

BLACK HAWK STATE PARK

Black Hawk Lake lies off the southeast tip of the town of Lake View in Sac County, Iowa. Black Hawk Lake was formed many thousands of years ago by glacial action. In fact, it is the southern-most glacier-formed lake in Iowa. The lake's 957 acres of clear water, the adjoining state park, and the many services provided within the town of Lake View, all combine to provide a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities to the public.

FISHING AND BOATING

Angling is a popular pursuit at Black Hawk Lake. Channel catfish, crappies, walleyes, bluegills, sunfish, and several types of bass abound and provide a challenge to anglers of all ages. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources provides 7 boat-launching ramps on the lake. Three of these are located within Black Hawk State Park. In addition, a variety of private establishments offer boats and motors for rent, bait, and tackle.

PICNICKING

Black Hawk State Park provides quality picnicking opportunities for the public. There are many places to enjoy an informal cookout, all within sight of the beautiful lake. Three open picnic shelters are available and may be reserved for \$15.00 through the park ranger.

CAMPING

The Black Hawk State Park campground is a large one. It will accommodate 176 camping units, including 68 campsites equipped with electrical hookups. The campground features modern shower and rest room facilities. Nearby, a frisbee golf course is available for some fun-filled exercise. A volleyball court and a large playground facility also offer lots of fun opportunities for campers, young and old.

Swimming opportunities are available at several locations on Black Hawk Lake, including supervised swimming at the Lakeview City Park. Unsupervised swimming opportunities are present in the vicinity of the campground and also in the Denison Beach area of the state park.

WINTER SPORTS

The fun at Black Hawk Lake doesn't end when the cold winds of winter blow. Sports such as skating, cross-country skiing, ice fishing, and snowmobiling are popular. Ice boats, with their white sails billowing in the winter wind, have been clocked at speeds of more than 100 m.p.h. on the ice of Black Hawk Lake.

The "Stubb" Severson Nature Trail offers visitors a chance to learn about many of the shrubs and trees found in the park. Along the trail, walkers often see a variety of wildlife, including deer, waterfowl and many species of songbirds.

HISTORY

There is a lot of Iowa history at Black Hawk Lake. In 1828, President John Quincy Adams formally declared that all lands east of the Mississippi were to be sold to settlers gradually moving their way westward. This resulted in the forcing of Indian tribes to the west. Chief Black Hawk and 2,000 of his followers refused to move and the "Black Hawk War" resulted. Future President Abraham Lincoln fought in the Black Hawk War in command of a detachment of Illinois militiamen. In August 1832 Chief Black Hawk was defeated at the Bad Ax River in Wisconsin. In 1838, the chief died and was buried in a sitting position facing southeast near lowaville on the Des Moines River. Later, his remains were stolen, the skull was recovered, and then lost in a fire. Chief Black Hawk's legacy lives on in such places as Black Hawk Lake and as the namesake for Black Hawk County, Iowa. Black Hawk State Park was established in 1935. Many of its buildings were constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps.

NEIGHBORING TOWNS

Wall Lake is one mile south on County CEN68.

Odebolt is two miles north on M68 and 11 miles west on Highway 175.

Sac City is eight miles north on M68 and two miles east on Highway 20.

EQUAL RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

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

BLACK HAWK STATE PARK



Box 7
Lake View, Iowa 51450
Telephone 712/657-2639

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

