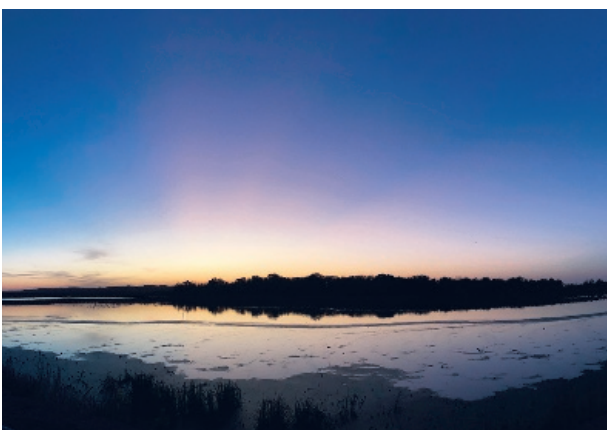




US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Rock Island District
2023 Edition

ALONG *the River*



Mississippi River Project's Guide to Recreation

WELCOME

Welcome to the 2023 edition of Along the River! This annual publication helps keep our visitors up to date on recreational and educational opportunities in the Rock Island District's Mississippi River Project. We had another great year with many new and returning visitors in our recreation areas.



Favorable weather and river conditions allowed us to finish some infrastructure projects that will enhance the visitor's experience. The popular fishing and eagle watching boardwalk at Locks and Dam 14/Smith's Island received some much-needed improvements. The original timber boardwalk was removed and replaced with an ADA accessible concrete surface along with some custom-made covered benches. Soon, a new picnic shelter will be constructed near the boardwalk.

Lock and Dam 12 now has an overlook platform offering great views of the river and lock operations. Blanding Landing will be receiving a new shower house and vault toilet.

Construction of the new ranger office at Thomson Causeway is nearing completion. New water utilities will be installed at Thomson Causeway this spring resulting in each campsite at the Hickory Point, Potters North and Potters South loops having their own water hydrant. In an effort to complete this construction as quickly as possible, these loops will be closed with the tentative goal to open on June. 30. The River Birch loop will open as normal on May 1 and will not be affected by the construction.



Fisherman's Corner North Recreation Area will be adding a new picnic shelter where the current amphitheater is located. A new playground will be installed as well. No delays in opening the campground are expected at this time.

Shady Creek Campground had many of their campsite living pads upgraded to concrete the past year. In 2023, new electrical services and pedestals will be installed at each campsite. This extensive work will push the opening of Shady Creek tentatively to June 30. Andalusia Slough Day Use Area will have a new vault toilet installed near the boat ramp.

As you can see, we've been keeping busy and will continue to work to provide you with great recreational opportunities. We will provide updates on our construction activities and park status on our Rock Island District Facebook page and Mississippi River Project website at www.missriver.org. As always, Park Rangers are available to help answer questions about park status. Please see page 3 for the Ranger Station contact information. We look forward to seeing you Along the River!

The Mississippi River Project Staff

Along The River is published by THE Dispatch•ARGUS

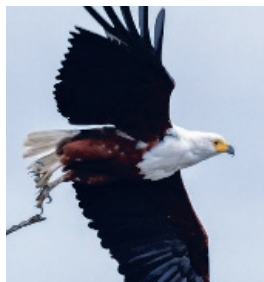
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Additional funding provided by the Mississippi River Project Cooperating Association.

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 2024 edition, please call 563-383-2286.

HOW TO REACH US



Mississippi River Project

Conservation • Education
Recreation • Safety • Service



Addresses & Telephone Numbers:

Mississippi River Project Office Natural Resource Management Section

25549 182nd St., Pleasant Valley, IA 52767

Phone: 309-794-5338

Fax: 309-794-4347

RECREATIONAL SITES:

Blanchard Island
Illinois City, IL

32

Blanding Landing
Hanover, IL

16

Bulger's Hollow
Clinton, IA

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Clark's Ferry
Muscatine, IA

28

Fisherman's Corner
Hampton, IL

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Grant River
Potosi, WI

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Visitor Center**
Rock Island, IL

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Pleasant Creek
Bellevue, IA

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Muscatine, IA

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Thomson Causeway
Thomson, IL

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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

Thomson Ranger Office — Pools 13-14

1600 Lewis Avenue, Thomson, IL 61285

Phone: 815-259-3628

Fax: 815-259-3629

E-mail: mvrodmn13@usace.army.mil

Mississippi River Visitor Center — Pool 15

Building 328 Rodman Ave., P.O. Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004

Phone: 309-794-5338

Fax: 309-794-5741

E-mail: mvrodmn15@usace.army.mil

Muscatine Ranger Office — Pools 16-24 1315

Rivers Edge Dr., Muscatine, Iowa 52761

Phone: 563-263-7913

E-mail: mvrodmn16@usace.army.mil

Visit our Website at: www.missriver.org

RESERVING A CAMPSITE/PICNIC SHELTER

Your Favorite Campground is as Close as Your Telephone

The Recreation 1 Stop can be used to reserve your campsite at Corps of Engineers campgrounds nationwide. Call toll-free 877-444-6777.

On Your Computer

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

On Your Phone

Go to your App Store and search for the **Recreation.gov mobile app**. Downloading the app will allow you to check for campsite availability AND make your campsite reservation quickly and easily! Some campsites may have scannable QR Codes for even quicker access to check availability.

What you will need to make a Reservation

Most Corps campsites are available through the 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, phone number and email address.
- ▶ Vehicles, trailers, tents and other equipment you will be bringing.
- ▶ License numbers of all of the vehicles you will be bringing.
- ▶ Senior (Golden Age), Access (Golden Access), or other America the Beautiful Interagency Pass number (if you have one).
- ▶ Credit card number to pay for your camping stay.

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 \$25 per day. Reservable shelters are located at Grant River, Blanding Landing, Thomson Causeway, Clark's Ferry and Shady Creek.

Visit www.Recreation.gov to reserve your picnic shelter today. See page 12 for more information on the amenities available at each shelter.

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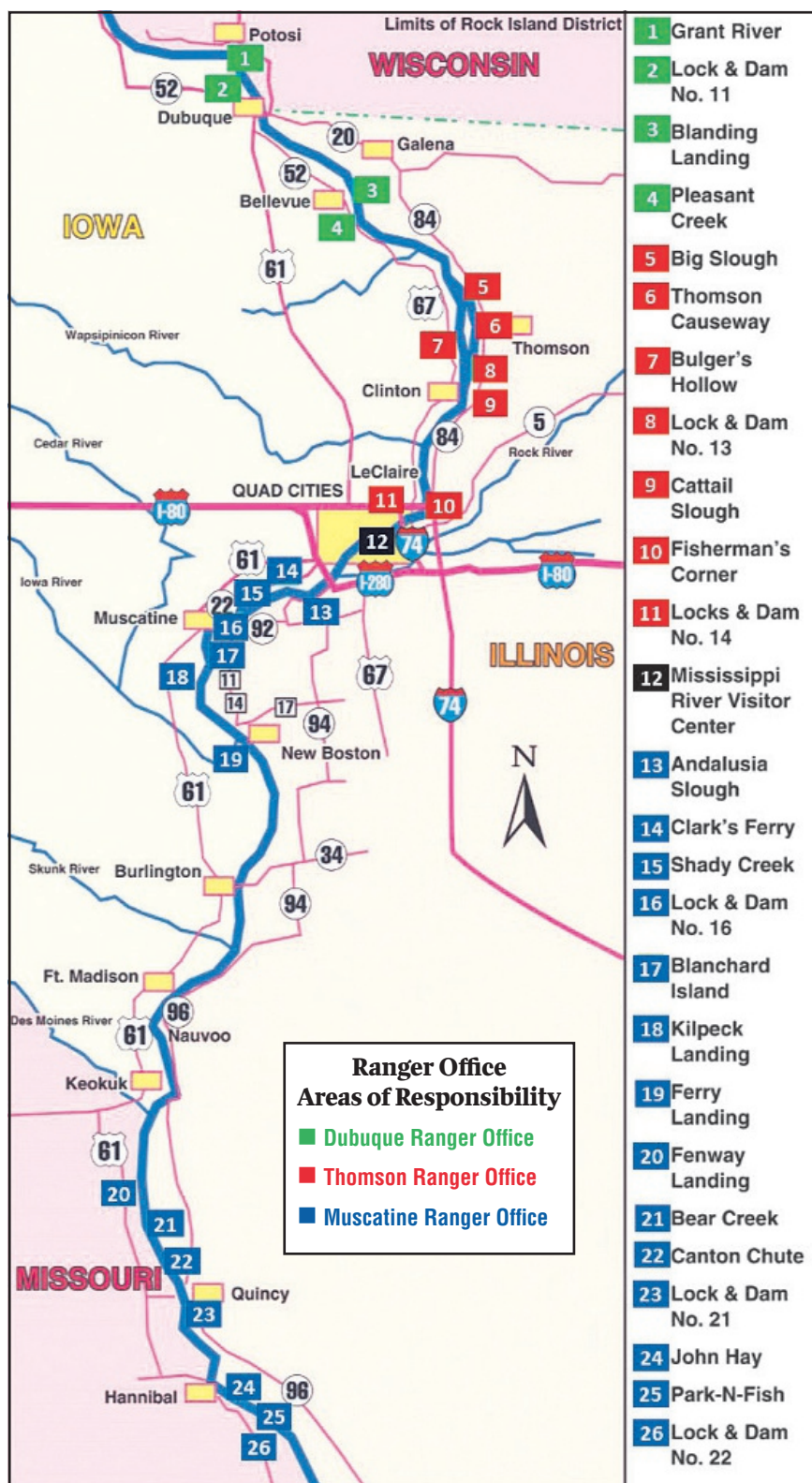
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THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER



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! This article outlines how to register for a campsite and a few tips to help you along the way.

2023 Class A Campground Fees

Overnight camping fees for Class A campgrounds are \$14 for non-electric and \$20 for electric sites. All Class A campgrounds are reservable. Discount passes, such as the America the Beautiful Interagency passes, will continue to be accepted. Only credit/debit cards may be used to make reservations.

Class A Campground Information Season Dates and Fee Booth Hours

- ▶ These areas include Grant River, Thomson Causeway, Fisherman's Corner North, Clark's Ferry, and Shady Creek. Typical Class A campground season dates are May 1 through the fourth Sunday in October. Some closures or delays may happen throughout the year. See www.missriver.org for recreation area status updates. See individual campground pages for fee booth information.
- ▶ When you arrive at a reservable campground: If you have a reservation, set up your equipment and check in at the fee booth if required. If you do not have a reservation, call 877-444-6777 or check the www.Recreation.gov website to find out what sites are available and make a reservation. At Fisherman's Corner North and Clark's Ferry, you can also utilize the Scan and Pay QR codes at the campground entrance or on each campsite's post to book through the Recreation.gov mobile app.
- ▶ How can I tell if a site I want is reserved or occupied? Check the Recreation.gov website, mobile app or by scanning the QR Code. You can also phone operators at 877-444-6777. Some campgrounds use yellow tags at each reserved campsite showing dates of impending reservation. Campsites that are already occupied may have a white tag on the post with their departure date and are considered occupied until 4 p.m. on that date.
- ▶ If you find a site that is not reserved or occupied for any part of your stay: Reserve the site by calling 877-444-6777, through Scan and Pay QR codes in the mobile app, or through www.Recreation.gov.

gov and follow instructions to pay for your stay. Set up your equipment and begin camping. Check in with the campground fee attendant during their operating hours, or if camping at Fisherman's Corner or Clark's Ferry, you can stay at your campsite and volunteer or ranger will be by to check you in.

- ▶ How do I reserve a campsite for a future date? If you want a campsite for future occupancy, please make a reservation by calling 877-444-6777 or visit www.Recreation.gov. Reservations can be made up to 180 days in advance of your arrival date. Future reservations cannot be made at the fee booths.

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.

Camping in the Offseason

Some campgrounds remain open in a limited capacity in the offseason. Camping is primitive and no amenities, such as power and water, are available. Camping is free in the offseason, but all campground rules still apply. Check campgrounds within this booklet to see which ones are open year-round.

We look forward to seeing you camping along the Mississippi River with the Corps of Engineers!



Follow Us 

Stay up-to-date on what's happening in the Rock Island District by following us on social media.

The District's Facebook page can be found at www.facebook.com/RockIslandDistrictUSACE or follow us on Twitter [@USACERockIsland](https://twitter.com/USACERockIsland).

Stay in touch with the three District reservoirs by following their Facebook pages at:
www.facebook.com/coralvillelake
www.facebook.com/SaylorvilleLake
www.facebook.com/lakeredrock

CAMPING ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER

2023 Class B Campground Fees

Most Class B campgrounds are \$12 per night per site, except for Blanding Landing. Blanding Landing offers electric sites for \$20 and non-electric sites for \$14 per night.

All Class B campgrounds are first come, first served. All will now require a credit/debit card. Discount passes, such as the America the Beautiful Interagency passes, will continue to be accepted.

Class B Campground Information Season Dates

These areas include Blanding Landing, Pleasant Creek, Bulger's Hollow, and Blanchard Island. Class B campgrounds are typically open May 15 through October 15.

When you arrive at the campground: Find a site that is unoccupied and return to the campground's pay station or Scan and Pay QR code kiosk to complete your registration.

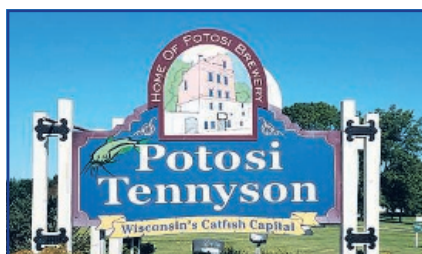
Blanding Landing and Pleasant Creek Campgrounds now feature a pay station, found near the front of each campground. When you have located the pay station, follow the prompts on the screen to pay for your campsite using a credit/debit card.

Blanchard Island and Bulger's Hollow now utilize the Scan and Pay QR Code self-registration through the Recreation.gov mobile app. You must download this app and create an account, PRIOR to your arrival at the campground.

- What is a QR Code? A QR Code is essentially a type of bar code that can be used to link to a website or feature using your smartphone. The following is an example of what one may look like:



- Once you've found an empty site return to the information kiosk near the front of the campground. Use the www.Recreation.gov App to scan the QR Code, which will prompt you to a checkout screen. You will then follow the instructions on the screen to use a credit/debit card to pay for the length of your stay.
- After you have paid and received your confirmation number, fill out the receipt tag portion of a registration envelope and place the tag on your site post. You may now set up camp.
- How can I tell if a site I want is occupied? Class B Campgrounds are first come, first served only. If a site has no equipment on it after the 4 p.m. checkout time, you may claim the site at the pay station or Scan and Pay registration, then set up your equipment.



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- ◆ Whispering Bluffs Winery
- ◆ National Brewery Museum
- ◆ World's Largest Cone Top Can
- ◆ Dining, Shops, Lodging & Museums
- ◆ Outdoor Recreation
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potosiwisconsin.com
potositennysoncc@gmail.com
608-763-2300

SCAN AND PAY

FOR FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED CAMPING

As part of a nationwide effort to eliminate the use of cash and checks for payment, the Mississippi River Project is implementing a new way to pay for your first come, first served campsites at Bulger's Hollow and Blanchard Island. This method is called Scan and Pay and will be active during these parks' camping seasons from May 15th through October 15th.

Visitors are required to physically arrive at the campground to purchase and claim a site using the Scan and Pay QR Code and Recreation.gov mobile app. Cash and checks will no longer be accepted- this is credit/debit card only.

There are 2 easy steps to start your adventure at each of these Class B Campgrounds:

- ▶ 1. Download the Recreation.gov mobile app to your phone prior to coming to the park and create an account (if you don't already have one). Some campgrounds have limited cellular service that could make this a challenge onsite.
- ▶ 2. Arrive at the campground. All campsites are on a first come, first served basis and you must be physically present to register.
- ▶ 3. Scan QR Code at the front of the campground using the Recreation.gov mobile app. Follow the instructions on the screen to choose your site, pay, and complete registration. Now go set up your site!

Note: You cannot use www.recreation.gov to secure your site; you must use the Recreation.gov mobile app. The Recreation.gov website will, however, have an information page for Bulger's Hollow and Blanchard Island, so you can learn more about Scan and Pay there.

ACTIVITY SCAN AND PAY FOR BOAT RAMP USE

Boat ramp fees will no longer require paying cash into an honor vault. Fees will now be collected via your smartphone using a QR Scanner in the Recreation.gov mobile app. The Mississippi River Boat Ramp Locations where you will see the Activity Scan and Pay method are Bulger's Hollow, Cattail Slough, Clark's Ferry, and Shady Creek.

There are 3 easy steps to start your adventure on the Mississippi River:

- ▶ 1. Download the Recreation.gov mobile app to your phone prior to coming to the park and create an account (if you don't already have one). Some areas have limited cellular service that could make this a challenge onsite.
- ▶ 2. Locate the bulletin board with the boat ramp's QR Code and follow the instructions to pay for your boat launch Activity Fee. All payments will be completed using your smartphone by scanning a QR Code in the Recreation.gov mobile app.
- ▶ 3. Place your proof of payment on the dashboard of your car. Enjoy your adventure on the river!

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. All of the shelters can be reserved up to one year in advance by visiting www.Recreation.gov or calling 877-444-6777. The cost to reserve these sites is \$25 per day.

	Picnic Tables	Fireplace	Lights	Outlets	Grill	Water	Restrooms Nearby	Playground Nearby
Grant River	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Blanding Landing	X			X	X	X	X	X
Thomson Causeway (Octagon)	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Thomson Causeway (Stone Shelter)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Clark's Ferry	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Shady Creek	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X



AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

INTERAGENCY PASS PROGRAM

The America the Beautiful Interagency Pass Program is a suite of annual and lifetime passes that provides U.S. citizens and visitors an affordable and convenient way to access Federal recreation lands and waters.

Federal agencies that participate in this program include: the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA Forest Service, National Park Service and US Army Corps of Engineers. Please note that passes are non-transferable and the pass holder must be present to use one.

What passes are included and what are the requirements?

- ▶ **Lifetime Senior Pass** - Cost: \$80
US Citizens or permanent residents age 62 and older can purchase. Valid for the life time of the pass holder.



- ▶ **Annual Senior Pass** - Cost: \$20
US Citizens or permanent residents age 62 and older can purchase. Valid for 1 year from the month of issue. These can be upgraded to a Lifetime Senior Pass. Present previously purchased Annual Senior Passes and pay the difference between the combined price of these passes and the \$80 purchase price of the Lifetime Senior Pass.
- ▶ **Access Pass** - Cost: Free
US Citizens or permanent residents with documentation of a permanent disability. Valid for the lifetime of the pass holder.
- ▶ **Annual Pass** - Cost: \$80
Any US Citizen or permanent resident 16 years and older can purchase. Valid for 1 year from the month of issue.

- ▶ **Volunteer Pass** - Cost: Free
Must have completed 250+ hours of volunteer service on public lands. Valid for 1 year from the month of issue.
- ▶ **Annual Military Pass** - Cost: Free
For all active military members and their dependents. Valid for 1 year from the month of issue.
- ▶ **Veterans and Gold Star Family Pass**
Cost: Free
For all military veterans and Gold Star Family members. Valid for the lifetime of the pass holder.



- ▶ **Every Kid Outdoors Pass** - Cost: Free
Any 4th grade student. Valid the duration of the 4th grade school year through the following summer (September - August). Visit www.everykidoutdoors.gov.

What do the passes cover?

These passes cover entrance, access or standard amenity fees to more than 2,000 Federal recreation sites. Senior and Access Passes also provide a discount on some expanded amenity fees such as camping and boat ramp fees.

Are the Golden Age and Golden Access Passes still valid?

Yes, both are still accepted and can be exchanged for the updated Senior or Access Passes.

Where can I buy these passes?

These passes are available at the Mississippi River Visitor Center and some campground fee booths. Check with your local ranger office for availability. Several other federal agencies and their sites also issue passes.

Where can I find more information?

You can find more information by visiting the website <https://store.usgs.gov/pass>, talking to a park ranger, or calling the Mississippi River Visitor Center at 309-794-5338.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers play an important role in protecting natural resources by helping to operate and maintain recreation facilities at the US Army Corps of Engineers Mississippi River Project. The Mississippi River Project offers a variety of opportunities for volunteers looking to donate their time. Volunteers can be found greeting people and presenting programs at the Mississippi River Visitor Center. Volunteers may perform some grounds and maintenance work at campgrounds, collect fees, 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. Long term and seasonal volunteers are required to work a minimum of 21 hours a week, but can work more if interested. Oftentimes these volunteers will be provided a free camp 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, talk to a Corps Park Ranger or visit the following website:



Federal Lands Volunteer Clearing House

www.volunteer.gov

www.workamper.com



RECREATION AREAS

US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Rock Island District

RECREATION
AREA

	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	•	•		•	•	•	•		•	•	•			12
2. Lock & Dam No. 11	11	IA	0			•		•		•		•					37
3. Blanding Landing	12	IL	37	•	•		•	•	•	•				•	•	•	15
4. Pleasant Creek	13	IA	27	•					•	•	•		•	•		•	18
5. Big Slough	13	IL	0						•				•			•	34
6. Thomson Causeway*	13	IL	131	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•		20
7. Bulger's Hollow	13	IA	23	•					•	•	•		•	•	•		22
8. Lock & Dam No. 13	13	IL	0						•			•	•	•	•		37
9. Cattail Slough	14	IL	0						•				•			•	34
10. Fisherman's Corner*	14	IL	56	•	•		•	•	•	•			•				24
11. Locks & Dam No. 14	14	IA	0					•	•			•	•	•	•		37
12. Mississippi River Visitor Center	15	IL	0			•		•		•		•					26
13. Andalusia Slough	16	IL	0						•				•	•			34
14. Clark's Ferry*	16	IA	43	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	28
15. Shady Creek*	16	IA	52	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	30
16. Lock & Dam No. 16	16	IL	0						•	•		•		•			37
17. Blanchard Island	17	IL	15	•					•	•	•		•	•			32
18. Kilpeck Landing	17	IA	0										•	•			34
19. Ferry Landing	18	IA	0										•	•			34
21. Bear Creek	21	IL	18						•				•	•	•		35
21. Fenway Landing	21	IL	0										•				34
22. Canton Chute	21	IL	0						•				•				34
23. Lock & Dam No. 21	21	IL	0					•	•		•		•	•			37
24. John Hay	22	IL	0						•				•	•	•		35
25. Park-N-Fish	22	IL	0						•						•		35
26. Lock & Dam No. 22	24	MO	0										•				35

*RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED – Reservations accepted through the Recreation 1 Stop toll free at 877-444-6777 or via the Internet at www.Recreation.gov.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER PROJECT CAMPGROUND RULES

SEE TITLE 36 FOR FULL LIST OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. All persons camping must follow check in procedures for that campground. See individual campground pages for more information.
2. Camping at one or more campsites is limited to 14 days during any 30 consecutive day period.
3. Quiet hours are 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.
4. Pets must be on a leash no longer than six feet, picked up after, and controlled at all times. Pets are not allowed in shower building.
5. Parking on grass and roadsides is prohibited. Vehicles must be parked on campsite or in designated parking areas. Two vehicles are allowed per campsite. Parking on vacant campsites is prohibited.
6. Hooking up to water, except to fill up your tank, is prohibited. No hose washing of campers is allowed. Utilizing a "T" or "Y" attachment is not allowed.
7. Campsite must be occupied daily. Equipment left unattended longer than 24 hours will be impounded and removed at owner's expense.
8. One family per campsite or a maximum of six persons per site is allowed.
9. Camping equipment is limited to 1 wheeled unit plus 1 tent per site, or 2 tents per site.
10. Check out time is 4 p.m.
11. No trash allowed in fire rings, to include but not limited to treated lumber and construction material. No moving of fire rings.
12. No garbage/trash may be removed from campground dumpsters/trash receptacles.
13. No Solicitation. Removable "For Sale" signs on cars, campers, or any other equipment located in the recreation area is not allowed and needs to be removed upon entry.
14. All state bicycle laws apply. No riding bicycles after dark, unless equipped with headlights and tail lights and rules of the road are being followed.
15. No electric/gas powered vehicles that are not state registered. This is to include electric bikes, scooters, golf carts, etc.

TOP WEBSITES

Mississippi River Project:

www.missriver.org

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

Recreation 1 Stop:

www.Recreation.gov

Campground reservations and travel planning.

Rock Island District:

www.mvr.usace.army.mil

Information on activities within the District.

Every Kid Outdoors Program:

www.everykidoutdoors.gov

Find out how 4th graders can receive free access to federal lands and waters.

Vessel (Towboat) Locations:

<https://ndc.ops.usace.army.mil/ords/f?p=108:1>

Find out where towboats are located on the river.

Online Navigation Charts:

www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/NavigationCharts

River Gages:

www.rivergages.com

Find river levels and forecasts.

Volunteering Opportunities:

www.volunteer.gov

Find out how to volunteer with the Corps.

America the Beautiful Interagency Pass:

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

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

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WWW.RANDRSPO RTSINC.COM



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 playgrounds, horseshoe pits, and a picnic shelter. The park also has a boat ramp which is most suitable for smaller vessels due to shallow conditions during low water.

The Grant River Recreation Area provides 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. Information about weekend programs can be found on

campground bulletin boards or by calling the Dubuque Ranger Station at 563-582-0881.

Visit the Grant River Recreation Area to enjoy scenic views, a friendly atmosphere and a great camping experience!

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. Fishing from the shoreline is best during the late spring while fish are spawning and before the the wild rice and lotus-lily's take root. As the summer gets dryer, the river lowers and the shallow shoreline becomes full with aquatic vegetation. Another fishing spot is Potosi Point just upriver from the park. There you can launch a boat in deeper waters or fish from shore.



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275 W. Business Hwy. 151, Exit 18
Platteville, WI 53818

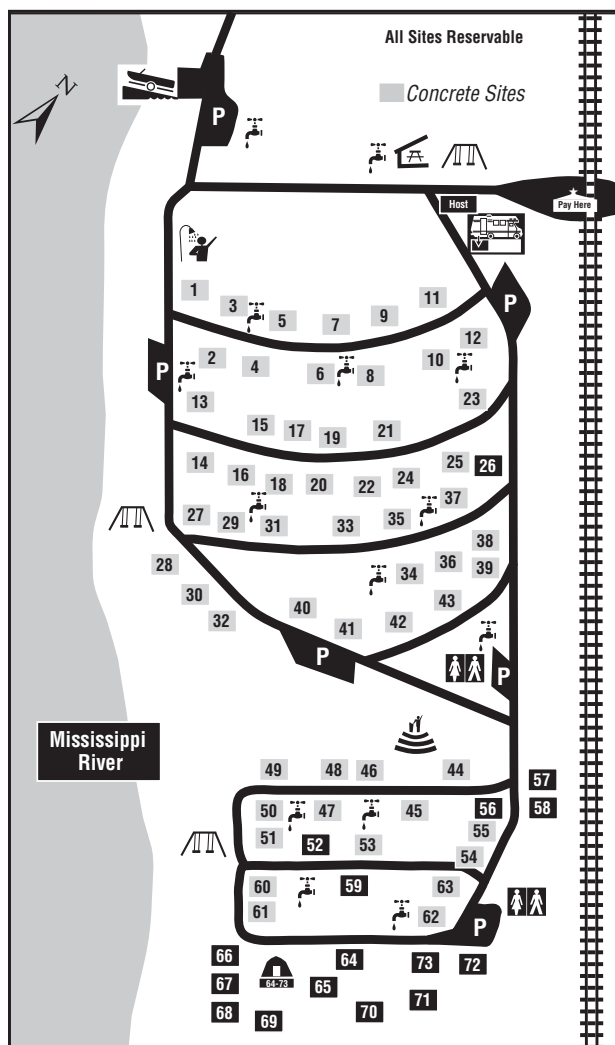
Open Year Round

FREE Maps & Brochures about WI

www.platteville.com

608-348-8888

GRANT RIVER RECREATION AREA



GRANT RIVER INFO:

Open Year-Round

Fee Dates:
May 1-October 22

Camping Fee:
\$14 and \$20

Picnic Shelter Available:
\$25

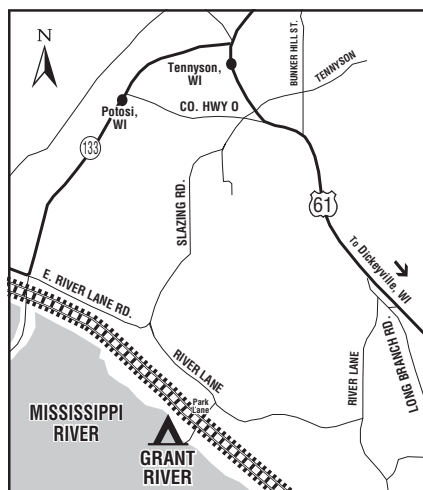
Reservations Accepted:
Yes

Reservations:
See page 4.

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

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 and provides access to miles of great fishing. It is located 13 miles south of Galena, Illinois, off Blackjack Road in Jo Daviess County. This Class B campground features 30 campsites with 50 amp electrical service, 7 non-electrical sites, shower building, and sewer dump station. 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 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!

- Education Programs
- College Classes
- Wildlife Viewing
 - Hiking
- Volunteer Opportunities
- & more!

NAHANT MARSH
EDUCATION CENTER
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Welcome!
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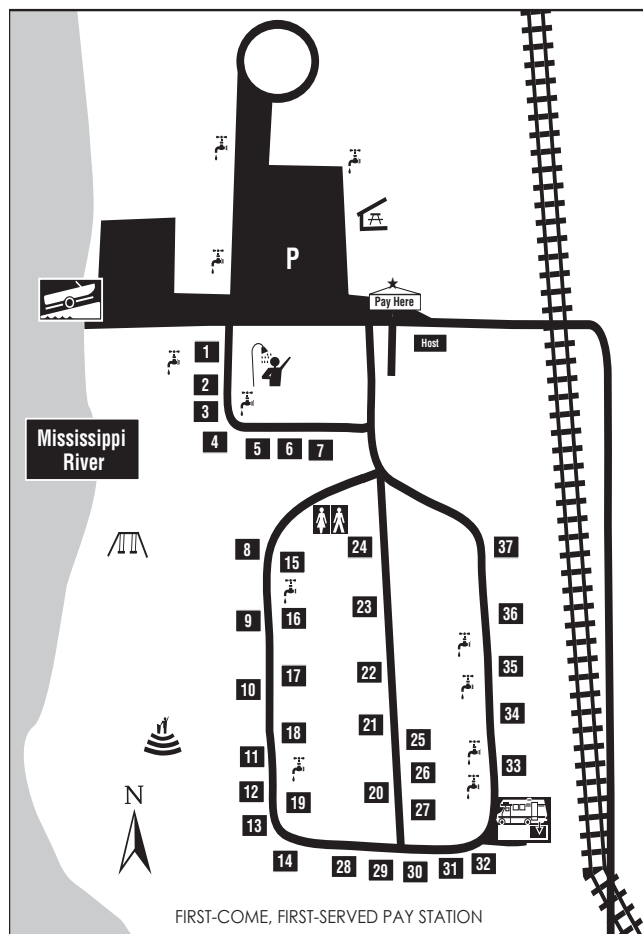
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Glynns Creek
Golf Course
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West Lake Park
(563) 328-3281
Buffalo Shores
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More information at:
scottcountyiowa.gov/conservation

BLANDING LANDING RECREATION AREA



BLANDING LANDING INFO:

Open Year-Round

Fee Dates:

May 15-October 15

Camping Fee:

\$14 and \$20

Picnic Shelter Available:

\$25

Reservations Accepted:

No.

First come, first served pay station

Address:

5720 S. River Road
Hanover, IL 61041

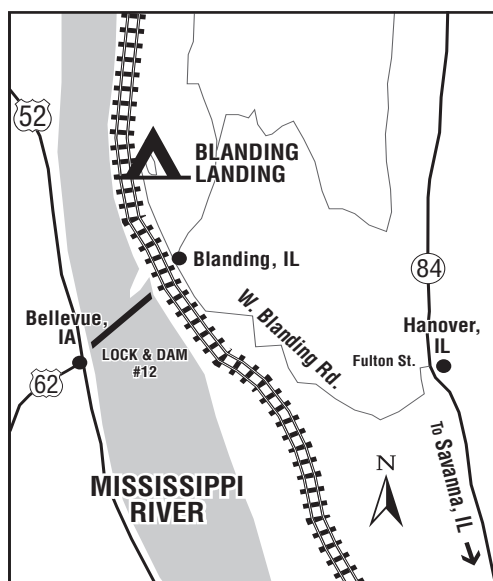
River Mile:

558.2"

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 enjoy. The nearest bait/tackle shop is at least 20 minutes away.





PLEASANT *Creek*

The Pleasant Creek Recreation Area is rustic and relaxing with prime views of the Mississippi River. It is located 3 miles south of Bellevue, Iowa, along Highway 52. The recreation area has 27 first come, first served campsites, drinking water and vault toilets in the campground. There is also a sewer dump station and a concrete boat ramp with direct access to the main river channel. There is no electrical service or flush toilets, making this a perfect spot for primitive campers.

Visitors can walk in the island section, which can be accessed from a bridge near the entrance and another bridge closer to the campground.

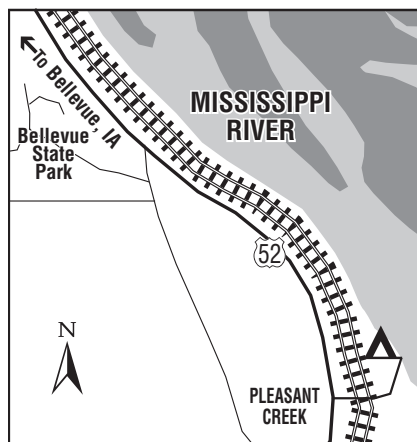
The area is monitored by a volunteer campground host who assists campers with the self-registration process and is available to answer questions. Come set up your lounge chair on the edge of the river, watch boat traffic navigating the channel, and enjoy the quiet escape that Pleasant Creek Recreation Area offers.

FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

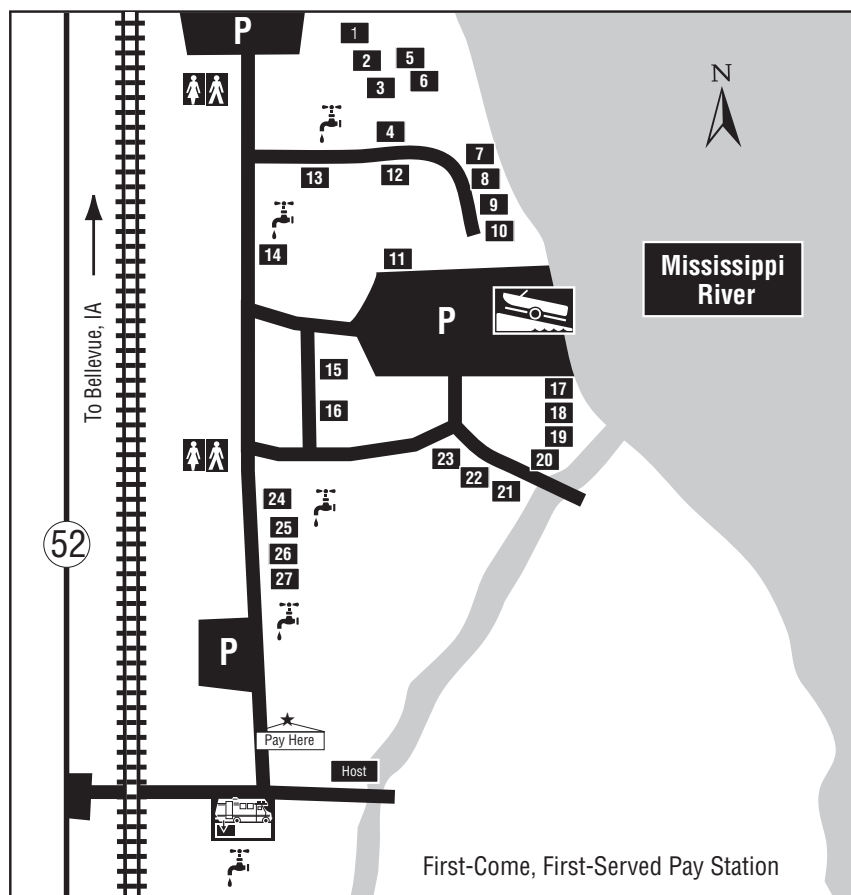
Pleasant Creek offers anglers a variety of fishing opportunities. Perch, catfish, rock bass, walleye, and crappie are just a few varieties of fish

you can expect to catch along the Mississippi River.

By boat, you can travel just a short way upriver to fish along a wing dam or downstream of Lock & Dam 12 in Bellevue. You can also head downriver from the park to one of the many backwater sloughs. For campers that don't have access to a vessel, fishing along the shoreline still offers plenty of success and relaxation.



PLEASANT CREEK RECREATION AREA



PLEASANT CREEK INFO:

Open Year-Round

Fee Dates:
May 15-October 15

Camping Fee:
\$12

Reservations Accepted:
No. First come, first served pay station

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

River Mile:
552.9





THOMSON

Causeway

Thomson Causeway Recreation Area offers expansive views of Pool 13 of the Mississippi River and Potter's Marsh Managed Hunt Area. The park is located at 1600 Lewis Avenue in Thomson, Illinois and contains 131 campsites (most with 30 and 50 amp service available) spread through 4 separate loops. The campground offers three shower buildings, a 3-lane dump station and a walk-up 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 both the main channel and backwaters, and three picnic shelters. Don't forget to explore Hidden Slough Nature Trail, a 3/4-mile hike through bottomland forest.

Nearby 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 may find Iowa State University students collecting data on turtles, amphibians, and other reptiles.

This recreation area is open year-round, with camping facilities available May 1 through the fourth Sunday in October. Whether you're planning a family camping trip or just going for a weekend drive, you will find a memorable experience at Thomson Causeway.

FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

There are ample fishing opportunities when visiting Thomson Causeway and

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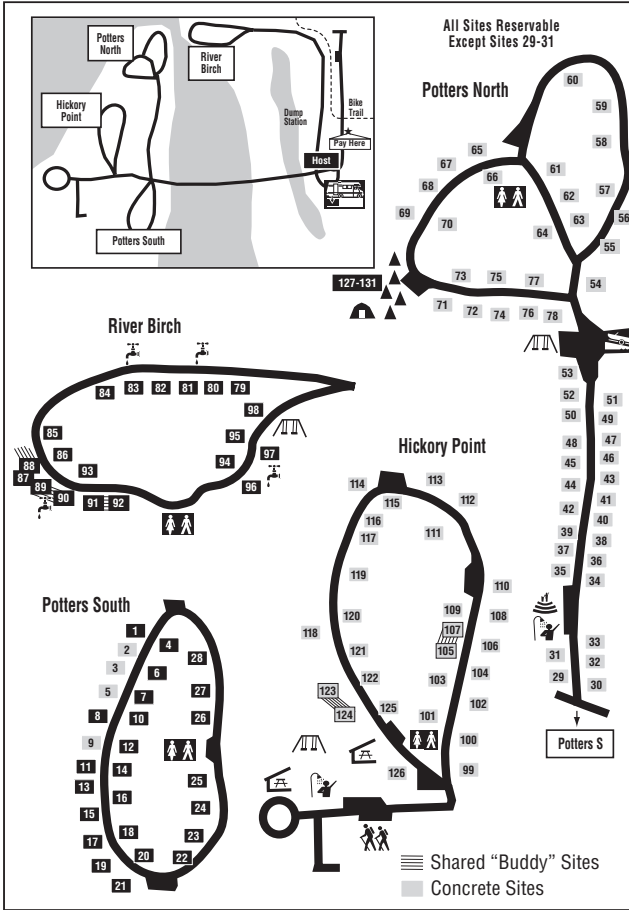
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THOMSON CAUSEWAY RECREATION AREA



THOMSON CAUSEWAY INFO:

Open Year-Round

Fee Dates:
River Birch
May 1 - October 22

All Other
Loops
June 30 - October 22

Camping Fee:
\$14 and \$20

Reservations Accepted:
Yes

Reservations:
See page 4.

Fee Booth:
563-362-8839
Open
Monday to Wednesday
4-8 p.m.
Thursday to Sunday and
Holidays 9 a.m.-
12 p.m. & 4-8 p.m.

Address:
1600 Lewis Avenue,
Thomson, IL 61285

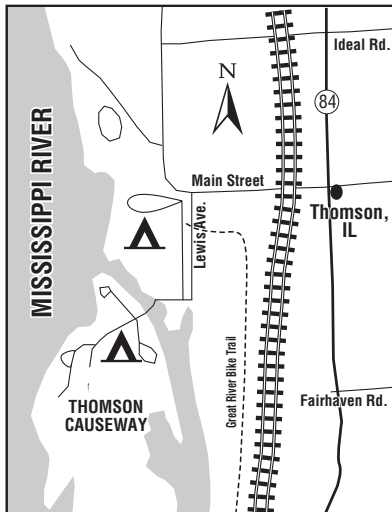
River Mile:
526.7

Pool 13. You can spend an afternoon shoreline fishing in the campground or use one of the local boat ramps that access the backwaters of the Mississippi River. While fishing in the area you will have the opportunity to angle for a wide variety of species, including catfish, largemouth bass, crappie and blue gill sunfish. More experienced fisherman can try for the big prizes – northern pike and

walleye. This area, as well as nearby

Spring Lake, is a mecca for local fishing

tournaments all season long. Fishing in the area continues even through the winter; Potter's Marsh and Spring Lake are both popular ice fishing destinations.





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 23 non-reservable campsites, 14 RV sites and 9 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. The camping area is open from May 15-October 15. The boat ramp and day use areas are open year-round. Camping is not the only attraction to the area. Bulger's Hollow also offers a boat

ramp, playground equipment and picnic sites for a great way to spend an afternoon with the family.

Fishing Opportunities

Bulger's Hollow offers a gravel boat launch for access to Pool 13 of the Mississippi River. A popular launching site for local fishermen, 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 is ideal for fishing. You can also take a short trip up or down river to find a calm backwater slough for hours of casting.



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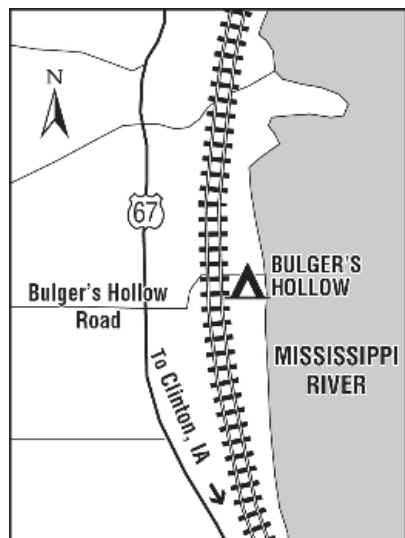
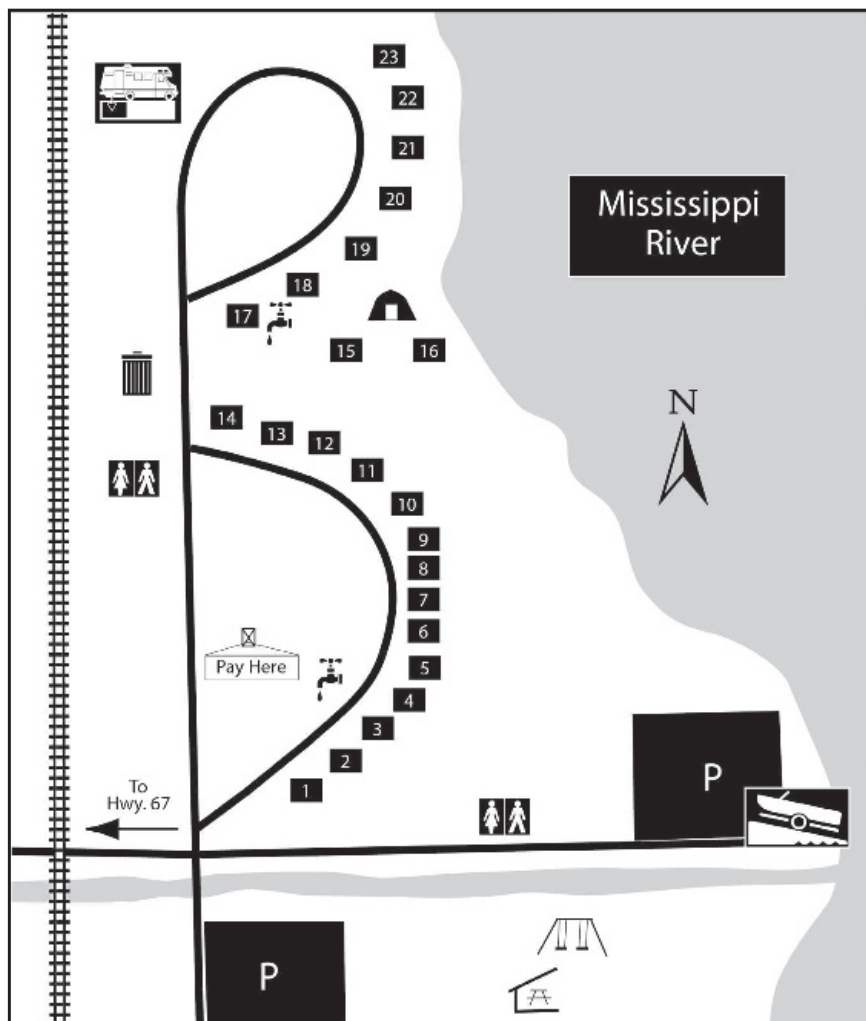


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Hampton, IL
Camping along the Mississippi
River · Hiking & biking trails
Restored prairies

Loud Thunder Forest Preserve
Illinois City, IL
Lake George · Boat rentals
Camping · 17 miles of trails



BULGER'S HOLLOW RECREATION AREA



BULGER'S HOLLOW INFO:

**Boat Ramp and
Day Use Area**
Open Year-Round

Day Use Fee Dates:
May 1 - October 22

Day Use Fee: \$5

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

Camping Fee: \$12

**Picnic Shelter
Available:** Yes

**Reservations
Accepted:**
No
First come, first
served Scan and
Pay QR Code

**Self Registration
Address:**
4686 170th St.
Clinton, IA 52732

River Mile:
525.2



FISHERMAN'S *Corner*

Fisherman's Corner Recreation Area has become a popular camping and recreational destination along the Mississippi. It is located in Hampton, Illinois, just north of the Quad Cities off Illinois Highway 84 near I-80.

This campground at Fisherman's Corner North 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 horseshoe pits. Take a moment and relax as you watch waterfowl, shorebirds, and other wildlife in the nearby marsh. Grab a bike and hit the Great River Bike Trail that runs parallel to the campground.

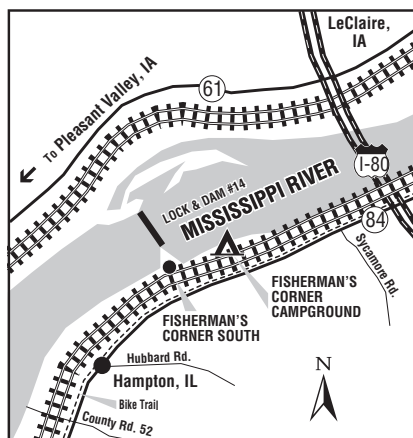
Fishermen and families alike enjoy Fisherman's Corner South, located $\frac{1}{4}$ mile downstream from the campground. Visitors can picnic at the day use area or fish from the levee while watching towboats and other vessels pass through Locks & Dam 14.

Fisherman's Corner now allows for "Public Visitor Self Service Reservation Modifications after Arrival." This means that after you have arrived and checked in, you now have the ability to add a night, reduce a night, or change sites using the recreation.gov website on your smartphones or computer without having to call Recreation.gov.

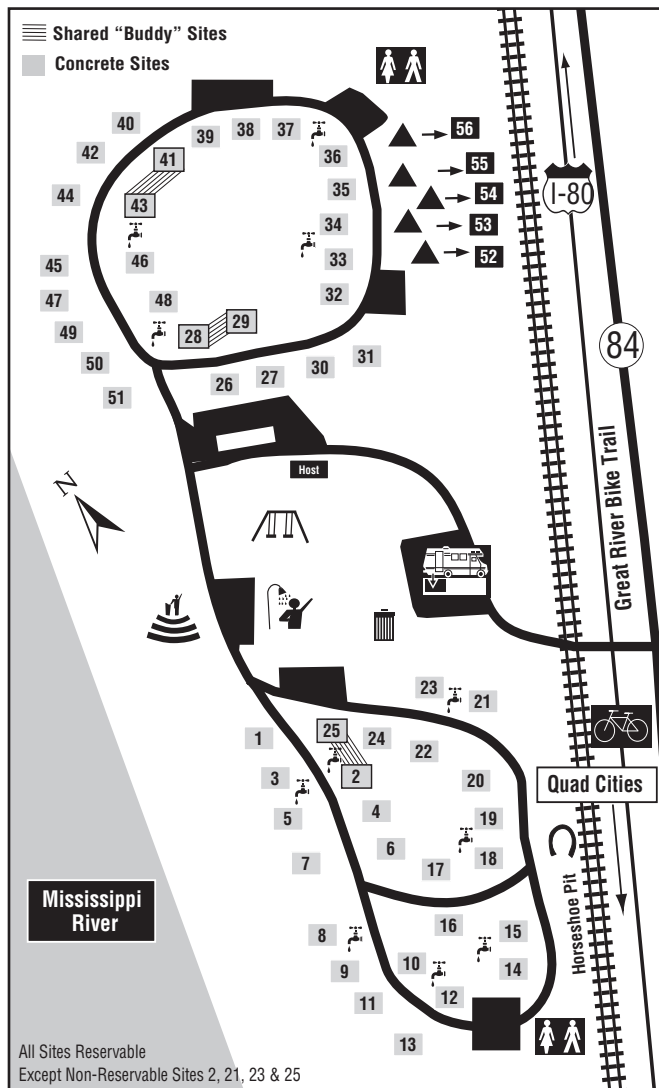
Fishing Opportunities

One of the biggest attractions to Fisherman's Corner Recreation Area is

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



FISHERMAN'S CORNER RECREATION AREA



FISHERMAN'S CORNER INFO:

Closed During Off-Season

Fee Dates:

May 1-October 22

Camping Fee:

\$14 and \$20

Reservations Accepted:

Yes

Reservations:

See page 4.

Park Attendant:

563-232-9096

Check-ins will be completed by Volunteer/Ranger at your campsite upon your arrival.

Address:

16123 Hwy. 84 N
 Hampton, IL 61256

River Mile:

493.3

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MISSISSIPPI RIVER

Visitor Center

Visit the Mississippi River Visitor Center, which overlooks Locks & Dam 15 on Arsenal Island in Rock Island, Illinois. Locks & Dam 15, built between 1931 and 1934, was the first of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dams built as part of the 9-Foot Channel Project. It is now one of 29 dams to make a stairway of water stretching from St. Paul, Minnesota to St. Louis, Missouri. These dams help deepen the waterway to maintain a 9-foot navigation channel for commercial towboats transporting goods along the Upper Mississippi River.

A glassed exterior wall and observation deck on the second floor of this ADA accessible Visitor Center provide exceptional views of towboats and other vessels passing through the locks. Park Rangers and volunteers are available to answer any questions. In addition, the facility offers educational displays including a river floor map, an aquarium with native Mississippi River fish, and information about Army Corps of Engineers mission and operations. A small movie theater has several informational films for all ages.

The Visitor Center gift shop will accommodate all of your souvenir needs with a range of T-shirts, books, kids' gifts, and other items. For those travelling on local waterways or simply wanting to learn more about the rivers'

flows, Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway Navigation Charts are also available for purchase.

Park Rangers and volunteers offer guided tours of Locks & Dam 15 on Saturdays Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Space is limited and reservations are highly recommended. Special tours may also be arranged at other times for schools, families or organizational groups. These groups must call ahead to schedule a tour at least 30 days in advance of their arrival date. Outdoor tours are dependent on weather conditions.

The Mississippi River Visitor Center has a wide range of interpretive programs available to visitors both on- and off-site. Some popular programs include: Water Safety, Mammals, Bald Eagles, and Life on a Towboat. Park Rangers present these programs at schools and other facilities by request. Contact Visitor Center staff to learn more about these opportunities.

Accessing the Rock Island Arsenal

Visitors to Locks & Dam 15 and other Rock Island Arsenal facilities will need to receive a Visitor Pass from the Visitor Control Center at the Moline Gate. Once you have completed this process, you can request a map and directions to our

MISSISSIPPI RIVER VISITOR CENTER

location. Your GPS will not direct you to the correct location if you type in “Mississippi River Visitor Center.” You must use this address to arrive at the Visitor Control Center: 5309 Prospect Drive, Rock Island, IL 61201

U.S. Citizens age 18 and older will need to present a valid picture ID and pass a quick background check. Some visitors may be required to provide additional documentation.

Previously acquired, unexpired Visitor Passes may be used at any of the three entrance gates (Moline, Rock Island, and Davenport) during their operating hours.

More information on requirements, gate operating schedules, and Visitor Control Center hours can be found at:
<https://home.army.mil/ria/> or by calling 309-782-1337.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER VISITOR CENTER INFO:

Hours:

Open year-round
Wednesday - Saturday
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Closed Thanksgiving, noon on Dec. 24
through Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

Address:

Mississippi River
Visitor Center
Building 328
Rock Island
Arsenal, IL
61204-2004

Phone:

309-794-5338

FAX:

309-794-5741

Email:

[mvrodmn15@
usace.army.mil](mailto:mvrodmn15@usace.army.mil)





CLARK'S Ferry

Clark's Ferry Recreation Area is a popular 11-acre park just off Highway 22 along the Mississippi River in Montpelier, Iowa, halfway between the Quad Cities and Muscatine.

The Class A campground has 45 concrete sites all featuring 30 and 50 amp electrical service and many have

great views of the river. Most of the campsites can accommodate large RVs and offer wide grassy spaces between sites. Showers, running water, and flush toilets are also available. Large, mature trees shade the campground and provide a relaxing atmosphere that many campers seek.

The day use area provides a reservable picnic shelter and playground which are open year-round. The boat ramp is also open year-round, but a fee is only charged for launching from May 1 through the 4th Sunday in October.

Clark's Ferry now allows for "Public Visitor Self Service Reservation Modifications after Arrival. This means that after you have arrived and checked in, you now have the ability to add a night, reduce a night, or change sites using the recreation.gov website on your smartphones or computer without having to call Recreation.gov.

Come see why Clark's Ferry is perfect for anyone who wants to enjoy a beautiful camping spot without having to travel too far.

Fishing Opportunities

Whether you want to fish from the banks of the Mississippi River or launch a boat into Pool 16, you can do both right at Clark's Ferry Recreation Area. Bank fishing can offer hours of entertainment at a more leisurely pace and it's a great

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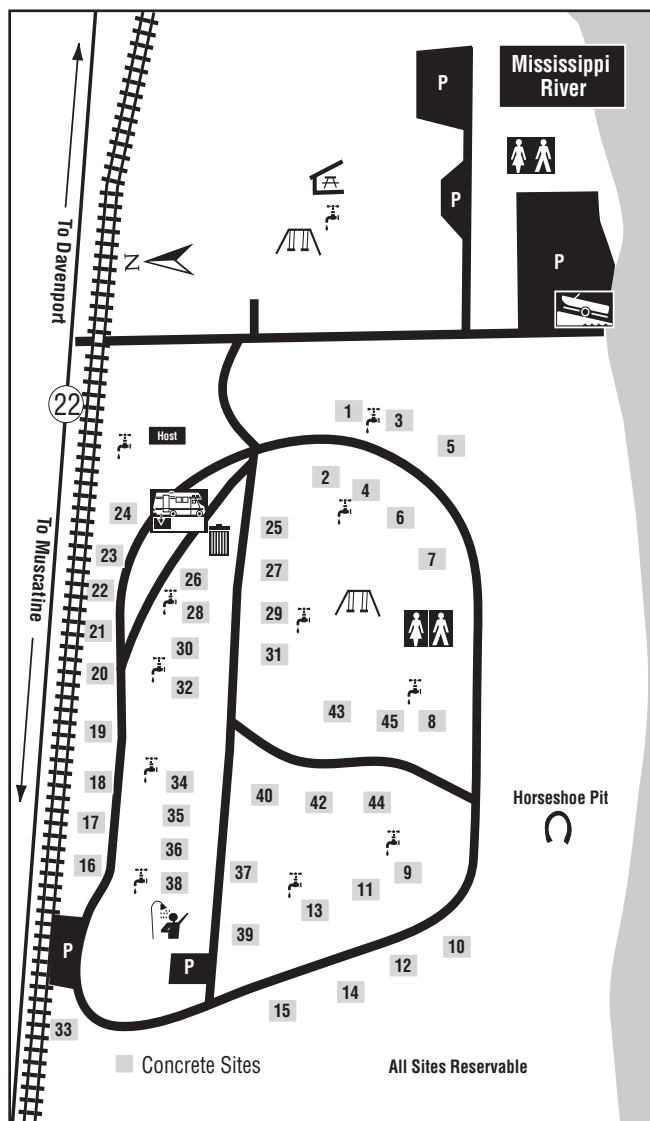
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ARSENAL MUSEUM**

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CLARK'S FERRY RECREATION AREA



CLARK'S FERRY INFO:

Closed During Off-Season

Fee Dates:

May
1-October 22

Camping Fee:
\$20

Picnic Shelter Available:
\$25

Reservations Accepted:
Yes

Reservations:
See page 4.

Park Attendant:
563-419-7594

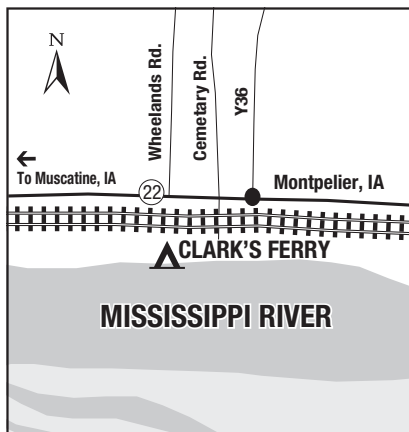
Check-ins will be completed by Volunteer/Ranger at your campsite upon your arrival.

Address:
3860 Sunset Beach
Montpelier, IA 52759

RIVER MILE
468.5

way to introduce the sport of fishing to children. It doesn't take much equipment and you can fish from nearly anywhere along the Clark's Ferry shoreline. An ADA accessible fishing platform is even available to campers and the general public to allow those with mobility issues the opportunity to safely fish the river.

Fishing by boat will provide a variety of fishing holes to the more dedicated angler. Remember to practice water safety no matter which method you choose!





SHADY Creek

Shady Creek Recreation Area is a 31-acre park located just upriver from Fairport, Iowa and near Wildcat Den State Park. It offers a Class A campground, day use area and boat ramp just a short drive from both the Quad Cities and Muscatine.

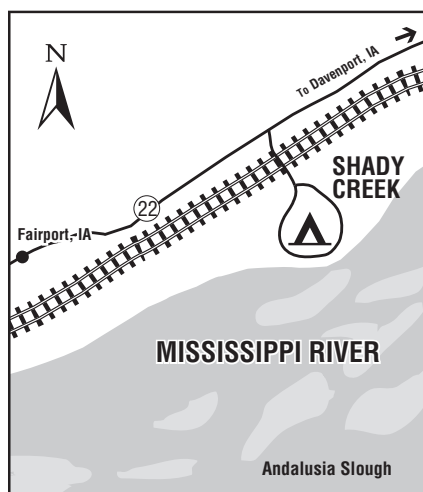
The campground has 53 concrete sites that all have 30 and 50 amp electrical service. All of these campsites can accommodate large RVs. The first 11 campsites are open year-round for camping with limited services during the winter months. Occasional ranger programs and other special events take place in the recreation area during the summer to fall camping season. Information on these can be found on campground bulletin boards or by calling the Muscatine Ranger Station at 563-263-7913.

The day use area and boat ramp are open year-round, with a boat launch fee charged from May 1st through the 4th Sunday in October. The day use area provides a picnic shelter, individual picnic sites, and a playground. The peace of the area and views of the river make Shady Creek an ideal place to relax for the day or camp for a weekend — take your pick.

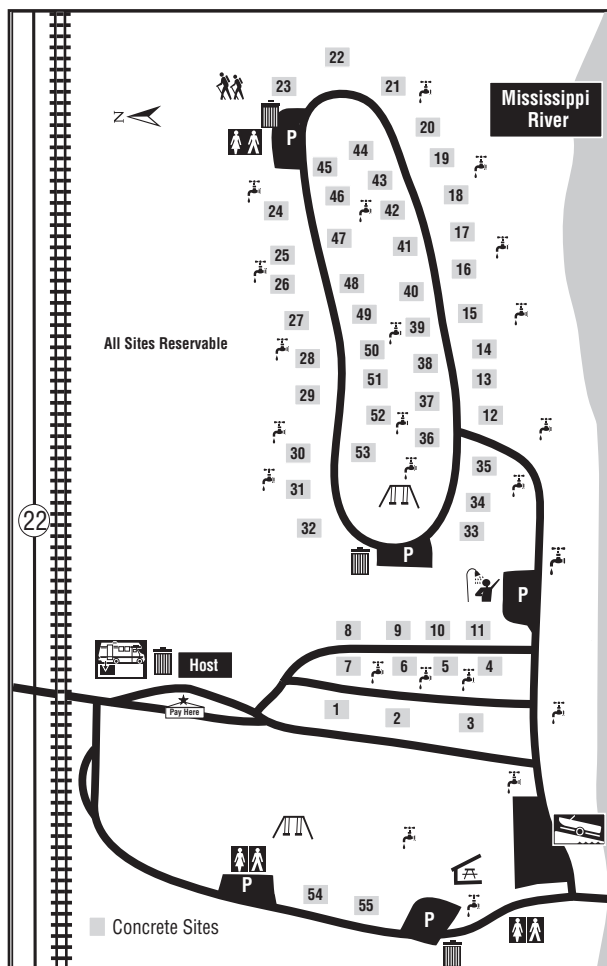
Fishing Opportunities

Whether you're fishing from the banks of the Mississippi River or

launching a boat, you can do both right at Shady Creek Recreation Area. Bank fishing is a great way to introduce fishing to children because it's inexpensive and can be done nearly anywhere along the Mississippi River. If you prefer to fish from a boat, you can launch it from many Army Corps of Engineers recreation areas either for free or for a minimal fee. Please remember to stay safe and be aware while recreating near water — life jackets are always a good idea!



SHADY CREEK RECREATION AREA



SHADY CREEK INFO:

Open Year-Round

Fee Dates:

June 30 - October
22

Camping Fee:

\$14 & \$20

Picnic Shelter

Available:

\$25

Reservations

Accepted:

Yes

Reservations:

See page 4.

Fee Booth:

563-419-0857

Open 5-8 p.m.

Daily

9-11 a.m.

Friday & Saturday
& Sundays of
holiday weekends

Address:

3550 Hwy. 22
Muscatine, IA
52761

River Mile:

464.6





BLANCHARD *Island*

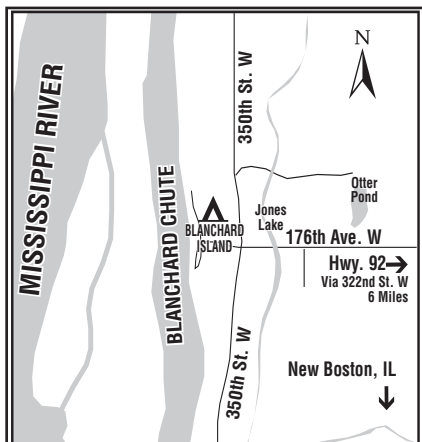
This 6.5-acre park is a Class B campground located off the main channel of the Mississippi River, approximately 6 miles downstream of Lock & Dam 16 in Illinois. With 15 primitive campsites shaded by mature maple, cottonwood, and sycamore trees, the park offers plenty of space for tents, small trailers, and shorter motor homes. All sites feature great views of the Blanchard Chute backwater area and a quiet nature lover's experience.

Blanchard Island is typically open year-round barring any flooding or other emergency closures. There is a self-registration \$12 per night fee, which is charged from May 15 through October 15. All the sites are on a first come, first

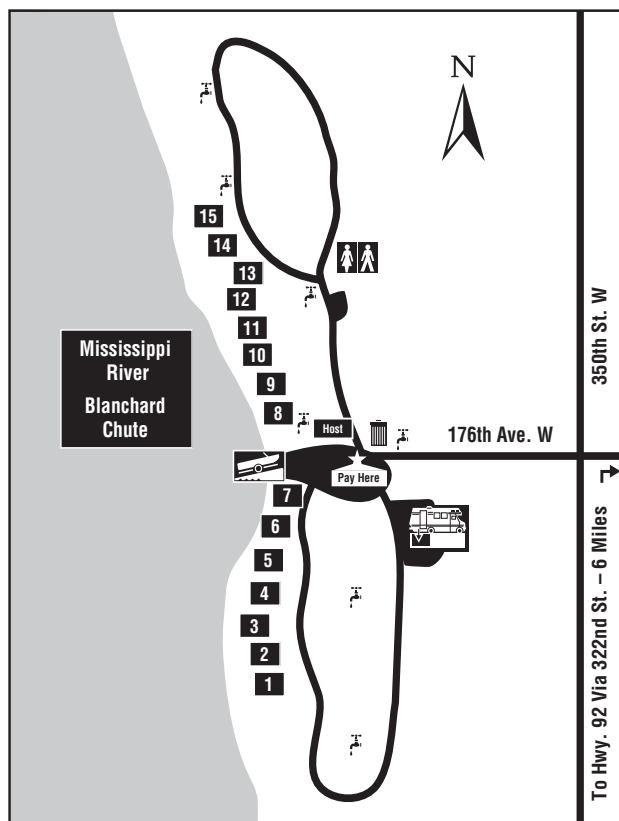
served basis, and can be paid for by Scan and Pay QR Code.

Fishing Opportunities

Blanchard Island Recreation Area is home to many anglers' favorite catfish holes! The boat ramp allows free access to the river and many campers enjoy bank fishing here as well. Always remember to employ water safety practices whenever you're on or near the water. Make sure everyone, especially children, wears a life jacket to ensure a safe fishing experience for all.



BLANCHARD ISLAND RECREATION AREA



BLANCHARD ISLAND INFO:

Open Year-Round

Fee Dates:

May 15-October 15

Camping Fee:

\$12

Reservations Accepted:

No.

First come, first served Scan and Pay QR Code

Self Registration Address:

Blanchard Island Recreation Area
34000 176th Ave. W.
New Boston, IL 61272

HELP SAVE ASH TREES



Don't Move Firewood, It Bugs Me!

EAB (Emerald Ash Borer) is now considered the most destructive forest pest ever seen in North America. We can stop or slow down the effects of EAB through:

- Using firewood from local sources and USDA certified firewood vendors
- Burning all firewood before leaving the park
- Not transporting firewood!

Firewood is for sale on-site at several of our recreation areas. These areas include:

- Thomson Causeway
- Fisherman's Corner North
- Clark's Ferry • Shady Creek



For more information visit www.emeraldashborer.info



SEMI-Developed

For those 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.

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 toilet. A river observation deck 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 vault toilets available for public use.

SEMI-DEVELOPED RECREATIONAL AREA

- ▶ **Andalusia Slough** is a popular river access point. It is located two miles west of Andalusia, Illinois, off Highway 92 at river mile 470.
 - ▶ **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.
 - ▶ **Ferry Landing** sits at the mouth of the Iowa River, near the northern edge of Oakville, Iowa at river mile 433.6 and offers river access.
 - ▶ **Fenway Landing** offers river access and is located 4 miles north of Canton, Missouri on 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 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.
- Camping & River Access:**
- ▶ **Bear Creek** located off Highway 96 near Marcelline, Illinois, at river mile 340.9 offers camping and river access. Hunting is permitted on the Long Island Division of the Great River National Wildlife Refuge surrounding the campground.
 - ▶ For further location information on these areas, please refer to the map at the beginning of this booklet.
-
- *Big Slough and Cattail Slough charge boat launch fees for their river access. More information on purchasing launch passes can be found on page 40.*



Do you practice
underwater breath-holding?

YOU COULD BE IN DANGER!

WHAT IS SHALLOW WATER BLACKOUT?



HOW TO AVOID SWB:

**Never
swim alone**

**Never ignore the
urge to breathe**

**No prolonged
breath-holding**

**Never
hyperventilate**



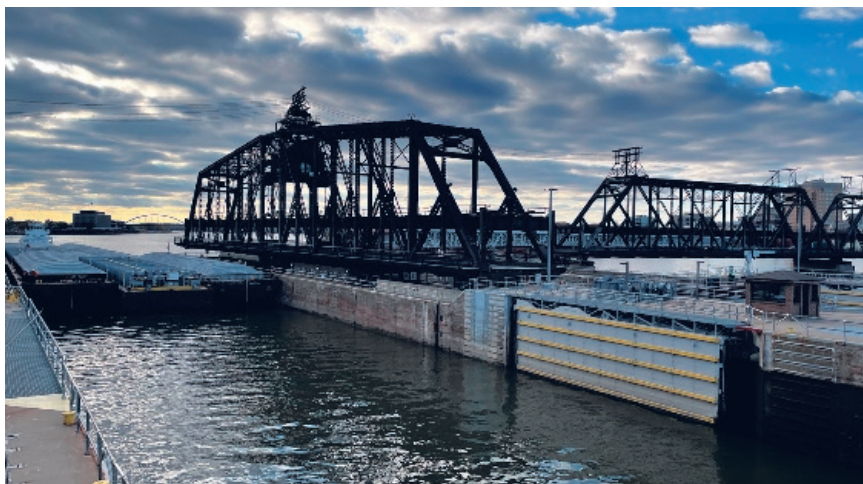
**SHALLOW WATER
BLACKOUT PREVENTION**



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

**For more information visit
www.shallowwaterblackoutprevention.org**

IEWS OF LOCKING THROUGH



The Mississippi River Project offers lock and dam tours as well as several locations for viewing the locks and dams. Tour topics include river and area histories, engineering of locks and dams, towboats, and much more. Tours are typically an hour in length and visitors should be prepared to walk or stand this entire time.

Visitors are asked to wear low-heeled, close-toed shoes with a back. No cameras, recording devices, bags, or backpacks are allowed on tours. Group sizes may be limited, so it's recommended to make reservations. Below are dates, times, and requirements for specific viewing locations and tours.

Lock & Dam 11 in Dubuque, Iowa: Contact the Dubuque Ranger Station at 563-582-0881 for more information and to make reservations.

Lock & Dam 13 in Fulton, Illinois: Contact

the Thomson Ranger Station at 815-259-3628 for more information and to make reservations.

Locks & Dam 15 in Rock Island, Illinois on Arsenal Island: Walking tours are available on a regular basis through the Mississippi River Visitor Center.

Arsenal Island Security requires visitors to enter through the Visitor Control Center at the Moline Gate. Those 18 years or older must present a valid photo ID and complete paperwork. Please allow extra time for this process. Contact the Mississippi River Visitor Center at 309-794-5338 for more information and to make reservations.

Lock & Dam 16 in Muscatine, Iowa: Contact the Muscatine Ranger Station at 563-263-7913 for more information and to make reservations.

Lock & Dam 21 in Quincy, Illinois: Tour times are available by

request. Contact the Muscatine Ranger Station at 563-263-7913 for more information and to make reservations.

Viewing Platforms and Mezzanines

Several areas throughout the district have areas for watching towboats and wildlife near the locks and dams.

Lock & Dam 11: Covered mezzanine with waterborne restrooms

Lock & Dam 12: Viewing platform

Lock & Dam 13: Viewing platform with vault restroom

Lock & Dam 14: Viewing platform with waterborne and vault restrooms

Lock & Dam 16: Viewing platform with vault restrooms

Lock & Dam 18: Viewing platform with vault restrooms

Lock & Dam 19: Viewing platform with waterborne restrooms

Lock & Dam 21: Covered mezzanine with vault restrooms



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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP MISSION



As you may be aware, the Mississippi River is a globally significant natural resource. However, 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. 2023 marks the 43rd 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. •



Lake Guard is a highly competitive game designed to test the player's speed, reflexes and boating safety knowledge. You are tasked with guarding a lake that has been overrun with unprepared boaters. Keep guard of your lake for as long as you can while increasingly hazardous conditions and visitors try to overrun your waters. Share your high score with friends, earn achievements and become the greatest Lake Guard in the world!



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 the 4th Sunday of October.

For daily boat ramp use, there is a \$5 fee. Boat ramps that charge a use fee on the Mississippi River are: Blanding Landing, Pleasant Creek, Big Slough, Bulger's Hollow, Cattail Slough, Clark's Ferry and Shady Creek Recreation Area.

Bulger's Hollow, Cattail Slough, Clark's Ferry, and Shady Creek Recreation Areas utilize the new Activity Scan and Pay QR Code self-registration.

For these ramps, use these simple steps:

- ▶ Download the Recreation.gov mobile app and create an account prior to your arrival.
- ▶ Locate the bulletin board with the boat ramp's QR Code and follow the instructions to pay for your boat launch fee. All payments will be completed using your smartphone by scanning a QR Code in the Recreation.gov mobile app.

- ▶ Rangers will scan vehicle license plate numbers for proof of boat ramp payments.

Blanding Landing, Pleasant Creek, and Big Slough utilize a new pay station self-registration.

For these ramps, use these simple steps:

- ▶ Locate the pay station and follow directions on screen to pay by credit/debit card
- ▶ Place your printed receipt on driver's side of dashboard with date clearly visible.

**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 proof of payment is dated and displayed properly.*

If you are a frequent visitor, you may wish to purchase an annual pass for \$40. The annual pass allows unlimited, nationwide 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 rearview mirror.

If you have an America the Beautiful Interagency Pass, you will no longer need to purchase a USACE Annual Pass

RECREATION DAY USE FEE PROGRAM – BOAT RAMPS



for day use fee areas. All you will need to do is display your America the Beautiful Interagency Pass in your vehicle either on the dash or by using a hang tag. Hang tags will be available at USACE offices. More information on the America the Beautiful Interagency Pass Program can be found on page 10. 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. Place your current camping receipt on your vehicle dash with the camping dates visible.

Where to Buy Your Annual Pass

- Purchase in person at one of the following locations:
 - Mississippi River Visitor Center
 - Check with your local Ranger Office for availability

Life Jackets Worn... Nobody Mourns PleaseWearIt.com



US Army Corps
of Engineers



MISSISSIPPI RIVER WATER SAFETY

The Mississippi River provides many exciting opportunities for recreational activities such as boating, fishing and hunting. Whatever your hobby of choice happens to be, keeping water safety in mind and coming home at the end of the day should always be a priority. Wearing life jackets is one of the easiest and most effective ways to stay safe.

If you are new to boating or want to brush up on your boat skills, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources partners with the US Army Corps of Engineers to offer Boat Safety Classes. Students who successfully complete the class will earn an Illinois Boat Safety Card. Only one 8-hour class is required to complete your certification.

Information on Boating Safety Class dates and times can be found by visiting www.missriver.org

If you are unable to attend one of these courses or none are available in



your area, you can also complete Boat Safety courses online. Iowa and Illinois DNR offer several options to accommodate this. Please visit the following websites to find out more:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/safety/Pages/BoatingSafety.aspx>

www.iowadnr.gov/things-to-do/boating/boater-education

Wear It, Wear It Right Life Jackets Save Lives!

1 CHECK THE LABEL

The label will tell you:

- Whether the life jacket is Coast Guard approved
- The size of the jacket
- How the jacket can be used

Sizes run from infant to extra extra large. Adult life jackets will not work for children until they weigh about 90 pounds. Children's life jackets should have a loop on the collar and a strap between the legs.

2 CHECK FOR DAMAGE

Check that there are no broken parts and no mold or rips in the fabric.

3 FASTEN UP

Fasten up all buckles, zippers and straps. Adjust straps so that the jacket fits snugly.

4 CHECK FOR PROPER FIT

- Lift the shoulders of the life jacket.
- Make sure it does not slip above the chin or ears.
- It should feel snug, yet comfortable. A properly fitted life jacket keeps your head and shoulders above water. You will be able to swim with it, too.

5 WEAR IT!

A life jacket only works if it's worn. Take the time to be prepared. Make sure you have and wear the right life jacket before you go out in the water.



COLD WATER KILLS ARE YOU NEXT?



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

Cold water causes
an involuntary gasp
(or torso) reflex



Cold Water Shock - 1 Min

Cold Incapacitation - 10 mins

Hypothermia - 1 Hour



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your lungs to drown



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Does Your Life Jacket Fit You Properly?

Life jackets come in sizes to fit babies through larger adults. They are intended to keep you afloat in lakes, rivers, and other bodies of water. Worn correctly, they work!

Life jacket should feel snug, yet comfortable. Lift up on the shoulders to make sure it doesn't slip above your chin or ears.

Check the label for U.S. Coast Guard approval, weight limit, and activity types.

Straps should be pulled tight and not twisted.

All buckles and zipper, if it has one, should be fastened.

Damaged life jackets should be discarded and replaced. Check often for mold, broken parts, holes, tears, and buoyancy.

Infant and some child life jackets have a strap between the legs. Be sure to fasten that for extra protection.



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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, 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 questionnaire below 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. Park Attendant

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
--	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

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"/> Lock and Dam 18 | <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#: _____

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.

SEND TO:

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



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