



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Rock Island District

# ALONG *the River*

2015 Edition



Mississippi River Project's Guide to Recreation

# QCCA EXPO CENTER

## 2015 BALD EAGLE DAYS



*Shows Include: Birds of Prey, Niabi Zoo Exotic Animals, Pella Wildlife Company, 20 Foot Climbing Tower, Over 100 Display Booths*

**January 9-11, 2015**

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Sat. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

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Tickets: Adults: \$5, Kids: \$1, Kids under 6: FREE!

## 2015 OUTDOOR SHOW

*From boats and tackle to decoys and gear... it's a sportsman's paradise!*

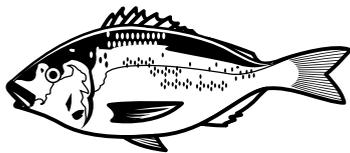
**February 12-15, 2015**

Thurs. 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Fri. 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Sat. 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Sun. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Tickets: Adults: \$7, Kids 6-17: \$1, Kids under 6: FREE!

Bring the kids! Visit the trout pond, minnow races and archery at the Kids Kamp!

## 2015 RV & CAMPING SHOW

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*You can find your destination gear here!*

**February 20-22, 2015**

Fri. 12p.m. - 8 p.m.

Sat. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

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Tickets: Adults: \$7, Kids 6-17: \$1, Kids under 6: FREE!

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Tickets: Adults: \$7, Kids 6-17: \$1,

Kids under 6: FREE!



[www.qccaexpoctr.com](http://www.qccaexpoctr.com)

2621 4th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201

# WELCOME

Welcome to our 2015 edition of *Along the River!* This magazine is published annually to provide you with up to date information on the numerous recreational and educational opportunities available from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mississippi River Project.



We encourage you to experience all of our top-notch recreational facilities and natural areas, located from Potosi, Wisconsin on down the river to Saverton, Missouri. Camping, boating, fishing, hunting, hiking, bird-watching, and other recreational opportunities exist all along the way. Whatever your interests are in "The Mighty Mississippi", you will likely find it... *Along the River.*

The recreation season of 2014 was an interesting year along the Mississippi River, with major flooding for the second year in a row. Nearly all of our recreation areas were impacted and underwater at some point during the summer months. When the river finally came down, our project staff rushed to clean affected areas and our parks quickly filled with visitors again.

Looking ahead to the 2015 recreation season, a big change will be happening in the southern part of our Project. Our Quincy rangers will be heading upriver to permanently move in and combine with our Muscatine Ranger Office. This combined office will now be known as the Southern Ranger Office. Visitors can rest assured that the management of the recreation areas in pools 16 through 24 will remain the same and function as normal.

The Mississippi River Project is starting the process of updating its Master Plan. A Master Plan is the document that conceptually establishes and guides the orderly development, administration, maintenance, preservation, enhancement, and management of all natural, cultural, and recreational resources of a Corps' water resource project. Despite what the name might suggest, it is not a plan for navigation (locks, dams and associated infrastructure for commercial barge traffic), flood risk management (levees in the PL84-99 Program), or water level management which have all been addressed in other guidance documents. Public input is critical in the Master Plan update process. Please visit our website, [www.missriver.org](http://www.missriver.org), for the latest information and opportunity to comment.

Whether you are a returning fisherman or a first time camper, our goal remains to provide outstanding recreational opportunities to our customers. Please feel free to contact any of our staff if we can be of service. We look forward to your visits and hope you enjoy the recreational and educational opportunities we provide on the Mississippi River!

*The Mississippi River Project Staff*

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If you would like *Along the River* delivered to you or your place of business please call (309) 794-5338.

To advertise your business in the 2016 edition, please call (309) 757-4914.

# HOW TO REACH US



## Mississippi River Project

Conservation ▶ Education  
Recreation ▶ Safety ▶ Service



### ADDRESSES & TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

#### MISSISSIPPI RIVER PROJECT OFFICE NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SECTION

P.O. Box 534, Pleasant Valley, Iowa 52767  
General Information, 309-794-4526  
Section Chief, 309-794-4489  
Supervisory Park Ranger, 309-794-4523  
Environmental Stewardship Supervisor, 309-794-4528  
Shoreline Ranger, 309-794-4439  
Fax: 309-794-4347  
E-mail: [od-mn.cemvr@usace.army.mil](mailto:od-mn.cemvr@usace.army.mil)

### RECREATIONAL SITES:

**Blanchard Island**  
Illinois City, IL  
**42**

**Blanding Landing**  
Hanover, IL  
**10**

**Bulger's Hollow**  
Clinton, IA  
**20**

**Clark's Ferry**  
Davenport  
& Muscatine, IA  
**34**

**Fisherman's  
Corner**  
Hampton, IL  
**23**

**Grant River**  
Potosi, WI  
**8**

**Mississippi River  
Visitor Center**  
**31**

**Pleasant Creek**  
Bellevue, IA  
**13**

**Shady Creek**  
Davenport &  
Muscatine, IA  
**36**

**Thomson  
Causeway**  
Thomson, IL  
**16**

#### DUBUQUE RANGER OFFICE — POOLS 11-12

2595 Kerper Blvd., Dubuque, Iowa 52001  
Phone: 563-582-0881  
Fax: 563-582-6908  
E-mail: [mvrodmn11@usace.army.mil](mailto:mvrodmn11@usace.army.mil)

#### THOMSON RANGER OFFICE — POOLS 13-14

823 Main St., P.O. Box 398, Thomson, Illinois 61285  
Phone: 815-259-3628  
Fax: 815-259-3629  
E-mail: [mvrodmn13@usace.army.mil](mailto:mvrodmn13@usace.army.mil)

#### MISSISSIPPI RIVER VISITOR CENTER — POOL 15

**Mailing Address:**  
P.O. Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004  
**Find us using GPS at:**  
200 Rodman Ave., Rock Island, IL 61201  
Phone: 309-794-5338  
Fax: 309-794-5741  
E-mail: [mvrodmn15@usace.army.mil](mailto:mvrodmn15@usace.army.mil)

#### SOUTHERN RANGER OFFICE — POOLS 16-24

810 Main St., Muscatine, Iowa 52761  
Phone: 563-263-7913  
Fax: 563-263-1845  
E-mail: [mvrodmn16@usace.army.mil](mailto:mvrodmn16@usace.army.mil)



**VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:** [www.missriver.org](http://www.missriver.org)

# RESERVING A CAMPSITE/PICNIC SHELTER

## Your Favorite Campground is as Close as Your Telephone

The National Recreation Reservation Service will reserve your campsite at Corps of Engineers campgrounds nation-wide.

**Call toll-free 877-444-6777.**

## On Your Computer

To make your reservations online, go to:  
**www.Recreation.gov.**

## What you will need to make a Reservation

Most Corps campsites are available through the [www.Recreation.gov](http://www.Recreation.gov) system. Reservations can be made up to 180 days in advance. You will need to give the following information to make a reservation:

- ▶ The campground name and the lake/river the campground is on.
- ▶ The campsite number (if you have one) or type of site desired.
- ▶ Arrival and departure dates for your camping stay.
- ▶ Your name, address and phone number.
- ▶ Vehicles, trailers, tents and other equipment you will be bringing.
- ▶ License numbers of all of the vehicles you will be bringing.
- ▶ Golden Age, Golden Access or America the Beautiful Passport Number (if you have one).
- ▶ Credit card number to pay for your camping stay. Certified checks or money orders are accepted for reservations made at least 20 days in advance of arrival.
- ▶ Reservations may be made at fee booths during the recreation season.

## Reserving A Picnic Shelter

Select picnic shelters are reservable at many Corps of Engineers recreation areas. They are perfect for birthday parties, family reunions or other special occasions. The cost to reserve these sites is only \$25. Reservable shelters are located at Grant River, Blanding Landing, Thomson Causeway, Locks & Dam 14, Andalusia Slough, Clark's Ferry and Shady Creek.

Contact a ranger station or visit [www.Recreation.gov](http://www.Recreation.gov) to reserve your picnic shelter today. See page 30 for more information on the amenities available at each shelter.



Reserve  
Your Place  
Under the  
Stars  
National  
Recreation  
Reservation  
Service

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# CAMPING ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER WITH THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Camping along the Mississippi River offers fantastic river views, outstanding service and great facilities. We want to make your camping experience the best it has ever been. Every park has different campsite registration procedures and the Corps of Engineers is no exception. This article outlines how to register for a campsite and a few tips to help you along the way.

## 2015 CAMPING SEASON CHANGES

If you make reservations online at [www.Recreation.gov](http://www.Recreation.gov) or recreate at any of our recreation areas, you will learn of the updates that we, at the Mississippi River Project, have implemented for the 2015 season. Overnight camping fees for Class A sites are now \$10 for non-electric and \$20 for sites with electric. Camping fees for our Class B sites are now \$8 per night while Class C sites will remain at \$6 per night. The discount passes, such as the America the Beautiful and/or Golden Age/Access passes will continue to be accepted. Another change for the 2015 camping season is that all Class A sites are now 100 percent reserveable. Campers will still be able to “first-come, first serve” camp, as long as the site isn’t reserved. Making all sites 100 percent reserveable gives everyone, including the transient camper, a fair opportunity to camp. In making the change to 100 percent reserveable, the minimum booking window has decreased from three days down to one day.

## CLASS A CAMPING SEASON DATES

These areas include Grant River, Blanding Landing, Thomson Causeway, Fisherman’s Corner, Clark’s Ferry and Shady Creek. The new season dates are opening May 1 and closing on the fourth Sunday of October.

► **When you arrive at the campground:** Stop in the entrance station (if open) to find out what sites are available.

► **If the entrance station is closed:** Proceed through the park and select a campsite that is not “Reserved” or “Occupied” for any part of your stay. Campsites that are reserved will have an “R” on the post and a yellow tag with the dates of the

impending reservation. Campsites that are already occupied will have a white tag on the post with their departure date and is considered occupied until 4 p.m. of that date.

► **If you find a site that is not reserved or occupied:** Set up your camping equipment and begin camping. You can then return to the fee booth during normal business hours to pay and register for your site. If you want a campsite for future occupancy, please make a reservation by calling 877-444-6777 or visit [www.Recreation.gov](http://www.Recreation.gov). You can also make reservations in person at the campground entrance station; however, all reservations must be made at least one day prior to your arrival date.

► **Once your camping equipment is set up on your site:** You can register and pay for your campsite at the entrance station. Entrance station hours at all of the Mississippi River Class A Recreation Areas (Grant River, Blanding Landing, Thomson Causeway, Fisherman’s Corner North, Shady Creek, and Clark’s Ferry) are 5-8 p.m. daily and 9-11 a.m. on Friday and Saturday. The station will also be open the Sundays of holiday weekends. ▲

*\*Note: Some non-Class A parks (Pleasant Creek, Bulger’s Hollow, Andalusia Slough and Blanchard Island) have a self-registration process in which you fill out an envelope and deposit your money in the envelope. The envelope is then placed in the honor vault. The tear off portion of the envelope is then placed on your site post.*

*We strongly recommend making a reservation prior to camping at any of the Class A parks along the Mississippi River. This will ensure you a campsite for the dates of your choice and you can choose your favorite site. When you arrive to claim a reservation we ask that you check in at the entrance station upon arrival. We look forward to seeing you this summer camping along the Mississippi River with the Corps of Engineers!*

## TOP TEN WEB SITES

Mississippi River Project:

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

Information on camping, forestry, bald eagle watches, news releases and much more.

Reserve America:

[www.Recreation.gov](http://www.Recreation.gov)

Campground reservations and travel planning.

Rock Island District:

[www.mvr.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil)

Information on activities within our District.

Corps of Engineers Recreation:

[www.CorpsLakes.us](http://www.CorpsLakes.us)

Information on Corps campgrounds nationwide.

Vessel (Towboat) Locations:

[www.corpslocks.usace.army.mil](http://www.corpslocks.usace.army.mil)

Find out where towboats are located on the river.

Online Navigation Charts:

[www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/NavigationCharts](http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/NavigationCharts)

River Gages:

[www.rivergages.com](http://www.rivergages.com)

Find river levels and forecasts.

Boat Safety Courses:

[www.boat-ed.com](http://www.boat-ed.com)

Test your boating knowledge or get a safe boaters card.

Volunteering Opportunities:

<http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/Recreation/VolunteerClearinghouse.aspx>

Find out how to volunteer with the Corps.

America the Beautiful Passes:

<http://store.usgs.gov/pass/senior.html>

Discount passes for use in Corps campgrounds and day use areas.

## Canoe, Kayak & Tube Rentals

Class I River

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- Lowest rates in the area
- Call for reservations and availability
- Shuttle service available

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30 YEARS!

608-794-2342  
Call For Reservations

Grant River  
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P.O. Box 23, Beetown, WI 53802

[granrivercanoerental.com](http://granrivercanoerental.com)

## Eagle Point Fishing Barge

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# GRANT *River*

The Grant River Recreation Area is known for its beautiful views of the Mississippi River and fantastic sunsets. It is located two miles south of Potosi, Wisconsin, off Highway 133. The campground features a tent camping area, 63 large RV sites, 50 amp electrical service, sewer dump station, a shower building and much more! This popular family getaway spot offers something for everyone including two playgrounds, horseshoe pits, a picnic shelter, boat ramp and great views of the main channel of the Mississippi River.

The Grant River Recreation Area offers summer interpretive programs and activities for visitors on select weekends throughout the camping season. All programs are held at the Grant River Campground amphitheater, unless otherwise noted. Announcement of the weekend programs will be on campground bulletin boards, or by contacting the Dubuque Park Rangers at 563-582-0881.

Come and visit the Grant River Recreation Area and enjoy scenic views of the Mississippi River, a friendly atmosphere and a great camping experience!

## AREA HISTORY

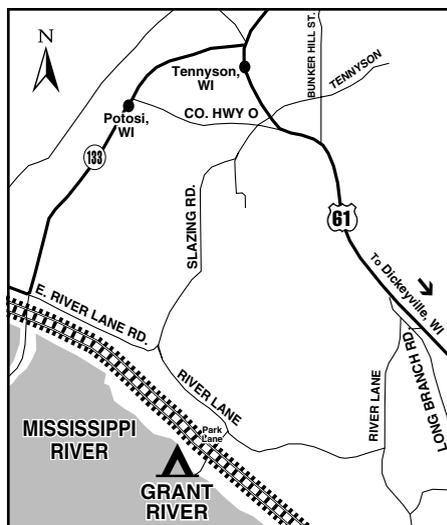
Grant County, Wisconsin, is part of the “driftless” area. It is a land of deep valleys, ridges and bluffs never leveled by glaciers. Native Americans were the first inhabitants of the Upper Mississippi River Valley, and in the early 17th century French missionaries and fur traders were the first Europeans to view the area. Fur trade began with the local Native Americans, and the river served as a means to transport the goods to market. Nicholas Perrot discovered southwestern Wisconsin’s first lead mine in what is now Potosi. By 1850, the area embraced more than 10,000

hand-dug lead mines, supplying more than half of the nation’s supply. Mississippi riverboats carried Wisconsin lead throughout the nation. The region produced virtually all of the lead shot for the Northern forces during the Civil War.

## FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

Grant River is located along Pool 11 of the Mississippi River. Around the park and the town of Potosi, the river is a broad expanse of open water. Potosi, Wisconsin, is known as “The Catfish Capitol of Wisconsin.” Channel catfish are very abundant along the shorelines of the Mississippi and especially so in this area. Another great fishing spot among the locals is out on Potosi Point just upriver from the park. There you can launch a boat in deeper waters or fish right from shore.

► *Continued on page 9*



# GRANT RIVER RECREATION AREA

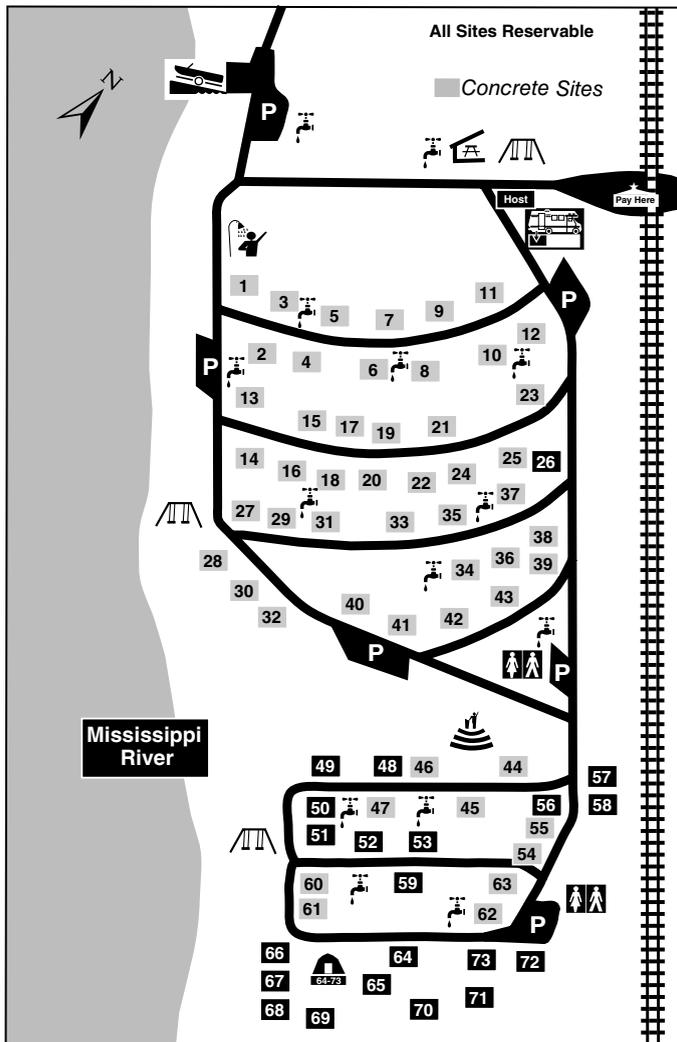
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For a more productive fishing experience check out our kiosk located inside the park by the boat ramp to educate you on the many types of fish located in the area and the types of bait to catch them. For all your fishing needs, stop by and see Catfish Bob at Riverside Bait & Tackle located approximately two miles upriver from the park at 221 S. Main St., in Potosi. For those who will be heading out on the water, take advantage of a free river pool map located in our park entrance booth.

## LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

While staying at the park, here are some other locations or businesses you may want to visit, their location, and their distance from the park:

- ▶ Lock & Dam 11, Dubuque, IA – summer navigation and winter eagle viewing, 19 miles.
- ▶ Potosi, WI – Potosi Brewing Company Restaurant & Museum, 2 miles.
- ▶ Potosi, WI – Great River Road Interpretive Center, 2 miles.
- ▶ Dubuque, IA – shops and attractions, 20 miles.
- ▶ Dubuque, IA – National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium, 20 miles.
- ▶ Platteville, WI – shops and attractions, 18 miles.
- ▶ Dubuque, IA – Eagle Point Park, 21 miles
- ▶ Dubuque, IA – Diamond Jo Casino, Mystique Casino and Dubuque Greyhound Park and Casino, 20 miles.



## GRANT RIVER INFO:

**Open Year Round**

**Fee Dates:**

May 1-October 25

**Camping Fee:**

\$10 and \$20

**Picnic Shelter Available:**

\$25

**Reservations Accepted:**

Yes

**Reservations:**

877-444-6777 or  
www.Recreation.gov

**Fee Booth:**

Open 5-8 p.m. Daily  
9-11 a.m.  
Friday & Saturday  
& Sundays on  
holiday weekends  
608-763-2140

**Address:**

3990 Park Lane  
Potosi, WI 53820

**River Mile:**

591



# BLANDING *Landing*

The Blanding Landing Recreation Area is off the beaten path offering a quiet camping getaway. Nestled along the backwaters of the Mississippi River, this area is a well-known birders paradise plus access to miles of great fishing. It is located 13 miles south of Galena, Illinois, off Blackjack Road in Jo Daviess County. This Class A campground features 30 campsites with 50 amp electrical service, seven non-electrical sites, shower building, sewer dump station and more! This secluded area also has a playground, picnic shelter, boat ramp and great views of the backwaters of the Mississippi River with the main channel on the far shoreline.

The Blanding Landing Recreation Area offers summer interpretive programs and activities for visitors on select weekends throughout the camping season. All programs are held at the Blanding Landing Campground amphitheater, unless otherwise noted. Announcement of the weekend programs will be on campground bulletin boards, and by contacting the Dubuque Park Rangers at 563-582-0881.

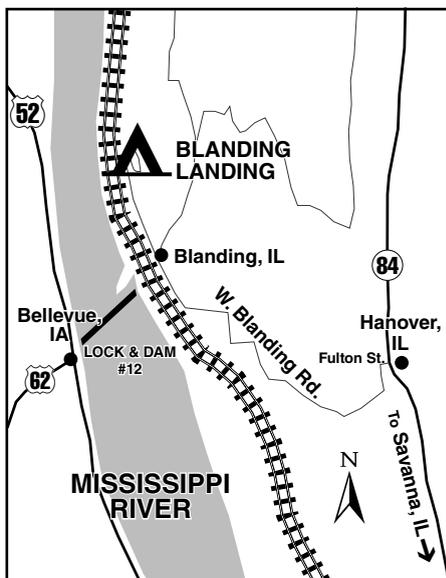
The area is full of activities and adventures for outdoor enthusiasts including kayaking, canoeing, biking, hiking and more! Come and discover

why Blanding Landing is Jo Daviess County's best kept secret!

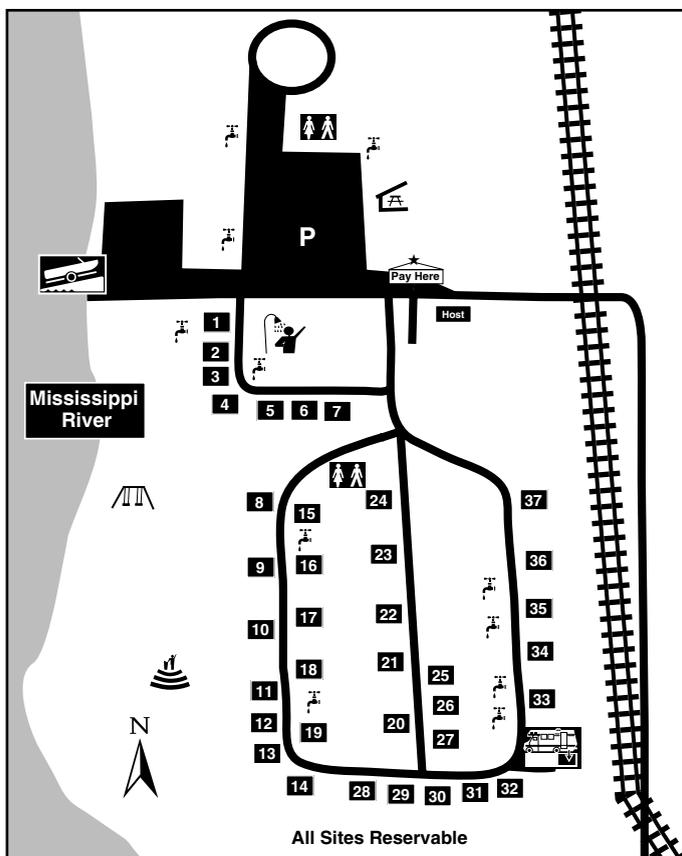
## AREA HISTORY

Jo Daviess County, Illinois, is known for its rolling hills and beautiful views. The historic town of Galena, 13 miles north of Blanding Landing, was a popular, bustling destination in

► *Continued on page 11*



# BLANDING LANDING RECREATION AREA



## BLANDING LANDING INFO:

**Open Year Round**

**Fee Dates:**

May 1-October 25

**Camping Fee:**

\$10 and \$20

**Picnic Shelter Available:**

\$25

**Reservations Accepted:**

Yes

**Reservations:**

877-444-6777 or

[www.Recreation.gov](http://www.Recreation.gov)

**Fee Booth:**

Open 5-8 p.m. Daily

9-11 a.m.

Friday & Saturday

& Sunday on

holiday weekends

815-591-2326

**Address:**

5720 S. River Road

Hanover, IL 61041

**River Mile:**

558.2

► *Continued from page 10*

the early 1800s. In historic times, Sac and Fox Indians lived off the land and started to mine the rich deposits of the mineral wealth in the area. People from around the world flocked to seek their fortunes in this mineral wealth. This became the nation's first mineral rush, twenty years prior to California's 1849 Gold Rush. Galena became a center of commerce by the 1830s. Fortunes were made by people involved in the mining industry. Today, 85percent of the town's buildings are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Come and find treasures in the area's art galleries and studios, at local wineries and in the numerous shops downtown. There are also dozens of antique shops and restored houses, many of which are now cozy B&Bs and Country Inns. Ulysses S. Grant was presented a home in Galena in 1865 which is now a State Historical Site and open to the public.

The house features a guided tour and is complete with original furnishings.

## FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

Blanding Landing is located along Pool 12 of the Mississippi River. Pool 12 has islands, side channels and backwaters throughout most of its length, and the major species of fish are bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, freshwater drum, largemouth bass, sauger, walleye and white bass.

Shoreline fishing in the park is challenging, but just outside the park and upriver towards Chestnut Mountain are a few hidden spots along the shoreline that the locals seem to enjoy. The nearest bait/tackle shop is at least 20 minutes away so don't forget to bring them with, and if you are heading out on the water make sure to receive a free copy of the river pool map located inside our entrance booth.

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## BLANDING LANDING RECREATION AREA

► Continued from page 11

### LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

While staying at the park, here are some other locations or businesses you may want to visit, their location, and their distance from the park:

- Galena, IL— shops and attractions, 13 miles.
- Hanover, IL – shops and attractions, 9 miles.
- Galena, IL – Chestnut Mountain Resort, 4 miles.
- Savanna, IL – shops and attractions, 22 miles.
- Hanover, IL – Hanover Bluff Nature Preserve, 12 miles.
- Galena, IL – Chicago Great Western Railway Depot Museum, 13 miles.

# BELLEVUE

*on the Mississippi*

*A True Riverfront Experience*

Campgrounds  
up on the bluffs  
& down on  
the Mississippi

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- Fishing
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608.725.5210  
[stonefieldhistoricsite.org](http://stonefieldhistoricsite.org)

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[www.mining.jamison.museum](http://www.mining.jamison.museum)  
[museums@platteville.org](mailto:museums@platteville.org)





# PLEASANT *Creek*

The Pleasant Creek Recreation Area is rustic and relaxing with front row seats of the main channel of the Mississippi River. It is located 3 miles south of Bellevue, Iowa, along Highway 52. The campground has 55 first-come, first-serve campsites, drinking water and vault toilets. There is no electrical service or flush toilets making this a perfect spot for primitive campers. The area also has a sewer dump station and concrete boat ramp with direct access to the main channel. Recline in your lounge chair and watch the river traffic navigate up and down the river below Lock & Dam 12.

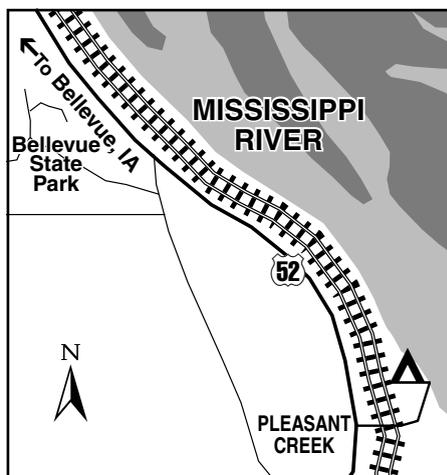
Camping at Pleasant Creek is located in two locations — the main campground and the island. Both offer drinking water and vault toilets for your convenience. The area is monitored by a volunteer campground host who assists campers with the self-registration process and is available to answer visitor questions.

## AREA HISTORY

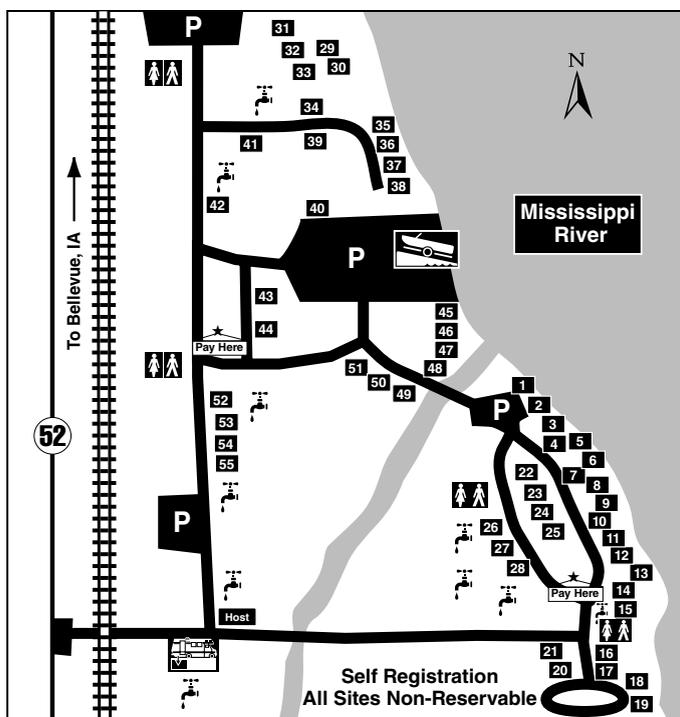
Pleasant Creek is located in Jackson County, Iowa, which can best be described in two words: simply

beautiful. The area is well-known for its rugged uplands and limestone bluffs that provide panoramic views of Eastern Iowa. There are also cold water streams, meandering rivers and large wetlands that provide outdoor activities and adventures. Pleasant Creek sits along The Great River Road National Scenic Byway that consists

► *Continued on page 14*



# PLEASANT CREEK RECREATION AREA



## PLEASANT CREEK INFO:

**Open Year Round**

**Fee Dates:**  
May 15 - October 15

**Camping Fee:**  
\$8

**Reservations Accepted:**  
No

**Self Registration Address:**  
1995 Hwy. 52  
Bellevue, IA 52031

**River Mile:**  
552.9

► Continued from page 13

of a 3,000 mile network of federal, state and county roads.

Just north of Pleasant Creek is the town of Bellevue, meaning “beautiful view.” This town is still tied to the Mississippi River and has numerous shops, restaurants and historic homes that face the river. Potter’s Mill is listed on the National Register of Historic Places located on the edge of town on Big Mill Creek and still has many artifacts from the mill’s flour producing days on display.

## FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

Pleasant Creek’s location offers anglers the perfect opportunity to fish. By boat one can travel just a short way up river to fish along a wing dam or just behind Lock & Dam 12 in Bellevue, or head downstream from the park to one of the many backwater sloughs. Before you hit the water, check with the park attendant for a free river pool map. For all of those who are staying at the park and don’t have access to a vessel, try fishing right at the river’s edge. Many anglers enjoy the success and relaxation one can have right from the shoreline.

Perch, catfish, rock bass, walleye, and crappie are a few different varieties of fish you can expect to catch along the Mississippi River. Whether you are fishing the shoreline or out on the river, don’t forget to stop by Big River Bait Shop at 701 S. Riverview, Bellevue, Iowa (behind Lock & Dam 12). To make sure someone is there call Doug at 815-238-4140 before you go.

## LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

While staying at the park, here are some other locations or businesses you may want to visit, their location, and their distance from the park:

- Lock & Dam 12, Bellevue, IA – summer navigation and winter eagle viewing, 3 miles.
- Maquoketa, IA – Hurstville Interpretive Center and Lime Kilns, 26 miles.
- Bellevue, IA – shops and attractions, 3 miles.
- Dubuque, IA – shops and attractions, 24 miles.
- Bellevue, IA – Young Historical Museum, 3 miles.

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THE CITY OF  
**DUBUQUE**

*Masterpiece on the Mississippi*



# THOMSON *Causeway*

The Thomson Causeway Recreation Area offers expansive views of the Mississippi River and Potters Marsh Wildlife Area. The park is located at the intersection of Main Street and Lewis Avenue in Thomson, Illinois.

The campground offers 131 campsites, most with 30 and 50 amp service available, three shower buildings, a three lane dump station and a walkup dump station. While relaxing in the park you can enjoy an array of activities. There are three playgrounds in the campground, a boat ramp with access to the main channel and backwaters, three picnic shelters and horse shoe pits. Also, don't forget to explore Hidden Slough Nature Trail which offers a ¾ mile hike through bottom land forest.

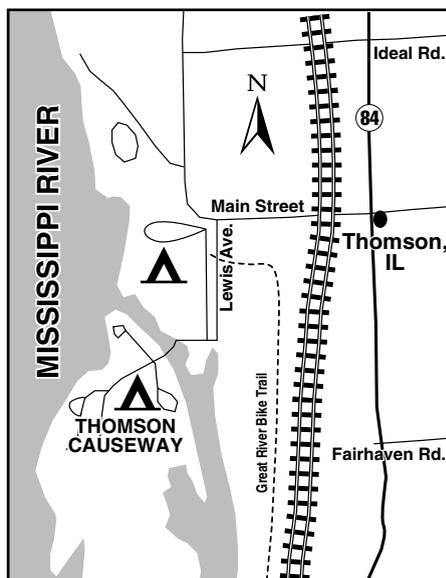
This recreation area is open year round, with camping facilities available from May 1 through the fourth Sunday in October. Potter's Marsh is a backwater haven for shore birds and waterfowl that keeps "birders" flocking to the park throughout the year. In the spring you will find Dr. Fred Janzen of Iowa State University, along with his students, collecting data on turtles, amphibians, and reptiles. In the winter, once the backwaters freeze over, the ice fishermen are angling their favorite fishing holes. Whether you are planning a family camping

trip or just going for a weekend drive you, will find an enjoyable experience at the Thomson Causeway.

## AREA HISTORY

The Thomson Causeway is built on a Mississippi River island with a rich history. Hundreds of years ago, this area was a large active site for the Woodland Indians. They used the area for trading, hunting, and rituals.

► *Continued on page 17*



# THOMSON CAUSEWAY RECREATION AREA

► *Continued from page 16*

Examples of their presence still exist with two large Indian burial mounds still present in the day use area of the park. In recent history, the island was used for agriculture. Both commercial crops and melons were grown in the sandy soil, prior to the inundation of the lands by the construction of the locks and dam system in the early 20th century.

## FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

There are ample fishing opportunities when visiting the Thomson Causeway. Located along pool 13 of the Mississippi River you can spend an afternoon shoreline fishing in the campground or use one of the local boat ramps that access

► *Continued on page 18*



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Clinton Convention and Visitors Bureau:  
563-242-5702

# THOMSON CAUSEWAY RECREATION AREA

Continued from page 17

the backwaters of the Mississippi. While fishing in the area you will have the opportunity to angle in a wide variety of sport fish, including: catfish, largemouth bass, crappie and blue gill. For the more experienced fisherman you can take aim at the big prize — muskellunge (muskie), northern pike and walleye. Five miles north of the campground is Spring Lake. This area is a mecca for local fishing tournaments all season long. Fishing in the area doesn't slow down in the winter. Potter's Marsh and Spring Lake are popular ice fishing destinations.

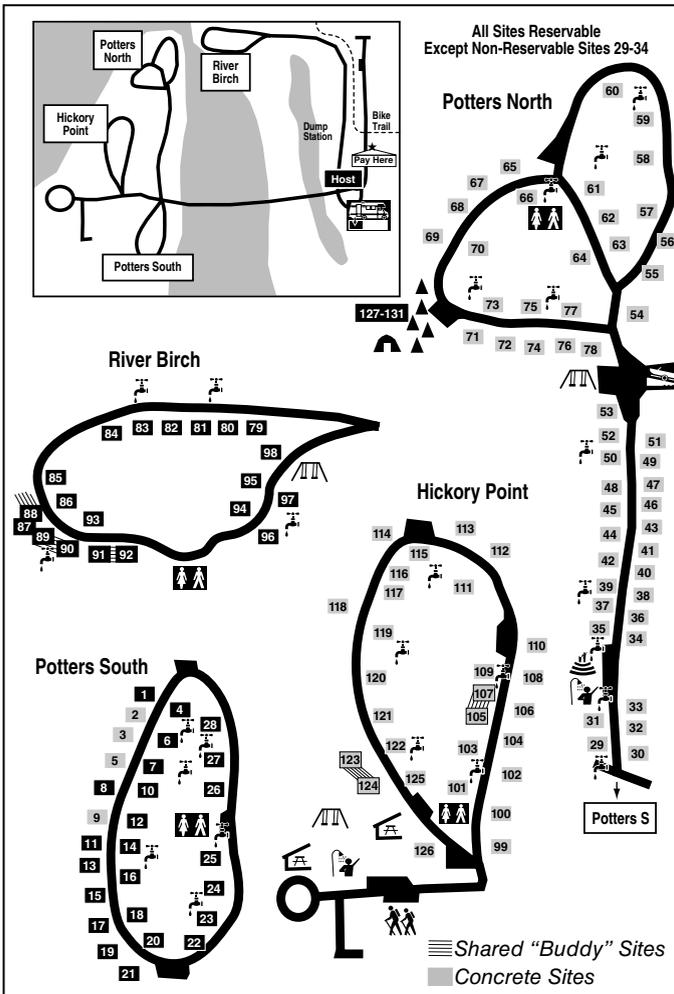
## LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

While staying at the park, here are some other locations or businesses

you may want to visit, their location, and their distance from the park:

- ▶ Lock & Dam 13, Fulton, IL – summer navigation and winter eagle viewing, 5 miles.
- ▶ Savanna, IL – shops and attractions, 10 miles.
- ▶ Fulton, IL – Dutch Heritage Canyon & Windmill Park, 10 miles.
- ▶ Clinton, IA – shops and attractions, 15 miles.
- ▶ Wild Rose Casino & Resort, Clinton, IA, 20 miles.
- ▶ US Fish and Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center & Overlook, Thomson, IL, 5 miles.
- ▶ Cordova National Speedway – Drag Racing, Cordova, IL, 25 miles.

▶ Campsite Event Listings on page 19



## THOMSON CAUSEWAY INFO:

**Open Year Round**

**Fee Dates:**

May 1-October 25

**Camping Fee:**

\$10 and \$20

**Reservations Accepted:**

Yes

**Reservations:**

877-444-6777 or  
www.Recreation.gov

**Entrance Booth:**

815-259-2353

**Fee Booth:**

Open 5-8 p.m. Daily  
9-11 a.m.

Friday & Saturday  
& Sundays on  
holiday weekends

**Address:**

Lewis Avenue &  
Main Street  
Thomson, IL 61285

**River Mile:**

526.7

# THOMSON CAUSEWAY RECREATION AREA

## 2015 Thomson Causeway Special Programs

The Thomson Causeway Recreation Area offers summer interpretive programs and activities for visitors on select weekend between Memorial Day and Labor Day. All programs will be held at the campground amphitheater unless noted otherwise. Contact the Thomson Park Rangers or visit [www.missriver.org](http://www.missriver.org) for more information on this summer's interpretive programs and activities.

Following is a listing of Special Events that are planned for the recreation season of 2015. \*PROGRAM DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, PLEASE CALL THE THOMSON RANGER STATIONS AT 815-259-3628 TO VERIFY PROGRAM DATE/TIME, EMAIL TO: [MVRODMN13@usace.army.mil](mailto:MVRODMN13@usace.army.mil) WRITE TO: THOMSON PARK RANGERS, P.O. BOX 398, THOMSON, IL 61285 ■ Visit [www.missriver.org](http://www.missriver.org)

**Saturday, Sept. 5, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. — Camper Craft/Bake Show:** Showcases camper's craft and baking items. Held at the Day Use Picnic Area. Registration required.

**Saturday, Oct. 17, 3-5 p.m. — Halloween Trick or Treat Night:** Campers are invited to participate in a campground trick or treat. Show your holiday spirit by dressing up as your favorite Halloween character.

## ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP MISSION



As you are likely aware, the Mississippi River is a globally significant natural resource. Though you may not know it was designated a Globally Important Bird Area in 2001 by the American Bird Conservancy and a Wetland of International Importance in 2010 during the international Ramsar Convention. The Mississippi River Project is working to support this resource in part through our Environmental Stewardship mission with our Forestry and Shoreline Management programs.

Our Forestry Program, the oldest within the Corps of Engineers and second largest in size, originated in 1941 in support of the WWII war efforts. Our managed lands cover 54,000 acres of land and over 2,000 miles of shoreline along the river. 2014 marked the 34th year that we met with our partner state and federal fish and wildlife agencies to cooperatively manage the forested resource. Over 80 percent is leased to other state and federal agencies such as the Fish and Wildlife Service and

Department of Natural Resources for wildlife refuges and management areas through cooperative agreements though the Corps maintains timber rights on the trees. All forest management activities are aligned with the wildlife goals of our partner agencies and include timber harvests to promote diversity of tree size and tree regeneration, timber stand improvement to promote health of diverse tree species, and tree planting to help maintain the presence of diverse tree stands.

The Shoreline Management Program provides access opportunities for water-based recreation while helping to protect the shoreline and wildlife habitat. This program allows for placement of docks and associated structures on federal lands in designated areas and protects shoreline in other environmentally sensitive areas.

For more information on the Shoreline Management or Forestry Programs, please call 309-794-4528 or write to P.O. Box 534, Pleasant Valley, Iowa 52767. ▲



# BULGER'S *Hollow*

If you are looking for a few nights of good old fashioned camping, then Bulger's Hollow Recreation Area is your stop. With 26 non-reservable campsites, 17 RV sites and nine tent camping sites, this park is small in size but offers one of the best views of the Mississippi. This campground offers primitive amenities, such as drinking water, vault toilets, and a dump station. As a reminder, campers have a 14-day camping limit, within a 30-day period.

Camping is not the only attraction to the area. Bulger's Hollow also offers a boat ramp, playground equipment, horse shoe pits and picnic sites for a great way to spend an afternoon with the family.

## AREA HISTORY

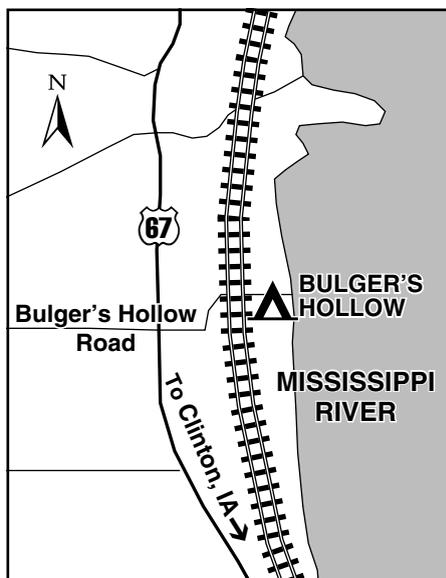
Located five miles north of Clinton, Iowa, Bulger's Hollow is a classic example of a Mississippi River ravine. This scenic campground is tucked between the limestone cliffs and shoreline of the Mississippi River. While camping you will be reminded of the rich tradition of river explorations and the ensuing lumber trade, which made Clinton one of the busiest river ports in the country during the late 1800s and early 1900s. The main channel of the Mississippi is right off the shoreline

where towboats travel up and down the river. Occasionally you will get a scene to take you back in history as the Twilight and other river boats make an excursion up and down the river.

## FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

Bugler's Hollow offers a gravel boat launch for access to pool 13 of the

► *Continued on page 22*



## Visit Historic Fulton, Ill.



### Community Events *(see details online)*

- Authentic Dutch Windmill
- Windmill Cultural Center
- Andresen Nature Center
- Great River Trail
- National Scenic Byways: Lincoln Highway & Great River Road
- Historic Downtown Shopping District
- Heritage Canyon – 1850s Village
- Fulton (Martin House) Museum
- Lock & Dam 13
- “Ronald Reagan Trail Community”



[www.cityoffulton.us](http://www.cityoffulton.us) or call  
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Our beautiful Holiday Inn Express sits on the banks of the Mighty Mississippi River. Guests enjoy watching barges, as well as pleasure crafts navigate its muddy waters. LeClaire has the flavor of time gone by. If you look closely you might spot Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer with their cane poles, fishing for a mess of catfish.

### Area Attractions:

- Mississippi River - Twilight River Cruises
- John Deere Commons - TPC Golf Courses
- Isle of Capri Casino - i Wireless Center
- Figge Art Museum - Buffalo Bill Museum
- Cordova Dragway

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# BULGER'S HOLLOW RECREATION AREA

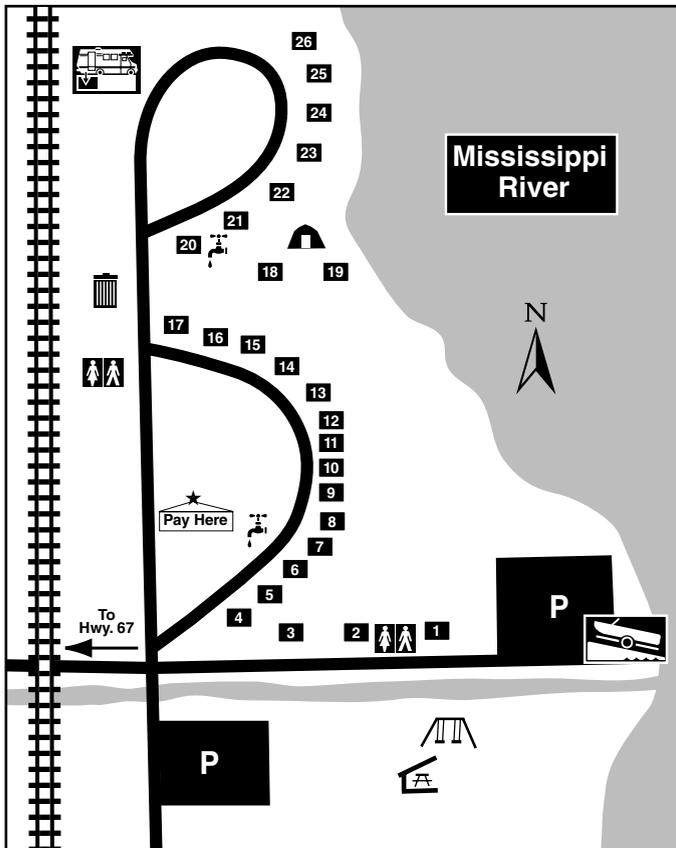
► Continued from page 20

Mississippi River. A popular launching site for local fisherman, you can easily find a honey hole for an afternoon of fishing. Directly in front of the campground is a field of lily pads that are ideal for fishing. You can also take a short trip up or down river to a find a calm backwater slough for hours of casting.

## LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

While staying at the park, here are some other attractions in nearby cities that may interest you and their distance to the park:

- Clinton Lumber Kings professional baseball team, Clinton, IA, 5 miles.
- Fulton, IL – Dutch Heritage Canyon & Windmill Park, 10 miles.



## BULGER'S HOLLOW INFO:

**Open Year Round**

**Fee Dates:**

May 15 - October 15

**Camping Fee:**

\$8

**Picnic Shelter Available:**

Yes

**Reservations Accepted:**

No

**Self Registration Address:**

4686 170th St.  
Clinton, IA 52732

**River Mile:**

525.2

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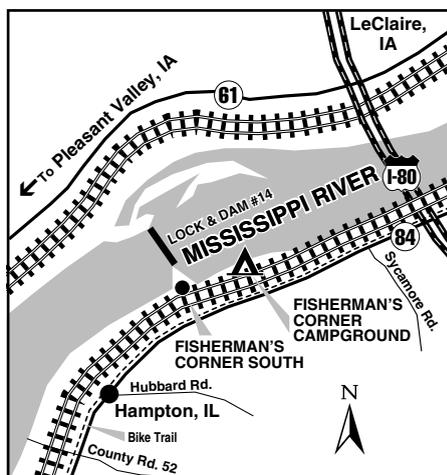
# FISHERMAN'S *Corner*

Fisherman's Corner North Recreation Area has become a popular camping destination along the Mississippi. It is located in Hampton, Illinois, just north of the Quad Cities off Illinois Highway 84. This campground serves campers looking for a wide range of recreational activities. The campground offers 56 campsites, most with 30 and 50 amp service available, a shower building, two lane dump station, playground equipment and horse shoe pits. Whether you are looking to get away from the crowded cities, a relaxing campsite along the Mississippi River or a place to rest on your travels across the county, Fisherman's Corner can accommodate your needs.

Fisherman's Corner is open from May 1 through the fourth Sunday in October. Located just upstream of Locks & Dam 14, you have the opportunity to watch the Mississippi River towboats navigate up or down stream. Take a moment and relax as you watch waterfowl, shore birds and other creatures in the marsh located just below the campground. If you are looking for a place to try fishing, Fisherman's Corner South Recreation Area is located ¼ mile downstream. This popular fishing area is adjacent to Locks & Dam 14. Here you can fish from the levee or enjoy a family picnic in the day use area.

Fisherman's Corner North Recreation Area offers summer interpretive programs and activities for visitors on select weekend between Memorial Day and Labor Day. All programs will be held at the campground amphitheater unless noted otherwise. To learn more about upcoming programs, information will be posted in campground bulletin boards, listed on our website [www.missriver.org](http://www.missriver.org), released through local media outlets or contact the Thomson Ranger Office at 815-259-3628.

► *Continued on page 24*



# FISHERMAN'S CORNER RECREATION AREA

► Continued from page 23

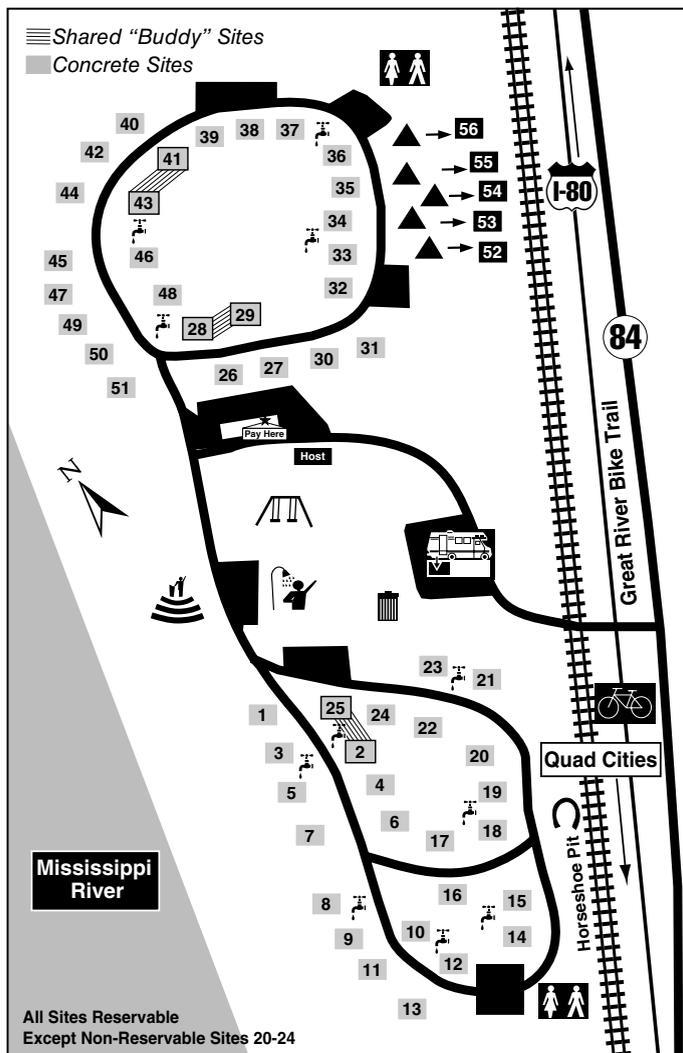
## AREA HISTORY

Located along the scenic Great River Road, Fisherman's Corner Recreation Area is tucked amongst some historic river towns. A short trip up or down the Mississippi and you will find a rich history of logging, blacksmiths and agriculture. Don't forget about John Deere! The company he founded has been a staple to the area and has deep roots in the development and growth of the nation. Across the river in LeClaire, Iowa, you can retrace the life and times of one of the country's best known Wild West entertainers, native son Buffalo Bill Cody.

## FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

One of the biggest attractions to Fisherman's Corner Recreation Area is the day use opportunities at Fisherman's Corner South Recreation Area. This area is connected to Locks & Dam 14 and creates a unique opportunity for fishing along the Mississippi River. During the summer months you can find the levee and shoreline lined with fisherman angling for a variety of species, including striped bass, perch and catfish. In early spring and late fall the boaters will flock below the dam to position themselves for prime

► Continued on page 25



## FISHERMAN'S CORNER INFO:

**Closed During Off-Season**

### Fee Dates:

May 1-October 25

### Camping Fee:

\$10 and \$20

### Reservations Accepted:

Yes

### Reservations:

877-444-6777 or  
www.Recreation.gov

### Entrance Booth:

309-496-2720

### Fee Booth:

Open 5-8 p.m. Daily  
9-11 a.m.  
Friday & Saturday  
& Sundays on  
holiday weekends

### Address:

16123 Hwy. 84 N  
Hampton, IL 61256

### River Mile:

493.3

# FISHERMAN'S CORNER RECREATION AREA

► *Continued from page 24*

walleye fishing. If you are looking to launch your boat, take a short trip north or south on Illinois Highway 84 to find river access to pools 14 and 15 of the Mississippi.

## LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

While staying at the park, here are some other locations or businesses you may want to visit, their location, and their distance from the park:

- Locks & Dam 14 and Smith's Island, Pleasant Valley, IA – summer navigation, hiking trails and winter eagle viewing, 5 miles.

- LeClaire, IA – shops and attractions, 5 miles.
- Great River Tugfest, August 13-15, 2015 – tug of war battle between Port Byron, IL & LeClaire, IA, 5 miles.
- Cordova National Speedway – Drag Racing, Cordova, IL, 10 miles.
- Deere Run – Host of the John Deere Classic, July 6-12, 2015, Silvis, IL, 10 miles.

## MWR CAMPSITES FOR ACTIVE MILITARY FAMILIES



MWR is a military term that stands for “Morale, Welfare and Recreation”.

The MWR program is a quality-of-life program that directly supports readiness by providing a variety of community, soldier and family support programs, activities and services. Over the past few years the Mississippi River Project has chosen to designate one campsite at several of our class A recreation areas as an MWR site.

This includes Grant River, Thomson Causeway, Fisherman's Corner, Clark's Ferry and Shady Creek Recreation Areas.

This campsite will be available for ACTIVE military and their family members of all branches of service to reserve for up to two weeks at a time, free of charge, to show our support to active military personnel and their families for all of the sacrifices they make to protect and preserve our freedom.

Active military personnel can make reservations for use of the site anytime between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day weekend for up to 14 days

by contacting the fee booth in person or by telephone. The site must be reserved no less than three days in advance of their arrival. Each site will be marked in the same manner at all parks with a tag and flag posted on the site when reserved for an active military member. The phone number for each park is listed in the profiles for each recreation area inside this magazine.

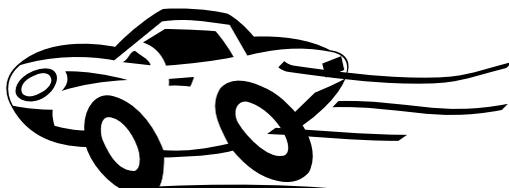
On days when the MWR site is not reserved or occupied it will be available to any walk-up camper to camp upon — and regular pricing will apply. Those wishing to camp on the site will be limited to registering for a maximum of two nights stay, but may re-register for additional two nights (up to a maximum of 14 days) if the site continues to be unused or unreserved by any active military personnel.

These MWR sites cannot be reserved by any other military personnel, army civilians or retired military personnel. It is for ACTIVE duty personnel only. Proof of active duty will be required by showing a valid military ID upon registration. ▲

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## WEEKEND LOCK & DAM TOURS



Join us for a lock and dam tour. **Public tours are scheduled on weekends between Memorial Day and Labor Day.** Topics covered during the tours include river history, lock and dam operation, towboats, barges, cargo, river hazards and much more.

The tour will be about an hour long and is dependent on weather conditions. Tour size is limited to 20 people and proper footwear (enclosed shoe) will be required. While on the tour there will be no camera or cell phone use allowed and all backpacks, purses, and bags must be left in your vehicle. Group tours must call ahead and any non-US citizens must get prior security clearance before attending. Specific lock sites and requirements are listed below.

**Lock & Dam 11 in Dubuque, Iowa.** Walking tours of the lock and dam are held every Sunday at 2 p.m., Meet at the overlook building. Contact Dubuque ranger station for information, 563-582-0881.

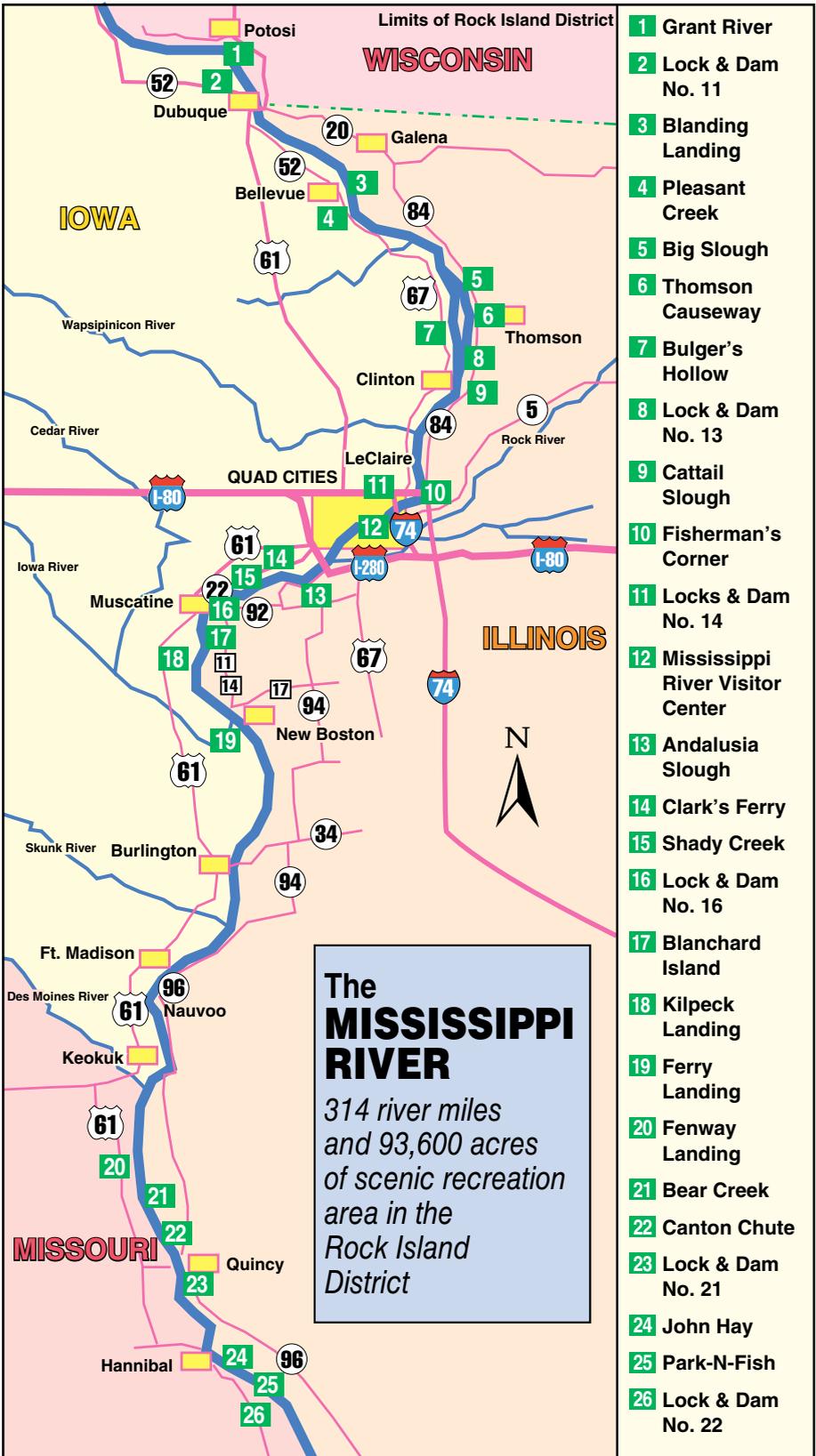
**Lock & Dam 13 in Fulton, Illinois.** Walking tours are held on Sundays at 1 p.m., reservations are required. Contact Thomson ranger station for information and to make reservations, 815-259-3628.

**Locks & Dam 15 in Rock Island, Illinois** on the west end of Arsenal Island. Walking tours are held on Saturdays 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. For security purposes all persons over age 16 must carry photo ID to enter island. Reservations are recommended, 309-794-5338.

**Lock & Dam 16 in Muscatine, Iowa.** Walking tours are held on Sundays at 2 p.m. Pre-registration is required, contact Southern ranger office for more information, 563-263-7913.

**Lock & Dam 21 in Quincy, Illinois.** Tour times are flexible. Reservations are required. Contact Southern ranger office for more information, 563-263-7913. ▲

# THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER



# RECREATION AREAS

RECREATION AREA	US Army Corps of Engineers® Rock Island District		EXPERIENCE CORPS QUALITY															
	POOL	STATE	CAMPING SITES	CAMPING FEE	ELECTRICITY	VENDING	SHOWERS	RESTROOMS	VAULT TOILETS	DRINKING WATER	TRAILER DUMP STATION	OBSERVATION SITE	BOAT LAUNCH	PICNIC AREA	PICNIC SHELTER	BOAT LAUNCH FEE	PAGE	
1. Grant River*	11	WI	73	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	8
2. Lock & Dam No. 11	11	IA	0			•					•							27
3. Blanding Landing*	12	IL	37	•	•		•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	10
4. Pleasant Creek	13	IA	55	•					•	•	•		•	•			•	13
5. Big Slough	13	IL	0						•	•			•	•			•	46
6. Thomson Causeway*	13	IL	131	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	16
7. Bulger's Hollow	13	IA	26	•					•	•	•		•	•	•			20
8. Lock & Dam No. 13	13	IL	6					•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	27/46
9. Cattail Slough	14	IL	0														•	46
10. Fisherman's Corner*	14	IL	56	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•				23
11. Locks & Dam No. 14	14	IA	0			•		•	•	•		•	•	•	•			46
12. Mississippi River Visitor Center	15	IL	0				•		•		•							31
13. Andalusia Slough	16	IL	16	•					•	•			•	•	•			47
14. Clark's Ferry*	16	IA	45	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	34
15. Shady Creek*	16	IA	53	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•							36
16. Lock & Dam No. 16	16	IL	0					•	•		•		•					27
17. Blanchard Island	17	IL	34	•					•	•	•		•	•				42
18. Kilpeck Landing	17	IA	0										•	•				46
19. Ferry Landing	18	IA	22						•		•		•	•				47
20. Fenway Landing	20	MO	0										•					46
21. Bear Creek**	21	IL	30						•				•	•	•			47
22. Canton Chute	21	IL	0						•				•					46
23. Lock & Dam No. 21	21	IL	0					•	•		•	•	•					27
24. John Hay	22	IL	0						•				•	•	•			46
25. Park-N-Fish	22	IL	0						•					•	•			46
26. Lock & Dam No. 22	24	MO	0										•					46

**\*RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED** — Reservations accepted through the National Recreation Reservation Service toll free at 877-444-6777, via the Internet at [www.Recreation.gov](http://www.Recreation.gov) or at campground fee booth. **\*\*SEASONAL.**

## CAMPING REGULATIONS

- Camping is permitted on a "first come" basis or by reservation where taken.
- Stays shall be limited to 14 days.
- Equipment left unattended longer than 24 hours will be impounded, and/or removed at owner's expense.
- Daily occupancy: One family unit or six people.
- Campfires shall be kept under control.
- Pets shall be on a six-foot leash, picked up after and controlled at all times.
- Discharge of firearms, fireworks or weapons of any kind is prohibited.
- Equipment shall be completely removed and the site cleaned before departure.
- Injury, defacement, removal or destruction of government-owned facilities or vegetation is prohibited.
- Motorized recreation vehicles must have a valid state registration, a licensed operator and be operated in a safe manner. They shall be used only on roadways and for the purpose of transportation into and out of the area.
- Quiet shall be observed between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.
- Hooking up to water is prohibited, except to fill up your tank.
- Violation of any of the above will be cause for removal from the area and/or legal action.

## RESERVING A PICNIC SHELTER

Reservable picnic shelters are available at several Corps of Engineers recreation areas along the Mississippi River. They are perfect for birthday parties, family reunions, or other special occasions. Many of the shelters can be reserved up to one year in advance by visiting [www.Recreation.gov](http://www.Recreation.gov) or calling 877-444-6777. Shelters without online registration may still be reserved by contacting the phone number listed. The cost to reserve these sites is only \$25.

	Picnic Tables	Fireplace	Lights	Outlets	Grill	Water	Restrooms Nearby	Playground Nearby	Online Reservations
Grant River	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Blanding Landing	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
Thomson Causeway (Octagon)	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Thomson Causeway (Stone Shelter)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Locks & Dam 14 309-794-4301	X		X	X	X	X	X		
Andalusia Slough 563-263-7913	X		X	X	X	X	X		
Clark's Ferry	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Shady Creek	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X



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- 🚩 Kickin' It Country
- 🚩 Sounds of Gospel
- 🚩 Oktoberfest
- 🚩 Fall Foliage

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- 🚩 Fall Cruises to Wisconsin



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# MISSISSIPPI RIVER *Visitor Center*

Come visit the Mississippi River Visitor Center which overlooks Locks & Dam 15 on Arsenal Island in Rock Island, Illinois. Locks & Dam 15 was the first dam of the 9-foot channel project built by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers between 1931 and 1934 becoming one of the 29 dams to make a stairway of water stretching from St. Paul, Minnesota to St. Louis, Missouri. These dams created a minimum pool depth of water to maintain a 9 foot navigation channel for commercial towboats transporting goods up and down the Upper Mississippi River. The Visitor Center gives you an excellent opportunity to view these towboats and the locking operation as they pass through the locks. The second floor of the Visitor Center is a great place to observe the river traffic from either inside or outside on the observation deck. Park Rangers are available to answer any questions you may have. In addition, the facility offers several educational displays including a river floor map, an aquarium with native Mississippi fish and a mounted Bald Eagle. There is also a movie theater with a variety of films for all ages. The Visitor Center has a gift shop with a variety of Mississippi River, Bald Eagle and educational souvenirs. Navigational charts for the Upper Mississippi River, the Illinois Waterway, and the Atchafalaya River are available for

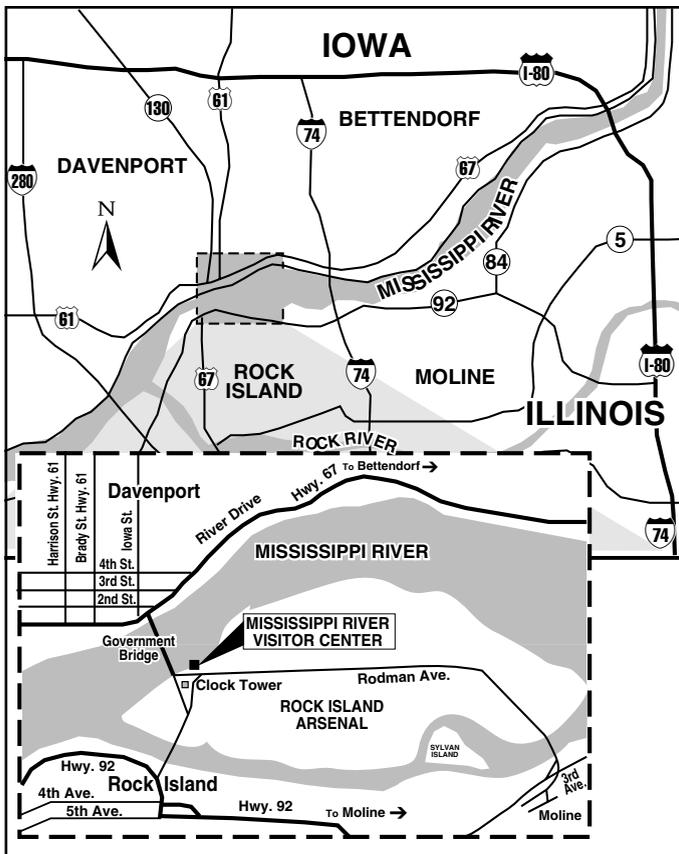


purchase. The Visitor Center is accessible. All services are free of charge to the public.

Park Rangers offer guided tours of the locks and dam on Saturdays from May 23 through September 5 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Special tours may be arranged for schools, families or organizational groups. Space is limited and reservations are highly recommended. Group tours must call ahead to schedule a tour at least 14 days in advance of their arrival date. All programming at the Mississippi River Visitor Center is subject to current security limitations and/or judgment of Corps personnel. Tours being conducted outside are dependent on the weather. To access the Rock Island Arsenal, people over 16 years of age must carry a picture ID. All vehicles and people are subject to search.

► *Map and Event Listings on page 32*

# MISSISSIPPI RIVER VISITOR CENTER



## MISSISSIPPI RIVER VISITOR CENTER INFO:

**Hours:**  
9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Tuesday-Saturday  
We are closed Thanksgiving day, noon on Dec. 24 through Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

**Address:**  
Mississippi River Visitor Center  
P.O. Box 2004  
Rock Island, IL  
61204-2004

**GPS:**  
200 Rodman Ave.  
Rock Island, IL  
61201

The center has picnicking and restroom facilities. All services are free of charge to the public.

**Phone:**  
309-794-5338

**FAX:**  
309-794-5741

**Email:**  
mvrodmn15@usace.army.mil

## 2015 Mississippi River Visitor Center Events

*Pre-registration is recommended for all programs. In addition, we recommend calling to confirm time, date and special information for each scheduled program.*

### HISTORIC CLOCK TOWER / EAGLE WATCH TOURS

Combination Eagle Watch and Historic Clock Tower Tours will be offered on select weekends in January and February at 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., these tours begin at the Mississippi River Visitor Center. Participants must be able to climb 12 flights of stairs at a moderate/easy pace. Accommodations may be made for people needing assistance with accessibility. Each Clock Tower/Eagle Watch Tour will include information about the American Bald Eagle and the Historic Clock Tower. While attending these tours there may be an opportunity to see Bald Eagles from the Clock Tower. Spotting scopes are provided to aid in viewing these majestic birds. It is suggested (but not required) that you bring your own pair of binoculars for better viewing. Reservations are recommended as group size is limited. Tours will last 75-90 minutes. Call the Mississippi River Visitor Center for information and registration at 309-794-5338.

### LOCKS & DAM TOURS

Mississippi River Visitor Center Park Rangers will provide walking tours of Locks & Dam 15 for the public on Saturdays from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Each tour will be 45-60 minutes and is dependent on weather conditions and judgment of Corps personnel. Tour size is limited to 20 people. Proper footwear will be required, enclosed toe shoes, no sandals or heels. No cameras, cell phones, backpacks, bags or purses are permitted on the tour; please leave these items in your vehicle. Call the Mississippi River Visitor Center for information and registration at 309-794-5338.

### ILLINOIS BOATING SAFETY CLASSES

Illinois Boating Safety Classes will be offered March 14 and 28, April 11 and 25, and May 2 at the Mississippi River Project

► *Continued on page 33*

## MISSISSIPPI RIVER VISITOR CENTER

► *Continued from page 32*

Office/LD 14 in Pleasant Valley, Iowa. Eight hours of attendance is required on one of these days to complete the course. Students must also pass a written exam. If special accommodations are needed to complete the written exam please notify the instructors. Class times are from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Call the Mississippi River Visitor Center for class and registration information at 309-794-5338.

### **JANUARY 3, 24 & 31**

Historic Clock Tower & Eagle Watch Tours, 9:30 a.m. & 2 p.m.

### **FEBRUARY 7**

Historic Clock Tower & Eagle Watch Tours, 9:30 a.m. & 2 p.m.

### **MARCH 14 & 28**

Illinois Boating Safety Class, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

### **APRIL 11 & 25**

Illinois Boating Safety Class, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

### **MAY 2**

Illinois Boating Safety Class, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

### **MAY 23 & 30**

Walking Tours of Locks & Dam 15, 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

### **JUNE 6, 13, 20 & 27**

Walking Tours of Locks & Dam 15, 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

### **JULY 3, 4, 11, 18 & 25**

Walking Tours of Locks & Dam 15, 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

### **AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29**

Walking Tours of Locks & Dam 15, 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

### **SEPTEMBER 5**

Walking Tours of Locks & Dam 15, 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

### **OCTOBER 17**

Bicycle Tour of Rock Island Arsenal, 9:30-11:30am.

## HELP SAVE ASH TREES

**Help Us Prevent and Slow the Spread of Emerald Ash Borers:  
PLEASE DO NOT TRANSPORT FIREWOOD!**

### **Here is how you can help:**

- Leave your firewood at home — do not transport firewood.
- Use firewood from local sources.
- Burn all firewood before leaving the park.

Given recent EAB infestations and changes in federal and state quarantines, the Corps is reviewing firewood regulations. Please check [www.missriver.org](http://www.missriver.org) for current information on Corps firewood restrictions. For your convenience and to reduce the chances of spreading these invasive species we offer firewood for sale on site at several of our recreation areas. These areas include Thomson Causeway, Fisherman's Corner North, Clark's Ferry, and Shady Creek. For more information on EAB and quarantine boundary lines, please visit the website [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info).





# CLARK'S *Ferry*

This 11 acre park is a popular Class A campground along the Mississippi River in Montpelier, Iowa. It has 45 concrete sites all with 50 amp electrical service and many with great views of the river. The park is shaded by large mature trees and recently landscaped planters to provide that relaxing atmosphere that camping promotes. Many of these campsites can accommodate large RVs, and most sites also offer much “green space” between you and your neighbor’s campsite.

This busy recreation area is open from the beginning of May through the last Sunday in October. Making reservations well in advance are encouraged to guarantee you have a spot to camp when you arrive. This is especially true for holiday weekends and for local area special events held throughout the recreation season. The park is accessible to day users only and no camping is allowed during the seasonal closure.

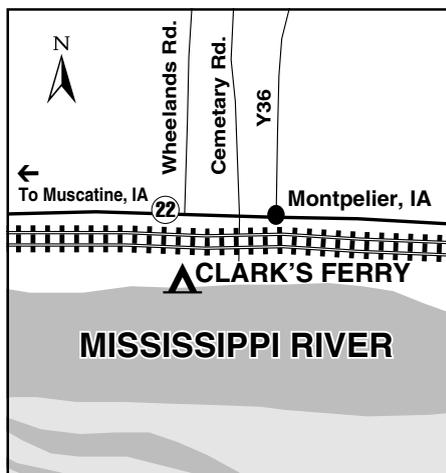
## AREA HISTORY

In the early 1800s a ferry between Iowa and Illinois shores was badly needed, and Captain Benjamin Clark was an imaginative man who was determined to provide it. French traders camping on the river bank learned that Clark had finished his boat, but laughed at him declaring that only “Ze crazy Americans” would be foolish enough to believe they could cross the river with such a large craft. (Magnificent Mississippi by Jim Arpy). As the Frenchmen laughed, they sought his services and summoned his ferry to transport cattle jokingly. Clark knew there were

no herds of cattle in the area but still provided them the ferry for which they asked. When Clark reached the Frenchmen and requested payment of \$10, they had no money. They agreed to pay him but with “two bolts of calico”, if he would accept it. Clark accepted the payment and his ferry became profitable. It was the only ferry between Burlington and Dubuque where one could cross the Mississippi with cargo.

In the early 1960s, construction began to develop the primitive Montpelier Public Use Area. As recreation use picked up, the area was converted to a Class A campground in 1982 by adding modern facilities and changing the name to Clark’s Ferry Recreation Area after Captain Clark.

► *Continued on page 35*



# CLARK'S FERRY RECREATION AREA

► Continued from page 34

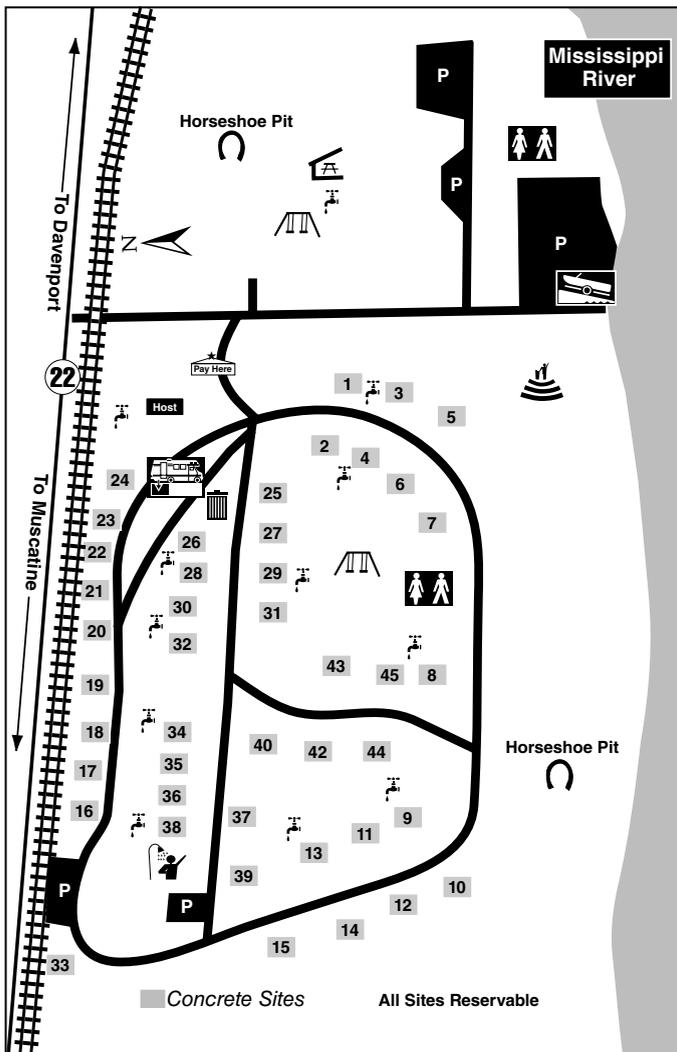
## FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

Whether you're fishing from the banks of the Mississippi or launching a boat to try gain the advantage, you can do both right at Clark's Ferry Recreation Area. Bank fishing may not give you the greatest ability to catch that keeper, but it does offer hours of entertainment for you and your fishing buddy. It's a great way to introduce the sport of fishing to children. It doesn't take much for equipment, and you can essentially fish from anywhere along the Mississippi River shoreline! Fishing from a boat will allow you greater mobility and variety of fishing "holes". Of course water safety is of

utmost importance whenever you plan on being on or near the water. Please remember to wear your lifejacket when enjoying either of these fishing endeavors. Don't let drowning spoil your day of adventure. Just wear it!

## LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

Clark's Ferry Recreation Area is located near many popular attractions in the Quad City and Muscatine, Iowa, areas. It is also located only three miles from our Shady Creek Recreation Area located just downstream. For a listing of attractions available from both of these recreation areas please see page 38.



## CLARK'S FERRY INFO:

**Closed During Off-Season**

**Fee Dates:**

May 1-October 25

**Camping Fee:**

\$20

**Picnic Shelter Available:**

\$25

**Reservations Accepted:**

Yes

**Reservations:**

877-444-6777

**Entrance Booth:**

563-381-4043

**Fee Booth:**

Open 5-8 p.m. Daily  
9-11 a.m.  
Friday & Saturday  
& Sundays on  
holiday weekends

**Address:**

3860 Sunset Beach  
Montpelier, IA  
52759

**RIVER MILE**

568.5



# SHADY Creek

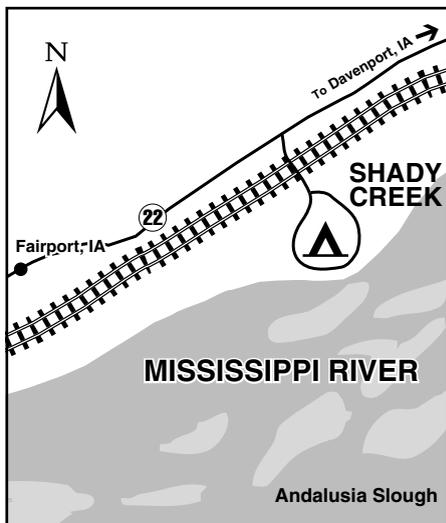
This 31 acre park is one of the more popular Class A campgrounds located off Highway 22 up river from Fairport, Iowa, along the Mississippi River. It has 53 concrete sites all with 50 amp electrical service and the peaceful serene view of the river makes this a great place to relax and camp. Many of these campsites can accommodate the largest of RVs, and most sites also offer much sought after “green space” between you and your neighbor’s campsite.

This busy recreation area is open from the first Friday in May through the fourth Sunday in October. Reservations are encouraged to guarantee you have a spot to camp when you arrive. This is especially true for holiday weekends and for special events like the annual Shady Creek Camper’s Craft Show held in August. You’ll want to be sure to make your reservations well in advance to camp during these holiday weekends and special events. The remainder of the year the park is accessible to day users; while the first eleven sites are open to camping with limited facilities due to winter weather.

## AREA HISTORY

Through 1964, the entire area known as Shady Creek Recreation Area was under an agricultural lease. Then in 1965, seven acres along the river became undeveloped tent camping and day use. In 1981 the old

► *Continued on page 37*



# SHADY CREEK RECREATION AREA

► *Continued from page 36*

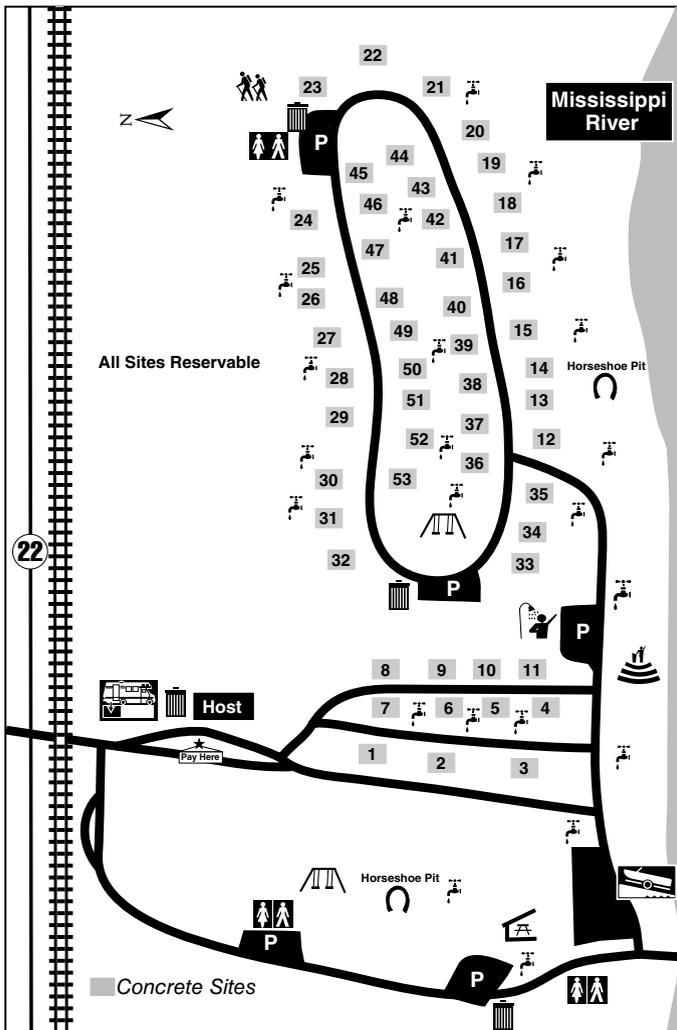
agricultural lease was terminated and reforestation began. In 1983 the site was converted to a Class B fee camping area. The facilities added were a modern shower and comfort station, access roads to the camping and day use, and a boat ramp. No cultural or archeological significance has been found on this site, which made it a great location for recreational expansion. Farming was the early use of the site, but due to recreational demands, Shady Creek grew into a Class A recreation area in 1985 and continues to grow.

## FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

Whether you're fishing from the banks of the Mississippi or launching a boat to try and gain the advantage,

you can do both right at Shady Creek Recreation Area. Bank fishing offers hours of entertainment for you and your fishing buddy. It's a great way to introduce fishing to children. It's cheap, doesn't take much for equipment, and you can essentially fish from anywhere along the Mississippi River shoreline! If you prefer to fish from a boat, you can launch it from almost any of our recreation areas. There is a \$3 per launch fee at some of our ramps or you can purchase a Day Use Annual Pass for \$30 to launch your boat as often as you like during the year. Water safety is the Corps most

► *Continued on page 38*



## SHADY CREEK INFO:

**Open Year Round**

### Fee Dates:

May 1-October 25

### Camping Fee:

\$20

### Picnic Shelter Available:

\$25

### Reservations Accepted:

Yes

### Reservations:

877-444-6777

### Entrance Booth:

563-262-8090

### Fee Booth:

Open 5-8 p.m. Daily  
9-11 a.m.

Friday & Saturday  
& Sundays on  
holiday weekends

### Address:

3550 Hwy. 22  
Muscatine, IA 52761

### River Mile:

464.6

# SHADY CREEK RECREATION AREA

Continued from page 37

important message we want to share with our users. So whenever you plan on being on or near the water, please remember to wear your lifejacket, heed weather warnings, and never drink and boat. We want everyone to enjoy the river, but to do it safely and responsibly!

## LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

While staying at the park, here are some other attractions in nearby cities that may interest you and their distance to the park:

- ▶ Fairport State Fish Hatchery, Fairport, IA – Fish Hatchery Tours, 2 miles.
- ▶ Wildcat Den State Park, Muscatine, IA – hiking trails, Pine Creek Grist Mill, limestone cliffs, 2.6 miles.
- ▶ Muscatine History & Industry Center, Muscatine Art Center, Muscatine, IA – button and other local industry, artwork, 10 miles.

- ▶ Muscatine Aquatic Center, Weed Park, Riverfront and Downtown, Muscatine, IA – Outdoor swimming pool and slides, duck pond, paved walking/biking trails, recreational water fountain for cooling off, basketball court, great views of the river, boat ramps, unique shopping, horse drawn carriage rides, Pearl Button Riverboat dinner and cruises, 9 miles.
- ▶ Lock & Dam 16, Muscatine, IA – summer navigation, lock and dam tours, and winter eagle viewing, 12 miles.
- ▶ Muscatine County Conservation Learning and Discovery Center, Muscatine, IA – trails, indoor nature exhibits, live animal exhibits, 12 miles.
- ▶ Port Louisa National Wildlife Refuge and Lake Odessa, Grandview, IA – wildlife viewing, hunting, fishing, water trails for canoeing and kayaking, 35 miles.

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**GETAWAY**



**MUSCATINE**  
IOWA [visitmuscatine.com](http://visitmuscatine.com)

CALL 563-272-2534 OR CLICK FOR YOUR VISITORS GUIDE



# BLANCHARD *Island*

This 6.5 acre park is a Class B campground located along the Mississippi River approximately six miles downstream of Lock & Dam 16 in Illinois. It has 34 primitive campsites and all of them have great views of the river. The park is shaded by large mature maple, cottonwood, and sycamore trees. These campsites are perfect for tents and small trailers and shorter motor homes. This is a great “off the beaten path” campground for those who appreciate the peace and quiet that this has to offer. It is located off the main channel of the river offering a nature lover’s experience and fishing hotspots.

This recreation area is open year round as long as there are no adverse conditions preventing its closure. There is a self-registration \$8 per night fee charged from May 15 through October 15. All the sites are on a “first come first serve” basis.

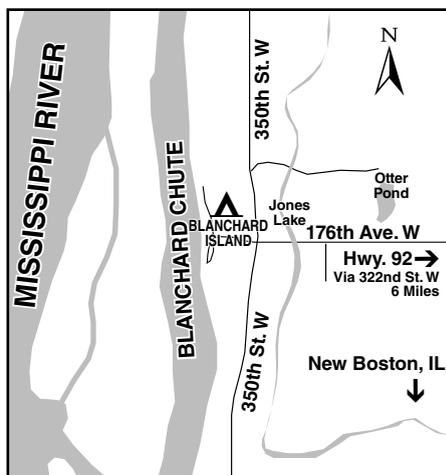
## AREA HISTORY

The history of the area dates back to the 1800s when waterfowl and deer hunters used the area to launch their boats. Many hunters camped along these banks because cabins were not usually built along the river. However, a man by the name of Stookleberry built a barn and small cabin on Blanchard Island when he owned the property. From 1837 to 1841, Stanton Prentiss operated an

Illinois-based ferry just above the current day Blanchard Island. In the 1920s, Blanchard Island became a popular island for making “moonshine”, also known as “hooch, whitemill, and whiskey”. A local resident of the area was always warned not to go to the island for fear of being shot, so he did as he was told, even though he never saw a real “bootleggers still”.

During the 1960s, a concrete boat ramp was built at this site and use of the area prompted the Corps of Engineers to develop it into a primitive campground. In 2011,

► *Continued on page 43*



# BLANCHARD ISLAND RECREATION AREA

► Continued from page 42

a new concrete vault toilet with sidewalk handicapped accessibility was installed adding to the parks amenities.

## FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

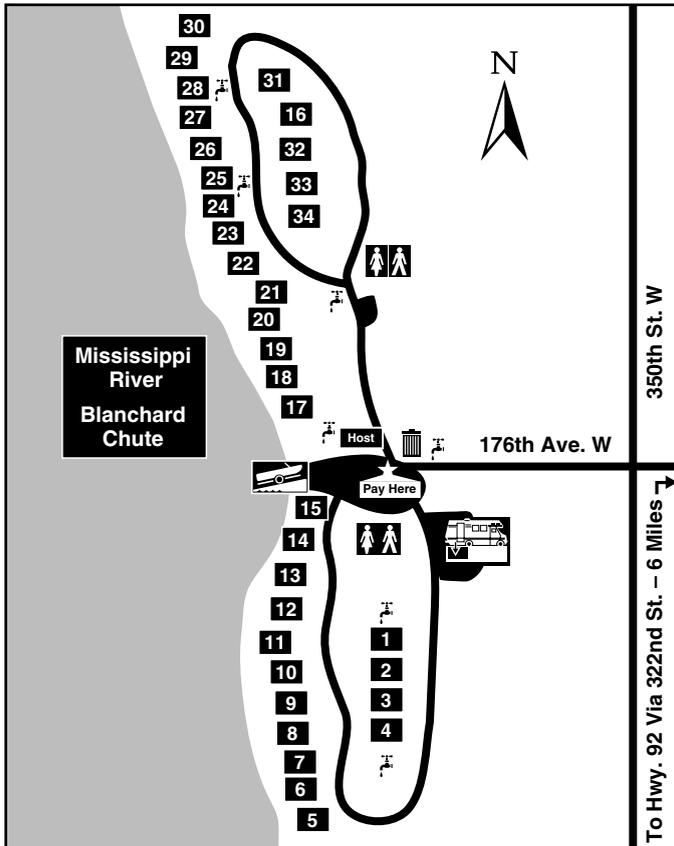
Blanchard Island Recreation Area is home to many anglers' favorite catfish holes! The boat ramp here allows free access to the river. Campers enjoy bank fishing here as well. Please remember to employ water safety practices whenever you're on or near the water. Wear your lifejacket and get them on your kids as well, to ensure a safe fishing experience for all.

## LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

While staying at the park, here are some other attractions in nearby cities that may interest you and their distance to the park:

- Lock & Dam 16, Muscatine, IA – summer navigation, lock and dam tours, and winter eagle viewing, 7 miles.

- Muscatine History & Industry Center, Muscatine Art Center, Muscatine, IA – button & other local industry, artwork, 9 miles.
- Muscatine Aquatic Center, Weed Park, Riverfront & Downtown, Muscatine, IA – Outdoor swimming pool and slides, duck pond, paved walking/biking trails, recreational water fountain for cooling off, basketball court, great river views, boat ramps, unique shopping, horse drawn carriage rides, Pearl Button Riverboat dinner and cruises, 10 miles.
- Muscatine County Conservation Learning and Discovery Center, Muscatine, IA – trails, indoor nature exhibits, live animal exhibits, 12 miles.
- Loud Thunder Forest Preserve, Illinois City, IL – hiking, camping, canoe rentals, fishing, 15 miles.



## BLANCHARD ISLAND

### INFO:

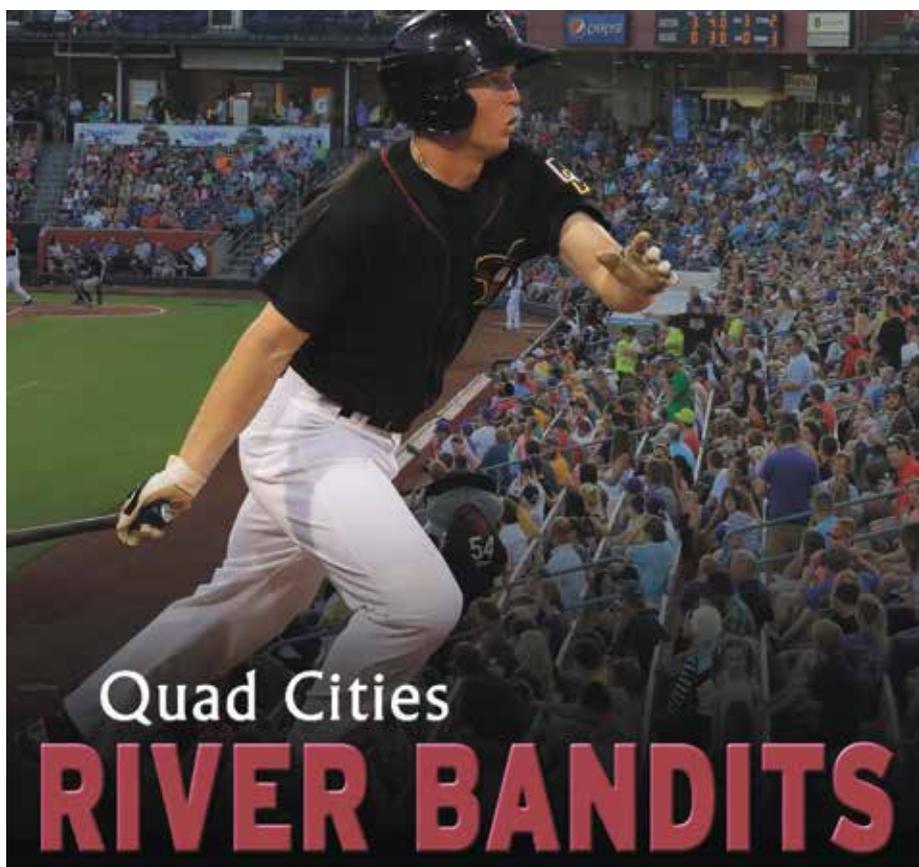
**Open Year Round**

**Fee Dates:**  
May 15-October 15

**Camping Fee:**  
\$8

**Reservations Accepted:**  
No

**Self Registration Address:**  
Blanchard Island Recreation Area  
34000 176th Ave. W.  
New Boston, IL 61272



Quad Cities

# RIVER BANDITS

2015 BASEBALL SEASON



CLASS 'A' AFFILIATE OF THE HOUSTON ASTROS



**RIVERBANDITS.com (563) 324-3000**

HISTORIC

Nauvoo

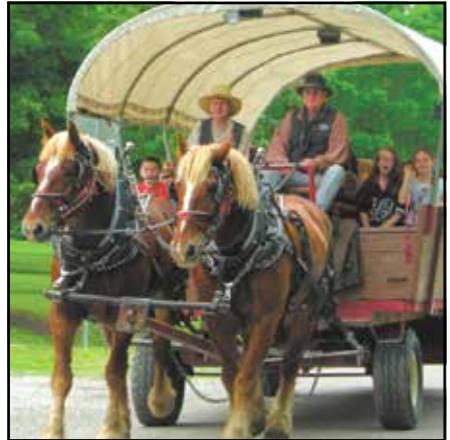
## Visit one of America's Premier National Historic Communities from the 1840s

*Guests can tour more than 30 historic sites.*

### Year-round activities:

Begin your visit at the Historic Nauvoo Visitors' Center, then tour Historic Homes & Shops:

- Brigham Young's Home • Print Shop
- Browning Home & Gun Shop • Post Office
- Scovil Bakery • Boot Shop • And more.
- Take a horse-drawn wagon tour, carriage tour, or oxen ride, or try all three.

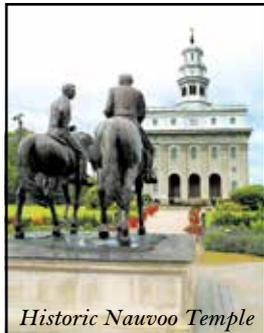


## Year-round FREE FAMILY FUN



*Brigham Young House*

- Watch daily demonstrations of skills needed to live in the 1840s including: candle making, spinning, bread making, weaving, barrel making, pottery, brick making and blacksmithing. You can even make yourself a rope!
- Enjoy the play "Rendezvous in Old Nauvoo", an hour-long musical comedy performed nightly, except Sundays, by the Senior Tour Guides.



*Historic Nauvoo Temple*

### Additional summer activities:

- Nauvoo & British Pageants: Broadway quality actors and 100s of cast members tell the story of Historic Nauvoo.
- Variety of plays & musicals for guests of all ages:
  - Sunset by the Mississippi
  - The Promise
  - Just Plain Anna Amanda
  - BYU Performing Groups



*British Pageant*

All Events and Activities in Historic Nauvoo are FREE

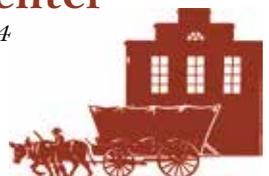
## Historic Nauvoo Visitors' Center

corner of Hubbard & Main, Nauvoo, IL 62354

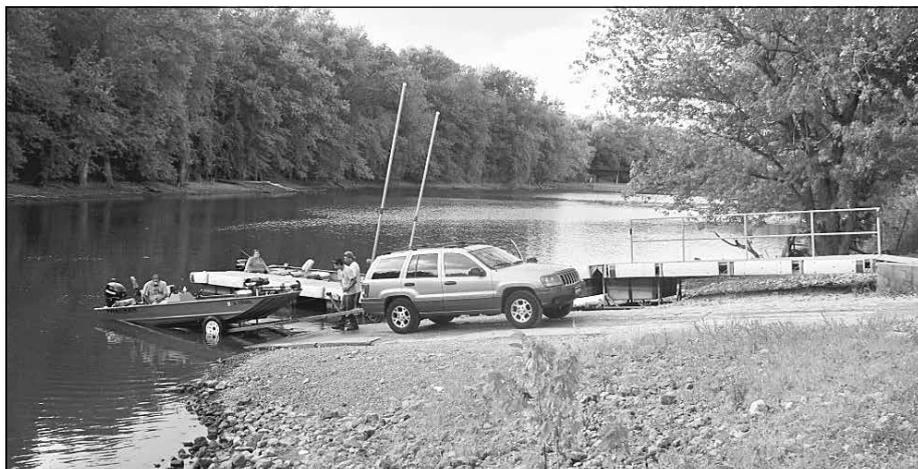
**217.453.2237**

[www.historicnauvoo.net](http://www.historicnauvoo.net)

[facebook.com/historicnauvoo](https://facebook.com/historicnauvoo)



*Camping available in adjacent Nauvoo State Park*



# SEMI-Developed

For those people who are looking for a river access or secluded campsite, we offer several opportunities. Our river access only areas have a boat ramp, parking for your vehicle and often a vault toilet but no camping is allowed at these sites. Our camping and river access areas offer a primitive camping option as well as access to the river. Most of these camping areas offer semi-developed campsites, vault toilets, drinking water, boat launches and picnic areas for your enjoyment.

## **RIVER ACCESS ONLY — NO CAMPING PERMITTED:**

► **Big Slough\*** located four miles north of Thomson, Illinois, ½ mile west off Highway 84 at river mile 531.4 offers developed river access, courtesy dock and is a great fishing hotspot.

► **Cattail Slough\*** sits in the backwaters of the Mississippi at river mile 517.8. It is located ¼ mile southwest of Fulton, Illinois, off Highway 84 and offers excellent fishing with river access and courtesy dock.

► **Lock & Dam 13\*** offers river access and great bank fishing. It is located three miles north of Fulton, Illinois, off Highway 84 at river mile 522.5 and has a picnic shelter, and vault toilets. A river observation deck/restroom building also overlooks the lock and dam.

► **Locks & Dam 14/Smith's Island** located just down river of LeClaire, Iowa, off Highway 67 at

river mile 493.3 offers a one mile hiking trail, bank fishing and wildlife/riverboat watching. The area also has a reservable picnic shelter and vault toilets available for public use.

► **Kilpeck Landing** is a popular boat ramp and offers river access for prime fishing spots. It is located five miles northeast of Grandview, Iowa, at river mile 446.7.

► **Fenway Landing** offers river access as well as an excellent view of the Mississippi and river navigation. Located four and a half miles north of Canton, Missouri, on US Highway 61 at river mile 347.8.

► **Canton Chute** is a recreation area with the closest river access to Hogback Island, located off of N. Bottom Road, north of Quincy, Illinois, at river mile 331.6.

► **John Hay** located across the river from famous Hannibal, Missouri, on Highway 106 near East Hannibal, Illinois, at river mile 309.3 offers a day use facility with river access.

► **Park-N-Fish** located southwest of Hull, Illinois, off Highway 106 at river mile 301.2 offers bank fishing along the spillway of Lock & Dam 22.

► **Lock & Dam 22** offers river access to Pool 24 of the Mississippi River and is located off Highway 79 near Saverton, Missouri, at river mile 301.2.

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► *Continued on page 47*

## SEMI-DEVELOPED RECREATIONAL SITES

► Continued from page 46

### CAMPING & RIVER ACCESS:

► **Andalusia Slough\*** is a roadside style campground with a \$6 self-registration fee charged between May 15 and October 15. This site continues to be a popular river access point. It is located two miles west of Andalusia, Illinois, off Highway 92 at river mile 470. Picnic shelter available for reservation.

► **Ferry Landing** sits at the mouth of the Iowa River, near the northern edge of Oakville, Iowa, at river mile 433.6 and offers great river views from 22 primitive campsites. It offers camping, river access and dump station.

► **Bear Creek** Bear Creek located off Highway 96 near Marcelline, Illinois, at river mile 340.9 offers seasonal camping and river access. The dates for seasonal camping will be between September 1 and December 31. Hunting is permitted on the Long Island Division of the Great River National Wildlife Refuge surrounding the campground.

For further location information of these areas, please refer to the map at the center of this booklet.

*\*Big Slough, Cattail Slough and Lock & Dam 13 charge boat launch fees for their river access.*

## NATURE BACKPACKS IN CORPS PARKS



Have you ever wanted to go on a nature scavenger hunt or watch for birds along the banks of the Mississippi River? Then we have just the thing for you. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mississippi River Project has created a Nature Backpack Program in an effort to provide an opportunity to encourage children to learn more about the natural world.

These backpacks contain many different activities to engage children in the world around them. Outdoor activities include things like a nature scavenger hunt, bug and bird watching gear and instructions on how to make a whistle from just a

blade of grass. The backpacks include many different tools to entice young nature lovers to explore their surroundings including binoculars, a nature book, bug boxes and a magnifying glass. These backpacks are not just for the great outdoors. Pick one up on a rainy day for fun activities such as coloring and drawing pages, word finds and crossword puzzles. These packs also include some amazing fun facts like: Did you know you can tell the temperature by listening to a cricket or that an earthworm has five hearts or that a pileated woodpecker hammers its heads into a tree up to 20 times a second?

Backpacks will be available for daily check out FREE of charge at the fee booths in the following Class A campgrounds: Grant River, Blanding Landing, Thomson Causeway, Fisherman's Corner, Clark's Ferry and Shady Creek. The backpacks will also be available for nature adventures at the Mississippi River Project Office, the Visitor Center at Locks & Dam 15 and at the Southern ranger office.

For more information on how to check out a backpack, contact one of the Mississippi River Project offices listed on page 4 of this book. ▲

## RECREATION DAY USE FEE PROGRAM — BOAT RAMPS



Some boat ramps along the Mississippi River require a user fee as part of the Corps of Engineers Recreation Day Use Fee Program. Day use fees help recover only a portion of costs associated with operating and maintaining Corps' recreation facilities. Boat ramp fees are charged annually from May 1 through November 30.

For daily use, there is a \$3 fee that is charged using a self-registration vault.

### **To register at the ramp follow these simple steps:**

- ▶ Fill out information required on envelope
- ▶ Insert payment into the envelope. Payment can be made using cash or check made out to **FAO, USAED, Rock Island**
- ▶ Tear off the hang-tag portion, date, and hang the tag on your rear-view mirror with the date visible from the outside of the vehicle.
- ▶ Seal the envelope and deposit it in the vault

*\*Note: Day Use fees are valid for the entire date of purchase. Permits may be used to launch from other Corps of Engineers ramps on the same day as long as the hang tag is dated and displayed properly.*

If you are a frequent visitor, you may wish to purchase an annual pass for \$30. The annual pass allows unlimited, nation wide use of all

Corps day use fee areas for one year from date of purchase. The pass is in the form of a placard that hangs on your rear-view mirror.

If you have a Golden Age/Access or America the Beautiful Senior or Access card you will receive a 50 percent discount on all day use fees. This discount applies only to the card holder. If you are staying at a Corps of Engineers campground you do not have to pay the daily fee for use of the boat ramp. Just present your current camping receipt on your vehicle dash with the camping dates visible.

Boat ramps that charge a use fee on the Mississippi River are: Grant River, Blanding Landing, Pleasant Creek, Big Slough, Thomson Causeway, Lock & Dam 13, Cattail Slough, Clark's Ferry and Shady Creek Recreation Area. ▲

### **WHERE TO BUY YOUR ANNUAL PASS**

- ▶ Purchase in person at one of the following locations:
  - *Campground Entrance Stations at Class A Campgrounds (May-October)*
  - *Ranger Stations*
  - *Mississippi River Visitor Center*
- ▶ Order your Annual Pass by phone (Visa, MasterCard and American Express) by calling the Mississippi River Visitor Center at 309-794-5338.

Great River Road Interpretive Center



# Villa Kathrine

Quincy's Visitor Center  
on the Mississippi  
in Quincy, Illinois

Call for information on tours and  
renting the Villa for a special occasion.

532 Gardner Expressway  
217-224-3688

email: villakathrine@hotmail.com

Quincy Convention & Visitors Bureau  
1-800-97-VISIT for Travel Information

## PRINCETON OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

Canoe & Kayak Rentals

Ice Fishing Rentals

Trips Available

563-289-5445

203 River Dr.

Princeton, IA 52768

princetonoutdooradventures.com



# FAMILY FUN GUIDE TO QUINCY

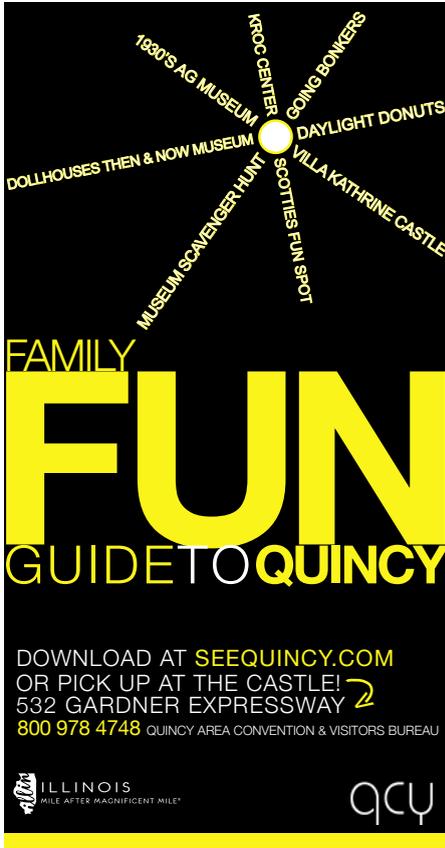
DOWNLOAD AT [SEEQUINCY.COM](http://SEEQUINCY.COM)

OR PICK UP AT THE CASTLE!  
532 GARDNER EXPRESSWAY

800 978 4748 QUINCY AREA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

ILLINOIS  
MILE AFTER MAGNIFICENT MILE®

QC



A SEASON FOR ALL

# Keokuk IOWA

Museums

Hunt Keokuk Geodes

Mark Twain Historic Sights

Iowa's Only National Cemetery

Award Winning Civil War Reenactment

Historic Lock & Dam

Winter Home for Bald Eagles

KEOKUK AREA CONVENTION  
& TOURISM BUREAU

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

319.524.5599



# FISHING THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI



Fishing the mighty Mississippi River can be a fun and exciting experience. When you get a bite on your line in this river, it could be anything from a bluegill to a bowfin, a crappie or a carp, or any of the dozens of fish species that call the river their home. Due to the fast currents and muddy appearance of the Mississippi River, fish here tend to go after their prey more by smell and movement than by actually seeing their prey. This explains why many people who are fishing for walleye often catch catfish instead, and anglers using bobbers and worms catch some huge bass instead of bluegill.

With miles and miles of both backwaters and swift current to choose from, those using a boat to go after their favorite species have somewhat of an advantage because they can cover more area. However those wishing to shoreline fish will not be left empty handed as there are a multitude of places to wet a line along the bank. Many U.S. Army Corps of Engineers parks offer both opportunities to fisher-persons by providing boat launches and many shoreline fishing areas to the visitor. Many of the Corps boat launches charge a \$3 launching fee to non-registered campers via a self registration vault located at the ramp. A \$30 annual pass good at all Corps ramps nationwide may also be purchased at fee booths, ranger offices, the Visitor Center, and from



rangers on patrol. Anyone camping at any Corps park can simply place their campsite receipt on the dash of their towing vehicle for the day and forego paying the launch fee.

All persons fishing from a boat or land must have the proper state licenses in their possession while fishing. For those fishing from a boat, you may fish from shoreline to shoreline of the river with either state license in Illinois and Iowa. For those fishing off land, you must have the proper license for whichever state claims the land you are standing on. If you are unsure of the license requirements, talk to a ranger or attendant, or call the Department of Natural Resources in that state.

Remember, fishing is a year-round sport, and many fantastic ice-fishing locations may be found along the river. Kids especially enjoy a chance to be mobile while fishing, and ice-fishing is a relatively cheap sport to start up. A few dollars worth of gear can go a long way toward an enjoyable fishing experience. Backwaters and sloughs make the best ice-fishing locations.

► *Continued on page 51*

# FISHING THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI

► Continued from page 50

The main species caught through the ice are bluegill and crappie although bass, northern pike, walleye, and yellow perch are also caught. While fun, ice fishing may also prove dangerous if conditions are poor. Never walk on ice in areas that contain current, springs, or warm water. Several inches of clear, hard ice is needed to support your weight, and more thickness is needed if the ice is cloudy, soft, or thawing at the time.

Always keep safety in mind when recreating along the river. Don't let a good day fishing go bad just because you didn't want to be safe. Always remember your life jackets when ice fishing, bank fishing, or fishing from a boat cause you never know when you just might end up in the water. If boating, remember to never drink and boat. Always keep a good lookout for other boaters too cause they might not be looking out for you. ▲



**27th Annual Pike County Illinois Color Drive**  
**October 17-18, 2015**  
 Come enjoy the fall colors of autumn in Pike County, Illinois

Activities and events are planned in over 20 Pike County communities during the weekend.

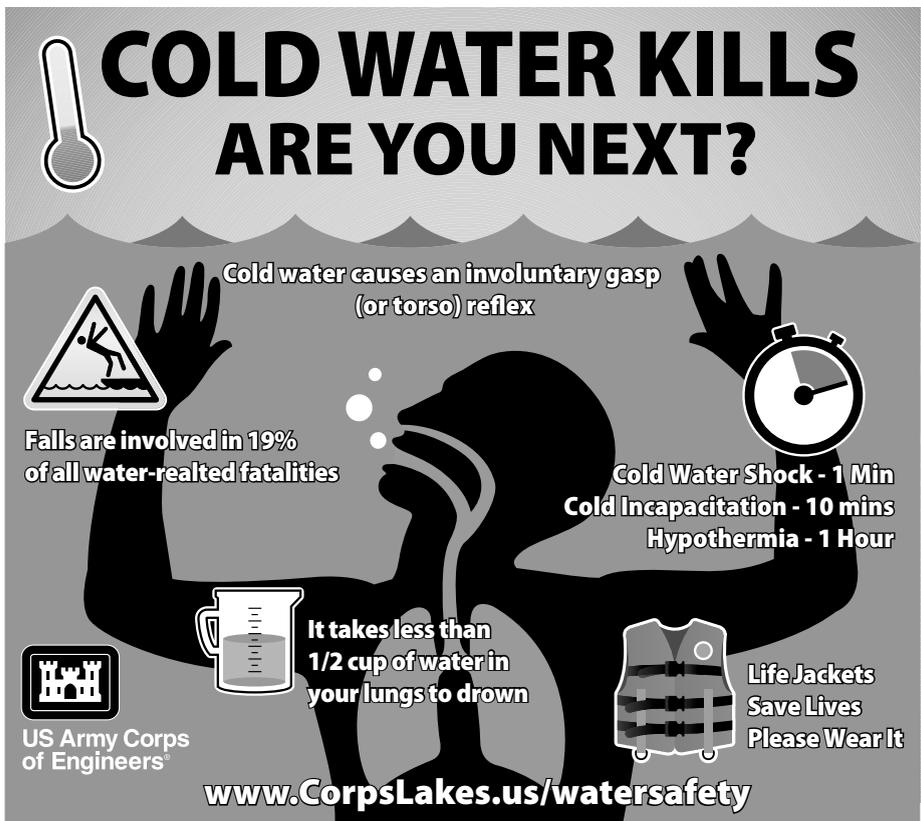
- \* Visit Historic Villages
- \* Family Activities
- \* Crafts
- \* Food
- \* Tasty Treats

- **Crafts & Food**
- **Family Activities**

For more information and overnight accommodations, contact the Pike County Chamber of Commerce at  
 217-285-2971  
 or visit our Web site at  
[www.pikecolordrive.com](http://www.pikecolordrive.com)

  **ILLINOIS**  
 MILE AFTER MAGNIFICENT MILE

# COLD WATER KILLS ARE YOU NEXT?



**Cold water causes an involuntary gasp (or torso) reflex**

Falls are involved in 19% of all water-related fatalities

**Cold Water Shock - 1 Min**  
**Cold Incapacitation - 10 mins**  
**Hypothermia - 1 Hour**

It takes less than 1/2 cup of water in your lungs to drown

**Life Jackets Save Lives Please Wear It**

 **US Army Corps of Engineers**

[www.CorpsLakes.us/watersafety](http://www.CorpsLakes.us/watersafety)

# TAKE ALONG

*Bobber*

**AND LIKE BOBBER THE WATER SAFETY DOG,  
ALWAYS WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET!**

On your next trip to the lake or river, cut out Bobber and take him with you.

Take a photo with Bobber in it and email it to **Bobber@bobber.info**.

Include your name and location the photo was taken.

*If selected, your photo will be added to our on-line gallery*

***www.Bobber.info/TakeAlongBobber*** and seen by the world!



[www.Bobber.info](http://www.Bobber.info)

# HELP US IMPROVE YOUR PARKS!

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mississippi River Project is interested in what you have to say. Your comments and suggestions are important to us, as we use them in the future planning and management of our recreation areas.

One way you can help make changes is to visit our website, [www.missriver.org](http://www.missriver.org), and comment on our Master Plan update. A Master Plan is the document that conceptually establishes and guides the orderly development, administration, maintenance, preservation, enhancement and management of all natural, cultural and recreational resources of a Corps water resource project. Despite what the name might suggest, it is not a plan for navigation (locks, dams and associated infrastructure for commercial barge traffic), flood risk management (levees in the PL84-99 Program), or water level management which have all been addressed in other guidance documents.

Another way to make suggestions is to fill out the below questionnaire and return it to us.

## PLEASE RATE THE FOLLOWING:

**Excellent                      Average                      Poor**

### A. Maintenance of Facilities

1. Buildings	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	NA
2. Playground Equipment	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	NA
3. Electric/Water Service	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	NA
4. Boat Ramp/Dock	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	NA
5. Campsites/Tables/Grills	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	NA
6. Vault Toilets	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	NA
7. Parking Lot/Roadway	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	NA

### B. Cleanliness of Recreation Areas

1. Grounds	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	NA
2. Buildings	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	NA
3. Campsites	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	NA

### C. Fee Collector Services

1. Courteous	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	NA
2. Prompt and Informative	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	NA

### D. Ranger Services/Patrol

1. Enforcement of Campground Rules	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	NA
2. Responsiveness	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	NA

### E. Camping Fee vs. Value of Camping Experience

10   9   8   7   6   5   4   3   2   1   NA

### F. What is your overall rating of your visit?

10   9   8   7   6   5   4   3   2   1   NA

— Please Turn Over —

TEAR HERE

# HELP US IMPROVE YOUR PARKS!

## G. What improvements or changes would you like to see?

---

---

---

---

### Name of Recreation Area: *(Please check one)*

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant River        | <input type="checkbox"/> Lock & Dam 11    | <input type="checkbox"/> Blanding Landing           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pleasant Creek     | <input type="checkbox"/> Big Slough       | <input type="checkbox"/> Thomson Causeway           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bulger's Hollow    | <input type="checkbox"/> Lock & Dam 13    | <input type="checkbox"/> Cattail Slough             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fisherman's Corner | <input type="checkbox"/> Locks & Dam 14   | <input type="checkbox"/> Miss. River Visitor Center |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Andalusia Slough   | <input type="checkbox"/> Clark's Ferry    | <input type="checkbox"/> Shady Creek                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lock & Dam 16      | <input type="checkbox"/> Blanchard Island | <input type="checkbox"/> Kilpeck Landing            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ferry Landing      | <input type="checkbox"/> Fenway Landing   | <input type="checkbox"/> Bear Creek                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canton Chute       | <input type="checkbox"/> Lock & Dam 21    | <input type="checkbox"/> John Hay                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Park-N-Fish        | <input type="checkbox"/> Lock & Dam 22    |   |

Dates of Your Camping Stay: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Site#: \_\_\_\_\_

Include name/address if you would like to be placed in the drawing for a free night of camping.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

For additional information, please contact your local U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Ranger Station or call 1-800-645-0248.



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

### SEND TO:

Natural Resource Management Section  
Attn: Park Manager  
P.O. Box 534, 25549 182nd Street  
Pleasant Valley, IA 52767-0534

# Explore Miles of Trails!

Even if you did forget your bike...



## VISITOR CENTER AT UNION STATION

102 S. Harrison Street  
Davenport, Iowa

## QUAD CITIES GIFTS & VISITOR CENTER

1601 River Drive  
Moline, Illinois

Write Something...



**Marcy** So much fun riding bikes along the Mississippi River! We just rented them there.  
Yesterday at 4:15 pm · Like



**Theresa** Looks like you had a marvelous time! Did they have different sizes of bikes?  
Yesterday at 8:15 pm · Like



**Marcy** Yes, helmets & water were included too. Next time we want to rent them for the whole day!  
An hour ago via mobile · Like

**QUAD**  
VISITQUADCITIES.COM  
**CITIES**

MARVELS ON THE MISSISSIPPI™

800-747-7800



**Building a  
sustainable future.**

*Advancing each generation.*



[alcoa.com](http://alcoa.com)

[alcoa.com/eaglecam](http://alcoa.com/eaglecam)