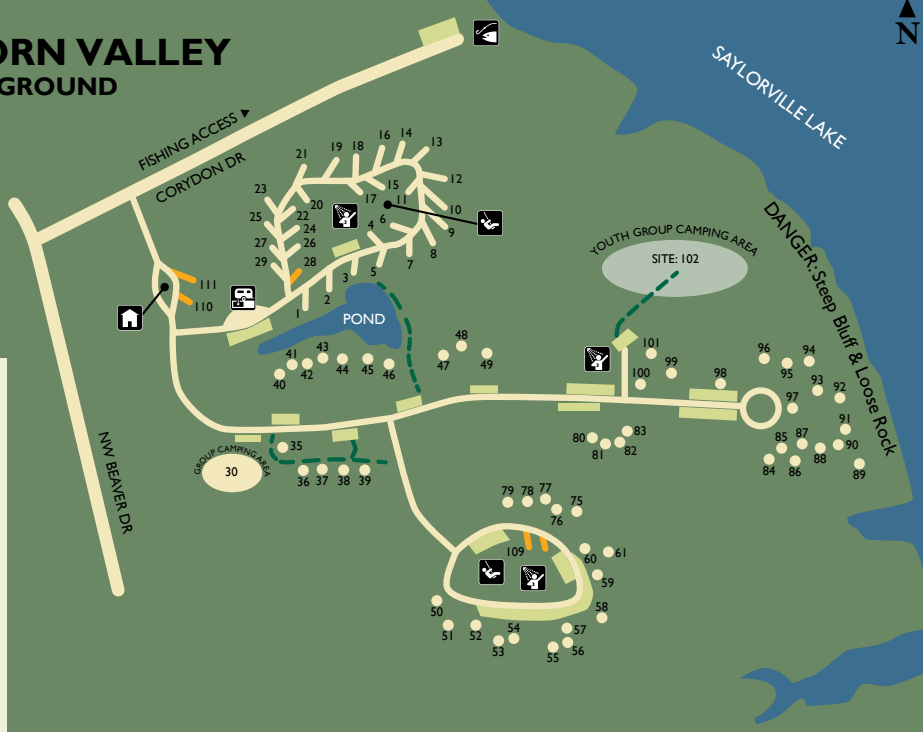


US Army Corps
of Engineers
Rock Island District

ACORN VALLEY CAMPGROUND

- Entrance Station
- Universally Accessible Shower
- Dump Station
- Playground
- Fishing Access
- Parking
- Volunteer/Contractor Campsites
- Pedestrian Walkway

GPS Info latitude: 41.73778
longitude: -93.72361

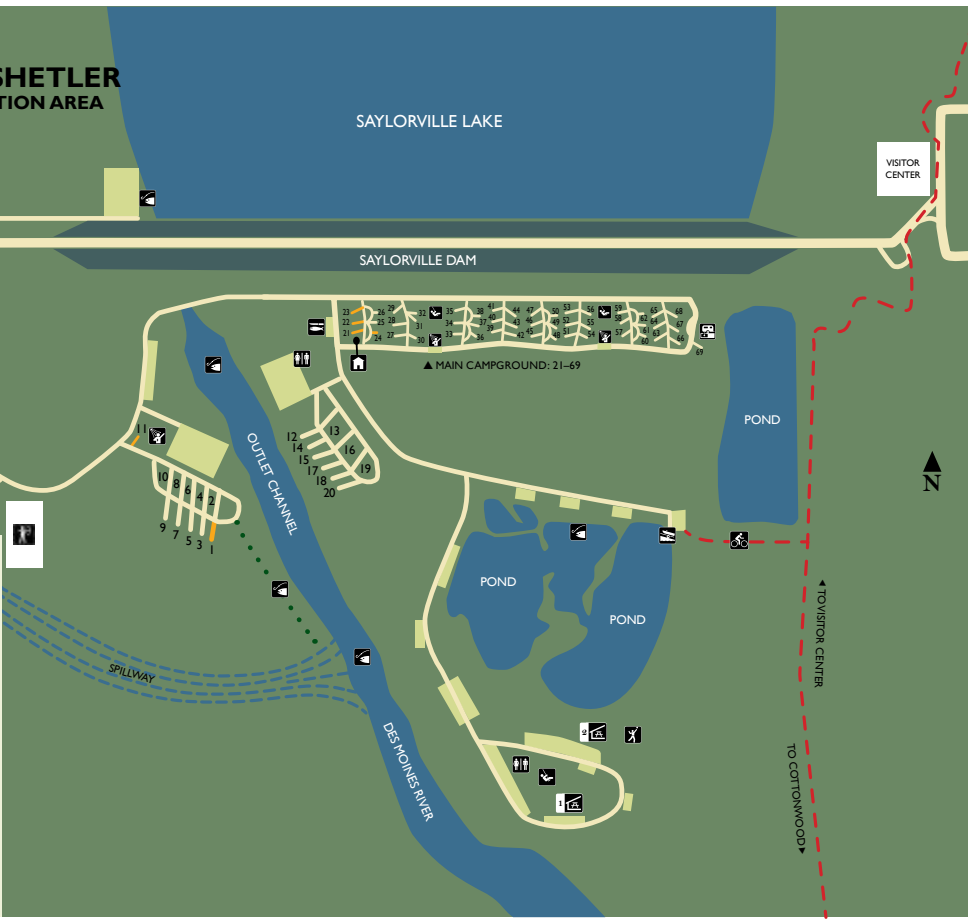


US Army Corps
of Engineers
Rock Island District

BOB SHETLER RECREATION AREA

- Shelter
- Entrance Station
- Universally Accessible Restroom
- Universally Accessible Shower
- Dump Station
- Playground
- Sand Volleyball Court
- Boat Ramp
- Fishing/Fishing Access
- Fish Cleaning Station
- Archery Range
- Parking
- Volunteer/Contractor Campsites
- Neal Smith Trail

GPS Info latitude: 41.70167
longitude: -93.68528





US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Rock Island District

LAKEVIEW RECREATION AREA



-  Shelter (No Reservations)
-  Boat Ramp
-  Self-pay Station
-  Universally Accessible Restroom
-  Sledging
-  Parking

GPS Info latitude: 41.707913
longitude: -93.698757



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Rock Island District

CHERRY GLEN RECREATION AREA



SAYLORVILLE LAKE

NO WAKE ZONE

CHERRY GLEN
PICNIC AREA

CHERRY GLEN
CAMPGROUND

- Shelter
- Entrance Station
- Self-pay Station
- Universally Accessible Restroom
- Universally Accessible Shower
- Dump Station
- Playground
- Boat Ramp
- Jet Ski Launch
- Sledding
- Parking
- Volunteer/Contractor Campsites
- Neal Smith Trail

GPS Info latitude: 41.73139
longitude: -93.68

CENTRAL IOWA'S RV HEADQUARTERS!



BROOKSTONE
CHAPARRAL
RIVERSTONE
CATALINA
GALLERIA
NOVA



NEW & USED SALES • PARTS & SERVICE • PROPANE

PLAZA
RV
FAMILY TRAVEL CENTER

1409 2ND STREET NE, BONDURANT

515-957-9393

FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1964

WWW.PLAZARV.COM