ROCK CREEK STATE PARK

FISHING AND SWIMMING

Rock Creek is one of central Iowa's major state parks and was officially dedicated on August 24, 1952. The 602 acre Rock Creek lake is the third largest state artificial impoundment. The large beach provides an ideal spot to sunbathe and swim. Its 15 miles of shoreline gives anglers a chance to try their hand at catching bass, crappies, catfish, walleyes, tiger muskies and bullheads. The deepest water is approximately 18 feet and the verage depth is about nine feet, and is excellent for trolling or casting. Ice fishing offers anglers a chance to catch king-sized bluegills and crappies.

BOATING

Rock Creek is one of central Iowa's most popular boating lakes. Any size boat motor may be operated at "no wake" speeds. Dock spaces are available for rental at several convenient locations around the lake.

WILDLIFE

The park is a haven for many different species of wildlife. At the lake's far north end, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources maintains a game management area open to public hunting. Thousands of ducks migrating to their summer breeding grounds take refuge in the solitude of Rock Creek. The concentrations of teal, bluebills and mallards offer an excellent opportunity for bird watching. In the spring, ducks in their full plumage perform their courtship flights. Even in winter, mallards may often be seen on the south end of the lake where the spillway area is relatively free of ice. A variety of animals including the white-tailed deer are often seen by park visitors.

CAMPING

The large campground bordering the lake has 232 campsites (44 with electrical hookups), and modern restrooms and showers. Camping permits are obtained by self-registration at the campground.

TRAILS AND PICNICKING

Hiking, horseback riding, skiing, and snowmobiling are enjoyed on a system of multi-use trails around the park. Rock Creek is a popular picnic spot and an open shelter may be reserved for \$15 through the park ranger.

NEIGHBORING TOWNS

Kellogg is three miles west and two miles south of the park.

Newton is four miles south and ten miles west on Highway 6 and is the county seat.

Grinnell is seven miles east of Rock Creek and is the home of Grinnell College.

STATE PARK USER PERMIT

Motorized vehicles parked in state parks, recreation areas, and state forest campgrounds are required to have either annual or daily user permits on display. Annual permits are available at the park rangers' offices, county recorders, state park concessions, and other locations. Daily permits, good through 10:30 p.m. the following day, may be purchased on a self-service basis at posted locations in each park. Vehicles with lowa Department of Transportation handicapped license plates or rearview mirror tags are exempt from the user permit requirement. Iowa residents 65 and older, on Medicaid, or receiving food stamps, are eligible for free user permits available only at county recorders' offices. Park user permits are not required for simply driving through a park without stopping.

All funds raised through the sale of user permits are deposited in a trust fund to be utilized solely for the renovation and replacement of state park facilities.

EQUAL RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

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

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