

Recreation

A Master Plan is a stewardship driven, land use management document. It focuses on the operations and maintenance of a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) water resource project. As one of these projects, Coralville Lake has a Master Plan that conceptually establishes and guides the orderly development, administration, maintenance, preservation, enhancement and management of all natural, cultural, and recreational resources of the project.

Coralville Lake was authorized by Congress to provide flood control. Because the land was purchased for the purpose of flooding, it is protected from development. This protected land provides a haven for the native plants and animals that would have otherwise been displaced by agriculture or urbanization.



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) owns approximately 25,000 acres of land which includes the lake bed. This land, is referred to as “Fee Title” land and classified either as land under water, leased land, or as one of the four land use zone categories: project operations, recreation intensive use, recreation low density, and reserve forest land. The 1977 Master Plan included a separate classification of Wildlife Managed Leased Lands which is now being captured under the category of Leased Lands. A breakdown of approximate acreage allocations is below.

Fee Title Land:	24,591 acres
Lake Bed Acreage:	5,430 acres
Fee Title Land Managed by the Corps:	8,619 acres
Fee Title Leased Land (includes water area):	15,972 acres
Fee Title Land by Land Use Classification:	
• Recreation Intensive Use:	3,394 acres
• Reserve Forest Land:	4,630 acres
• Recreation Low Density:	522 acres
• Project Operations:	73 acres

In addition to the Fee Title land, the Corps also purchased the right to flood 10,321 acres of private land using what is called a Flowage Easement. Since this is only an easement over private property, no other management activities are authorized and will not be considered for other uses under this Master Plan revision.



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Rock Island District

Coralville Lake - 2850 Prairie Du Chien Road NE, Iowa City, IA 52240-7820
Phone: (319)338-3543 ext. 6300

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A Master Plan seeks to balance recreational development with protection and conservation of natural and cultural resources, so it is critical to identify current recreation land usage. Note: Hunting takes place in each of the categories below.

Recreation / Intensive Use:

- 7 Campgrounds with 495 Total Campsites
- 4 Swimming Beaches
- 11 Playground Areas
- Sugar Bottom Disc Golf Course
- 8 Picnic Shelters
- 3 Universally Accessible Picnic Sites
- 2 Sand Volleyball Courts
- 9 Horseshoe Pits
- Amphitheater
- Basketball Court
- Fishing Pier
- 7 Boat Ramps

Reserve Forest Land:

- 1 Trail ~ 0.25 miles
- Turkey Creek Disc Golf Course
- Bird Blind

Recreation / Low Density:

- 5 Trails ~ 20 miles

Leased Land:

- Iowa Dept of Natural Resources:
 - Hawkeye Wildlife Management Area
 - Lake Macbride State Park
 - Lakeview Off-Highway Vehicle Area
- Private Marinas (3) with:
 - Mid River Marina
 - Scales Pointe Marina
 - Coralville Lake Marina
- University of Iowa -Macbride Nature Recreation Area
- Kirkwood Community College—Atherton Wetland Area
- National Science Foundation



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