



# Ohio State Parks

National Gold Medal Award Winner

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Ohio has 74 state parks that offer a variety of outdoor experiences

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Find out which parks are best for your favorite sport

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State maps, park maps, road maps... locate the map you need

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Resort Lodges, cottages, campsites and other accommodations

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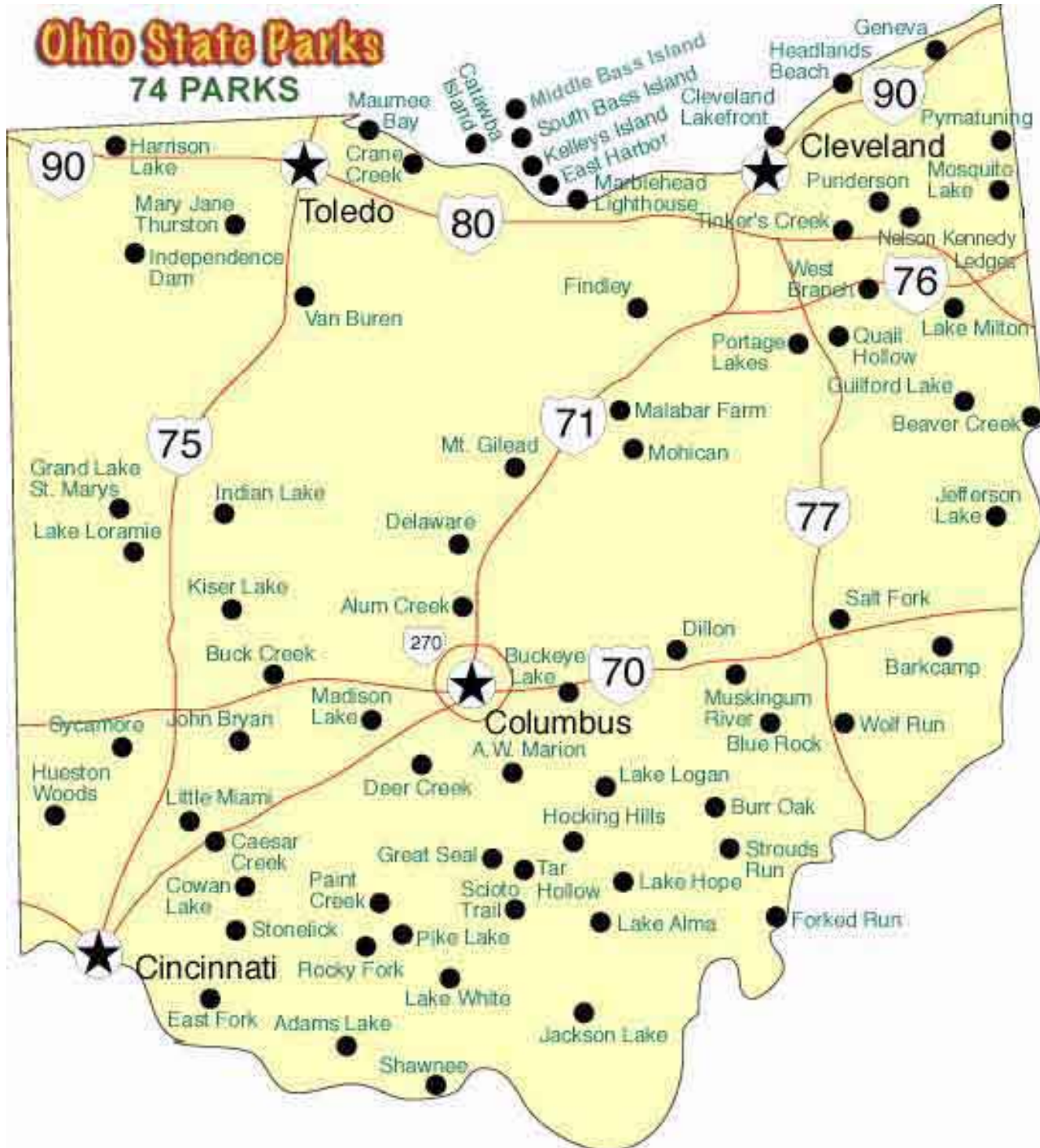
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or click on a park on the map below





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## Caesar Creek State Park

8570 East S.R. 73  
Waynesville, OH 45068-9719  
(513) 897-3055

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers -- Caesar Creek Lake



[Map It! \(National Atlas\)](#)  
[Park Map](#)  
[Campground Map](#)

Caesar Creek State Park is highlighted by clear blue waters, scattered woodlands, meadows and steep ravines. The park offers some of the finest outdoor recreation in southwest Ohio including boating, hiking, camping and fishing.

### Nature of the Area

The park area sits astride the crest of the Cincinnati Arch, a convex tilting of bedrock layers caused by an ancient upheaval. Younger rocks lie both east and west of this crest where some of the oldest rocks in Ohio are exposed. The sedimentary limestones and shales tell of a sea hundreds of millions of years in our past which once covered the state. The park's excellent fossil finds give testimony to the life of this long vanished body of water.

The forests of the area are comprised of over 65 species of plants. Several major communities thrive in the area. A northern flood plain forest is found in the valley, while mixed associations of oak-hickory and beech-maple woodlands clothe the ridges and hillsides. Red-tail hawk, white-tail deer, raccoon, red fox and box turtle make the park their home.

### History of the Area

The wooded lands of the park were home to several early Ohio Indian cultures. While the Hopewells inhabited several sites in the state, their earthworks (known as Fort Ancient) on the nearby Little Miami River are among the largest and best known. This hilltop enclosure used for ceremonial gatherings is surrounded by three miles of earthen walls, constructed using animal shoulder-blade scoops and hides for transporting dirt. This Indian race lived in the region during a period from 300 B.C. to 600 A.D.

A later group, living on the site from 1200 A.D. to 1600 A.D., were known as the Fort Ancient Indians. These people lived in villages along several river systems in the region including Caesar Creek. Displays about the

Activity	Facilities	Quantity	Fees
Resource	Land, acres	7940	
	Water, acres	2830	
	Nearby Wildlife Area, acres	1500	
Day-Use Activities	Fishing	yes	
	Hunting	yes	
	Hiking Trails, miles	43	
	Bridle Trails, miles	31	
	Backpack Trails, miles	14	
	Mountain Bike Trail, miles	8.5	
	Picnicking	yes	
	Picnic Shelters, #	6	
	Swimming Beach, feet	1300	
	Beach Concession	yes	
	Nature Center	yes	
	Summer Nature Programs	yes	
	Programs, year-round	yes	
Boating	Boating Limits	UNL	
	Seasonal Dock Rental, #	64	
	Launch Ramps, #	5	
Winter Recreation	Ice Skating	yes	
	Ice Fishing	yes	
	Cross-Country Skiing	yes	
Camping	Campsites, #	287	\$18
	Campsites with Elec., #	287	
	Pet Area	yes	
	Showers	yes	
	Flush Toilets	yes	
	Dumpstation	yes	
	Youth Group Camp, capacity	75	
	Horsemen Campsites, #	25	\$9
	Rent-A-RV Sites, #	3	\$65

Hopewell mounds and the later cultures can be seen at the Army Corps of Engineers' Visitor Center.

Woodland Indian tribes such as the Wyandot, Miami and Shawnee also called southwestern Ohio home. Old Chillicothe where the famous warrior Tecumseh was said to have been born was located in Greene County, just north of the park. The Caesar Creek area was named for a black slave captured by the Shawnee on a raid along the Ohio River. The Shawnee adopted Caesar and gave him this valley as his hunting ground. Caesar lived in this area during the time Blue Jacket was war chief and was said to have gone on many raids with him.

Many of these Indian villages were located along an ancient Indian trail, part of which follows the ridgeline on the eastern side of the Caesar Creek valley. The trail was used by white settlers in the early 1800s, who named it Bullskin Trace. Later the trail became part of the Underground Railroad used by runaway slaves to reach safe houses run by area Quakers.

The Caesar Creek valley was impounded in 1978 by the Army Corps of Engineers to assist with flood control in the Little Miami River watershed. The 4,700-acre park and adjacent 2,500-acre wildlife area were dedicated that year.

## Camping

The family campground has 287 shady and sunny sites equipped with electrical hook-ups. The campground offers showers, flush toilets, and pet camping in designated areas. A horseman's camp with 25 sites is available for overnight trail rides. Four Rent-A-Camp units consisting of a tent, dining fly, cooler, cook stove, and other equipment can be rented during the summer months.

## Boating

Water recreation on the 2,830-acre lake is the park's largest attraction. Unlimited horsepower designation allows for an exciting day of boating and water skiing. Five launch ramps are situated around the lake for easy access.



## Trails

Forty-three miles of hiking trails lead hikers to the interesting areas of the park with many scenic views along the way. For horsemen, thirty-one miles of trail and a horsemen's camp are offered. A five-mile mountain bike trail is located between Harveysburg Road and Center Road.

## Fishing and Hunting

Anglers can enjoy fishing for smallmouth and largemouth bass and some of the best crappie fishing in the state. Hunting is permitted in the adjacent wildlife area. Valid Ohio hunting and fishing license are required.

## Picnicking

Picnic areas with tables, grills and drinking water are offered. Two of the park's five picnic shelters may be reserved in advance. A day lodge, offering a meeting room and kitchen with outdoor tables and grills, can be rented for family reunions and club meetings.



## Swimming

Caesar Creek's clear waters and 1,300-foot beach offer excellent swimming opportunities. A beach concession area and changing booths are provided.

## Expanded Information

Caesar Creek State Park is leased from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District at Caesar Creek Lake provides plenty of information to make your visit more enjoyable.

## Area Attractions

Nearby attractions include the Blue Jacket outdoor drama, King's Island amusement park, Waynesville Sauerkraut Festival, Fort Ancient State Memorial, and Little Miami Scenic State Park and Cowan Lake State Park.

The Little Miami Scenic River offers many canoeing opportunities and spectacular scenery.

A history of Ohio's pioneers is illustrated throughout the Caesar Creek region. Remnants of their lifestyles are reflected today at the Pioneer Village situated around the Levi Lukens cabin built in 1807. Other buildings dating from 1790 are reconstructed on the site.

Caesar Creek Gorge, a state nature preserve operated by the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, features a 180 foot deep gorge displaying unique geologic formations. Visitation during daylight hours only. For information on other local attractions, contact the Division of Travel and Tourism at 1-800-BUCKEYE.

## Directions

From Cleveland, Ohio:

I-71 South to State Route 73. Turn right on State Route 73, park entrance is approximately 6 miles on the right.  
Campground: Left on State Route 73, left on State Route 380, left on Center Road.

From Columbus, Ohio:

I-71 South to State Route 73. Turn right on State Route 73, park entrance is approximately 6 miles on the right.  
Campground: Left on State Route 73, left on State Route 380, left on Center Road.

From Cincinnati, Ohio:

I-71 North to State Route 73. Turn Left on State Route 73, park entrance is approximately 6 miles on the right.  
Campground: Right on State Route 73, left on State Route 380, left on Center Road.

From Toledo, Ohio:

I-75 South to State Route 73, turn left (East), follow through Waynesville, the main park entrance will be on the left.

From Lebanon, Ohio:

State route 42 North, turn right on State Route 73, follow State Route 73, the main park entrance will be on the left.

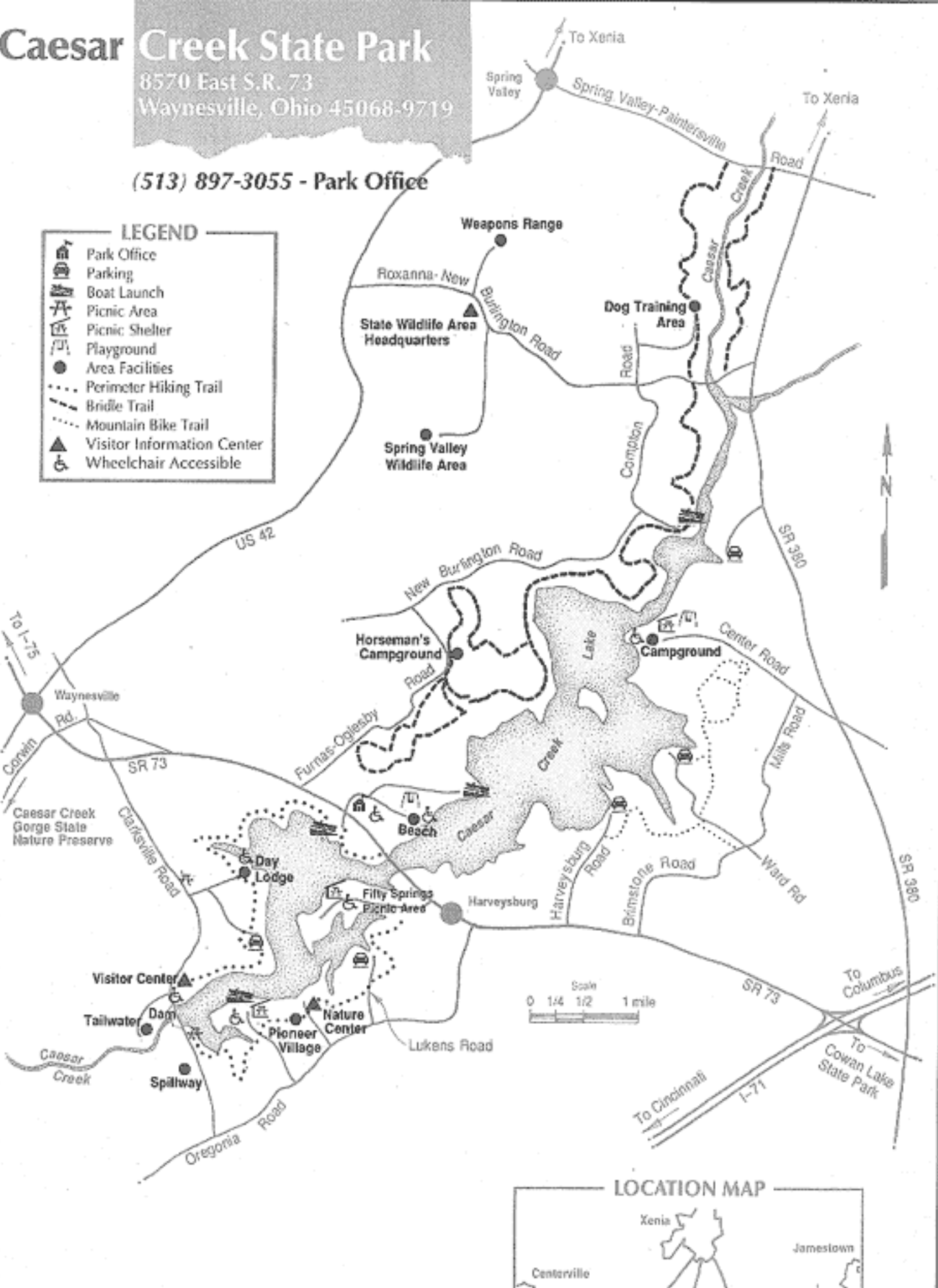
# Caesar Creek State Park

8570 East S.R. 73  
Waynesville, Ohio 45068-9719

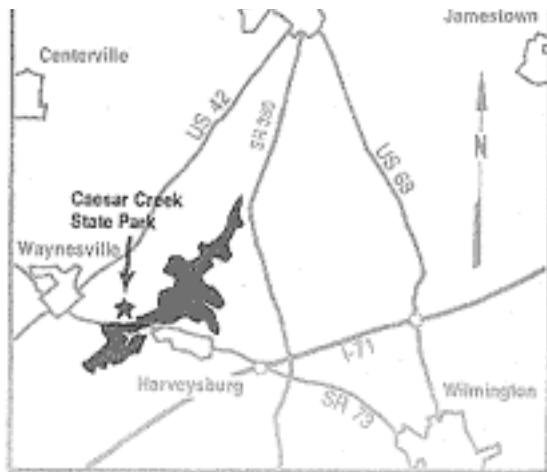
(513) 897-3055 - Park Office

## LEGEND

	Park Office
	Parking
	Boat Launch
	Picnic Area
	Picnic Shelter
	Playground
	Area Facilities
	Perimeter Hiking Trail
	Bridle Trail
	Mountain Bike Trail
	Visitor Information Center
	Wheelchair Accessible



TRAIL MILEAGE	
<b>Hiking Trails</b>	
Visitor Center to SR 73	7.2 miles
Dam to SR 73 (southern route)	4.3 miles
<b>Bridle Trails (also open to hiking)</b>	
Rosebriar	2.0 miles
Moonlit Vista	3.8 miles
Farmer's Trace	5.0 miles
Solidago Downs	20.0 miles
<b>Mountain Bike Trail</b>	<b>8.5 miles</b>



Rev. 7/00

# Caesar Creek State Park

## Campground Map

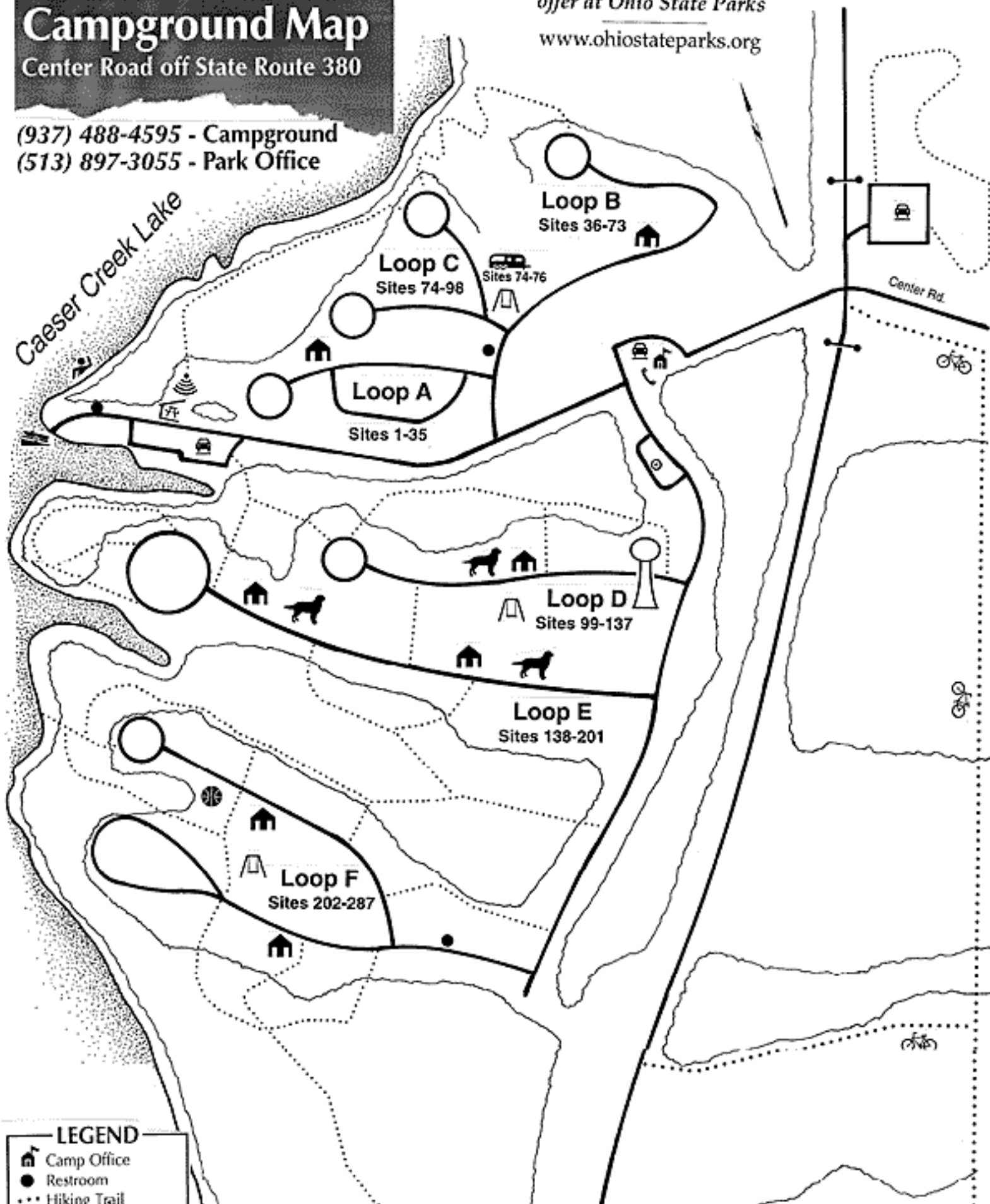
Center Road off State Route 380

(937) 488-4595 - Campground

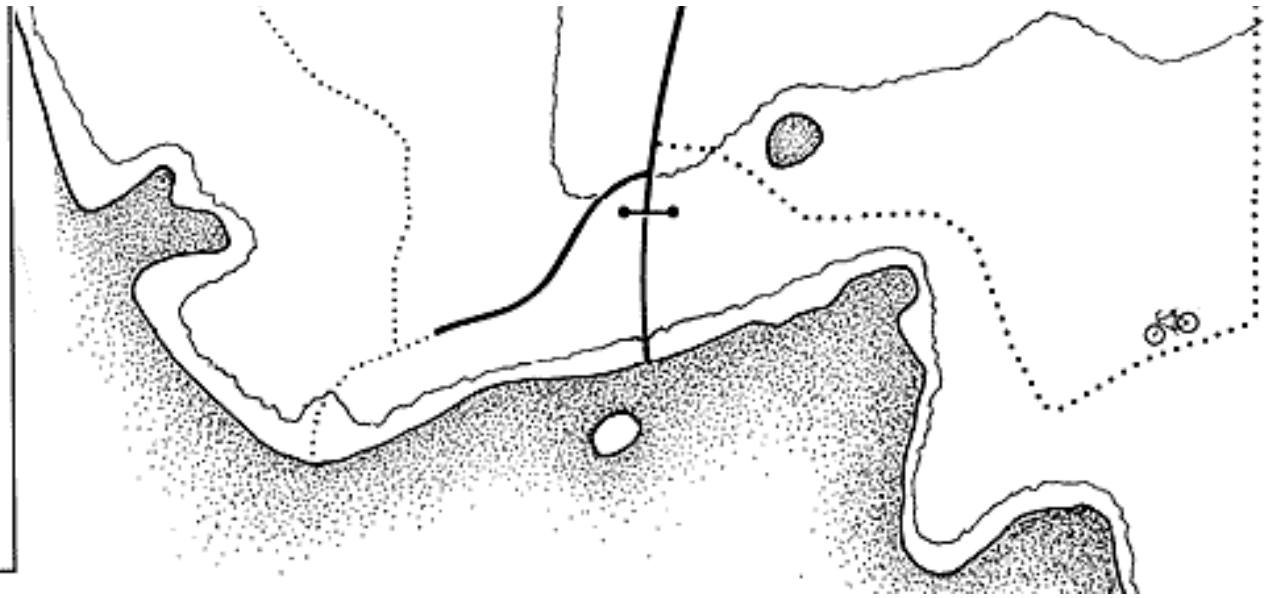
(513) 897-3055 - Park Office

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[www.ohiostateparks.org](http://www.ohiostateparks.org)









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## Cowan Lake State Park



P.O. Box 765  
 729 Beechwood Road  
 Wilmington, OH 45177  
 (937) 289-2105 Park Office  
 (937) 289-2656 Marina

[Map It! \(National Atlas\)](#)
[Park Map](#)
[Park Events Site](#)
[Campground Map • Detail Map](#)


Cowan Lake State Park offers a peaceful setting replete with scenic inlets laden with the American Lotus water lily. Swimming, fishing, sailing and canoeing are popular on the lake. Meandering trails through mature woodlands compliment the natural features of this scenic park.

### Nature of the Area

It has been said that Ohio's history can be found written in the rocks. By studying the bedrock layers in Ohio, we know that ancient seas, marshes or swamps covered all or portions of the state at times over the past 500 million years. Sediment deposited by those ancient waters solidified into rock and eventually uplifted forming dry land. Animals and plants were embedded in the sediment, and today, these fossils reveal the different life forms that existed in Ohio's past.

Cowan Lake lies near the Cincinnati Arch, an uplifting of bedrock that occurred during the Appalachian Mountains' building process. The erosion of this arch in the Cowan region exposes fossil-rich limestone. The limestone near Cowan and other parts of the exposed arch are some of the most famous fossil hunting fields in the world. (Collection of fossils requires a permit from the Chief)

A fine stand of beech-maple forest can be found around the lake at Cowan. These woodlands contain beautiful wildflowers including bloodroot, wild ginger, spring beauties and trillium. The woods, fields and lake provide habitat for a variety of animals. Ring-neck pheasant, ducks, geese and herons are found here. Songbirds such as eastern bluebirds, catbirds, house wrens and many others inhabit the fields and bushy areas of the park. Mammals include white-tailed deer, raccoon, opossum, woodchuck, skunk and others.

Activity	Facilities	Quantity	Fees
Resource	Land, acres	1076	
	Water, acres	700	
Activities	Fishing	yes	
	Hunting	yes	
	Hiking Trail, miles	5.6	
	Mountain Bike Trail, miles	1	
	Picnicking	yes	
	Picnic Shelters, #	2	call
Boating	Swimming Beach, feet	1000	
	Beach Concession	yes	
	Summer Nature Programs	yes	
	Miniature Golf	yes	call
	Boat Rental	yes	call
	Boating Limits	10 HP	
Winter Rec	Fuel For Sale	yes	
	Seasonal Dock Rental, #	440	call
	Launch Ramps, #	5	
Resort Facilities	Sledding	yes	
	Cross-Country Skiing	yes	
Camping	Family Cottages, #	27	<a href="#">click here</a>
	Non-electric campsites	17	\$15
	Campsites with Elec., #	237	\$18
	Pets Permitted	yes	\$1/pet
	Campground Beach	yes	
	Showers	yes	
	Flush Toilets	yes	
	Dumpstation	yes	\$8
	Camp Commissary	yes	

American Lotus, a brilliant water lily, is abundant in the lake's shallow areas. It is unusual to find such a large colony of lotus on an inland lake. The plant's leaves grow up to two feet in diameter supporting large yellow flowers.



## History of the Area

The Cowan Lake region was once a stronghold of the Miami and Shawnee Indians. After their defeat at the hands of General Anthony Wayne at the Battle of Fallen Timbers, the Indian threat subsided and settlement began here. In 1797, the first settler in the area, William Smalley, began clearing land for his home along the river which was later dammed to form Cowan Lake. Smalley had been captured by the Indians when he was a small child and was forced to live with them until he was twenty years old. He later fought in General Wayne's army, was recaptured, but

luckily escaped with his life.

Cowan Creek was named for the area's first surveyor, John Cowan. A dam was completed across Cowan Creek in 1950, and in 1968, Cowan Lake was dedicated as a state park.

## Cottages

There are 27 family cottages situated in a wooded setting along the lake. Each cottage is heated and air-conditioned, has two bedrooms, bath, living area with a sofa bed, complete kitchen, dining area and screened porch. Linens, towels, cooking and eating utensils are provided. Two premium cottages have gas fireplaces. The fireplaces are not in operation from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

## Camping

The campground has 254 campsites. Of that total, 237 campsites have electricity suitable for tents or trailers and 17 sites are non-electric. Four sites are wheelchair accessible. The campground is equipped with a showerhouse, flush toilets, laundry facilities, dump station, camper's beach and a boat launch ramp. A commissary is equipped with snacks and camping items. Pet camping is offered on designated sites.



## Boating

Boats with a ten horsepower limit are permitted on Cowan Lake. The South Shore Marina concession offers boat, canoe and motor rental as well as fishing and picnic supplies. Launch ramps, fuel and dock rentals are also available. Sailing is very popular on the lake.

## History of the Area

Muskie, crappie, largemouth bass, catfish and bluegill are plentiful. Hunting is permitted in designated areas. A valid Ohio hunting and/or fishing license is required.

## Swimming

A public beach is located on the south lake shore. A bathhouse, showers and a snack bar are provided.

## Picnicking

Picnic areas with tables and grills are located in many tree-shaded areas overlooking the lake. A shelterhouse and dance pavilion are each reservable. Contact the park office for details.

## Trails

More than four miles of hiking trails begin near the cottage and camping areas and lead to scenic locations in the park. The Lotus Cove self-guided trail provides a boardwalk view of an American Lotus (water lily) colony while the Emerald Woods Trail meanders through a mature beech forest.

## Winter Meeting Rooms

The camp commissary building can be rented during the off season for meetings, receptions or business retreats. It features a woodburning fireplace, restrooms and scenic view of the lake. Tables and chairs are provided. Contact the park office for details.

## Area Attractions

Stonelick State Park, located 13 miles southwest of Cowan on State Route 727, and Caesar Creek State Park, situated 18 miles northwest of Cowan on State Route 73, both offer swimming, boating, fishing and camping. Caesar Creek Gorge, a state nature preserve is located adjacent to Caesar Creek State Park. Other attractions include Kings Island Amusement Park; the outdoor drama, Blue Jacket; and the College Football Hall of Fame.



# Cowan Lake State Park

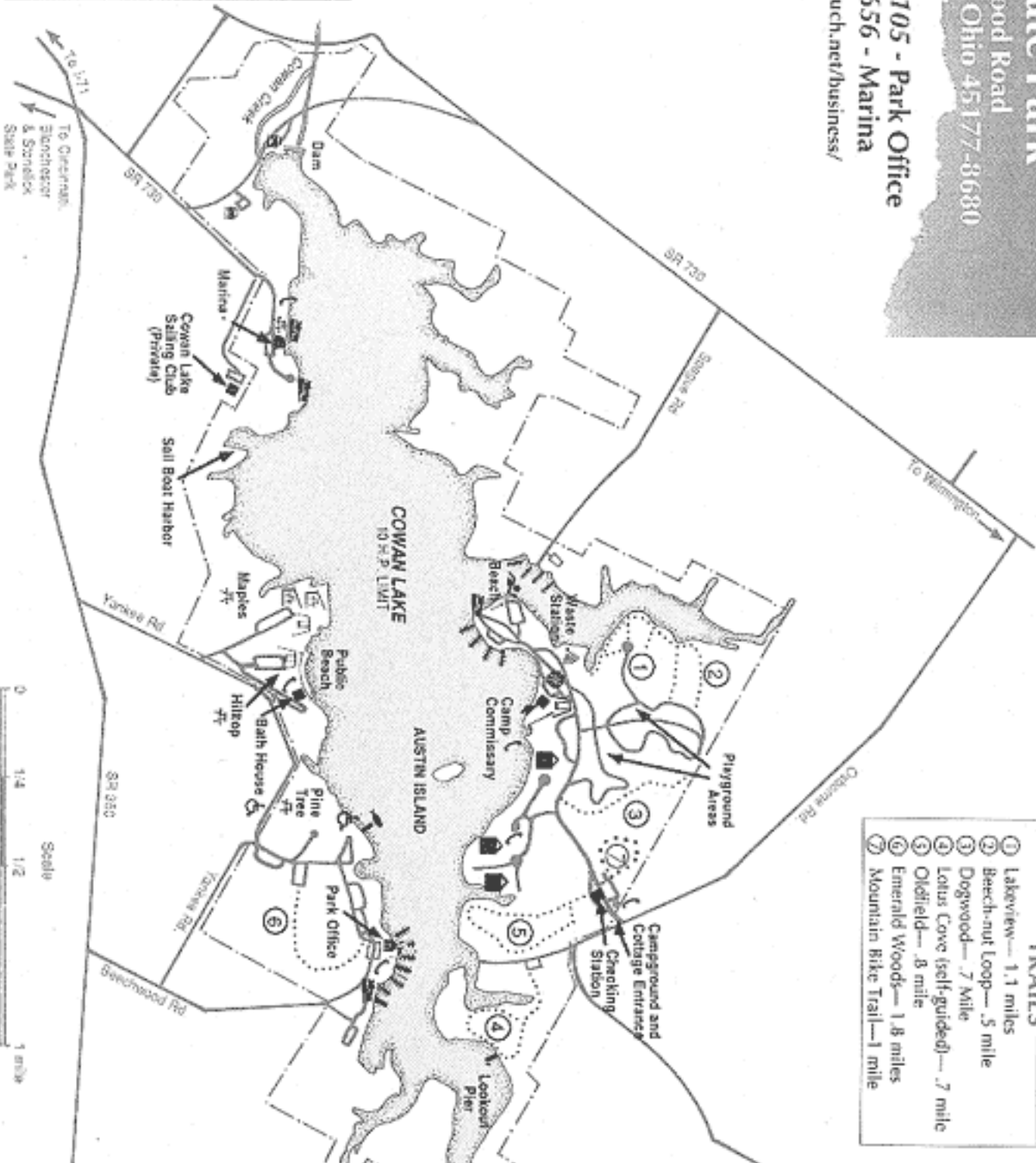
729 Beechwood Road  
Wilmington, Ohio 45177-8680

(937) 289-2105 - Park Office  
(937) 289-2656 - Marina

<http://club.in-touch.net/business/>

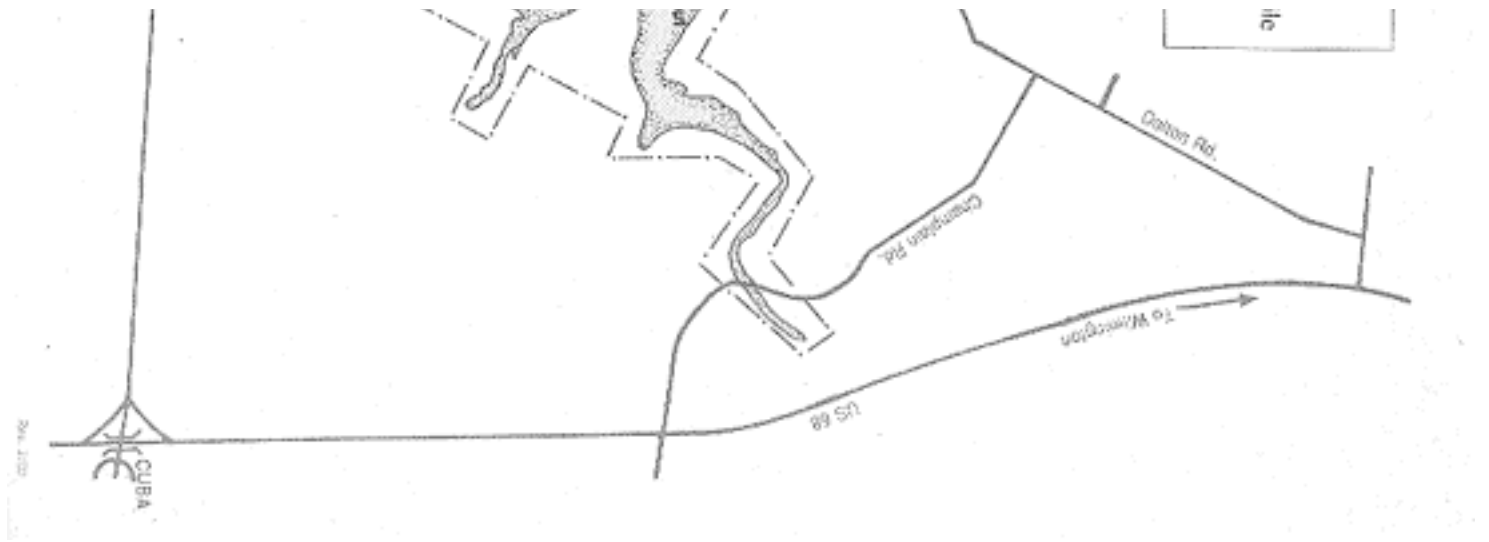
- LEGEND**
- Park Office
  - Scenic Parking
  - Picnic Area
  - Public Telephone
  - Boat/swim Area
  - Shelterhouse
  - Amphitheater
  - Family Cottages
  - Fishing Pier
  - Boat Docks
  - Launch Ramp
  - Basketball
  - Playground
  - Miniature Golf
  - Wheelchair Accessible

## LOCATION MAP



## TRAILS

- ① Lakeview—1.1 miles
- ② Beech-nut Loop—.5 mile
- ③ Dogwood—.7 mile
- ④ Lotus Cove (self-guided)—.7 mile
- ⑤ Oldfield—.8 mile
- ⑥ Emerald Woods—1.8 miles
- ⑦ Mountain Bike Trail—1 mile



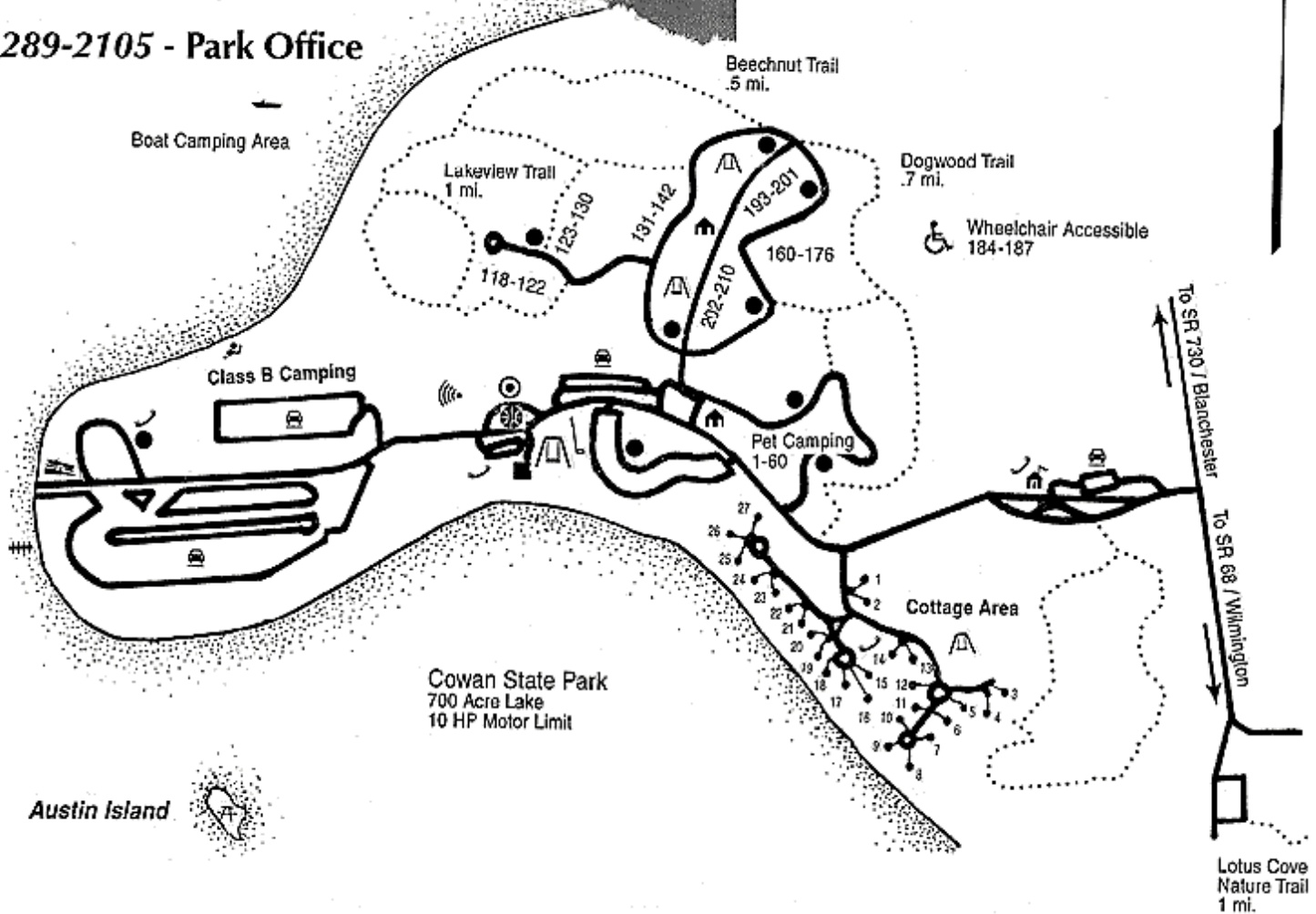
# Cowan Lake State Park

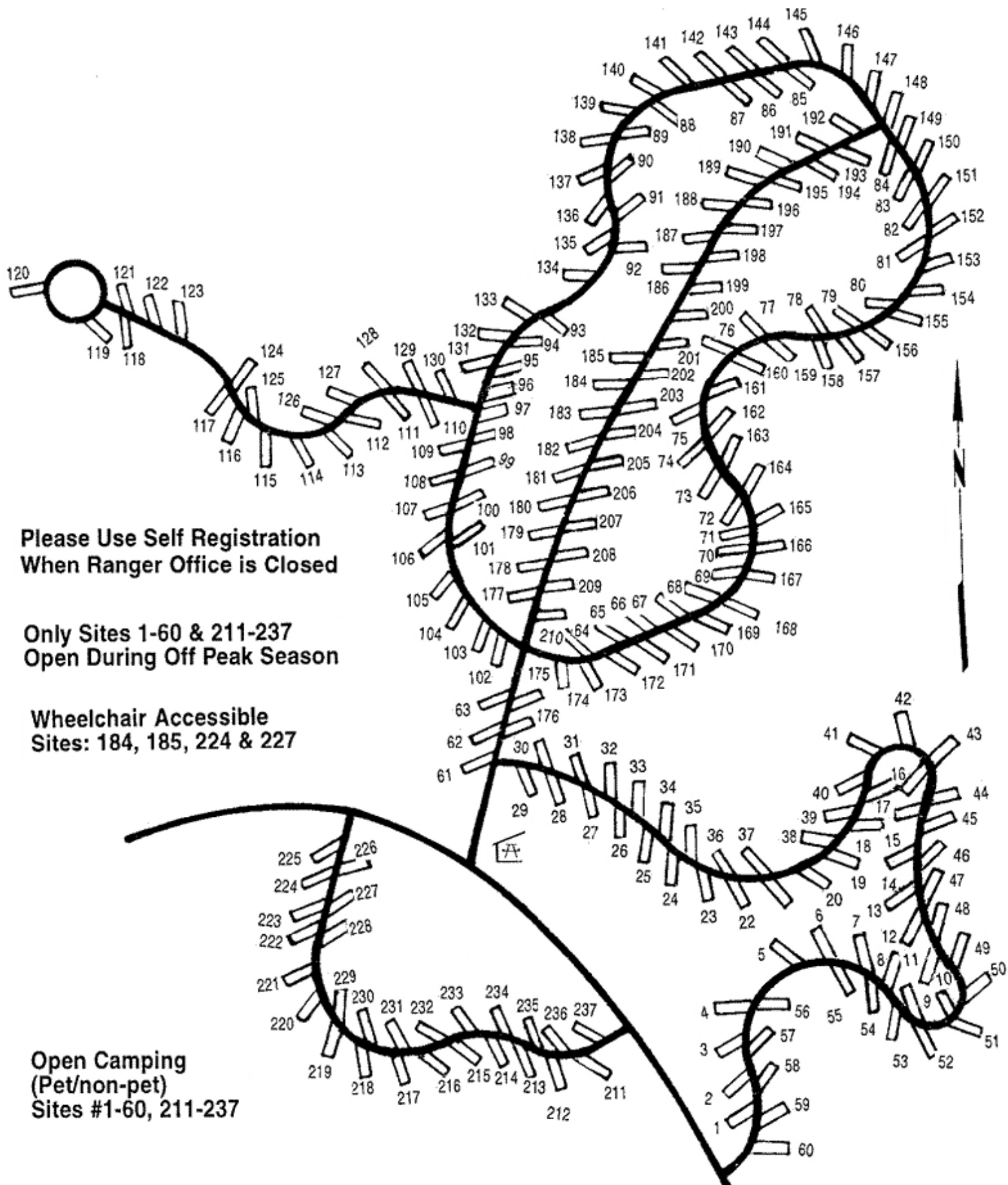
## Campground & Cottage Area

729 Beechwood Road  
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**(937) 289-2105 - Park Office**









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## Deer Creek State Park



20635 Waterloo Road  
 Mt. Sterling, OH 43143  
 (740) 869-3124 Park Office  
 (740) 869-3508 Campground (seasonal)  
 (740) 869-3088 Golf Course  
 (740) 869-2243 Lake Conditions  
**Deer Creek Resort & Conference Center**  
**PO Box 125**  
**Mt Sterling, OH 43143-0153**

(740) 869-2020 Lodge Front Desk  
 (740) 869-4059 Lodge Front Desk Fax  
 Toll Free: 1-877-678-3337 Lodge/Cottage  
 Reservations



**Map It! (National  
 Atlas)  
 Park Map**

Located in the heart of Ohio's agricultural country, Deer Creek State Park is central Ohio's vacation showplace. A collage of meadows and woodlands surround the scenic reservoir. This resort park features a modern lodge, cottages, campground, golf course, swimming beach and boating for outdoor enthusiasts.

### Nature of the Area

Deer Creek State Park lies on the eastern edge of the great till plains of Ohio. These plains receive their name from the glacial debris, or till, which is a mixture of sand, silt and gravel that was deposited by the glaciers. As glaciers advanced across the northern two-thirds of Ohio, most hills and valleys were covered and filled in by the till, leaving this part of Ohio relatively flat.

Today, these rich plains in the park's region support corn, soybeans and wheat. The first settlers to the area did not find these open fields. Except for a few small prairie openings, the region was covered by dense woodlands. A regrowth of the original woodlands can be found scattered along the ridge tops and creek bottoms of the park.

Wildflowers abound in the fields and woodlands of the till plains. In spring, common flowers are Dutchman's breeches, rue anemone, trillium, spring beauty and bloodroot. Summer months produce thimbleweed, wild lettuce, jewelweed and daisy fleabane. In autumn, the most abundant flowers are aster, goldenrod and chicory, whose

Activity	Facilities	Quantity	Fees
Resource	Land, acres	3617	
	Water, acres	1277	
	Nearby Wildlife Area, acres	3710	
Day-Use Activities	Fishing	yes	
	Hunting	yes	
	Hiking Trail, miles	7	
	Bridle Trails, miles	14	
	Mountain Bike Trail, miles	1.2	
	Picnicking	yes	
	Swimming Beach, feet	1700	
	Beach Concession	yes	
Boating	Nature Center	yes	
	Summer Nature Programs	yes	
	Boat Rental	yes	call
	Boating Limits	UNL	
	Fuel For Sale	yes	
	Seasonal Dock Rental, #	152	call
	Launch Ramps, #	2	
	Winter Recreation		
Resort Facilities	Snowmobiling	yes	
	Ice Skating	yes	
	Cross-Country Skiing	yes	
	Ice Fishing	yes	
	Family Cottages, #	25	<a href="#">click here</a>
	Lodge Rooms, #	110	<a href="#">click here</a>
	Restaurant	yes	
	Golf Course, # holes	18	call
Camping	Tennis	yes	
	Game Room	yes	
	Indoor Swimming Pool	yes	
	Outdoor Swimming Pool	yes	
	Non-electric Campsites	0	
	Campsites with Elec., #	232	\$18
	Pets Permitted	yes	\$1/pet
	Showers	yes	
	Flush Toilets	yes	
	Dumpstation	yes	\$8

roots were used by settlers to make a coffee-like beverage.

	Group Camp, capacity	60	call
	Horsemen Campsites, #	3	\$9
	Rent-A-Campsites, #	5	\$33

The best known animals of the Deer Creek area include

amphibians such as the chorus frog, spring peeper and American toad. Reptiles include box and painted turtles, black rat snake and eastern garter snake. Numerous mammals inhabit the park. Most of them are small and include the red fox, raccoon, opossum, woodchuck, skunk, rabbit, deer mouse and white-tailed deer. Deer Creek is known for its population of ring-necked pheasant. Other birds of the area include eastern meadowlark, song sparrow, cowbird, eastern bluebird, barn swallow and woodcock.

## History of the Area

On a long ridge that once overlooked Deer Creek and its valley, researchers have discovered evidence of a camp of an ancient Indian tribe. The nomads who camped here around 2,000 B.C. were hunters and gatherers and used this camp periodically throughout the year. Since agriculture was not practiced by the nomads, they moved on after they depleted the plant or animal food supplies in a locale. Burial sites near the camp indicate it was inhabited over a period of time.

In more recent years, a cottage owned by Harry M. Daugherty, the attorney general under President Warren G. Harding, overlooked the valley. The rustic one and one-half story cottage was built in 1918. The President was said to have visited this cottage which now bears his name.

The completion of the dam in 1968 created the lake with the park officially opening in 1974.

## Lodge

The lodge at Deer Creek has 110 guest rooms, many with a panoramic view of the lake. Lodge features include indoor and outdoor pools, sauna, whirlpool and exercise room. A restaurant, lounge and meeting rooms provide additional accommodations.

## Cottages

Twenty-five cottages offer overnight accommodations. The cottages have two bedrooms, bath with a shower, living room, complete kitchen, dining area and screened porch. The cottages sleep six people. The historic Harding Cabin offers a unique setting and sleeps 8.

## Camping

The campground at Deer Creek has 232 sites. All have electricity. The campground features showers, flush toilets and a dump station. Pets are permitted on designated sites. Four Rent-A-Camp units consisting of a tent, dining fly, cooler, cook stove and other equipment can be rented during the summer months by reservation. A group camp is also available by reservation. A horsemen's camp provides primitive overnight facilities for riders and a primitive group camp offers an area for groups.

## Boating

Unlimited horsepower boating is permitted on the 1,277-acre Deer Creek reservoir. Two launch ramps provide access to the lake. A fully equipped marina offers fuel, boat rental and seasonal dock rentals.

## Fishing and Hunting

The lake at Deer Creek is famous for its early spring saugeye fishing below the dam. Excellent catches of catfish, largemouth bass and crappie also entice the angler.

The lake provides excellent waterfowl hunting. Twelve hunting blinds are issued each season on a lottery basis. Hunting is permitted in the state wildlife area adjacent to the park for pheasant, rabbit, squirrel and deer.

## Swimming

A spacious 1,700-foot swimming beach graces the shores of Deer Creek State Park. A concession area and changing booths are special features at the beach.

## Picnicking

Several picnic areas are situated in scenic locations around the park.

## Trails

Seven miles of hiking trails take the visitor through meadows and scattered woodlands. Fourteen miles of bridle trails can accommodate riders with their own horses. A fitness trail near the lodge offers an opportunity for exercise in a wooded setting.

## Golf

A 350-acre, 18-hole golf course near the lodge is a challenge for golfers with its 10 ponds and 52 sand traps

## Area Attractions

East of Deer Creek near Circleville is A.W. Marion State Park which offers fishing, camping and picnicking. Stage's Pond, a state nature preserve, is located five miles north of Circleville. This 178-acre glacial, kettle lake is a waterfowl refuge and a prime observation area for birdlife. Deer Creek Wildlife Area which is adjacent to the park is operated by the ODNR Division of Wildlife and managed for upland game. In nearby Chillicothe, visitors can witness the living drama of Tecumseh at the Sugarloaf Mountain Amphitheatre.

## Directions

From Cleveland, Ohio:

I-71 South to state Route 56 (Mt. Sterling Exit), take 56 into Mt. Sterling, then 207 South 5 miles.

From Columbus, Ohio:

I-71 South to State Route 56 (Mt. Sterling Exit), take 56 into Mt. Sterling, then 207 South 5 miles.

From Cincinnati, Ohio:

I-71 North to State Route 56 (Mt. Sterling Exit), take 56 into Mt. Sterling, then 207 South 5 miles.

From Toledo, Ohio:

I-75 South to Findley, Route 68 to Kenton, Route 31 to Marysville, 33 South to I-270, I-270 South to I-71, I-71 South to State Route 56 (Mt. Sterling Exit), 56 into Mt. Sterling, then 207 South 5 miles.

From Circleville, Ohio:

Take Highway 22 West eight miles to Keyes Road. Turn right on Keyes to the stop sign. Turn right and then an immediate left onto Yankeetown Pike. Follow for approximately nine miles to the park entrance (on left).

Click here for [expanded information](#) on this state park.



*Deer Creek Resort*  
& CONFERENCE CENTER

Whether your idea of a vacation is a relaxing round of golf, or blasting across the lake on a jet ski, we have amenities to please both families and business groups.



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- Area Attractions
- Photo Gallery
- Links

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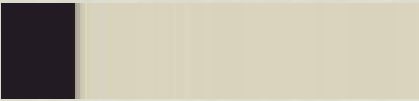
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# Deer Creek State Park

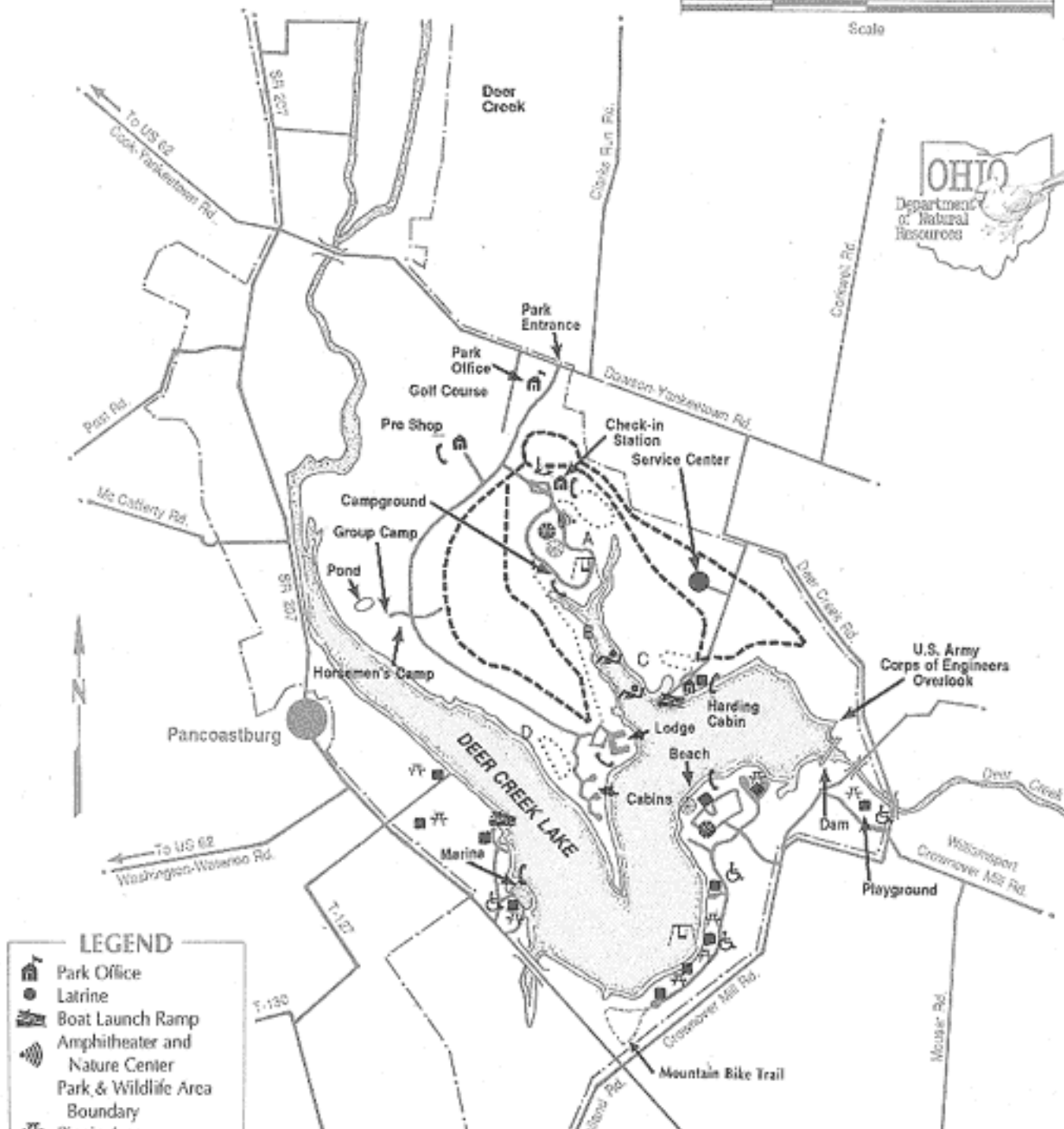
20635 Waterloo Rd.  
Mt. Sterling, Ohio 43143



(740) 869-3124 - Park Office • (740) 869-3508 - Camp Office  
(740) 869-3088 - Golf Course • (740) 869-3728 - Lake Conditions

## Deer Creek Resort Lodge

22300 State Park Rd. #20, Mt. Sterling, Ohio 43143

(740) 869-2020 - Lodge/Cottages  
1-877-678-3337 - Lodge/Cottage Reservations



- Park & Wildlife Area
- Boundary
-  Picnic Area
-  Snowmobile/Bridle Trail
-  Hiking Trails
- A Meadow
- B Rolling Hills
- C Marsh Walk
- D Ridge
-  Playground
-  Public Phone
-  Miniature Golf
-  Boat/Swim Area
-  Volleyball
-  Basketball
-  Wheelchair Accessible



Rev. 7/99





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## East Fork State Park

P.O. Box 119  
Bethel, OH 45106  
(513) 734-4323

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District --  
William H. Harsha Lake



Map It! (National Atlas)  
Park Map

One of Ohio's largest state parks, East Fork offers a great diversity of recreational opportunities and natural history only 25 miles from Cincinnati. The park's terrain includes both rugged hills and open meadows, setting the stage for a wonderful getaway.

### Nature of the Area

Clermont County's rolling hills and meandering river valleys provide a colorful backdrop for spacious East Fork State Park. Shaped by the forces of the Illinoian and Wisconsin glacial, the East Fork region is characterized by beautiful hill country scenery and is noted for the occurrence of remnant prairie habitats. Illinoian glacial deposits are not common in Ohio but can be observed at East Fork and the surrounding area.

East Fork's diverse landscape includes dry-forested hills, rocky cascades, abandoned farmlands, thickly grown floodplains, marshy grasslands and swamp forests. This diversity lends well to an abundance of plant and animal life. Woodlands are composed of beech, sugar maple, red and white oak, shagbark hickory, and wild black cherry. The swamp forests contain silver maple, American elm, sycamore, and black gum. The meadows and remnant prairies contain big bluestem grass and purple coneflower among others.

Animals of the area include eastern plains garter snake, fence lizard, red fox, deer, raccoon, Canada geese, song sparrow, eastern meadowlark, and the barn swallow.

### History of the Area

The Little Miami River basin in which East Fork State Park is situated has been home to many generations of man, dating back to nearly 3,000 years ago. Moundbuilders, the Adena and Hopewell Indians, occupied this area. The mound near Ellick Road is thought to have been built by the Adena. The Erie Indians also lived here.

Activity	Facilities	Quantity	Fees
Resource	Land, acres	8420	
	Water, acres	2160	
	Nearby Wildlife Area	yes	
Day-Use Activities	Fishing	yes	
	Hunting	yes	
	Hiking Trail, miles	85	
	Bridle Trails, miles	55	
	Backpack Trails, miles	46	
	Mountain Bike Trail, miles	5	
Boating	Picnicking	yes	
	Picnic Shelters, #	5	call
	Swimming Beach, feet	1200	
	Beach Vending	yes	
	Summer Nature Program	yes	
Winter Recreation	Boating Limits	UNL	
	Launch Ramps, #	5	
Camping	Sledding	yes	
	Ice Skating	yes	
	Ice Fishing	yes	
	Cross-Country Skiing	yes	
	Non-electric Campsites	0	
	Campsites with Elec., #	416	\$18
	Full Service Campsites	2	\$24
	Cedar Cabin	2	\$65
	Pet Area	yes	
	Campground Beach	yes	
	Showers	yes	
	Flush Toilets	yes	
	Dumpstation	yes	\$8
	Horseman's Campsites, #	17	\$18+
	Rent-A-Camp Sites, #	6	\$33
	Backcountry Sites	4	

much later, though by 1655 this nation was completely destroyed by the powerful Iroquois. The area was virtually uninhabited through the remainder of the 17th century.

As the new state of Ohio began to be settled in the early 19th century, the East Fork region attracted settlers from the east. Grist mills, sawmills, blacksmith shops, tanneries and stagecoach depots were among the early commercial activities.

In 1869, two gold mines operated in the vicinity. One mine was located near Ellick and consisted of a flume for washing gravel containing flakes of gold. The mine near Twin Bridges tunnelled underground to reach gold deposits encased in bedrock.

Not far from the present park office, the "Old Bethel Church" on Ellick Road dates from 1867. It occupies the site of a log church built about 1807 by Reverend John Collins. Some of the hand-hewn timbers secured with wooden pegs and hand-forged nails used to construct the 1818 church are still present in the existing church.

More recently, the area has taken on a new appearance due to the creation of East Fork Reservoir in 1978. As part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers flood control program, East Fork Lake and the surrounding region comprise one of southwestern Ohio's largest recreational areas.

## Camping

East Fork has one of the largest camping areas in the state with 416 sites. The campground offers electrical hookups, showers, drinking water, camper's beach, flush toilets and boat ramps. Pets are permitted in designated areas. A 17-site horsemen's camp is available as well. Six Rent-A-Camp units consisting of a tent, dining fly, cooler, cook stove and other equipment can be rented during the summer months. Six Rent-A-RV units are also available.

## Trails

For the hiker and backpacker, the 12-mile Backpack Trail tranverses many scenic park areas. In addition, the 37-mile Steven Newman Worldwalker Perimeter Trail circles the park and is available for hikers, backpackers, and horsemen. Four primitive campsites are located along these trails. Permits for their use are available through the park office. For those less adventuresome, shorter trails are easily accessible. A 5-mile mountain bike trail begins just west of the park entrance on S.R. 125.

## Boating

Those who enjoy water sports will find East Fork Lake very accommodating. There are 2,160 acres of water and unlimited horsepower boating with access available at five launch ramps.

## Hunting and Fishing

The lake offers quality fishing with excellent catches of largemouth and smallmouth bass, bluegill, and crappie. For the sport fisherman, East Fork is stocked with the Hybrid Striper. Hunting is permitted in designated areas only. Valid Ohio hunting and fishing licenses are required.

## Picnicking

Picnic areas with tables, grills and drinking water are located around the park. Two picnic shelters are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

## Swimming

A 1,200-foot swimming beach with a concession and picnic area provides the perfect setting for a fun family outing.

## Expanded Information

East Fork State Park is leased from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District at William H. Harsha Lake provides plenty of information to make your visit more enjoyable.

## Area Attractions

Overlooking the Ohio River, the town of Point Pleasant is birthplace of President Ulysses S. Grant. The one-room cottage where the 18th President of the United States was born is located at U.S. 52 and S.R. 232 just south of East Fork.

Stonelick State Park is located to the north of East Fork at S.R. 727 and 133. Camping, fishing, hiking and swimming are just a few of the activities available at Stonelick.

East Fork's close proximity to the city of Cincinnati makes it easy to combine the best of the outdoor life with the many activities available in the "Queen City." Major sporting events, fine dining, shopping, many cultural events and festivities invite the park's visitors to spend a day in this bustling urban area. For more information, contact the Clermont County Convention and Visitors Bureau at (513) 753-7211.

## Directions

From Cleveland, Ohio:

I-71 South to I-275 East at Cincinnati. I-275 East to Exit #63 ( State Route 32), East- Batavia (Campground) or Exit #65, Beechmont Avenue East- Amelia ( Day Use) Come East 11 miles and follow signs.

From Columbus, Ohio:

I-71 South to I-275 East at Cincinnati. I-275 East to Exit 63 (State Route 32), East- Batavia (Campground) or Exit #65, Beechmont Avenue East- Amelia (Day Use), come East 11 miles and follow the signs.

From Cincinnati, Ohio:

From Downtown: take I-471 South into Kentucky to I-275 East. I-275 East to Exit #65, Beechmont Avenue East - Amelia ( Day Use) or Exit #63

From Toledo, Ohio:

I-75 South to I-275 East at Cincinnati. I-275 East to Exit #63 ( State Route 32), East- Batavia (Campground) or Exit #65, Beechmont Avenue East- Amelia ( Day Use) Come East 11 miles and follow signs.

From Lexington, KY:

I-75 North, to I-275 East (Near Erlanger, KY) to Exit #65, S.R. 125 - Beechmont Avenue East- Amelia ( Day Use) or Exit 63, S.R. 32 - East Batavai (campground). Come East 11 miles and follow signs.

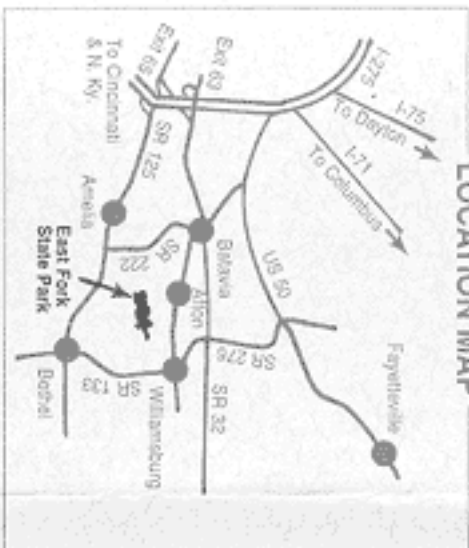
# East Fork

## State Park

P.O. Box 119  
Bethel, Ohio 45106

(513) 734-4323 - Park Office  
(513) 724-6521 - Camp Office

### LOCATION MAP



LEGEND	
	Park Office
	Picnic Area
	Launch Ramp
	Park Road
	Amphitheater
	Camp
	Horsemen's
	Boat Swims/Camp
	Basketball
	Miniature Golf
	Mountain Bike
	Trailhead
	Mountain Bike Rental
	Loop Trail Trailhead
	Overnight Backcountry Campsite-Number
	Buckeye Trail-North country Nat'l Scenic Trail @ Amer.
	Discovery Trail (Blue Blaze)
	Bridle Trail
	Steve Newman Worldwalker Penimeter Trail (Green Blaze)
	U.S. Army Corps
	Visitor Center
	Dump Station
	Wheelchair Accessible









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## Hocking Hills State Park

20160 State Route 664  
Logan, OH 43138  
(740) 385-6841 Park Office  
(740) 385-6165 Camp Office



[Map It! \(National Atlas\)](#)  
[Park Map](#)  
[Old Man's Cave Map](#)  
[Park Events Site](#)

Hocking Hills provides a variety of recreational opportunities in a splendid natural setting. Towering cliffs, waterfalls and deep hemlock-shaded gorges lure the hiker and naturalist and serve as a backdrop to popular facilities and accommodation.

### Nature of the Area

The natural history of this region is as fascinating as the caves are beautiful. Here, in these sandstones and shales, one can read Ohio's history from the rocks. The scenic features of the six areas of the Hocking Hills State Park complex are carved in the Blackhand sandstone. This bedrock was deposited more than 350 million years ago as a delta in the warm shallow sea which covered Ohio at that time. Subsequent millions of years of uplift and stream erosion created the awesome beauty seen today.

Activity	Facilities	Quantity	Fees
Resource	Land, acres	2331	
	Water, acres	17	
	Nearby State Forest, acres	9238	
Activities	Fishing	yes	
	Hiking Trail, miles	24	
	Picnicking	yes	
	Picnic Shelters, #	4	call
	Rappelling/Rock Climbing	Adjacent State Forest	
	Visitor Center	yes	
	Summer Nature Programs	yes	
Winter Recreation	Ice Fishing	yes	
Resort Facilities	Family Cottages, #	40	<a href="#">click here</a>
	Restaurant (seasonal)	yes	call
	Game Room (seasonal)	yes	
	Outdoor Swimming Pool (seasonal)	yes	call
Camping	Non-electric Campsites	13	\$16
	Campsites with Elec., #	159	\$19
	Campground Pool	yes	
	Showers	yes	
	Flush Toilets	yes	
	Dumpstation	yes	\$8
	Youth Group Camp, capacity	160	call
	Group Camp, capacity	80	call
	Camper Cabins, #	3	\$33

The sandstone varies in composition and hardness from softer, loosely cemented middle zone to harder top and bottom layers. The recess caves at Ash Cave, Old Man's Cave and Cantwell Cliffs are all carved in the softer middle zone. Weathering and erosion widened cracks found in the middle layer of sandstone at the Rock House to create that unusual formation.

Other features of the rock include cross-bedding, honeycomb weathering and slump blocks. The first is noticeable as diagonal lines in the rock intersecting horizontal ones. It is actually the cross section of an ancient sand bar in the delta and was caused by changing ocean currents. Honeycomb weathering looks like the small holes in a beehive comb. They are formed by differential weathering which comes about when water, moving down through the permeable sandstone, washes out small pockets of loosely cemented sand grains. Finally, the huge slump blocks of rock littering the streams tumble from near by cliffs when cracks widen to the extent that the block is no longer supported by the main cliff.

Although the glaciers never reached the park areas, their influence is still seen here in the form of the vegetation growing in the gorges. The glaciers changed the climate of all Ohio to a moist, cool environment. Upon their

retreat, this condition persisted only in a few places such as the deep gorges of Hocking County. Therefore, the towering eastern hemlocks, the Canada yew and the yellow and black birch tell of a cool period 10,000 years ago.



## History of the Area

The hollows and caves of the park complex have long attracted the peoples of Ohio. Evidence of the ancient Adena culture illustrates man first inhabited the recesses more than 7,000 years ago.

In the mid 1700's several Indian tribes traveled through or lived here including the Wyandot, Delaware and Shawnee. Their name for the river from which the park gets its name was Hockhocking of "bottle river." The name comes from the bottle-shaped valley of the Hocking River whose formation is due to its one-time blockage by glacial ice.

After the Greenville Treaty of 1795, Numerous white settlers moved into the region and Hocking County was organized in 1818. The area around the parks began to develop in 1835 when a powder mill was built near Rock House and a grist mill was

constructed at Cedar Falls.

The cave areas were well-known as scenic attractions by 1870. In 1924, the first land purchase by the state was made to preserve the scenic features. This first parcel of 146 acres included Old Man's Cave. Subsequent purchases built acreage while the areas existed under the Department of Forestry as State Forest Parks. The Department of Natural Resources was created in 1949 and the new Division of Parks assumed control of the Hocking Hills State Parks assumed control of the Hocking Hills State Park complex which today includes the six park areas. A dining lodge and cottages were opened in 1972. These cottages, together with a campground, provide overnight facilities in one of the most beautiful areas of our state.

## Dining Lodge (Seasonal)

The dining lodge contains a restaurant, meeting rooms, TV lounge, game room, snack bar and an outside swimming pool. There are no sleeping facilities at the lodge. The park office, also located inside the lodge, is open year-round.

## Cottages

The 40 gas-heated, family housekeeping cottages sleep up to six persons. They have two bedrooms (one with two twin beds; one with a double bed), bath with a shower, living room with a trundle sofa, gas-burning fireplace, microwave, complete kitchen, dining area and screened porch.

## Camping

The family campground is situated on a wooded ridge and is open year-round on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations are required for the group camp areas which allow tents only. There are also 30 walk-in

family sites with pit latrines.

## Hiking

There are miles of trail located throughout the park and adjacent state forest. These trails are beautiful as well as potentially dangerous: caution and common sense are advised. Young children should be closely supervised while in these areas. All park visitors must remain on the trails at all times.



## Picnicking

Picnic areas with tables, grills, latrines and drinking water are located at each of the recess caves. The picnic shelters at Old Man's Cave and Ash Cave may be reserved; the shelters at Rock House and Cantwell Cliffs are first-come, first-served. Contact the park office for details.

## Fishing

A valid Ohio fishing license is required to fish in Rose Lake. Access is off State Route 374 via a 1/2-mile hiking trail.

## Swimming

The swimming pool outside the dining lodge is free to cottage guests 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, Memorial Day to Labor Day, and open to the general public for a small daily fee. Special evening swims are often offered at an additional fee. Registered campers only may use the outdoor pool in the family campground.

## Local Attractions

Conkles Hollow, a state nature preserve, features scenic geologic formations and rare and unique plants. It is located off S.R. 374, open during daylight hours only.

A rock climbing/rappelling area is available in the adjacent **Hocking State Forest**.

The Hocking Valley offers a variety of points of interest for visitors. Local attractions include craft and antique shops, museums, canoeing, horse back riding, a scenic railway, hiking trails and scenic drives. For more information contact 1-(800) HOCKING or (740) 385-6836 Logan-Hocking Chamber of Commerce.

## Directions

From Cleveland, Ohio:

Take I-71 South to Columbus.

Take 270 East toward Wheeling, WV to U.S. 33 East (Lancaster Exit)

Travel East to Logan, Exit on 664 South.

From Columbus, Ohio:

Take U.S. 33 East through Lancaster to Logan, Ohio and exit onto State Route 664 South

From Cincinnati, Ohio:

Take I-71 North towards Columbus.

Watch for and take State Route 56 East through Mt. Sterling.

Continue on State Route 56 East through Circleville and Laurelville to South Bloomingville, Ohio.

In South Bloomingville take State Route 664 North approximately 4 miles to the park.

From Toledo, Ohio:

Take I-75 South to Findlay, get on State Route 23 to Columbus.

Take I-270 East towards Wheeling to U.S. 33 East (Lancaster Exit).

Travel East to Logan, Exit 664 South.

From Logan, Ohio:

Take 664 South approximately 12 miles to park area.

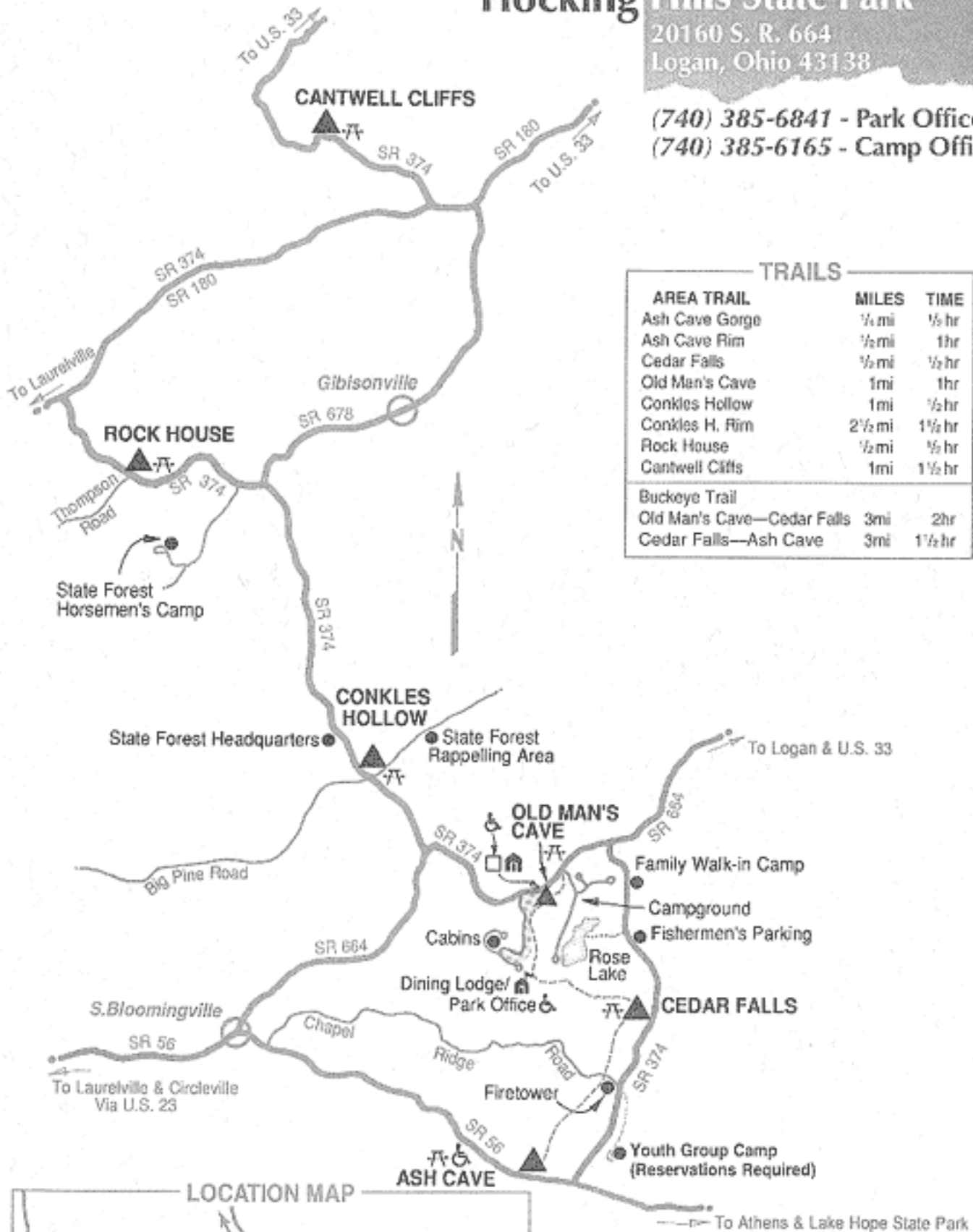
# Hocking Hills State Park

20160 S. R. 664

Logan, Ohio 43138

(740) 385-6841 - Park Office

(740) 385-6165 - Camp Office



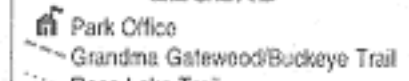
## TRAILS

AREA TRAIL	MILES	TIME
Ash Cave Gorge	1/4 mi	1/2 hr
Ash Cave Rim	1/2 mi	1 hr
Cedar Falls	1/2 mi	1/2 hr
Old Man's Cave	1 mi	1 hr
Conkles Hollow	1 mi	1/2 hr
Conkles H. Rim	2 1/2 mi	1 1/2 hr
Rock House	1/2 mi	1/2 hr
Cantwell Cliffs	1 mi	1 1/2 hr
Buckeye Trail		
Old Man's Cave—Cedar Falls	3 mi	2 hr
Cedar Falls—Ash Cave	3 mi	1 1/2 hr

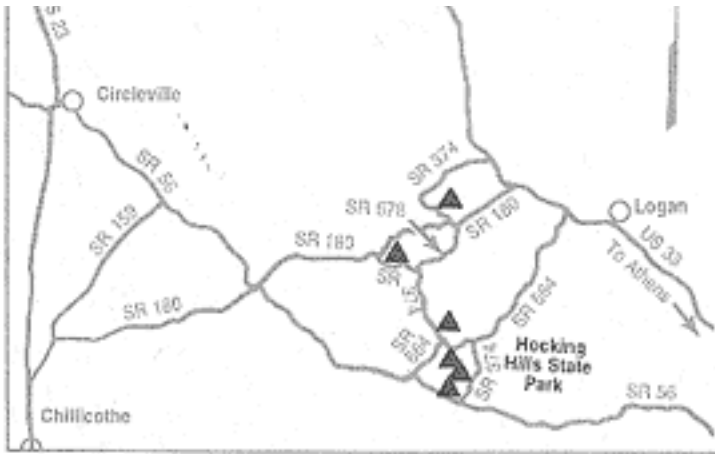
## LOCATION MAP



## LEGEND







-  Park Office
-  Grandma Gatewood/Buckeye Trail
-  Rose Lake Trail
-  Points of Interest
-  Picnic Area
-  Naturalist Cabin
-  Visitor Center
-  Cliff
-  Wheelchair Accessible

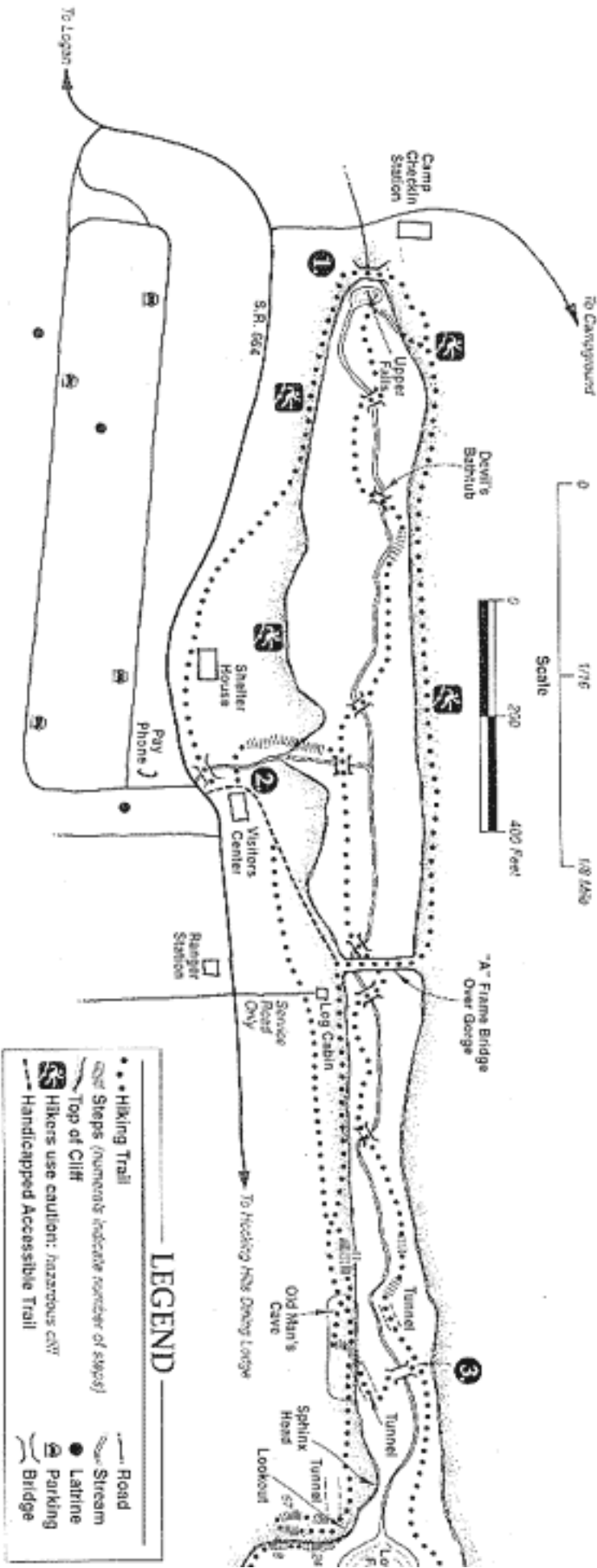
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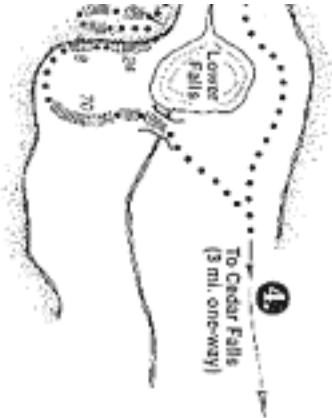
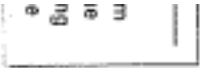
# Old Man's Cave Area — Trail Up

On January 7, 1998 a flash flood occurred in the Old Man's Gorge, wiping out nearly a dozen bridges and other parts of the trail. We are working on a loop section from Old Man's Cave to the Lower Falls. At the same time, work is being done to create the new "Gorge Overlook Trail" to connect the Old Man's Cave to Cedar Falls park areas. Other hiking trails recommended as an alternative to this area include Ash Cave, Cedar Falls and Conkle's Hollow. Completion is targeted for April, 2000.

## You Should Know

- \*Several bridges are out in the gorge (access points 1, 2, and 3) be ongoing. Many of these areas may be difficult to impassable and construction. Travel at your own risk.
- \*The temporary bridge below Old Man's Cave 3 is now open trail may still be difficult to impassable.
- \*Cedar Falls is a good area to hike, but the trail between there and be impassable. Distance one-way to Cedar Falls from Old Man's





Rev. 6/79

and ③) and construction will be able depending upon weather  
v open, but parts of the gorge  
e and Old Man's Cave ④ may  
Man's Cave is about 3 miles.

update

*If you want to discover Ohio,*

*You've got to get to the 'Hills.....*



Remember, if you truly want to experience all that Hocking Hills has to offer..."YOU GOTTA' HIKE THE HILLS!!" Don't forget to check out our summer Nature Programs and Hikes and join us for some fun.

# Hocking Hills State Park

20160 State Route 664 S

Logan, Ohio

43138-9537

(740) 385-6841 Park Office

(740) 385-6165 Camp Office

## Come

## discover us!

Ohio Department of Natural

Resources

Division of Parks and

Recreation

Hey, we're more than just a bunch of big rocks and pine trees....!

Located in the picturesque sandstone region of Southeastern Ohio, Hocking Hills State park encompasses some of the most scenic areas in the entire state. Rock outcrops, deep cool gorges, and waterfalls are found throughout the 6 main park areas. The pristine beauty of the area is enhanced by the abundance of wildlife found throughout the Hocking region. Visitors to the park can almost bet they'll see such as white tailed deer, wild turkey or even the cumbersome box turtle.

[Back to the Home page...](#)

[Getting To The Park](#)

[A little bit of History](#)

[Monthly Naturalist Programs](#)

[Calendar of Special Events](#)

[A Naturalist's Notebook](#)

[Cottage information](#)

[Camping](#)

[Hocking Hills State Park Gift Shop](#)

[Have you seen the](#)

## Rental Cottages at Hocking Hills



The park operates 40 gas-heated and air-conditioned family cottages. Each has two bedrooms (one with two twin beds; one with a double bed). All cottages feature a bath with a shower, living room with gas-burning fireplace, complete kitchen, dining area and screened porch. [If you want to know more about cottages, click here!](#) **Reservations can not be made from this site! You must call 1-800-282-7275!**

## Camping at Hocking Hills



The 172 site campground is situated on a wooded ridge and is open year-round on a first-come, first-



[NEW hiking  
staff  
emblems!](#)

[Trail Maps  
and  
Information](#)

served basis. Guests can enjoy a swimming pool and showers.



Electric sites are available. Reservations are required for the group camp areas which allow tents only.

And look at some of the other parks and places around the Hills!

[Tar Hollow  
State Park](#)



[Lake Alma](#)

[Lake Hope](#)

[Lake Logan](#)

Camper cabins are equipped with all the basic camping needs. Reservations are required and guests must



bring extra items like food, sleeping gear and tableware.

There are also 30 walk-in sites with pit latrines. [For more info, click here!](#)



## Naturalist Programs

From guided night hikes through the dim recesses of Ash Cave in the spring to a snow-covered exploration for Ohio's elusive owls in the winter, the park offers its visitors programs all year long.



Join astronomers in stargazing on a cold, winter night, learn about some shady characters who hid out in the gorge long ago or eavesdrop on a bat's conversation as it catches its prey.



[To see what's happening this month at Hocking Hills State Park, Click here...](#)

## Hiking around the Hocking Hills

There are over 25 miles of trails winding through the streams, gorges and ridges throughout the





park.

Trails lead to recess caves at Ash Cave and Cantwell Cliffs, through towering hemlocks at Cedar Falls and



200 feet above the ground along the rim of Conkle's Hollow.

These trails are beautiful as well as potentially dangerous. Caution and common sense are advised. Young children should be closely supervised while in these areas. All park visitors must remain on trails at all times. [For trail info, click here...](#)



[Check out the 2002 Winter Hike!](#)

**Dining Lodge (Seasonal)** The dining lodge contains a restaurant, meeting rooms, TV lounge, game room, snack bar and an outside swimming pool. There are no sleeping facilities at the lodge. The park office, also located inside the lodge, is open year-round.



An equal opportunity employer - M/F/H Robert Taft, Governor - Samuel W. Speck, Director

This page was last updated on 05/08/02.

Created by the Quacks

The Official Web Site of Hocking Hills State Park



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## Hueston Woods State Park



6301 Park Office Road  
College Corner, OH 45003  
(513) 523-6347 Park Office  
(513) 523-8081 Golf Course  
(513) 523-1060 Campground (seasonal)

**Hueston Woods Resort & Conference Center**  
5201 Lodge Road  
College Corner, OH 45003



**Map It! (National Atlas)**  
**Park Map**  
**Friends of Hueston Woods Site**

(513) 523-6381 Lodge Front Desk  
(513) 523-1522 Lodge Front Desk Fax  
(800) 282-7275 Lodge/Cottage Reservations

The outdoor enthusiast will find diverse opportunities at Hueston Woods State Park. Whether boating on Acton Lake, hiking through the 200-acre old growth forest or relaxing in the resort lodge, visitors will enjoy the finest of recreational facilities in southwest Ohio at this scenic park.

### Nature of the Area

Hueston Woods State Park located in southwest Ohio has an enormous wealth of natural resources. The limestone bedrock of the area is evidence of an ancient shallow sea that once covered Ohio. Lime in the water accumulated on the sea floor and eventually recrystallized into limestone bedrock. Much of the limestone is the magnesium-bearing type called dolomite. Fossilized remains of ancient marine animals are concentrated in the limestone, so many in fact that people from all over the world come to Hueston Woods to collect them.

The rich soils of the area are part of the glacial till plains of western Ohio that attracted early settlers due to their tremendous agricultural value. When settlers arrived, the land had to be cleared of the dense woodlands that covered it and most of Ohio. Nearly all of Ohio's original forest has since vanished. However, one unique stand of old-growth timber remains at Hueston Woods. Over 200 acres have been protected and provide visitors with a glimpse of Ohio's primeval forest. Stately beech and sugar maple tower above the abundance of ferns, wildflowers and other woodland species. In 1967, the 200-acre forest was designated a National Natural Landmark by the National

Activity	Facilities	Quantity	Fees
Resource	Land, acres	3596	
	Water, acres	625	
Activities	Fishing	yes	
	Hunting	yes	
	Hiking Trail, miles	10	
	Bridle Trails, miles	15	
	Mountain Bike Trail, miles	12	
	Picnicking	yes	
Boating	Swimming Beach, feet	1500	
	Beach Concession	yes	
	Nature Center & Programs	yes	
	Game Room	yes	
	Boat Rental	yes	call
	Boating Limits	10 hp	
Winter Recreation	Fuel For Sale	yes	
	Seasonal Dock Rental, #	234	call
	Launch Ramps	yes	
	Sledding	yes	
	Ice Skating	yes	
	Cross-Country Skiing	yes	
Resort Facilities	Ice Fishing	yes	
	Ice Boating	yes	
	Family Cottages, #	25	<a href="#">click here</a>
	Standard Cottages, #	10	<a href="#">click here</a>
	Premium Cottages, #	2	<a href="#">click here</a>
	Lodge Rooms, #	94	<a href="#">click here</a>
Camping	Restaurant	yes	
	Outdoor Swimming Pool	yes	
	Golf Course, # holes	18	call
	Tennis	yes	
	Indoor Swimming Pool	yes	
	Game Room	yes	
	Non-electric Campsites	236	\$12
	Campsites with Elec., #	255	\$17
	Camper Cabin, #	3	\$22
	Pets Permitted	yes	\$1/pet
	Showers	yes	



Park Service.

	Flush Toilets	yes	
	Dumpstation	yes	\$8
	Group Camp, capacity	125	call
	Horsemen Campsites, #	25	\$9

## History of the Area

The history of the Hueston Woods area dates to 1797. Matthew Hueston, while serving with General "Mad" Anthony Wayne, observed the fertile soil in southwestern Ohio. When Indian resistance subsided, Hueston began to buy land in what is now Butler and Preble counties. Hueston, one of Ohio's earliest conservationists, preserved a portion of his forested land as did his descendants.

When the last of the Huestons died in the 1930s, Morris Taylor, a conservationist from Hamilton, purchased the woods and held it in trust until state funds could be allocated for its purchase. Cloyd Acton, a Preble County legislator, influenced the state legislature to appropriate funds to acquire the former Hueston land in 1940. His proposal became reality in September 1941 when the Hueston property was bought by the state and officially designated as a state forest.

In 1945, money was appropriated for the purchase of additional land. The Oxford Honor Camp was established in 1952. This camp, set up under the supervision of the Ohio Board of Corrections, housed honor status inmates for the next twelve years. Buildings of the former camp now serve as the park office, meeting rooms, and nature center.

Early in the summer of 1956, the 1,200-foot earth fill dam across Four Mile Creek was completed, and the following year Acton Lake was impounded. Shortly thereafter Hueston Woods was dedicated as a state park.

Throughout the 1960s, development continued at Hueston Woods with the addition of campgrounds, cottages, lodge, marina, and golf course.



### Lodge

The 92-room resort lodge opened in 1967. Murals and artifacts of the Miami Indians who lived in this area decorate the lodge interior. A dining room, snack bar, and lounge areas are available to both registered guests and visitors. Recreational facilities for guests include an indoor pool, outdoor pool, game room, lighted tennis courts, and floating boat docks. Two luxury suites are also available. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-AT-A-PARK.

### Cottages

There are 25 family cottages and 12 one-room efficiency cottages available. The housekeeping cottages have two bedrooms, bath, kitchen, living room, and screened porch. With the addition of convertible sofa beds, this cottage will accommodate six people.

The efficiency cottages combine a living room-dining room, with sleeping facilities for four and a private bath.

All cottages are equipped with cooking and eating utensils, towels and bedding. Cots are available. For reservations contact 1-800-AT-A-PARK. Weekly rentals are given preference between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Cottage guests have access to all lodge facilities.

A full paintball field and target range is available. Bring your own equipment, or we can supply everything! Group reservations are available. We fill tanks, and sell all equipment and supplies. Email: [HWPaintball@aol.com](mailto:HWPaintball@aol.com)



## Camping

There are 255 family campsites with electrical outlets on the west side of the lake. The area is provided with showers, flush toilets, laundry facilities and trailer waste station. Picnic tables and fire rings are also provided.

There are 236 non-electric sites available. These sites have picnic tables, fire rings and vault-type latrines. A group area is also available to organized youth and

adult groups. Groups wishing to use this area must contact the park office at least fourteen days prior to the arrival date.

All camping is limited to 14 days within a 30-day period. There are a limited number of sites available for campers with pets.

## Boating

Launch ramps and public docks are provided for boaters. There is a 10 HP limit on motors; canoes using motors have a limit of 4 HP. Boats may be rented at the marina.

## Fishing

The lake has a population of largemouth bass, crappie, channel catfish, and bluegill. Anglers 16 years of age and older must possess a valid Ohio fishing license.

## Golf Course

The 18-hole, 7,005-yard, par 72 golf course is off Brown Road approximately eight miles from the park entrance. The course is open from March until November. Please call the pro shop at (513) 523-8081 for a tee time.

## Trails

Over ten miles of trails challenge the hiker and provide an opportunity for nature study. A hiker's guide is available at the park office. Six miles of bridle trail and a horsemen's staging area are located off S.R. 177 on Four Mile Valley Road.

## Picnicking

Nine areas are provided with tables; areas with grills are shown on the map. No ground fires, please.

## Nature Programs

> A year-round program is provided at the nature center. Live animal displays, nature hikes, bird and flower walks, slide talks, movies, and fossil hunts are presented.

## Swimming

A 1,500-foot swimming beach on the west shore of the lake is open to the public during the summer months. A concession stand and bathhouse are located at the beach. Swimming is permitted from sunrise to sunset.

## Area Attractions

In nearby Oxford, McGuffey House and Museum features personal articles of William McGuffey, author of McGuffey Readers. Located north of the park is Hopewell Church and cemetery. The original church built in 1808 was constructed of logs. The present church, constructed in a Scottish architectural style, was completed in the 1820s. The cemetery was the first public cemetery in the township. Hopewell was an important stop and staging area for the Underground Railroad.

The Hamilton County Park District contains several state nature preserves including Newberry Wildlife Sanctuary, Sharon Woods Gorge and Trillium Trails.

## Directions

From Cleveland, Ohio:

Take 71 South to 270 West to I-70 West.

Exit at Route 127 Easton (South) on the South side of Eaton turn right on 732 South to the park.

From Columbus, Ohio:

Take I-70 West and exit at Route 127 Easton (South), on the South side of Eaton turn right on 732 South to the park.

From Cincinnati, Ohio:

Take Route 27 North to Oxford. In the center of Oxford turn right on 732 (North) to the park entrance.

From Toledo, Ohio:

Take 75 South to I-70 West. Exit at Route 127 Easton (South)

On the south side of Eaton turn right on 732 (South) to the park.

# Hueston

## Woods State Park

Route 1

College Corner, Ohio 45003-9625

(513) 523-6347 - Park Office

(513) 523-6381 - Lodge

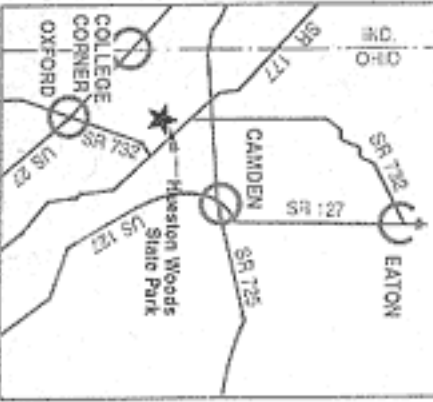
(800) 282-7275 - Lodge & Cottage

Reservations

**LEGEND**

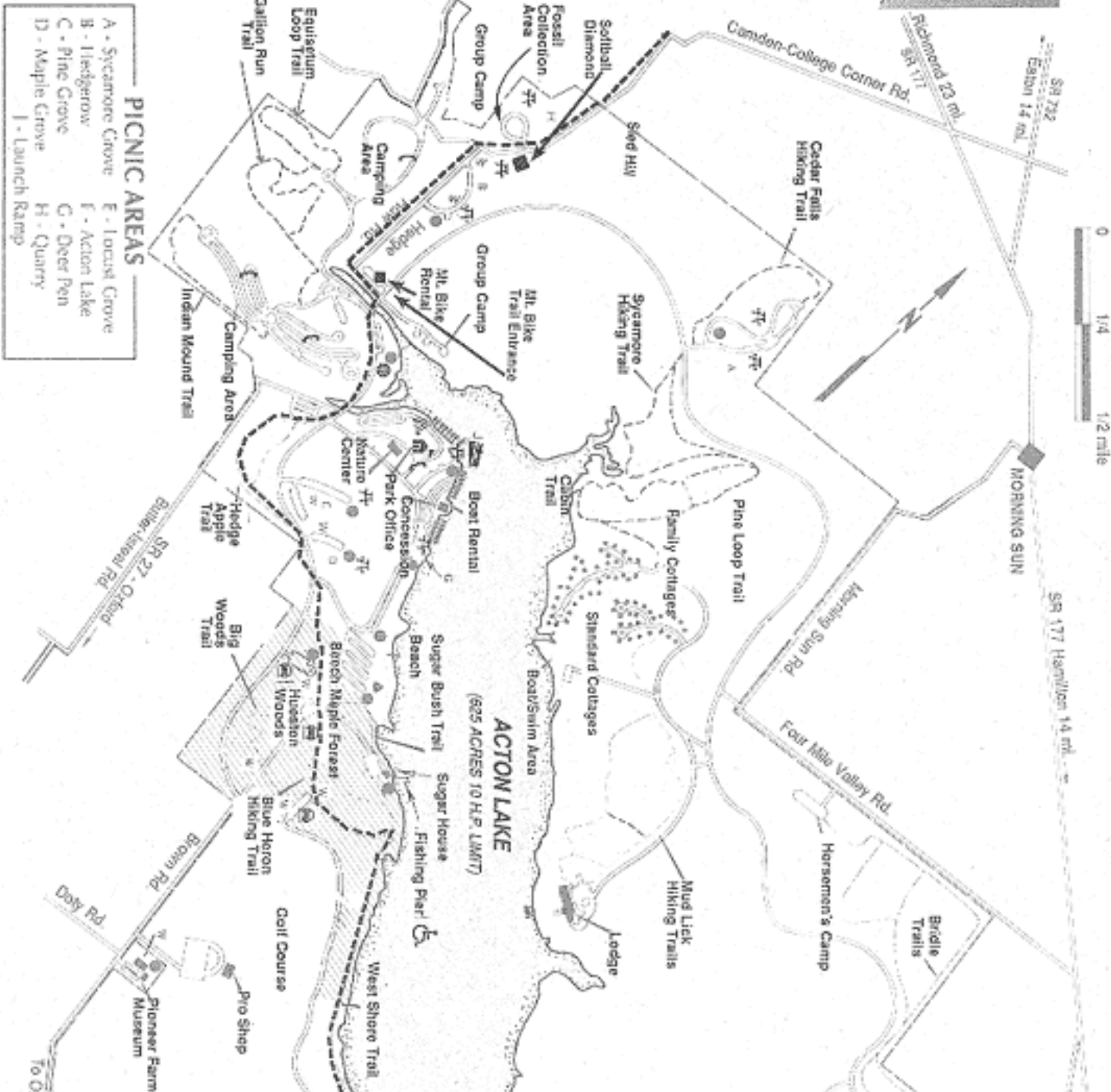
- Park Office
- Picnic Area
- Trailhead Parking
- Launch Ramp
- Lafitte
- Amphitheater
- Boat Dock
- Water
- Change Booth
- Nature Preserve
- Play Phone
- Basketball Court
- American
- Discovery Trail
- Wheelchair Accessible

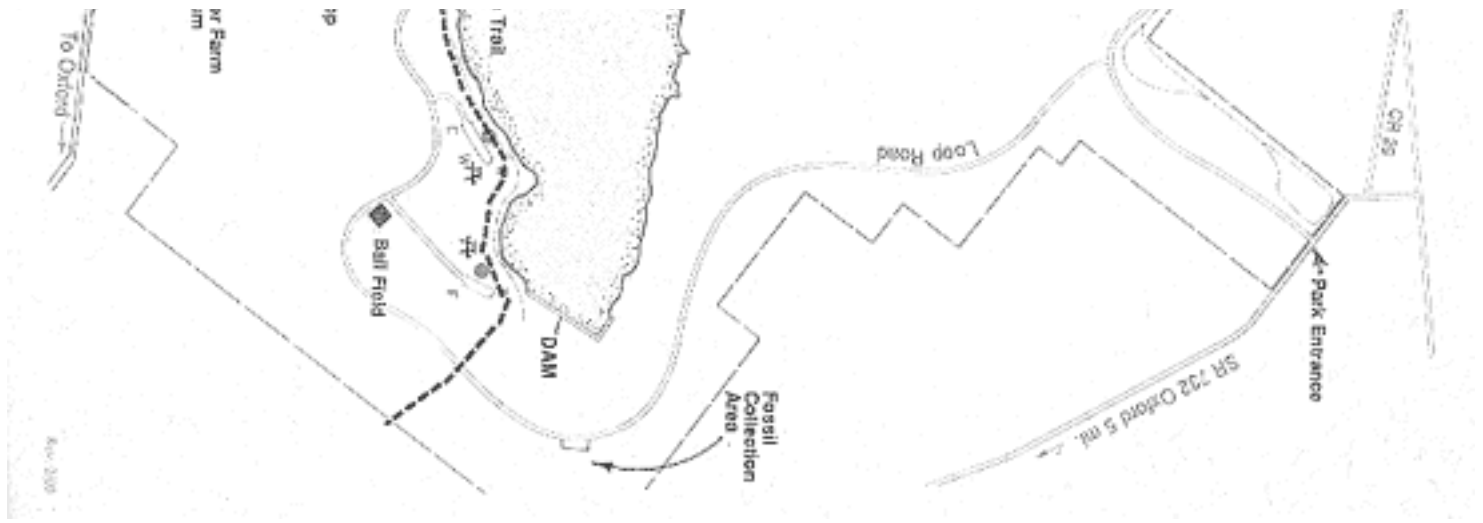
### LOCATION MAP



**PICNIC AREAS**

- A - Sycamore Grove
- B - Hedgesrow
- C - Pine Grove
- D - Maple Grove
- E - Locust Grove
- F - Action Lake
- G - Deer Pen
- H - Quarry
- I - Launch Ramp









Welcome

Rooms &  
Reservations

Dining

How to  
Get Here

News &  
Activities

Environmental  
Action

Gifts &  
Souvenirs

Group  
Services

Find A  
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Xanterra  
Home



### Overview of the Resort

## HUESTON WOODS Resort & Conference Center

### Welcome

*"It's a rest stop for your pressures and a jumpstart for your imagination. It's building a fort out of sticks and twigs. Hiking through a forest flecked with autumn's richest gold. It's Hueston Woods. And, it's the most convenient way to get away, without going far away."*

Hueston Woods Resort & Conference Center, a charming, rustic retreat, is found just five miles from the Miami University of Ohio. Your days here can be spent picnicking in the park, shooting a round of golf on an 18-hole championship, woodland course, conferring with your colleagues or simply relaxing in the resort lodge.

Visitors enjoy the finest of recreational facilities in southwest Ohio at this scenic park. You can boat and fish on Acton Lake, hike through the 200-acre virgin forest, swim in any season in an indoor and outdoor pool, cross-country ski, and see an array of wildlife at every turn.

We feature 92 guestrooms in the Lodge and 37 one and two bedroom cottages located throughout our wooded setting, in close proximity to the main facilities. If business is your focus, our conference center accommodates small personal gatherings to full scale conferences for up to 250. With plenty of room to think and space to roam, your group can achieve inspiring and refreshing results at Hueston Woods!

And, when it's time for treating your taste buds, you can feast on some of the most delicious cuisine in Ohio in the Trailblazer dining room, served up with a breathtaking view of the lake. Discover Hueston Woods and uncover one of Ohio's best-kept secrets.

The lodge is open year round. If you are planning to visit, keep in mind that high season is April - October and we recommend that you make reservations 12 months in advance.

## HOT DATES & PACKAGES!

Throughout the year we offer special rates called "HOT DATES" as well as other packages and events. To find out more, click now on ["HOT DATES & PACKAGES"](#).

### Want more information for other Ohio State Park Resorts?











Call 1-800-AT-A-PARK or go to [www.AT-A-PARK.com](http://www.AT-A-PARK.com) to see our online newsletter or to check out the packages and special rates at all of our resorts.


You can also find more information about activities, events and recreation in Ohio by visiting the official website for **Ohio Department of Development, Division of Travel and Tourism** - [OhioTourism.com](http://OhioTourism.com).



## Services & Amenities

(hold mouse on  to view comments about service)

Available if checked.	Description	Available if checked.	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Smoking rooms 	<input type="checkbox"/>	Concierge services 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ADA Compliant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bell services 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Accommodations 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Airport transportation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Baby-sitting services 	<input type="checkbox"/>	Complimentary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meeting facilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 to 10 people	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pets allowed 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	11 to 25 people	<input type="checkbox"/>	Safe deposit boxes 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	26 to 100 people	<input type="checkbox"/>	In-room safes 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	101 or more people	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bi-lingual services 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other, please describe 	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spanish
<input type="checkbox"/>	Laundry/day cleaning facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Japanese
<input type="checkbox"/>	Guest laundry facilities		

☒ Gift Shop 

Business services (check all that apply)

☒ Fax services

☒ Photocopy services

☒ Postage

☒ Overnight shipping

☒ Internet access

☒ Dedicated modem lines


☐ Cellular phone rental

☒ ATM on property

☐ Chinese

☐ French


☐ German

☒ Parking facilities 
☐ Valet



☐ Extended

☒ RV/Truck/Bus

## Health and Recreation




(hold mouse on  to view comments about service)












Available if checked.	Description	Available if checked.	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Golf 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family/Children's programs	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tennis		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hiking/Walking/Running trails 	
<input type="checkbox"/> Indoor		<input type="checkbox"/> Snow skiing	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Outdoor		<input type="checkbox"/> Ice Skating	
<input type="checkbox"/> Squash/Racquetball		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-line skating/Roller skating/Skate boarding	
<input type="checkbox"/> Spa		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climbing (rock) or backpacking	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exercise Equipment 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Camping 	
<input type="checkbox"/> Salon services		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Horseback riding 	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pool 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bird watching	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hot tub\Whirlpool 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beach, lake, river 	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sauna		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fishing 	
<input type="checkbox"/> Steam		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Boating, Sailing, Water-skiing, Scuba, etc. 	

☒ Game room 
☒ Other 
☒ Nature or Interpretive or Educational programs 

## Nearby Activities, Attractions & Points of Interest

(hold mouse on  to view comments about service)

Available if checked.	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Golf 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tennis
<input type="checkbox"/>	Indoor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Outdoor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Squash/Racquetball 
<input type="checkbox"/>	Spa
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fitness center 
<input type="checkbox"/>	Salon services
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pool 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hot tub\Whirlpool 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sauna
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steam
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Game room
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other, 

Available if checked.	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ice skating 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In-line skating/Roller skating/Skate boarding 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Climbing (rock) or Backpacking
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Camping
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Horseback riding 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bird watching 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Beach, lake, river 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fishing 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Boating, Sailing, Water-skiing, Scuba, etc. 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nature or Interpretive or Educational programs 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hot air ballooning 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Family/Children's programs 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hiking/Walking/Running trails 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Snow skiing

Available if checked.	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Museum 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Galleries
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shops/Boutiques 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Educational programs/classes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Historical sites 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Theaters/Clubs 

Available if checked.	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Concerts 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Festivals 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Local annual events
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commercial sites of interest (wineries, bakeries, etc.) 
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Architectural sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Natural sights

Hueston Woods Resort & Conference Center is operated by [Xanterra Parks & Resorts](http://www.xanterra.com), a park management company selected and contracted by the Ohio State Department of Natural



Resources. Xanterra Parks & Resorts is the largest park-management company in the country, with operations spanning from the desert of Death Valley National Park to the swamplands of Everglades National Park.

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[Top of Page](#)

[Welcome](#) | [Rooms & Reservations](#) | [Dining](#) | [How to Get Here](#)

[News & Activities](#) | [Environmental Action](#) | [Gifts & Souvenirs](#)

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**Hueston Woods  
Resort & Conference Center**  
5201 Lodge Road  
College Corner, Ohio 45003  
Phone: 513.664.3500  
Fax: 513.523.1522  
Reservations: 1-800-At-A-Park (800.282.7275)  
E-mail: [info-hw@xanterra.com](mailto:info-hw@xanterra.com)  
[www.huestonwoodsresort.com](http://www.huestonwoodsresort.com)

For help or suggestions please write to:  
[help-hw@xanterra.com](mailto:help-hw@xanterra.com)

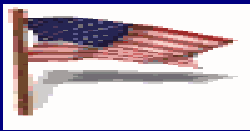
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[problems-hw@xanterra.com](mailto:problems-hw@xanterra.com)

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Last Updated: June 24, 2002





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## FRIENDS OF HUESTON WOODS STATE PARK, INC.

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The Friends of Hueston Woods State Park, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to the improvement of Hueston Woods State Park. The organization is comprised of volunteers of varying backgrounds, talents and interests. Various fund raising activities are sponsored each year to obtain the funds necessary to improve park facilities for the enjoyment of all park visitors.

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[Park Features](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

[Current Projects](#)

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Would you like to take part in our adopt-a-trail program? A perfect activity for scout troops or other organizations interested in improving our trails. A sign with your group name will be posted at the trailhead.  
Contact Ranger Bob Askew (513)523-6347

## FRIENDS OF HUESTON WOODS STATE PARK, INC.



## John Bryan State Park

3790 State Route 370  
 Yellow Springs, OH 45387  
 (937) 767-1274



[Map It! \(National Atlas\)](#)  
[Park Map](#)  
[Park Events Site](#)

John Bryan is the most scenic state park in western Ohio. The park contains a remarkable limestone gorge cut by the Little Miami River which is designated as a state and national scenic river. A portion of the gorge itself is designated as a national natural landmark.

### Nature of the Area

Much of the history of John Bryan State Park is "written in the rocks" of the Little Miami River gorge. Entering the area at Clifton, at 980 feet above sea level, the Little Miami drops 130 feet through layer upon layer of bedrock. Each layer has a story to tell of times when the area was covered by warm, shallow seas or was a part of a muddy river delta or was scoured by tons of slow-moving glacial ice. Each layer has its own characteristics as well. Some of the shale layers are easily worn away by the forces of erosion, causing undercutting in the cliff face. The more erosion-resistant dolomite or limestone rocks above are weakened by this undercutting and large "slump blocks" fall away, creating unusual rock formations including Steamboat Rock. Springs feeding small waterfalls and cascades are common.

The glaciers did not only affect the land forms, they also had an effect on the vegetation found here. As the last glacier retreated and the climate warmed, the cool shaded recesses of the gorge valley provided a suitable habitat for several Canadian plant species: Canada yew, redberry elder, mountain maple, arborvitae and even a few hemlocks.

More than 100 different trees and shrubs have been identified in the park. More than 340 species of wildflowers grow wild here. Snow trillium, Virginia bluebells, bellworts, wild ginger, Dutchman's breeches, Jack-in-the-pulpit and wild columbines are only a few to be seen in the park. The dominating trees are oaks and maples, but large numbers of sycamores and cottonwoods can be found along the river. Wildlife is also abundant in the park. For instance, more than 90 different varieties of birds live in or visit the park area during the year. To fully appreciate the beauty of John Bryan, one needs to experience it during all four seasons.

### History of the Area

Activity	Facilities	Quantity	Fees
Resource	Land, acres	755	
	River, miles	2.2	
Day-Use Activities	Fishing	yes	
	Hiking Trails, miles	10	
	Picnicking	yes	
	Picnic Shelters, #	2	call
	Summer Nature Programs	yes	
Winter Recreation	Sledding	yes	
	Cross-Country Skiing	yes	
Camping	Non-Electric Campsites	90	\$11
	Campsites with Elec., #	10	\$15
	Pets Permitted	yes	\$1/pet
	Dump Station	yes	\$8
	Group Camp, capacity	100	call
	Rent-A-Teepee	1	\$27

Some of the first people to experience the area's beauty were the Moundbuilders, and later, the Shawnee Indians. Just five miles south of Yellow Springs, approximately where the town of Oldtown is now, was the site of Old Chillicothe, one of the leading Shawnee settlements in Ohio. The great Shawnee warrior, Tecumseh, was a frequent visitor here and to the nearby James Galloway House, which has been kept intact by the Greene County Historical Society.

This portion of the Little Miami River was a vital, economical source of power for the early settlers in the 1800s. The Cincinnati-Pittsburgh stagecoach road served the area and several enterprising settlers began establishing water-powered industries in the gorge. The town of Clifton prospered from the textile mill, grist mills and sawmills located there.

By the late 1800s, most of the industrial activity in the area ceased. Water was no longer an economical source of power and many mills were abandoned. However, one of the grist mills built in 1869 is still in operation. Located in the village of Clifton, the Clifton Mill is open to visitors.

The park takes its name from an ambitious businessman who was responsible for the preservation of much of the area as a state preserve. In 1896, Bryan purchased 335 acres along the gorge and called these acres, "Riverside Farm."

John Bryan had a great respect for the natural world. In 1918, he bequeathed Riverside Farm to the state of Ohio, "...to be cultivated by the state as a forestry, botanic and wildlife reserve park and experiment station," which would bear his name. In May of 1925, John Bryan's land became one of the state's first forest parks. In 1949, John Bryan State Park was transferred to the newly created ODNR Division of Parks and Recreation. John Bryan State Park and the adjoining Clifton Gorge State Nature Preserve overlook the beautiful Little Miami River gorge that has been designated as a National Natural Landmark by the U.S. Department of the Interior.



## Camping

The family camp area at John Bryan has 100 non-electric partially shaded sites equipped with picnic tables, fire rings, latrines, drinking water and a dump station. Campers with pets are permitted on any site. A 100-person group camp area is available for organized groups on a reservation basis.

## Day Lodge

The day-use lodge is available for rentals throughout the year. The lodge is equipped with two fireplaces, restroom facilities, large screened-in porch and kitchen with stove, refrigerator and a 50-cup coffee maker.

## Fishing and Hunting

The Little Miami River provides excellent stream fishing opportunities for anglers. Smallmouth bass, rock bass and panfish are in abundance. Several area are designated for bow hunting only. A valid Ohio fishing and/or license is required. Fishing is prohibited in the state nature preserve.

## Picnicking

The park has four different picnic areas: upper, lower, Wingo and Orton. The lower area and Orton area each have a shelterhouse available on a first come, first-served basis. All areas have tables, grills and latrines. Some areas also have drinking water.

## Boating

The Little Miami River is excellent for canoeing. A launch area near the park on Jacoby Road provides access to this scenic river. As the river twists and bends, visitors will discover steep rock cliffs, towering sycamores and many historic sites along the way.

## Trails

Nature lovers can enjoy any of the ten different trails found in the park. Trails follow the scenic river gorge and meander through majestic woodlands. A portion of the Buckeye Trail travels through the park. Caution should be exercised along the rim of the gorge.

## Rock Climbing and Rappelling

A rock climbing and rappelling area has been established within the park. Please stop at the park office to register for an available site. Organized groups may reserve the rappelling site by calling the park office at (513) 767-1274.

## Area Attractions

Clifton Gorge State Nature Preserve is located adjacent to the park. The preserve contains many outstanding geological and botanical features for visitors to enjoy.

Within a short distance are the Blue Jacket Outdoor Drama, Clifton Mill, the Air Force Museum and the Galloway Cabin in Xenia. Glen Helen Nature Preserve, Buck Creek State Park and Caesar Creek State Park are also nearby. There is a 10-mile bikeway from Xenia to Yellow Springs. The Little Miami State Park is a narrow corridor along the Little Miami River. Spring Valley Wildlife Area operated by the ODNR Division of Wildlife offers hunting and fishing opportunities for sportsmen and is also known as one of the best birdwatching areas in southwestern Ohio.

# John Bryan

## State Park

3790 State Route 370

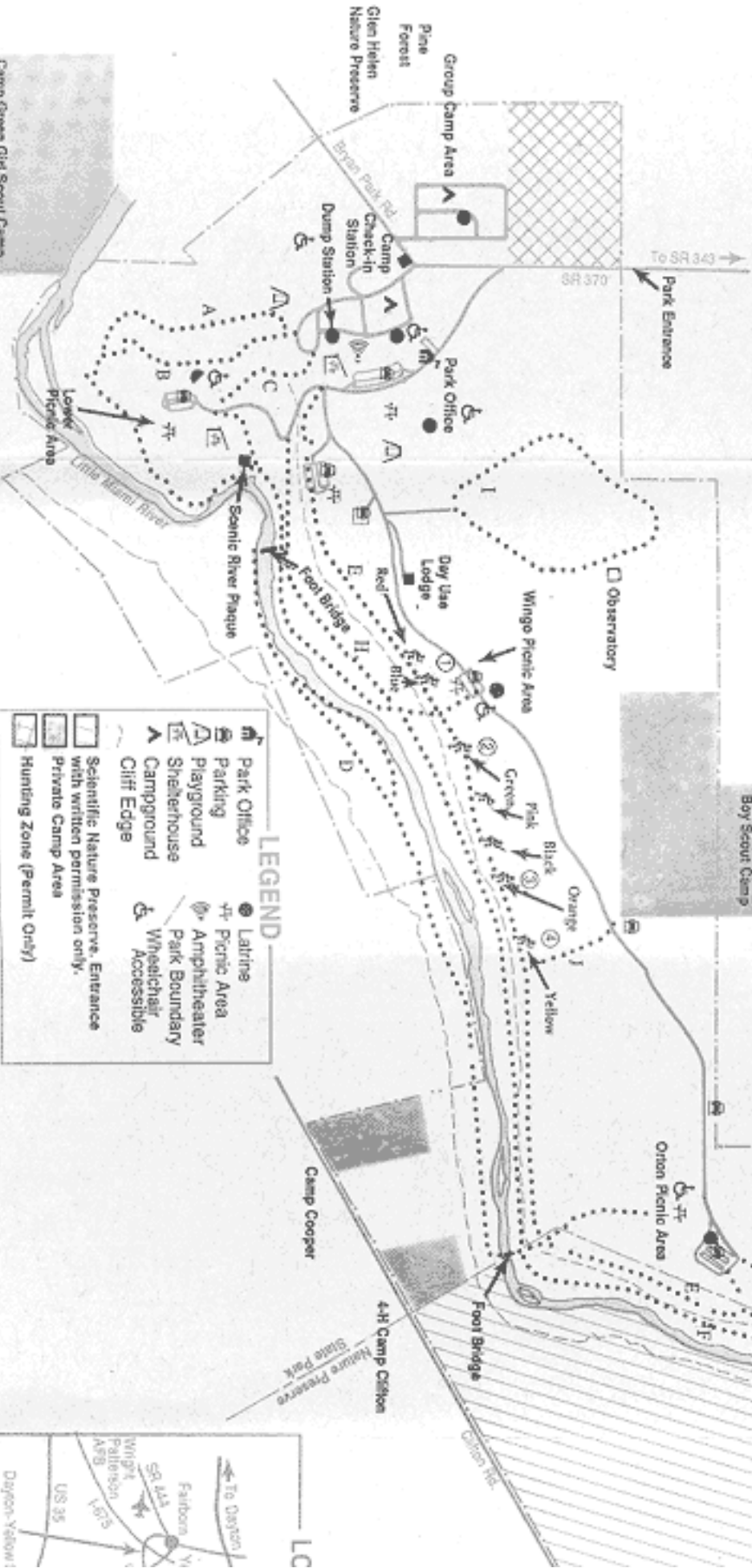
Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387-9743

(937) 767-1274 - Park Office

(937) 767-1171 - Camp Office



- TRAILS**
- A Horace Mann—2 mi.
  - B Camp—1 mi.
  - C Poplar—1 mi.
  - D South Gorge—1.2 mi.
  - E North Rim—2 mi.
  - F John L. Rich—1.3 mi.
  - G Orton Memorial—4 mi.
  - H Pittsburgh-Cincinnati Stage Coach—1.3 mi.
  - I Audubon Trail—1.2 mi.
  - J Swimming Pool Road Trail—2 mi.
  - K Rock Climbing Site
  - L Rapelling Site









## OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



# JOHN BRYAN STATE PARK

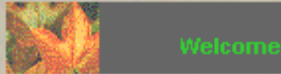
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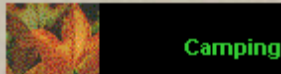
## DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATIONS



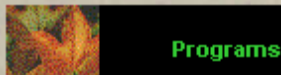
An equal opportunity employer - M/F/H **Robert Taft**, Governor - **Samuel W. Speck**, Director



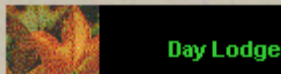
Welcome



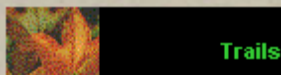
Camping



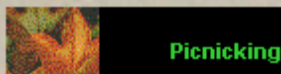
Programs



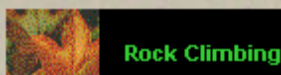
Day Lodge



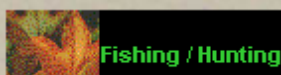
Trails



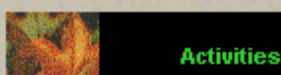
Picnicking



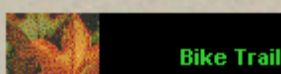
Rock Climbing



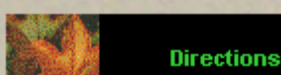
Fishing / Hunting



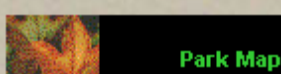
Activities



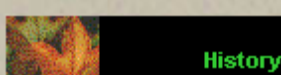
Bike Trail



Directions



Park Map



History

## JOHN BRYAN STATE PARK

3790 State Route 370

Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387

Phone #: (937) 767 - 1274

Fax #: (937) 767 - 1171

Email: [john.bryan.parks@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:john.bryan.parks@dnr.state.oh.us)



John Bryan is the most scenic State Park in western Ohio. The park contains a remarkable limestone gorge cut by the Little Miami River, which is designated as a state and national Scenic River. A portion of the gorge itself is designated as a national natural landmark.

[Information on the Storm Damage of June 12, 2001](#)



[Closer Look](#)



[Links](#)



[Rent a Teepee](#)



[Adirondack](#)

*Web page designed and created by John Bryan State Park Staff*



[O.D.N.R. Home Page](#)

4041





[Parks Home page](#)






# Camping




[Welcome](#)

[Camping](#)

[Programs](#)

[Day Lodge](#)


[Trails](#)

[Picnicking](#)

[Rock Climbing](#)

[Fishing / Hunting](#)

[Activities](#)

[Bike Trail](#)

[Directions](#)

[Park Map](#)

[History](#)

[Closer Look](#)

[Links](#)


The family camp area at John Bryan has 90 non-electric sites and 10 electric sites. The sites are partially shaded and equipped with picnic tables and fire rings. Latrines, drinking water and a dump station are available. Pets are permitted on any site.

**Pets must stay on a leash at all times.** Limit two pets per site.

A family or individual campsite is defined as the area occupied by each camping unit (i.e. Tent, trailer, or vehicle), all from the same household. Total of six people per camping unit.

A site is defined as a picnic table and/or fire ring. John Bryan doesn't have numbered sites, except for ten electric sites.

Anyone under 18 years of age, not accompanied by a parent, guardian or part of an organized group, must provide the park a signed permission slip from their parents or guardian at the time of registration. It must contain the youth's name, address, name of the park, date of stay, and an emergency number where the parents can be reached.

## Camp Store



We have a quaint Camp Store, which serves many purposes. Campers can register here with the camp attendant or self-register on the outside of the building. The store offers a few amenities, such as utensils, toaster forks, batteries and flashlights for those campers who might have forgotten them. It also offers souvenirs such as T-shirts, sweatshirts, and ball caps.

The store is open Friday and Saturday nights during the months of May, September, and October. From Memorial Day to Labor Day the camp store hours are Monday through Friday 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. and Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. When the camp store is closed please, use self-registration or contact a park employee for services.



## Camping Fees:

April 01 through October 31: **\$11.00 per unit, per night**

**April 01 through October 31 ten electric sites: \$15.00 per unit, per night**

November 01 through March 31: **\$9.00 per unit, per night**

**November 01 through March 31 ten electric sites: \$13.00 per unit, per night**

PET FEE: **\$1.00 per pet, per night.** Only two pets per campsite.

## Rent a Teepee



Rent-a-Teepee is for a truly unique camping adventure. Teepees are spacious, sleep as many as five adults or a family of six, and feature weatherproof construction. Canvas teepees are anchored on wooden platforms. Each comes equipped with a cooler, foam sleeping pads, cots, a lantern, propane stove, broom and dustpan.

Advance reservations are required for this overnight option. Please contact the Park Office for more details.

Sorry no pets are allowed, and smoking inside the teepee is prohibited.

Rent-a-Teepee cost \$27.00 a night.

## Organized Group Camping Fees:



To use the Organized Group Camp (100 person) you must be an organized group and have reservations. Call the Park Office at (937) 767-1274 for reservations and more information.

*November 01 through March 31, groups are to use the Family Camp Ground. No reservations will be taken.*

*An organized group site is defined as the area occupied by a scout, youth, church, or recognized organization.*

**April 01 through October 31:**

**18 years old and older, \$4.00 per night**

**17 years old and younger, \$1.00 per night**

***November 01 through March 31:***

**18 years old and older, \$2.00 per night**

**17 years old and younger, \$0.50 per night**

## Adirondack

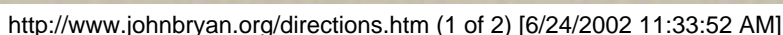



The Group Camping Area now offers two Adirondacks which are on a first come, first served basis. The Adirondack is a three sided shelter that sleeps 5 to 8 adults. There is no extra fee at this time.

Must be an organized group and have made reservations to use the group area and these shelters.

John Bryan State Park's Day Use areas close 1/2 hour after sunset.





[Closer Look](#)[Links](#)

Route 68 North to State Route 343 East to State Route 370 South. State Route 370 dead ends into the park.





## Pike Lake State Park

1847 Pike Lake Road  
 Bainbridge, Ohio 45612-9640  
 (740) 493-2212



**Map It! (National Atlas)**  
**Park Map**

Pike Lake State Park is located in the midst of the scenic wooded hills of southern Ohio. The small lake and surrounding state forest contribute to the park's rustic charm.

### Nature of the Area

The Pike Lake region is located in the unglaciated portion of the Appalachian plateau in Ohio. As the Appalachian Mountains were uplifted, this plateau was created west of the new mountain range. The plateau marks the boundary between the hilly eastern section of Ohio and the flatter western portions. Just thirty miles west of Pike Lake, the terrain changes dramatically from forested hills to rolling farmland.

The landscape of Pike Lake is characterized by dense forests of oak, hickory, tulip, ash and other hardwoods. Several outcroppings of the sandstone bedrock have been exposed in the park.

The dense forest and remote location of Pike Lake create excellent habitat for Ohio's forest game animals. White-tailed deer, ruffed grouse, gray squirrel, rabbit and the elusive wild turkey are abundant. Other mammals in the park include skunk, opossum, raccoon and red fox. Reptiles include the box turtle, black snake, five-lined skink and the endangered timber rattlesnake.

The forest is known for its variety of ferns, mosses, lichens and fungi. The wildflowers are diverse, creating spectacular displays--spring through autumn.

### History of the Area

Pike County is located in an area that has many earthworks constructed by Ohio's prehistoric people. These "first citizens" of Ohio lived in the Scioto River Valley and its tributaries, appearing here sometime around 800

Activity	Facilities	Quantity	Fees
Resource	Land, acres	600	
	Water, acres	13	
	Nearby State Forest, acres	12,000	
Day-Use Activities	Fishing	yes	
	Hunting	state forest	
	Hiking Trail, miles	6	
	Bridle Trails	state forest	
	Backpack Trail, miles	3	
	Picnicking	yes	
	Swimming Beach, feet	155	
	Beach Concession	yes	
	Nature Center	yes	
	Summer Nature Programs	yes	
	Boating	Boat Rental/Commissary	yes
	Boating Limits	EMO	
	Winter Recreation	Sledding	yes
		Ice Skating	yes
		Ice Fishing	yes
Resort Facilities	Family Cottages, #	12	<a href="#">click</a>
	Standard Cottages, #	12	<a href="#">click</a>
	Group Lodge	yes	call
Camping	Non-Electric Campsites, #	0	
	Campsites with Elec., #	101	\$13
	Pets Permitted	yes	\$1/pet
	Dumpstation	yes	\$8
	Group Camp, capacity	60	call



B.C. The Moundbuilders eventually gave rise to the woodland Indian cultures--the first white settlers encountered. One tribe, the Shawnee, made this area their home and hunting grounds. They were fiercely protective of their land.

Nearby Chillicothe, the first capital of Ohio, spurred early settlement in the area. Some of the early, historic buildings still stand. Just south of the park is "Eagers Inn" built in 1797. The inn was constructed on a trace that ran from Limestone, Kentucky to Chillicothe. Limestone (now called Maysville) was an important crossing on the Ohio River. Many settlers from Kentucky followed this passage on their way to the frontier.

During the Civil War, only one advance was ever made by the Confederate Army into Ohio. General John H. Morgan crossed the Ohio River into Indiana, then rode with his cavalry into Ohio north of Cincinnati. "Morgan's Raiders" traversed the southern portion of the state, passing near present-day Pike Lake State Park. Eventually, he and many of his men were captured in southwestern Columbiana County near Salineville. Less than five months later, General John Morgan and six of his men escaped from the Ohio Penitentiary and returned to the Confederacy.

Also during this historic period, the family who farmed this valley found a wounded soldier collapsed in their field. The unconscious union soldier never revived. His name, unit or hometown were never known. Today, a solitary headstone below the dam at the base of a large oak tree marks the grave of this casualty from a tragic war.

The present park first began to take shape during the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) days of the 1930s. One of the Ohio camps was established near the future site of Pike Lake at Morgantown. Corpsmembers dug the lake by hand, built two or three fire towers in the area, constructed the roads to make them accessible and planted hundreds of pine trees. Pike Lake was originally a state forest park, but with the formation of the Division of Parks and Recreation in 1949, it became an official state park that year.

## Camping

The campground at Pike Lake features 101 sites with electricity. Latrines, dump station, tables, fire rings and camp commissary are provided. Campers with pets are permitted on designated sites. A group camp that can accommodate sixty people is available by reservation.

## Cottages

The park features thirteen standard cottages and twelve family cottages. Family cottages sleep six people, are heated for year-round use, have two bedrooms, bath with shower, living room with sofa bed, kitchen/dining area and screened porch. Standard cottages are available during the summer months only. Each standard cottage sleeps from four to six people and has a dining area, kitchen and bath. Dishes and kitchen utensils are furnished in both the family and standard cottages. A group cabin is available that accommodates twenty people.

## Fishing and Hunting

The small 13-acre lake in the park offers good catches of largemouth bass, channel catfish, bullheads, bluegill and crappie. Hunting is permitted in the adjacent state forest. A valid Ohio fishing and/or hunting license is required.

## Swimming

A beautiful sand beach and a dock is provided for swimmers. Changing areas, showers and a beach concession contribute to the appeal of this swimming area.

## Boating

Non-powered watercraft and boats with electric motors only (up to 4-1/2 horsepower) are permitted on the lake. Rowboats are available for rent.

## Picnicking

Several picnic areas are located in scenic locations around the park. Grills and tables are provided.

## Trails

Six miles of hiking trails provide strenuous and/or casual walks to scenic locations. The adjacent state forest has several miles of bridle trails. Horses are not provided by the park or forest.

## Area Attractions

The nearby town of Bainbridge is the starting point for the Paint Valley Skyline Drives, a series of four scenic tours of points of interest in the area. One of these tours passes through the state park.

The Division of Wildlife manages the Kincaid Fish Hatchery along S.R. 124. The hatchery originally began as a bass farm in 1935. Now, muskellunge are also raised for stocking the state lakes.

Lake White State Park and Paint Creek State Park are a short distance away.

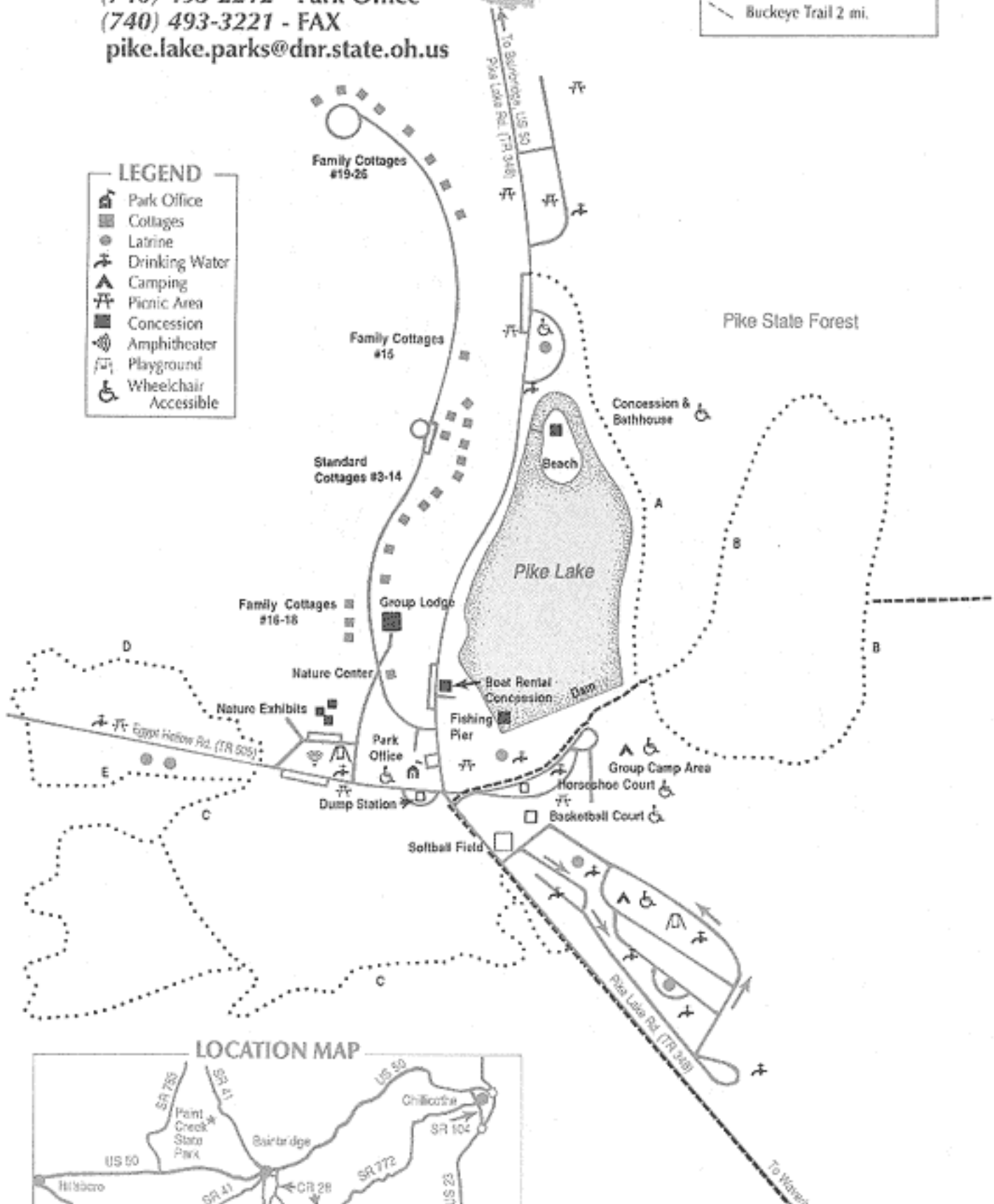
# Pike Lake State Park

1847 Pike Lake Road  
Bainbridge, Ohio 45612-9640

(740) 493-2212 - Park Office  
(740) 493-3221 - FAX  
[pike.lake.parks@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:pike.lake.parks@dnr.state.oh.us)

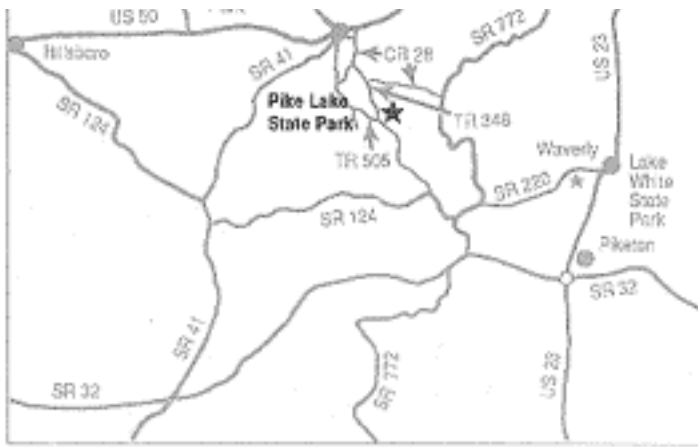
TRAILS	
A	Lake Trail 0.4 mi.
B	Mitchell Ridge Trail 1.2 mi.
C	Wildcat Hollow Trail 1.2 mi.
D	Greenbrier Trail 0.5 mi.
E	CCC Trail 0.5 mi.
	Buckeye Trail 2 mi.

LEGEND	
	Park Office
	Cottages
	Latrine
	Drinking Water
	Camping
	Picnic Area
	Concession
	Amphitheater
	Playground
	Wheelchair Accessible



## LOCATION MAP







## Stonelick State Park

2895 Lake Drive  
 Pleasant Plain, Ohio 45162  
 (513) 625-7544



[Map It! \(National Atlas\)](#)  
[Park Map](#)  
[Park Events Site](#)

Tucked away in the rolling highlands of southwest Ohio, Stonelick State Park offer a quiet retreat for visitors. The still waters of the lake and stately woodlands provide the setting for a host of outdoor recreational pursuits.

### Nature of the Area

By studying the bedrock layers in Ohio, we can find clues that reveal ancient seas, marshes or swamps covered all or portions of the state at various times in the past. Remains of plants and animals that lived in those waters littered the sea's floor and became entombed as lime precipitated to the bottom. Eventually, the lime and other sediments solidified into stone and uplifted forming dry land.

An arch formed in Ohio, during the time the Appalachian Mountains were formed, known as the Cincinnati Arch. This dome-like feature of uplifted bedrock passes through Stonelick. Several areas of the arch have been exposed from erosion uncovering some of the oldest rocks (350-500 million years old) in Ohio. The once entombed fossils are now exposed giving Stonelick one of the richest fossil records in the state. The rocks of the arch contain so many fossils of such diverse species that they have become very famous and have attracted people from all over the world since the early 1800s. Trilobite, brachiopods and cephalopods provide excellent finds for fossil hunters.

Another interesting feature of the Stonelick landscape is the significant stand of sweet gum trees. Normally, sweet gum is a subordinate tree but co-dominates the woodlands of Stonelick with beech and maple. Substantial colonies of dense flying star, purple fringeless orchid and Virginia mountain mint--all uncommon wildflowers in Ohio--can be found in the park.

### History of the Area

Stonelick State Park lies within Clermont County, the eighth county established in the Northwest Territory. Settlement of the area began in 1798 when the towns of Bethel and Williamsburg were laid out. A considerable

Activity	Facilities	Quantity	Fees
Resource	Land, acres	1058	
	Water, acres	200	
Day-Use Activities	Fishing	yes	
	Hunting	yes	
	Hiking Trail, miles	5.3	
	Picnicking	yes	
Boating	Swimming Beach, feet	500	
	Summer Nature Programs	yes	
	Boat Limits	EMO	
	Launch Ramps, #	1	
Winter Recreation	Sledding	yes	
	Cross-Country Skiing	yes	
	Sledding	yes	
	Ice Skating	yes	
	Ice Boating	yes	
	Ice Fishing	yes	
	Camping		
	Non-Electric Campsites, #	6	\$12
	Campsites with Elec., #	109	\$16
	Pets Permitted	yes	\$1/pet
	Showers	yes	
	Flush Toilets	yes	
	Dumpstation	yes	\$8
	Group Camp, capacity	200	call
	Rent-A-campsites, #	3	\$31



amount of the early settlers came from Kentucky, Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Several clashes between the settlers and Indians occurred here as the area was situated between the Kentucky settlements south of the Ohio River and the Indian villages along the Little Miami River. Legendary frontiersmen, Daniel Boone and Simon Kenton, were among those involved in the conflicts.

The town of nearby Milford was the site of the first Methodist church in Ohio. Francis McCormick, a pioneer Methodist preacher, organized the church in his cabin.

Clermont County was a vital link in the Underground Railroad as it was just across the river from the "slave owning" states of Kentucky and Virginia. The position of Clermont on the border made it the first place of refuge for fleeing slaves. The county was also the birthplace of Civil War General Ulysses S. Grant at Point Pleasant on the Ohio.

Land acquisition for Stonelick State Park began in 1948. A dam across Stonelick Creek was completed in 1950. This beautiful park was originally created to provide a wildlife area for Ohio's sportsmen. Now the area is operated by the ODNR Division of Parks and Recreation and offers a variety of outdoor recreational activities.

## Camping

There are 115 campsites, all with electricity, at Stonelick's main campground. The campground is equipped with showers, flush toilets, dump station and laundry facilities. A primitive group camp area is available for organized groups on a reservation basis. Pit latrines are found at the group camp. Four Rent-A-Camp units consisting of a tent, dining canopy, cooler, cook stove and other equipment can be rented during the summer months by reservation. Pet camping is permitted on designated sites.

## Boating

Boats with electric motors only are permitted on Stonelick Lake. Two launch ramps provide access to the lake.

### Hunting and Fishing

Hunting is permitted in designated areas. The lake is well known for catches of bass, bluegill, crappie and catfish. A valid Ohio hunting and/or fishing license is required.

## Swimming

A nice public beach provides enjoyment for swimmers and sunbathers on the lake's south shore.

## Picnicking

Picnic areas complete with tables and grills are located at many secluded and well shaded areas around the park.

## Trails

Over seven miles of hiking trails provide opportunities for exercise and nature study.

## Area Attractions

The village of Point Pleasant on the Ohio River is the birthplace of President Ulysses S. Grant. Visitors can view the one-room cabin where the 18th President and Civil War general was born. The cabin is located at U.S. 52 and State Route 232.

Cowan Lake State Park, north of Stonelick, offers camping, cabins, boating, fishing, hiking and swimming opportunities.

Crooked Run State Nature Preserve is a river estuary that attracts a variety of rare or unusual birds including bald eagles, ospreys and great blue herons. Access can be obtained by written permit available from ODNR, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves.

[Click here](#) for expanded information on this state park.