



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

# State Park News

## Conservation and Recreation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Heavy rains, flooding causing park closures across Iowa

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**DES MOINES, Iowa** – Rising river levels caused by heavy rainfall lately is forcing some state parks to be closed this Memorial Day weekend.

**LEDGES:** The Canyon Drive at Ledges State Park is currently closed to vehicle traffic due to flash flooding. The Lower Ledges Road and adjacent parking lots are also currently closed to vehicle traffic due to rising Des Moines River water levels. A significant rise in Saylorville Reservoir pool levels is also forecast, which will likely prolong closures of both the Canyon Drive and Lower Ledges Road into the foreseeable future. Visitors are still welcome to hike in Ledges State Park, though, as all of the trail system remains open. Parking for vehicles is available at the Oak Woods Picnic Area, Lost Lake Trail head, and several other upper area parking lots. Both of the open shelters and the campground at Ledges State Park remain open and accessible by vehicle.

**GEORGE WYTH:** George Wyth State Park closed Saturday, May 25, due to flooding. With the forecasted rainfall for Sunday night into Monday, the park will likely remain closed through the first part of the week.

**FAIRPORT RECREATIONAL AREA:** All campsites at Fairport Recreation Area are closed due to flooding from the Mississippi River.

**DOLLIVER:** Dolliver State Park will close at 3:30pm today, May 26, due to rising river levels and forecasted rainfall expected on Sunday night into Monday. DNR Staff has contacted park users currently on-site and those that have reservation for the near future.

For the very latest on state parks and trail closures across the state, visit: <https://www.iowadnr.gov/Places-to-Go/State-Parks/Alerts-and-Closures>