

 CAMPING

 HIKING

 BOATING

 BEACHES

 BIKING



Photo by C. Carroll

CORALVILLE LAKE AND LAKE MACBRIDE



2025 VISITOR GUIDE



U.S. ARMY

US Army Corps
of Engineers



WELCOME TO CORALVILLE LAKE

We are happy to have you here with us. Coralville Lake, managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, offers multiple fun outdoor activities for visitors to enjoy. Whether you are here to enjoy one of the campgrounds, or visit one of our day use areas, this guide contains maps and important information about the land. Stop by one of our campfire programs, or take a walk on one of our trails. Whatever you choose to do, stay safe and have fun!

Back in the 1930s, record floods that swept the nation prompted Congress to establish the Flood Control Act of 1938. In an attempt to reduce flooding on the Mississippi River, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was authorized to construct several dams on tributary rivers, including the Iowa River. The Iowa River is one of several southeastern flowing streams that drain the eastern one-half of Iowa to join the Mississippi River along the states eastern boundary. Construction of the Coralville Lake Dam began in 1949 and was completed in 1958. In addition to moderating stream flows on the Iowa River, Coralville Lake's less evident, but equally important, role is in the comprehensive flood control system for the Mississippi River. Coralville Dam regulates runoff from 3,084 square miles of land upstream providing flood protection to 1,703 square miles of Iowa River Valley below the dam. During drought conditions, water stored in the lake is released at a minimum rate of 150 cubic feet per second (cfs) to provide a sufficient flow to meet downstream domestic and industrial water needs. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manages Coralville Lake as a multiple use project providing primary benefits in flood risk management and low flow augmentation, and secondary benefits in recreation, fish and wildlife management, and forest management.



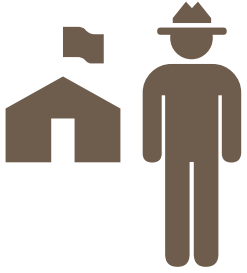
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is celebrating 250 years of service to our great Nation. The mission of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is to deliver vital engineering solutions, in collaboration with our partners, to secure our Nation, energize our economy, and reduce disaster risk.

PRIORITIES

PEOPLE • READINESS • PARTNERSHIPS • INNOVATE

INFORMATION

CORALVILLE LAKE



MAIN OFFICE, CORALVILLE LAKE

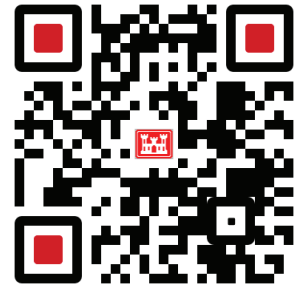
(319) 338-3543

JOHNSON COUNTY NON-EMERGENCY

(319) 356-6800

EMERGENCY

911



Visit our Website



CAMPING AND SHELTER RESERVATIONS

(877) 444-6777

WEST OVERLOOK FEE BOOTH

(319) 338-3685

SUGAR BOTTOM FEE BOOTH

(319) 624-2102

SANDY BEACH FEE BOOTH

(319) 848-4400



Follow Us on Facebook

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. No parking on grass, roadway shoulders, or empty campsites.
2. All of the following items are prohibited: loaded firearms, explosives, ammunition, bows and arrows or other projectile-firing devices, and fireworks.
3. Other prohibited items: bounce houses, swimming pools, and Chinese lanterns.
4. No moving of firewood. Protect your forests from tree killing pests by purchasing your firewood locally and burning on-site. Visit dontmovefirewood.org for further information.
5. All boats must be removed from the water each day. Boats are not permitted to be moored on the shoreline while not in use.
6. Visitors must check-in at the Fee Booth prior to setting up on their reserved campsite.
7. Three camping units are permitted per site: One recreational vehicle and two tents, or three tents per campsite.
8. Up to six occupants are permitted per site.
9. Check-out time is 12:00 PM, Check-in time is 2:00 PM.
10. Pets must be penned, on a leash under six feet in length, or otherwise physically restrained.
11. Quiet hours are from 10:00 PM - 6:00 AM.
12. Vehicles with license plates only.

For a full list of rules and regulations see Title 36 Chapter III Part 327

RECREATION SEASON

CORALVILLE LAKE

Campgrounds	Number of Sites / # Reservable*	Dates Available	Site Fee With Electric	Site Fee Non-Electric	Fee Booth Telephone #
West Overlook	89 / 89*	May 1 - Oct. 19	\$22, 24, 26, 28	N/A	319-338-3685
Cottonwood	0 / 0	Closed for 2025 Season	N/A	Closed for 2025 Season	319-338-3685
Linder Point	17 / 17*	May 1 - Oct. 19	\$26, 30	N/A	319-338-3685
Tailwater East	22 / 22*	May 1 - Oct. 19	\$22, 24, 26	N/A	319-338-3685
Tailwater West	22 / 22*	May 1 - Oct. 19	\$28, 30	\$14 (Tent Only Sites)	319-338-3685
Sugar Bottom	247 / 247*	May 1 - Sept. 30	\$22, 24, 26, 30	\$14 (Tent Only Sites)	319-624-2102
Sandy Beach	58 / 58*	May 1 - Sept. 30	\$22, 28	\$14 (Tent Only Sites)	319-848-4400

RESERVABLE GROUP CAMPING

Campground	Number of Sites	Cost/Night	Dates Available
Sugar Bottom	10 (Loop A)	\$240	May 1 - Sept. 30

*Recreation.gov will allow you to make individual campsite reservations up to 6 months in advance and group campsite reservations up to one year in advance by calling 877-444-6777 or by going online to www.recreation.gov.

*Reservations can be made on the same day as arrival.

***Check-Out: 12:00 PM, Check-In: 2:00 PM**

CAMPING FEES

Non-electric tent site	\$14/night
30 Amp/gravel	\$22/night
30 Amp/concrete	\$24/night
30 Amp/water/sewer/concrete	\$28/night
50 Amp/gravel	\$24/night
50 Amp/concrete	\$26/night
50 Amp/water/gravel	\$26/night
50 Amp/water/concrete	\$28/night
50 Amp/water/sewer/concrete	\$30/night

Persons with Golden Age/Access Passes or America the Beautiful Interagency Senior/Access Passes are entitled to a 50% discount on camping. Discount is NOT valid for group campsites.

PICNIC SHELTERS

Day Use Area	# of Shelters / # Reservable*	Dates of Availability	Reservation Fee
East Overlook	2 / 2*	May 1 - Sept. 30	\$50
Tailwater West	1 / 1*	May 1 - Sept. 30	\$50
Sandy Beach	1 / 0*	May 1 - Sept. 30	N/A
Sugar Bottom	1 / 1*	May 1 - Sept. 30	\$50
West Overlook	4 / 0*	May 1 - Sept. 30	N/A

*Shelters can be reserved by calling 877-444-6777 or online to www.recreation.gov.

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

*All picnic/shelter areas open 6:00 AM to sunset.



Photo by Dom Mascardo

BOAT RAMPS

Day Use Area	Dates Open
Mehaffey	Year Round
Sugar Bottom Campground	May 1 - Sept. 30
Sandy Beach	Year Round
West Overlook Campground	May 1 - Oct. 19
West Overlook Day Use	April 1 - Nov. 30

Day Use Fees are charged April 1 - Sept. 30 at Mehaffey and West Overlook Day Use; \$5/day or purchase a \$40 Annual Pass for unlimited nationwide use. America The Beautiful Senior, Access, and Military Passes allow pass holders to utilize Day Use Areas free of charge. Registered campers with valid hangtag are allowed to utilize Day Use Areas free of charge. **Only registered campers can utilize the Sugar Bottom Campground and West Overlook Campground Boat Ramps.**

BEACHES

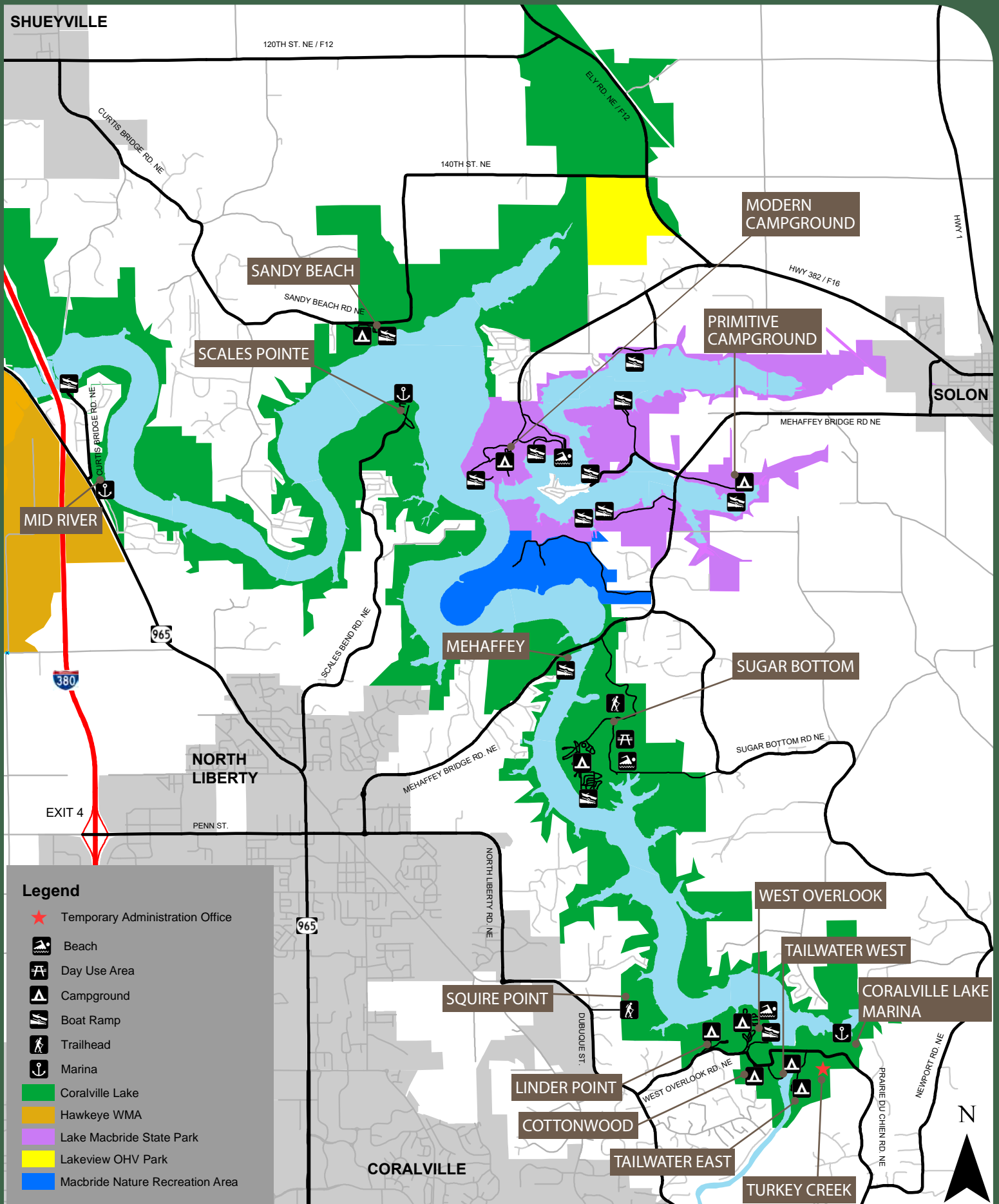
Day Use Area	Dates Open
Sugar Bottom Campground	May 23 - Sept. 1
Sugar Bottom Day Use	May 23 - Sept. 1
West Overlook Day Use	May 23 - Sept. 1

Open 6:00 AM to sunset.

Beach fee is \$5 per private vehicle, \$2 per person for walk-in or bike-in, \$20 per bus or commercial vehicle. Children under 16 are free. Purchase a \$40 Annual Pass for unlimited nationwide use. America The Beautiful Senior, Access, and Military Passes allow pass holders to utilize Day Use Areas free of charge. Registered campers with valid hangtag are allowed to utilize Day Use Areas free of charge. **Only registered campers can utilize the Sugar Bottom Campground beach.**

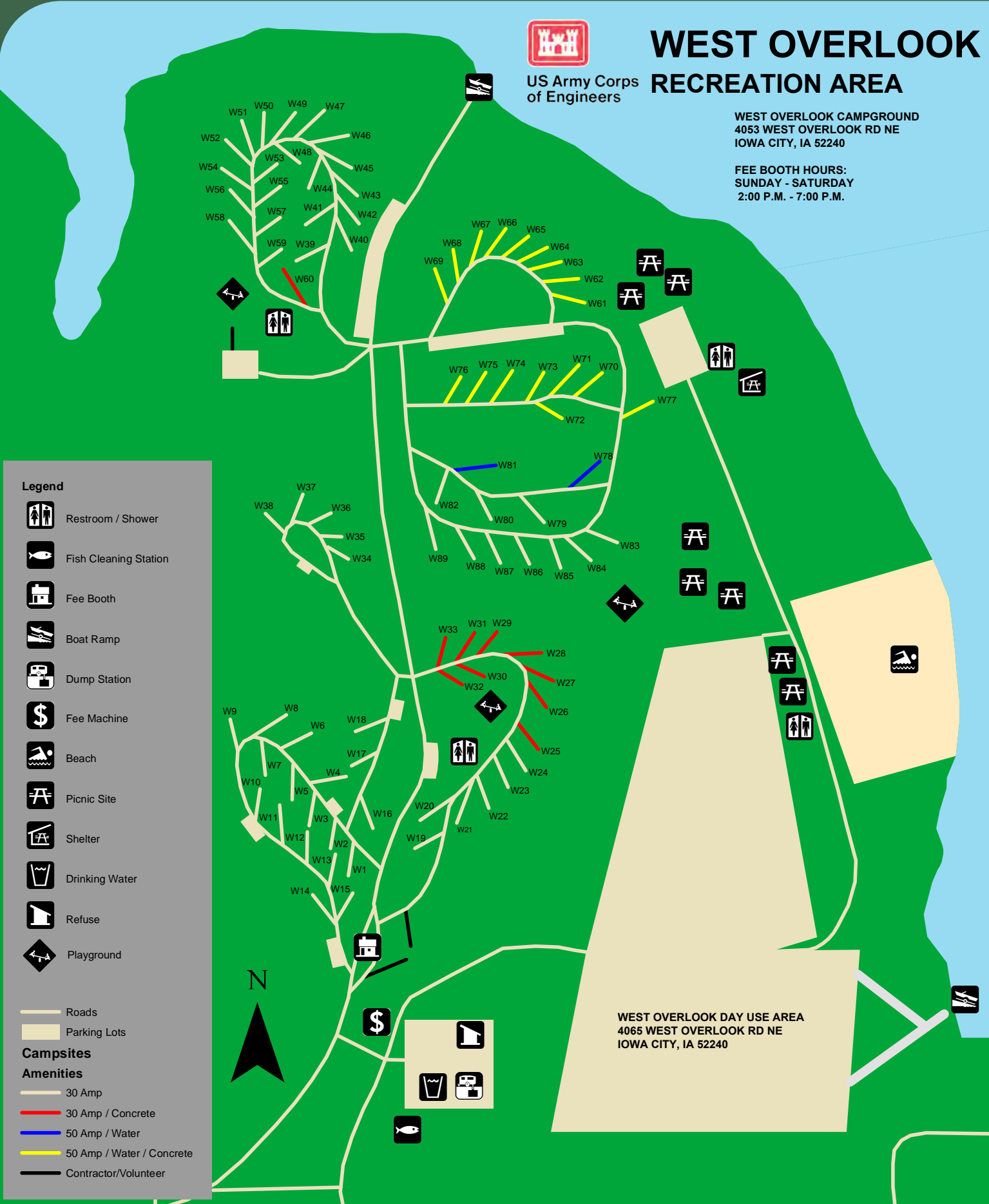
PROJECT MAP

CORALVILLE LAKE



PROJECT MAPS

CORALVILLE LAKE



PROJECT MAPS

CORALVILLE LAKE



US Army Corps
of Engineers

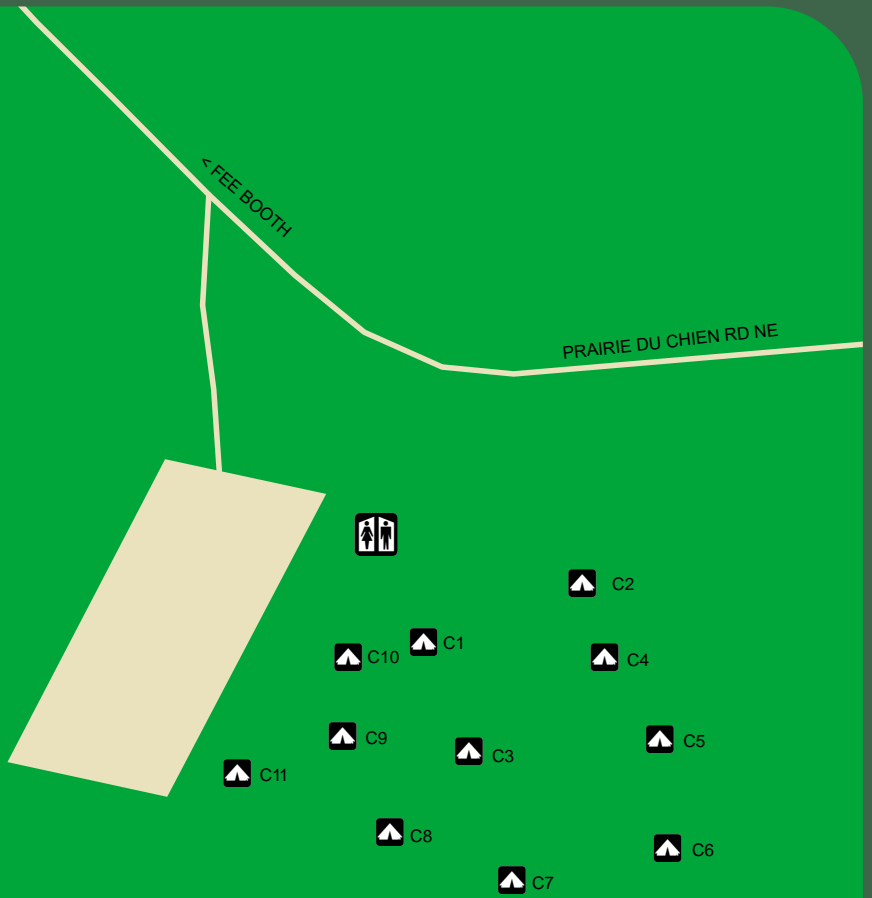
COTTONWOOD CAMPGROUND

COTTONWOOD CAMPGROUND
4089 PRAIRIE DU CHIEN RD NE
IOWA CITY, IA 52240

FEE BOOTH HOURS:
CAMPGROUND IS CLOSED
FOR THE 2025 SEASON

Legend

- Restroom / Shower
- Roads
- Parking Lots
- Tent

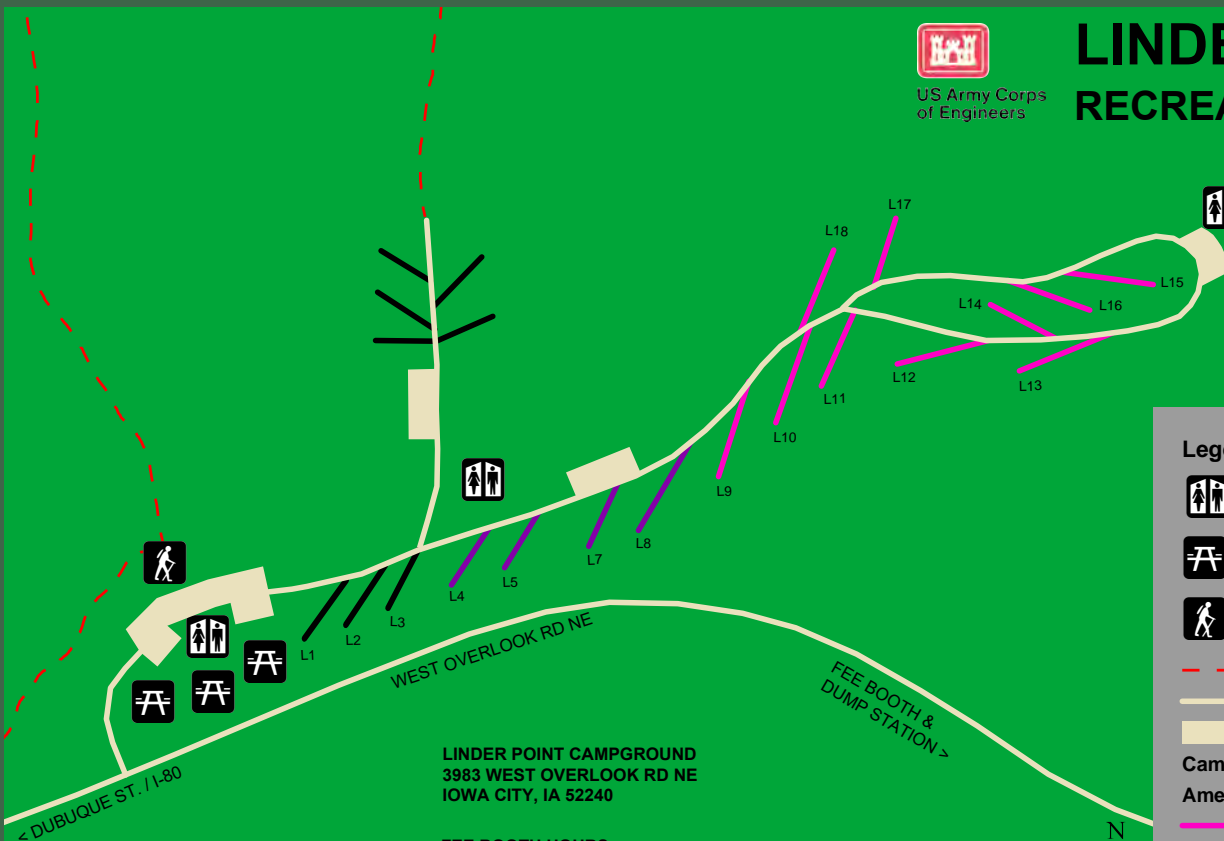


US Army Corps
of Engineers

LINDER POINT RECREATION AREA

Legend

- Restroom / Shower
- Picnic Site
- Trailhead
- Woodpecker/Squire Point Trails
- Roads
- Parking Lots
- Campsites**
- Amenities**
- 50 Amp / Concrete
- 50 Amp / Water / Sewer / Concrete
- Contractor/Volunteer

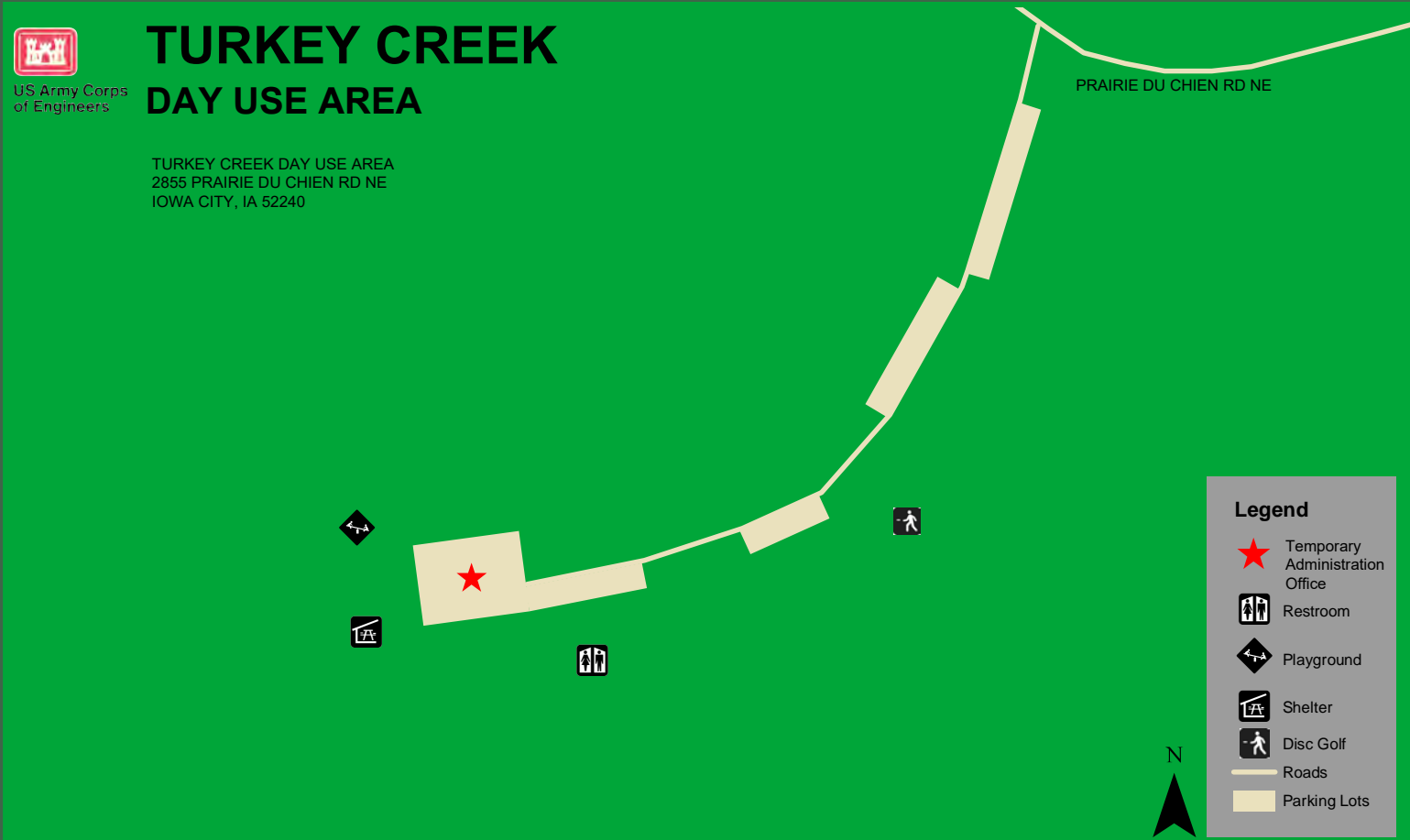


LINDER POINT CAMPGROUND
3983 WEST OVERLOOK RD NE
IOWA CITY, IA 52240

FEE BOOTH HOURS:
SUNDAY - SATURDAY:
2:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

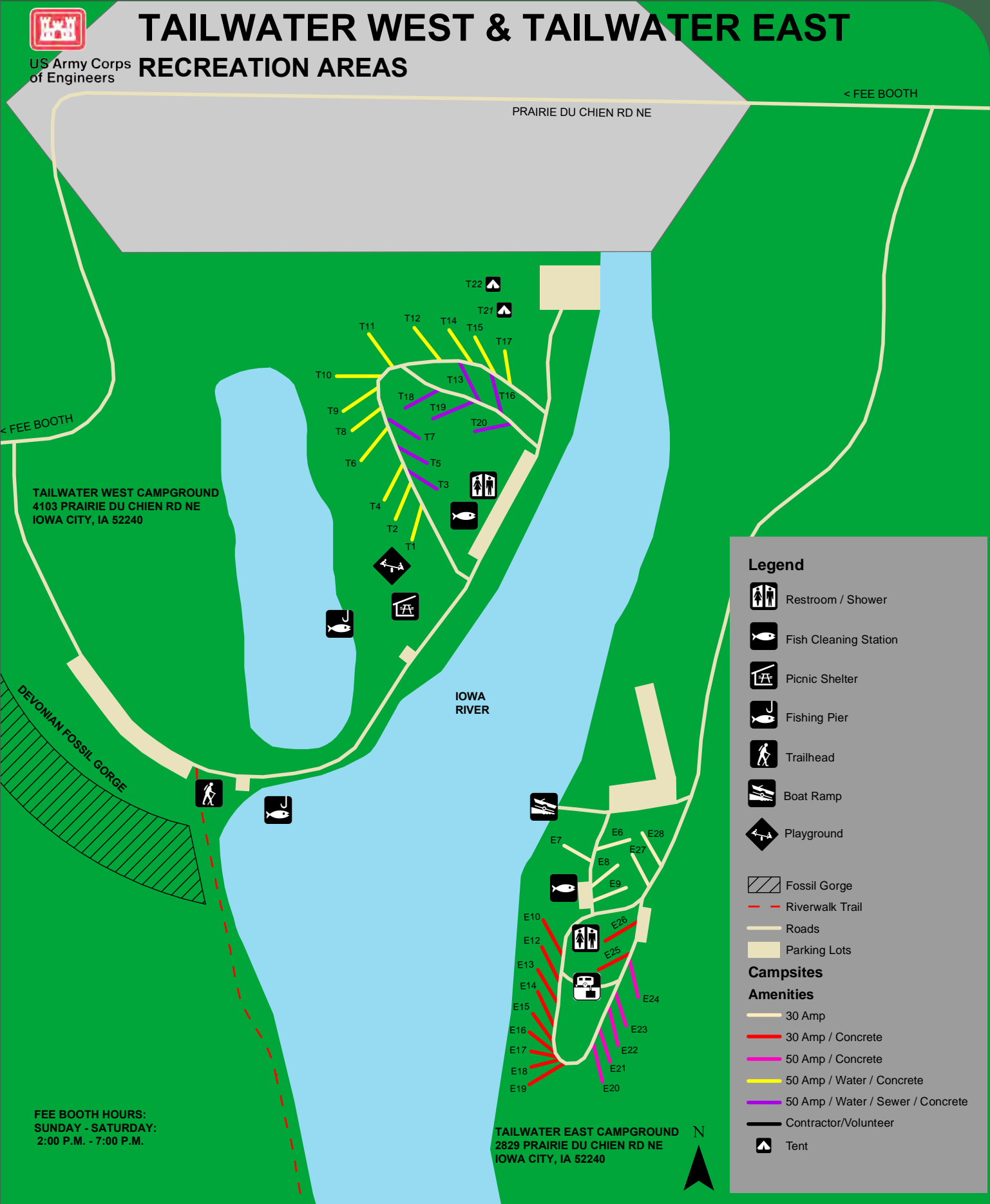
PROJECT MAPS

CORALVILLE LAKE



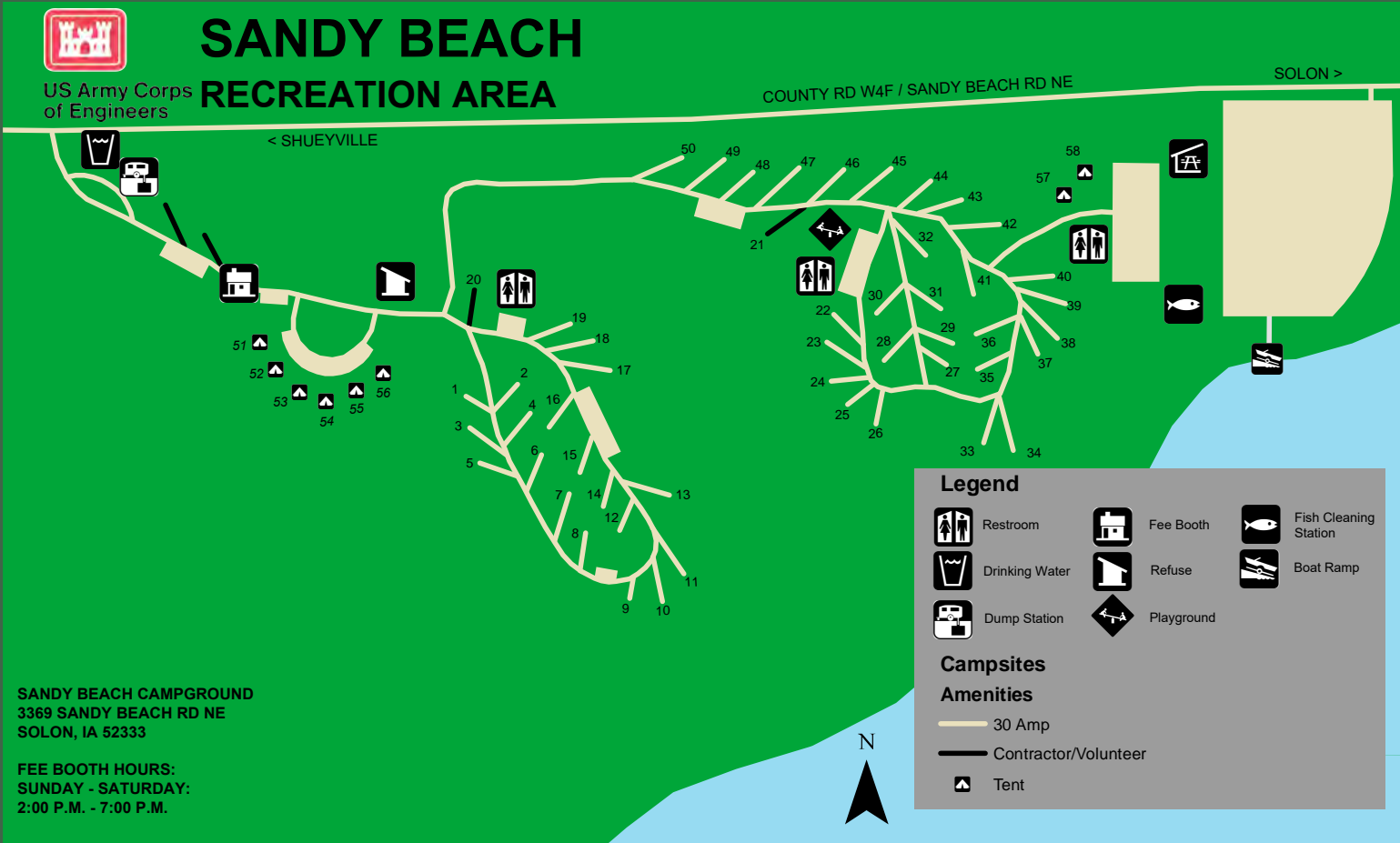
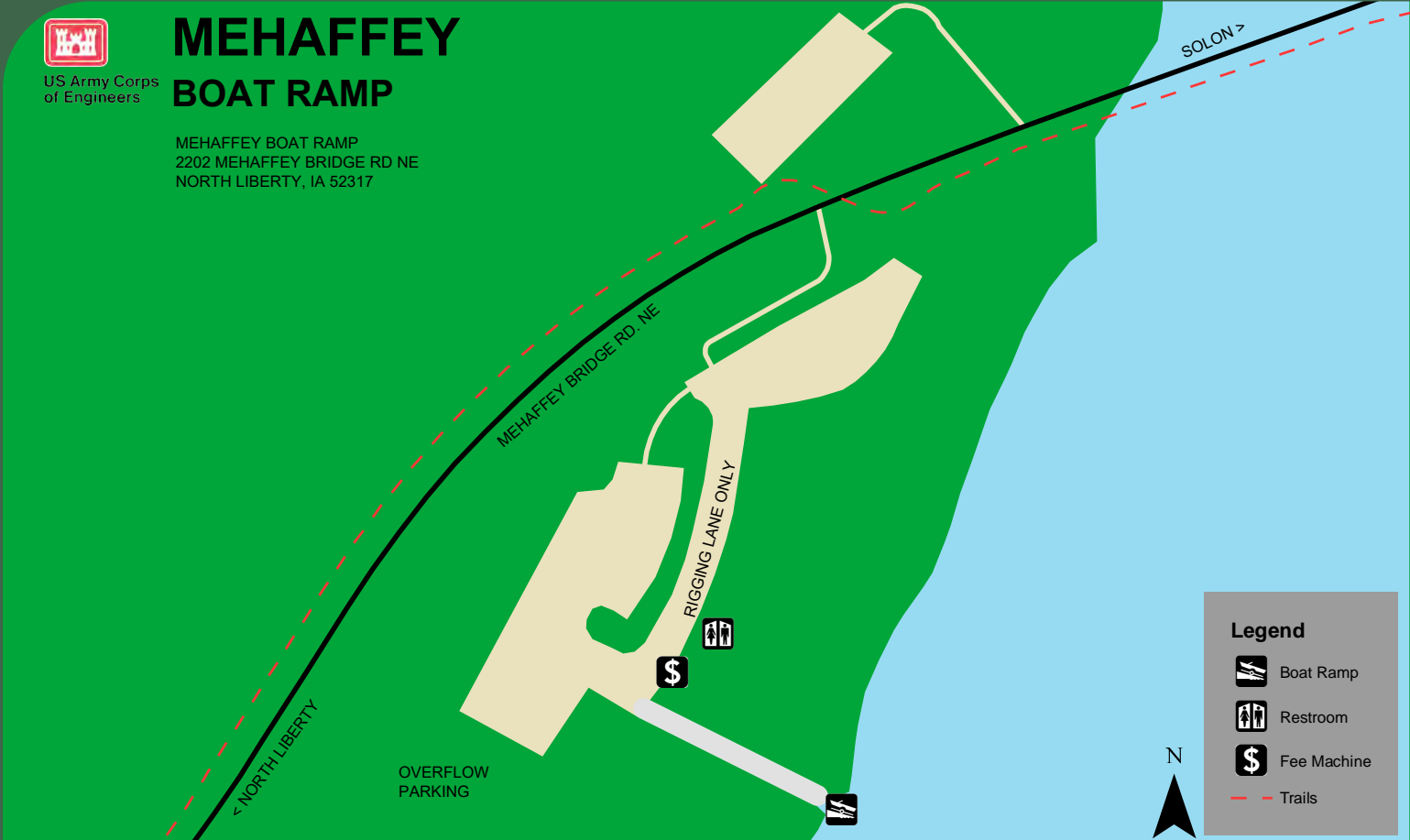
PROJECT MAPS

CORALVILLE LAKE



PROJECT MAPS

CORALVILLE LAKE



SANDY BEACH CAMPGROUND
3369 SANDY BEACH RD NE
SOLON, IA 52333

FEE BOOTH HOURS:
SUNDAY - SATURDAY:
2:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

PROJECT MAPS

CORALVILLE LAKE



US Army Corps
of Engineers

SUGAR BOTTOM RECREATION AREA

SUGAR BOTTOM CAMPGROUND
2192 MEHAFFEY BRIDGE RD NE
SOLON, IA 52333

SUGAR BOTTOM
DAY USE AREA

DISC GOLF
COURSE

MOUNTAIN
BIKE TRAIL

Legend

Trails



Beach



Boat Ramp



Drinking Water



Dump Station



Fee Booth



Fish Cleaning Station



Playground



Refuse



Restroom / Shower



Shelter



Trail Head

Roads

Parking Lots

Campsites

Amenities

30 Amp

30 Amp / Concrete

50 Amp

50 Amp / Concrete

50 Amp / Water

50 Amp / Water / Sewer / Concrete

Contractor/Volunteer



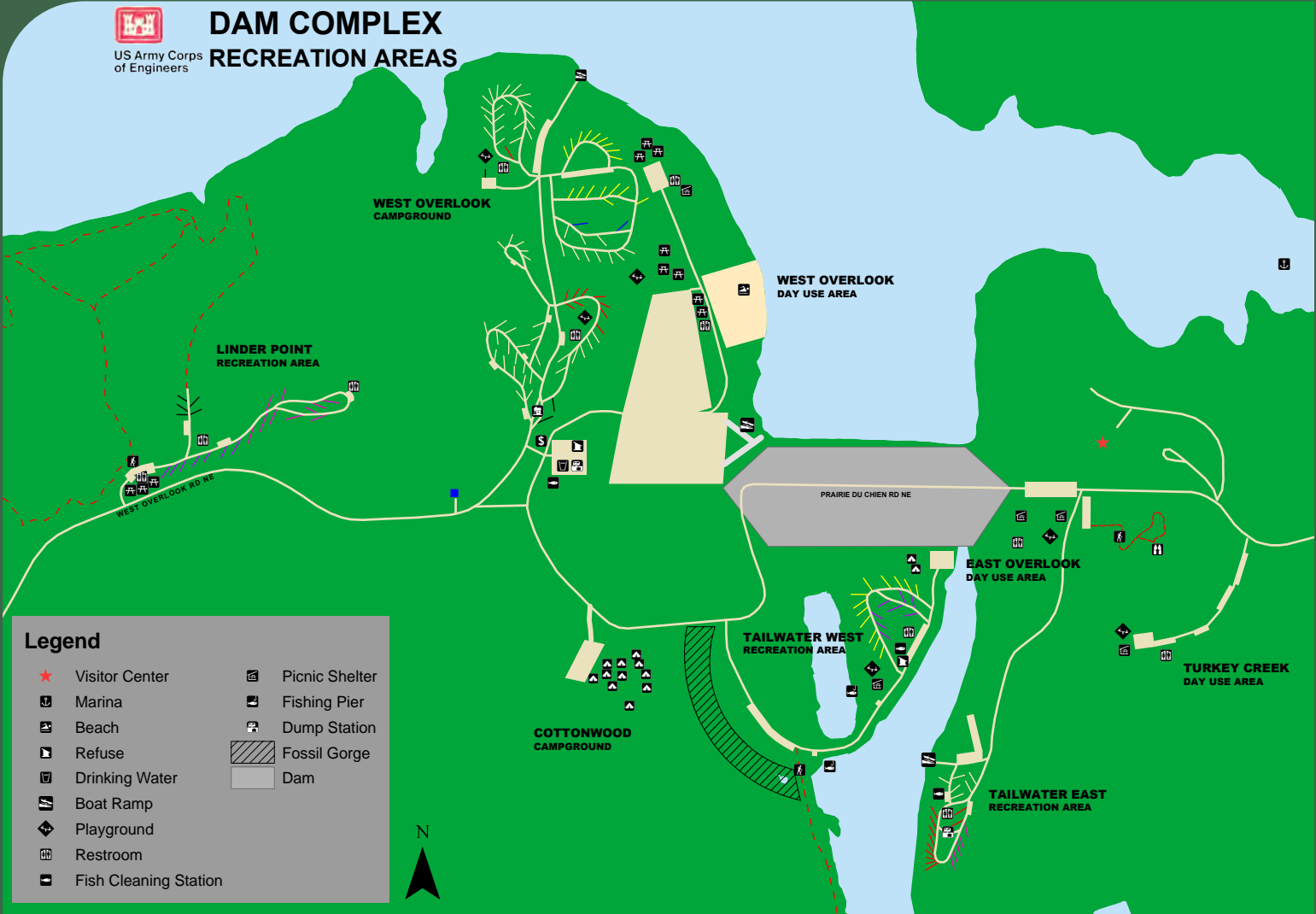
Tent



FEE BOOTH HOURS:
SUNDAY - SATURDAY:
2:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

PROJECT MAPS

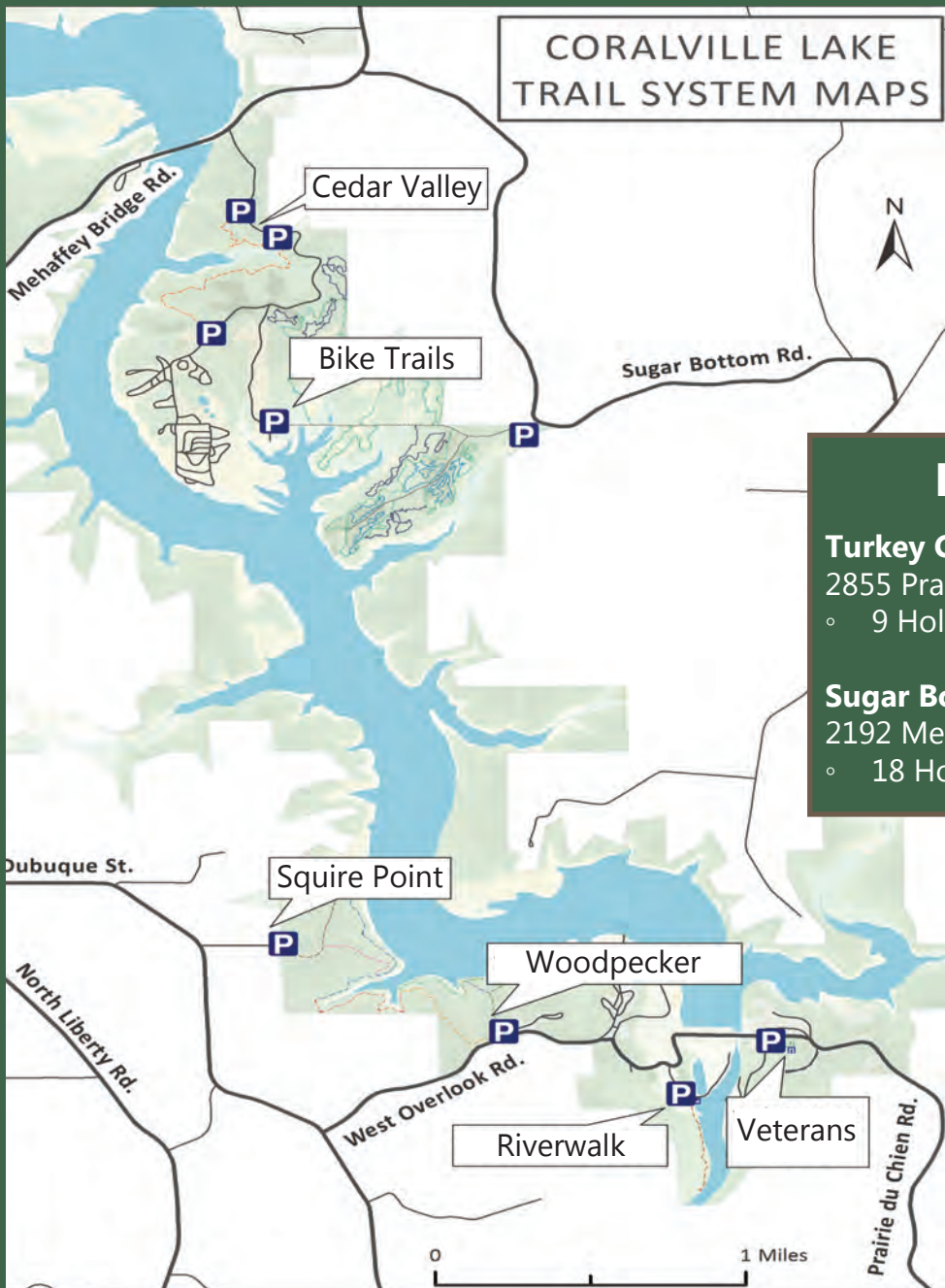
CORALVILLE LAKE



SCAN TO VIEW MORE MAPS,
INCLUDING TRAILS & DISC GOLF

TRAILS

CORALVILLE LAKE



DISC GOLF COURSES

Turkey Creek Disc Golf Course

2855 Prairie Du Chien Rd NE, Iowa City, IA 52240
 ◦ 9 Hole Course

Sugar Bottom Disc Golf Course

2192 Mehafeff Bridge Rd NE, Solon, IA, 52333
 ◦ 18 Hole Course



Trail Name	Trail Activity	Length One Way	Level of Difficulty	Terrain	Parking Location
Squire Point Trail	Hiking, Jogging, Bird Watching	1.58 Miles	Moderate	Steep Elevation Changes, Packed Dirt	2800 Dubuque St. NE, North Liberty, IA 52317
Woodpecker Trail	Hiking, Jogging, Bird Watching	2.14 Miles	Moderate	Steep Elevation Changes, Packed Dirt	3983 West Overlook Rd NE, Iowa City, IA 52240
Riverwalk Trail	Hiking, Biking, Bird Watching, ADA Accessible	0.66 Mile	Easy	Paved	4103 Prairie Du Chien Rd NE, Iowa City, IA 52240
Veterans Trail	Hiking, Bird Watching, ADA Accessible	0.25 Mile	Easy	Paved, Benches	2825 Prairie Du Chien Rd NE, Iowa City, IA 52240
Cedar Valley Trail	Hiking, Jogging	1.35 Miles	Moderate	Steep Elevation Changes, Packed Dirt	2192 Mehafeff Bridge Rd NE, Solon, IA 52333
Sugar Bottom Mountain Bike Trails	Hiking, Biking	14 Miles	Hard	Steep Elevation Changes, Packed Dirt	2192 Mehafeff Bridge Rd NE, Solon, IA 52333

Whether you have an hour or a weekend, these trails can be enjoyed any time of the year. These areas are constantly changing with the seasons, making each visit special. Dogs must be on a 6ft or shorter leash on all trails.

PROGRAMS

CORALVILLE LAKE

The United States Government owns a total of 24,591 acres of land for the Coralville Lake Project. This land includes 5 distinct habitats; forest, water, man dominated (cultivated or developed), wetland, and prairie habitats. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers directly manages 8,619 acres of this land, while the remaining 15,972 acres is managed by partnering organizations. These acres serve as a refuge for plants and animals that otherwise would have been displaced by agriculture and urbanization.

DEVONIAN FOSSIL GORGE

Imagine walking on a 375 million year old ocean floor! This glimpse into Iowa's geologic past was first exposed during the Flood of 1993 at Coralville Lake, then further exposed during the Flood of 2008. The fossil and limestone bedrock of the Devonian Fossil Gorge date back almost 200 million years before the dinosaurs. Visit the fossil gorge to see all the fossils up close and to take a photo next to Dunkleosteus, an armored plated fish who is thought of as the "T-Rex of the sea".



Hexagonaria Coral



Crinoids



Brachiopods

The removal of, or damage to the fossils is strictly prohibited and subject to a fine.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

There are a multitude of environmental stewardship management practices that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers uses to promote the flora and fauna that call this land home. Below are a few techniques:

- Prescribed Fire
- Tree Planting
- Fish Rearing
- Food Plots
- Prairie Planting
- Education
- Chemical Treatment
- Mechanical Treatment
- Nesting Boxes
- Special Hunt Program
- Shoreline Management
- Timber Stand Improvements



Photo by Z. Scriber

CAMPGROUND PROGRAMS

Special campground programs are provided throughout the summer. Dates, times, and topics will be posted on the Coralville Lake Facebook page and in the campground bulletin boards. All campground programs are free to the public and you do not have to be camping to attend.



PROGRAMS

CORALVILLE LAKE

TRICK OR TREAT IN THE CAMPGROUND

Join us for the 2nd annual Trick or Treat in the Campground event! This event will take place Saturday, October 18th from 3 PM - 7 PM in the West Overlook Campground. We are encouraging campers to decorate their sites and hand out candy to the trick-or-treaters that visit the campground. The best decorated campsites will win a prize! To trick-or-treat in the campground you do not need a camping reservation. To camp in the campground and participate in the decorating contest you will need a camping reservation. To make your reservation visit www.recreation.gov or call (877) 444-6777. More information will be provided closer to the event on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/CoralvilleLake. Make sure to follow us on Facebook!



Photo by T. Schneider

PARK RANGER TOURS

Throughout the year, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Park Rangers offer a variety of guided events. The events vary and will be posted on our Facebook page closer to event dates. Make sure to follow us on Facebook to stay up to date on all upcoming public events. For private tour inquiries please call (319) 338-3543.



FEE FREE DAYS

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers offers fee-free days throughout the year to mark days of celebration and commemoration, including Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Veterans Day, and National Public Lands Day. West Overlook Day Use Area, West Overlook Boat Ramp, and Mehaffey Boat Ramp will have no fees required for use on:

- Monday, June 16th, 2025
- Thursday, June 19th 2025
- Saturday, September 27th 2025

KIDS FISHING DERBY

June 7th, 2025 9 AM - 12 PM.

Join us on Saturday, June 7th for a kids fishing derby at Tailwater West Recreation Area. Kids under 15 are welcome to participate in this free event and must be accompanied by an adult. Bait will be provided and a limited number of fishing poles will be available for use. Prizes will be awarded throughout the day. Join us for some fishing fun!



VOLUNTEERS

CORALVILLE LAKE

WANT TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER?

Volunteers play an important role in protecting natural resources by helping to operate and maintain recreation facilities at Coralville Lake. Coralville Lake offers a variety of opportunities for volunteers looking to donate their time. Volunteers may perform some grounds and maintenance work at trails and campgrounds or help with office administration work. Whatever the task may be, volunteers help accomplish work that might otherwise not be completed. Volunteering can be long term, seasonal, or a one-time event. Often, full-time volunteers will be provided a free camping site with basic amenities at one of our parks and at the end of the season may qualify to receive an America the Beautiful Interagency Volunteer Pass. To find out more about volunteering opportunities, email us at coralville.lake@usace.army.mil or talk to a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Park Ranger. Opportunities also listed at www.volunteer.gov or www.workamper.com.



Looking for an opportunity to support and help protect Coralville Lake? Friends of Coralville Lake (FoCL) is a non-profit looking for volunteers to continue improving Coralville Lake and the surrounding areas. Founded in 2016, FoCL has been instrumental in hiking trail maintenance, Halloween events, providing firewood to all campgrounds, and supporting recreation in all forms around the lake. FoCL is always looking for volunteers to continue working on these projects and more! Input from the community is important to the mission of FoCL and is welcomed year-round.

To learn more or to contact FoCL, go to www.friendsofcoralvillelake.org or find them on Facebook!

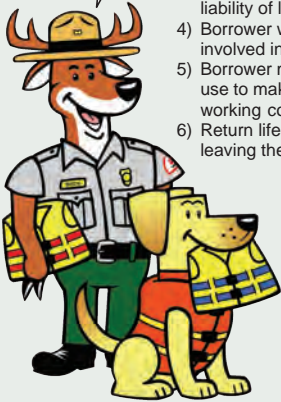
OUTDOORS

CORALVILLE LAKE

LIFE JACKET LOANER STATION

RULES & REGULATIONS

ALWAYS SWIM
WITH A BUDDY,
NEVER ALONE!



Thank You For
Your Cooperation!



- 1) Life jackets are available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- 2) Parents/Guardians are responsible for making sure their children are in the right sized life jacket. If the size is incorrect, the life jacket will not work effectively.
- 3) Borrower assumes all responsibility and liability of life jacket use/non-use.
- 4) Borrower will not hold liable any party involved in the distribution of life jackets.
- 5) Borrower must inspect life jacket prior to use to make sure life jacket is in good working condition.
- 6) Return life jackets to this station before leaving the park!

Estación Para Prestar Chalecos Salvavidas

REGLAS Y REGULACIONES

- 1) La cantidad de chalecos salvavidas es limitada.
- 2) Los padres ó guardianes tienen la responsabilidad de asegurar que sus niños tengan la talla correcta del chaleco salvavidas.
- 3) El prestatario asume toda la responsabilidad del chaleco salvavidas.
- 4) En caso de ocurrir un accidente, el prestatario no culpárá ningún representante del gobierno involucrado en la distribución de los chalecos salvavidas.
- 5) El prestatario debe examinar el chaleco salvavidas para asegurar que el mismo esté en buena condición.
- 6) ¡Devuelva los chalecos salvavidas a esta estación antes de salir del parque!

¡Gracias por su cooperación!

¡SIEMPRE NADE
CON UN AMIGO,
NUNCA SOLO!



Playing in, on, and around the water can be a lot of fun, but you need to keep safety in mind. Drowning is one of the leading causes of accidental death for children. Wearing a life jacket has proven to be the best safety measure when on or around water. At Coralville Lake, there is no charge to borrow a life jacket from one of our Life Jacket Loaner Stations located at Coralville Lake beaches and boat ramps. Make sure to choose the right life jacket based on the weight of the person wearing the life vest. For more safety tips, go online to bobber.info to learn more from Bobber the Water Safety Dog.

HUNTING AND FISHING

There are many outdoor recreation opportunities here at Coralville Lake. Hunting, fishing, and trapping are permitted in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws except in areas designated as "No Hunting" by the District Engineer. For more information and public hunting maps, visit www.mvr.usace.army.mil/missions/recreation/coralville-lake/ and for specific game law information, consult the current Iowa Hunting and Trapping Regulations published by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.



Photo by Ryan Elliott

CAMPING

CHECK-IN TIME: 2 PM | CHECK-OUT TIME: 12 PM | QUIET HOURS: 10 PM - 6 AM

Coralville Lake has 7 different campgrounds with a multitude of different amenities. Make memories with friends and family and make your reservation today! Camping reservations are required for all campsites at Coralville Lake. Call toll-free (877) 444-6777 or go online to www.recreation.gov.



STATE PARK

LAKE MACBRIDE

WELCOME

Named after Thomas Macbride, the “father” of Iowa conservation, Lake Macbride State Park is a popular lakeside destination with family friendly outdoor activities. Several multi-use trails wind around the lake, featuring the sights and sounds of Iowa’s native birds. In the summer, soak up the sun by kayaking, paddling or swimming in the lake. Whether you are visiting for an afternoon or a weekend, Lake Macbride features numerous amenities to enjoy year round. Iowa’s largest State Park (2,180 Acres) is located in the wooded valleys of Mill and Jordan creeks, Lake Macbride is certain to meet the needs of outdoor enthusiasts. Whether you are here to explore, boat, fish, camp, or picnic, enjoy your visit.

LOCATION

Lake Macbride is split into two units. The northern unit is located at the end of County Road F-16, 4 miles west of Solon, and features a modern campground, boat ramps, beach, boat rental, picnic areas, and the park office. The southern unit is located off County Road F-28 by Fifth Street in Solon. This unit includes a non-modern campground, boat ramps, picnic areas, and numerous prairies.



Photo by Barthel

AMENITIES AT A GLANCE

- Interpretive Trail
- Playground; ADA Accessible
- Swimming Beach
- Concessions
- Paddlesport Rental
- Boat Rental
- 7 Boat Ramps
- ADA Accessible Fishing Pier
- Fish Cleaning Station
- Day-use Lodge
- Shelters
- Modern Restrooms
- Showers
- Electric Campsites
- Full Hook-up Campsites
- Non-electric Campsites
- Youth Group Only Campsites
- Firewood Sales

CONTACT INFORMATION

Address: 3525 Highway 382 NE
Solon, IA 52333

Park Office: (319) 624-2220

E-mail: lake_macbride@dnr.iowa.gov

Fax: (319) 624-2188

Fisheries Management: (319) 624-3615

DNR Headquarters: (515) 725-8200

Reservations: (877) 427-2757

Boat Rental: (319) 624-2315

For emergencies, please call 911

Park Ranger: Jason Dykstra, Cameron Savage

Park Manager: Ron Puttmann

ONLINE INFORMATION



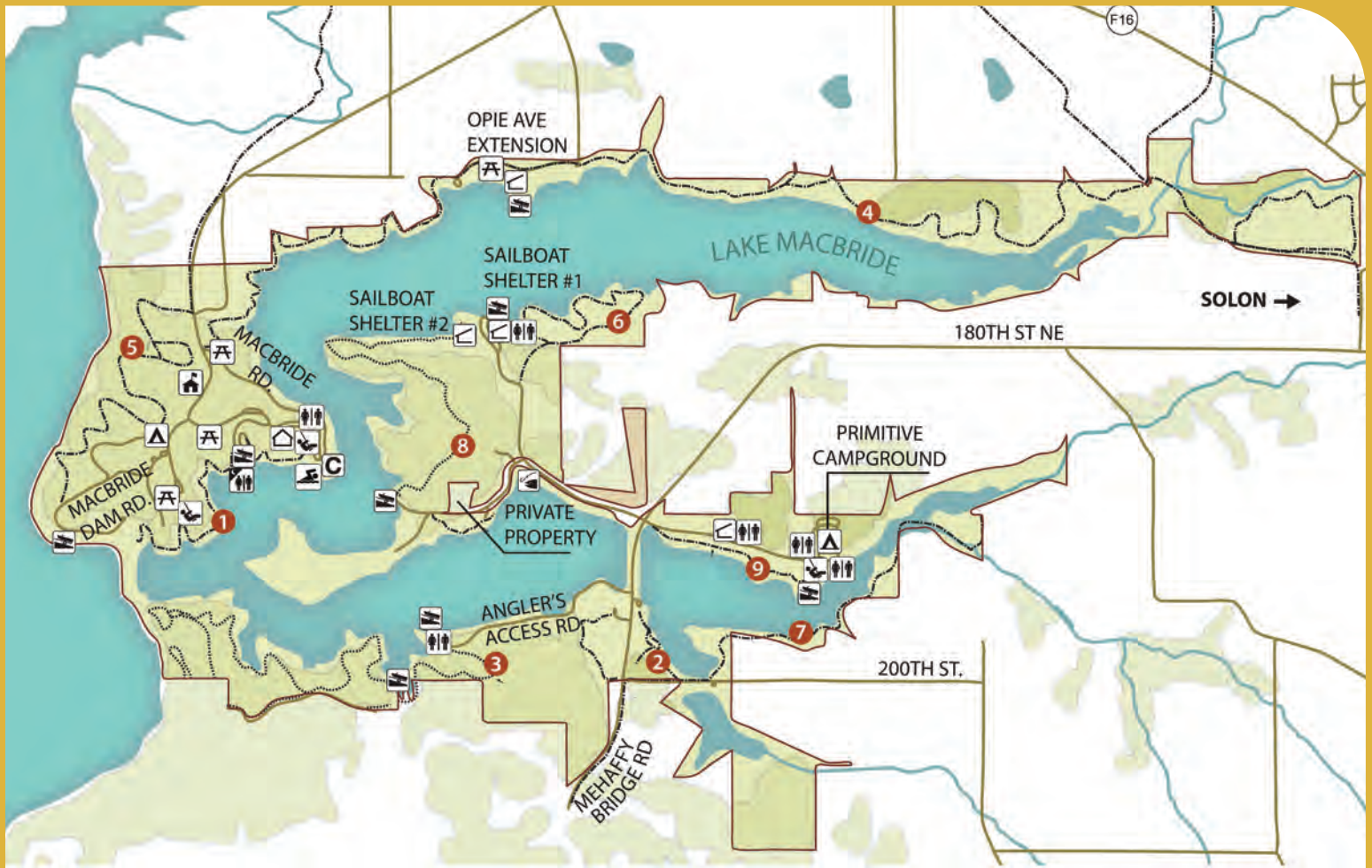
www.iowadnr.gov

www.iowadnr.gov/lakemacbride

facebook.com/iowadnr

PARK MAP

LAKE MACBRIDE



MAP KEY

	Beach Area		Day-Use Lodge		Trail
	Boat Ramp		Picnic Area		Road
	Concession/Boat Rental		Park Office		Park Boundary
	Shelter		Playground		Multi-use Trails
	Fishing Pier		Restroom - Modern Seasonal		
	Campground		Restroom - Nonmodern Year-round		



TRAIL INFORMATION

Trail Name	Trail Activity	Length	Level of Difficulty	Estimated Hike Time
1 Beach to Dam	Hiking	1 mi	Easy	5-10 min
2 Brock's Bridge	Hiking	0.3 mi	Easy	5-10 min
3 Field Campus	Hiking	2.3 mi	Moderate	10-20 min
4 North Shore	Hiking, Biking, Mountain Biking	4.7 mi	Moderate	20-30 min
5 North Snowmobile	Hiking, Snowmobiling	1.5 mi	Moderate	30-40 min
6 Osprey	Hiking	1.2 mi	Easy	30-40 min
7 South Snowmobile	Hiking, Snowmobiling	1.3 mi	Moderate	40-50 min
8 White Pine	Hiking	1.4 mi	Moderate	40-50 min
9 South Prairie	Hiking	0.6 mi	Easy	1-1.5 hr

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

MODERN CAMPING

LAKE MACBRIDE












Lake Macbride's modern campground opens April 1st and closes November 15th. It features a shower and restroom facility, back-in site pads complete with 20, 30, and 50 amp electrical service at each site, picnic tables and fire rings. Eleven sites have full hook-ups, and an additional 17 sites have hydrants for potable water. From May 1st to October 15th, full hook-up sites are \$35 per night and all other sites are \$25. Before and after this time, prices are reduced to \$20 per site. 100% of these sites are reservable with same-day reservations available.

To make a reservation,
call toll free (877) 427-2757
or go online to www.iowadnr.gov.



CHECK-IN TIME: 4 PM | CHECK-OUT TIME: 3 PM | QUIET HOURS: 10 PM to 6 AM

Lake Macbride State Park Modern Campground, North

-  Reservable
 -  Electric (20/30/50-amp)
 -  Full hook-up (20/30/50-amp)
 -  Non-Reservable
 -  Full hook-up (20/30/50-amp)
 -  Registration
 -  Parking
 -  Water Hydrant
 -  Dumpster
 -  Dump Station
 -  Restrooms/Shower
- H = Host site



Lake Macbride



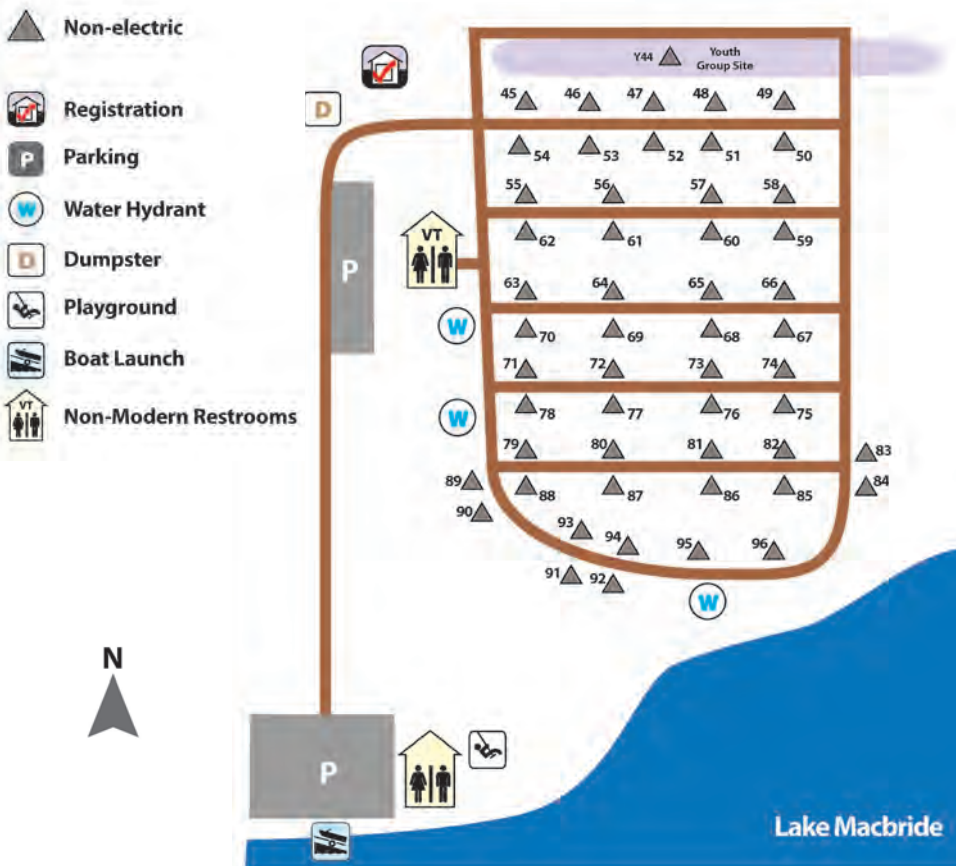
PRIMITIVE CAMPING

LAKE MACBRIDE

The primitive campground in the southern portion of the park opens April 1st and closes November 15th. It offers 57 campsites, with both flush and non-flush restrooms. This campground is situated in a shaded and semi-timbered area near the lake. During the recreational season (May 1st to Oct 15th) all sites are \$12 per night. Before and after this time, all sites are \$10. One organized youth group site is available for \$25/night. Interested campers may reserve a site in this campground by calling toll free (877) 427-2757 or going online at www.iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com 100% of these sites are reservable with same-day reservations available.

CHECK-IN TIME: 4 PM | CHECK-OUT TIME: 3 PM | QUIET HOURS: 10 PM to 6 AM

Lake Macbride State Park Non-Modern Campground, South



SEVERE WEATHER

The stone day use lodge, shower building, or any vault latrines can be used for emergency shelters. The nearest sirens sound at the park and in Solon in the event of a tornado warning. It is to your benefit to carry a weather radio and carefully monitor local radio channels.



SHELTER INFORMATION

The Civilian Conservative Corps constructed a number of facilities at Lake Macbride in the 1930's including a beautiful enclosed stone shelter. The enclosed Main Lodge shelter (day use only) is available for rent for \$250 per holiday or weekend day plus tax (\$125 for weekdays), which includes electricity, water, modern restrooms, kitchen facilities, and oak tables and benches. The main lodge may be reserved online at the website below. Three open picnic shelters are also available for rent. For locations, please see the maps in this guide or view the online map at the website below. Open shelters may be reserved online at the website below. Shelters with electricity can be reserved for \$35/day plus tax and \$25/day for those facilities without electricity.

Website: www.iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com

RECREATION

LAKE MACBRIDE

HIKING AT LAKE MACBRIDE

A five mile crushed limestone multiuse trail is located on the north side of the lake and connects the park to the community of Solon. While a majority of this trail runs along the shoreline of Lake Macbride, several portions pass through oak/hickory forest or alongside restored Iowa prairie. More than seven miles of additional hiking trails await your visit, including one especially scenic crushed limestone trail that extends 1.25 miles between the beach and Lake Macbride's dam.

SWIMMING AND BOATING

Lake Macbride's beach, located in the northern unit of the park, is the perfect place to cool off or simply relax and enjoy the view. No lifeguards are provided, so park visitors may swim at their own risk. Swimming is restricted to the designated beach area only, and alcohol is prohibited.

A variety of boats are available for rent. The boat rental office is open daily from 9 AM to 7 PM between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Reservations can be made by calling (319) 624-2315. Pontoon boats seat up to 8 passengers and rent for \$50-\$55 an hour. Paddleboats, canoes, kayaks, and paddleboards rent for \$12-\$16 an hour. A variety of concessions are available at the boat rental. Firewood is also for sale.

There are seven boat ramps on Lake Macbride. Please see the area map for ramp locations. A 10 horsepower motor limit is in effect from the Friday before Memorial Day through Labor Day. At other times there is an unrestricted horsepower motor limit operated at no-wake speed (5 mph maximum speed). Beach closures of up to two hours are possible on weekends and holidays at Lake Macbride State Park due to high visitation and limited parking at the beach area. During these times, vehicles will be stopped at the park entrance and asked to return to the beach at a later time, or asked to visit one of the other beaches in Johnson County such as Sugar Bottom, West Overlook, or Kent Park. Lake Macbride beach hours are 8 AM to 7 PM daily. Make weekend and holiday plans accordingly.



INTERESTING HISTORY

Lake Macbride, currently encompassing over 800 surface acres offers countless recreational opportunities for all who visit. However, this is after many years of changes. Lake Macbride State Park officially opened in 1937 after over 4 years of construction and many more years of planning. Much of the original development was completed by the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC), and the Works Progress Administration (WPA) from 1933 to 1938. Originally, Lake Macbride was only 200 acres in size, surrounded by over 800 acres of park property. The park and lake changed to its current configuration in 1957 in efforts to remain separate from Coralville Lake, which was being built "next door" along the Iowa River. From 2000-2002, we once again saw changes during a major lake renovation project in the form of shoreline protection, silt retention structures, jetties and additional fish habitat. Anybody interested in learning more about the history of Lake Macbride can contact the park office at (319) 624-2200.

FISHING

LAKE MACBRIDE

In both Lake Macbride and Coralville Lake, you can expect to find largemouth bass, walleye, bluegill, crappie and channel catfish. In order to fish, you need to purchase an annual fishing license for \$22. (One-week or one-day licenses also are available. Fees are higher for out-of-state residents.) Purchase your license at various stores in the area, including Casey's, BP, Sam's Main Street Market in Solon, L.D. Express in North Liberty, Fin and Feather in Iowa City, Scheels, Iowa River Outdoors or Walmart in Coralville. Or purchase and print a fishing license from the DNR website, iowadnr.gov. Or you can call (800) 367-1188. Anglers are sure to appreciate the fish grinder at the fish-cleaning station in the Primitive Campground. You do not need to be camping at the Primitive Campground to use the grinder, and it can handle up to a 10-pound fish. Check out takemefishing.org for info about what's biting and to get hooked on fishing.

Check Iowa DNR
Fishing Regulations



IOWA FREE FISHING DAYS June 6th - 8th, 2025

Photo by Courtney Forman



FISHING FAQs:

How old do I need to be to buy a license?

- 16 years of age. Kids under 16 don't need a license to fish, but may need to purchase a trout fee.

How much does a fishing license cost?

- \$22 for an annual fishing license; 7-day \$15.50; 1-day \$10.50.
- Non Iowa residents pay \$12 for one-day; \$20.50 for 3-day; \$37.50 for 7-day; and \$48 for an annual license.

How many fish can I catch?

- Daily bag limits: Crappie-25; Bluegill-25; Largemouth Bass-3; Walleye-5; Catfish-8 on Macbride, Catfish-15 on Coralville; Muskellunge-1; White bass/Wipers-none
- Length limits: Panfish-none; Largemouth Bass-15" minimum; Walleye-none; Catfish-none; Muskellunge-40"; White bass/Wipers-none
- Two lines maximum, unless you pay \$14 for an annual

BOAT SAFETY

- Take a safe boating course.
- Put on your life jacket and leave your alcohol behind.
- Check the weather forecast.
- File a float plan with a friend.
- Check your boat for all required safety equipment.
- Check your electrical system and fuel system for gas fumes.
- Follow manufacturer-suggested procedures before starting up.
- Carry a navigational chart and know your waterway.
- Follow the navigation rules of the road, buoys, and other aids to navigation.
- Be a safe boater, always post a sharp lookout.

Iowa's boating speed and distance regulations:

- Don't exceed 5 mph within 100 feet of craft going 5 mph or less.
- Keep a distance of 50 feet when both are going over 5 mph.
- Don't exceed 10 mph when vision is not clear 200 feet ahead.
- iowadnr.gov/fishing/fishing-licenses-laws

Swim With A Buddy!



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