NINE EAGLES STATE PARK

Rugged wooded hills and valleys abundant with oak trees makes Nine Eagles one of southern lowa's most scenic parks. The park has some trees which are more than 300 years old. Visitors enjoy six miles of bridle and four miles of hiking trails, supervised swimming at the sandy beach, pleasant camping areas and shaded picnic spots with tables and fireplaces scattered throughout the 1,100-acre park.

Plants native to the area flourish and provide excellent cover for birds and wildlife. White-tailed deer can be seen almost every morning and evening along the park roads. Waterfowl are a common sight along the lakeshore.

The name Nine Eagles was inherited from the first post office in Decatur County, built in the area that is now the park. According to one story, as the townspeople were debating about what to name the post office, someone looked at a nearby tree where nine eagles were perched and decided "nine eagles" would be a good name.

However, there is good reason to believe that the name came from a prominent early family in the area, the Spencers. The nine brothers and sisters were affectionately known in the area as the "nine eagles." Nine Eagles State Park was dedicated in 1939.

FISHING, BOATING AND SWIMMING

Fishing on the 64-acre lake for bass, northern pike, tiger muskie, channel catfish, bluegill and crappie is a popular sport. The lake's timbered watershed makes it one of the clearest artificial impoundments in the state. Only rowboats and electric motors are permitted. Rental boats, bait and tackle are available at the boat concession near the beach. A boat ramp is also located nearby. The Nine Eagles beach is one of the most popular in south central lowa. Lifeguards are on duty and refreshments are available at the beach concession building.

CAMPING

There are two campgrounds with 98 campsites (52 with electrical hookups), modern showers, rest rooms and a trailer dump station. Camping permits are obtained by self-registration at the campgrounds.

NEIGHBORING TOWNS

Lamoni is seven miles west on Highway 69.

Davis City is five and one-half miles northwest.

Pleasanton is one mile south.

Leon is eight miles north on Highway 69.

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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