

AMBROSE A. CALL STATE PARK

Ambrose A. Call State Park is a 138 acre "oasis" of rugged hills heavily wooded with virgin timber in an area of gently rolling farmland. The park is located near the east fork of the Des Moines River. Ambrose Call and his brother, Asa, were early settlers in the area who carved their claim, the first in Kossuth County, on a walnut tree at the present site of the park. The brothers spent their first night in Kossuth County on July 9, 1854. The next day, while Asa went for his wife and supplies, Ambrose and a traveling companion, William Smith, began work on a cabin in what is now the state park.

Seventy-one years later, in 1925, Mrs. Gardner Cowles made a gift of land to the state in memory of her father, Ambrose A. Call. The park was dedicated in 1929.

The authentic log cabin constructed of elm logs, some exceeding 18 inches in diameter, is typical of cabins built by the original settlers in the area. Four men were needed to put the logs in place. The cabin in the park is located in the approximate location of the first log cabin in Kossuth County. It was moved from the August Zahlfen homestead to the park.

PICNICKING

Ambrose A. Call State Park is a great place for a family picnic. The shaded and grassy picnic areas provide pleasant settings for a family cookout.

CAMPING

Ambrose A. Call State Park offers 20 campsites. Of these, 12 include electric hookups. A modern vault rest room is located in the campground. Camping permits are obtained by self-registration.

LODGE

A log cabin-style lodge built in 1928 provides an excellent setting for such group activities as wedding receptions, family reunions, and community get-togethers. It is available for reservation through the park ranger.

HIKING

The rugged and heavily wooded park offers five miles of trails that wind through the forest, down a ravine, and along a picturesque winding creek. Many species of shrubs, flowers and trees can be found at A.A. Call.

NEIGHBORING TOWNS

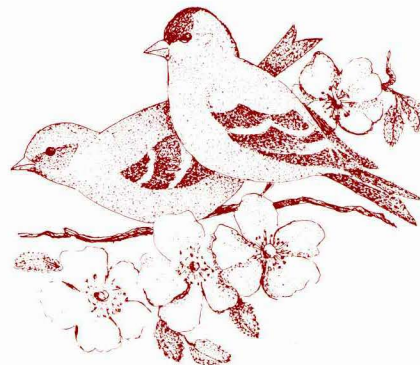
The park is located in Kossuth County, approximately 1 1/2 miles southwest of Algona.

EQUAL RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

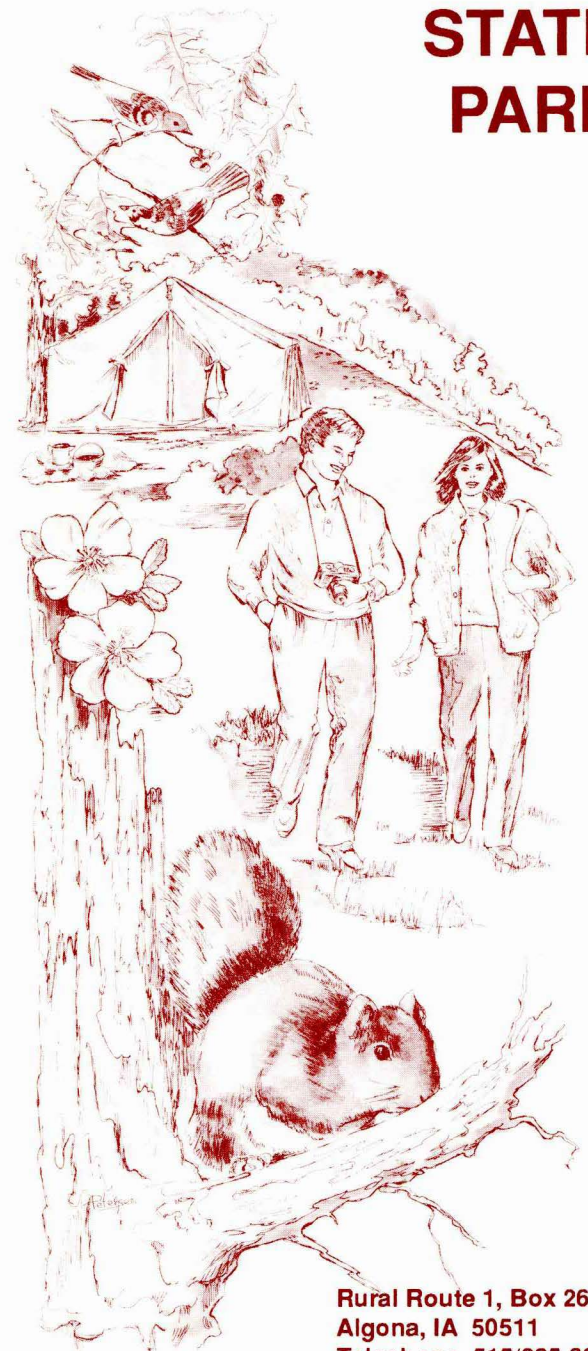
The rest room in the campground is accessible to mobility impaired persons, as are the lodge rest room facilities.

All persons are entitled to full and equal enjoyment of the recreational opportunities, privileges and advantages available in Iowa's great outdoors.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Wallace State Office Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034



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Rural Route 1, Box 264
Algona, IA 50511
Telephone 515/295-3669

A Park User Permit is required. Annual permits are available at the park office. Daily permits are available at posted locations in the park.

