

Waubonsie State Park, located in the southwest corner of the state in Fremont County, covers 1,208 acres of natural scenic beauty.

Named for Chief Waubonsie of the Pottawattamies, the park was purchased in 1926. It has been called "a bit of the southwest transplanted to Iowa." The steep ridges, dropping away on either side, are miniature mountain trails where yucca and paw paw grow wild, and where, on a clear day, you can see hills over 50 miles distant.

This magnificent land of hills, ravines, woods, flowers and shrubs has been left largely as it was when Indians held their councils, plotted their wars, and pitched their teepees. Three bluffs, with naturally open pavillions, command a view of the corners of four states: Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri. Also from this vantage point one may view the Missouri River lazing her way across the open plain. One of these scenic overlooks can be reached by a wide trail only a few rods from the park's main parking area, and many people from nearby communities come regularly for a quick look from this ledge, for it is appropriately named Inspiration Point.

The park is the same today as it was in its beginnings with the exception that more land has been added and the trails have been improved.

Seven miles of foot trail and eight miles of bridle path wind along wind-swept ridges — steep, narrow and breathtaking; down in gorges and valleys where echoes resound from loess walls and wildlife scampers away, almost from underfoot.

Waubonsie State Park offers a variety of experiences that the visitor is not likely to forget. Chief Waubonsie and the Indians that preceded him left evidence that they, too, loved this land. In the mounds on the floors of grassy valleys and in gorges, artifacts hinting at a sublime day-to-day existence may still be found.

Changing seasons complement the beauty of this countryside. Spring brings the blossoms of dozens of varieties of flowers and shrubs. Summer beckons with cooling breezes on the high places, picnics in a shady glen; and adequate camping facilities make Waubonsie all the more desirable. Nowhere in the country will you find more brilliant splashing of color than at Waubonsie in the autumn. Nearly every visitor wants to capture this beauty in a color photograph. The park's beauty is enhanced when the bluffs and steeps are blanketed in snow creating an imaginative Swiss setting with sledding and skiing at their best. Some trails on the southern slopes remain open in the winter to afford the hiker the advantages of a picturesque view of the snow-covered land. Snowmobiles may use Bridle Trail in winter when there is sufficient snow.

There is no fishing in the park; however, the Missouri River and other streams are close in to accommodate the fisherman visiting Waubonsie. Forney Lake is only 15 miles away on the scenic bluff road. It is nationally known for thousands of geese that stop annually to feed and rest

from their northward flight each spring. Camping and picnic areas in the park are numerous and very popular.

CAMPING INFORMATION

Waubonsie State Park will accommodate 128 camping units. There are electrical hook-ups available for those who prefer the modern touch. Waubonsie camp sites are classified as modern as there are flush toilets and shower facilities available. All camping permits are issued by the park ranger. For camping rates, see the enclosed insert.

A basic camping Unit is the portable shelter used by one to six persons. Only one vehicle may be used for transportation in the camp area. All other motor vehicles will be parked in the visitor parking area and so marked. Any persons over the basic unit of six will be charged 25 cents per person.

NEIGHBORING TOWNS

Sidney, 6 miles north is the home of one of the largest rodeos in North America. The rodeo is held each August.

Hamburg, 9 miles south of Waubonsie.

Nebraska City, 9 miles west across the Missouri River, is the home of J. Sterling Morton, founder of Arbor day. There is a museum in Arbor Lodge State Park.



***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.*

State park maintenance and operation funds are derived solely from legislative appropriation and receipts from camping and concession revenue, cabin and lodge rental and boat dock fees.

IOWA CONSERVATION COMMISSION

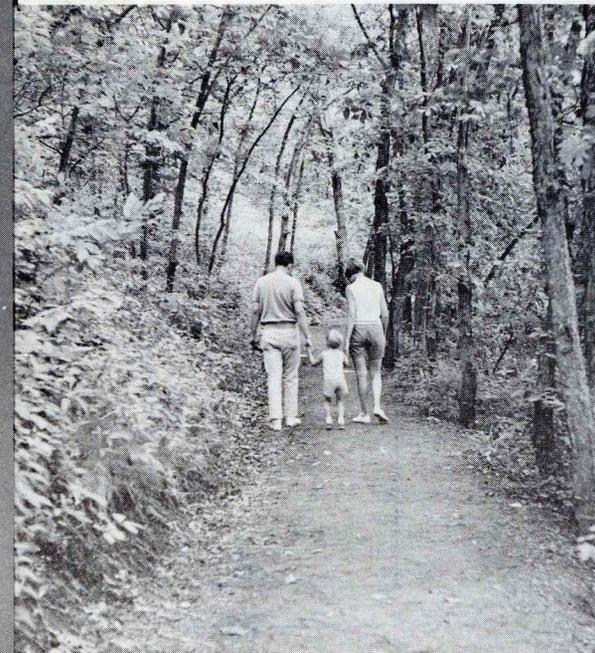
Wallace State Office Bldg.
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

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WAUBONSIE

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State Park



Park Ranger Address
Waubonsie State Park
Hamburg, Iowa 51640
Telephone 712-382-2786

STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA
Historical Building
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319



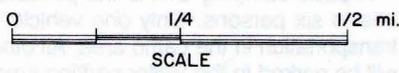
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CAMPING INFORMATION

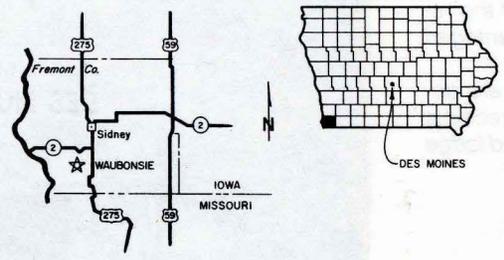
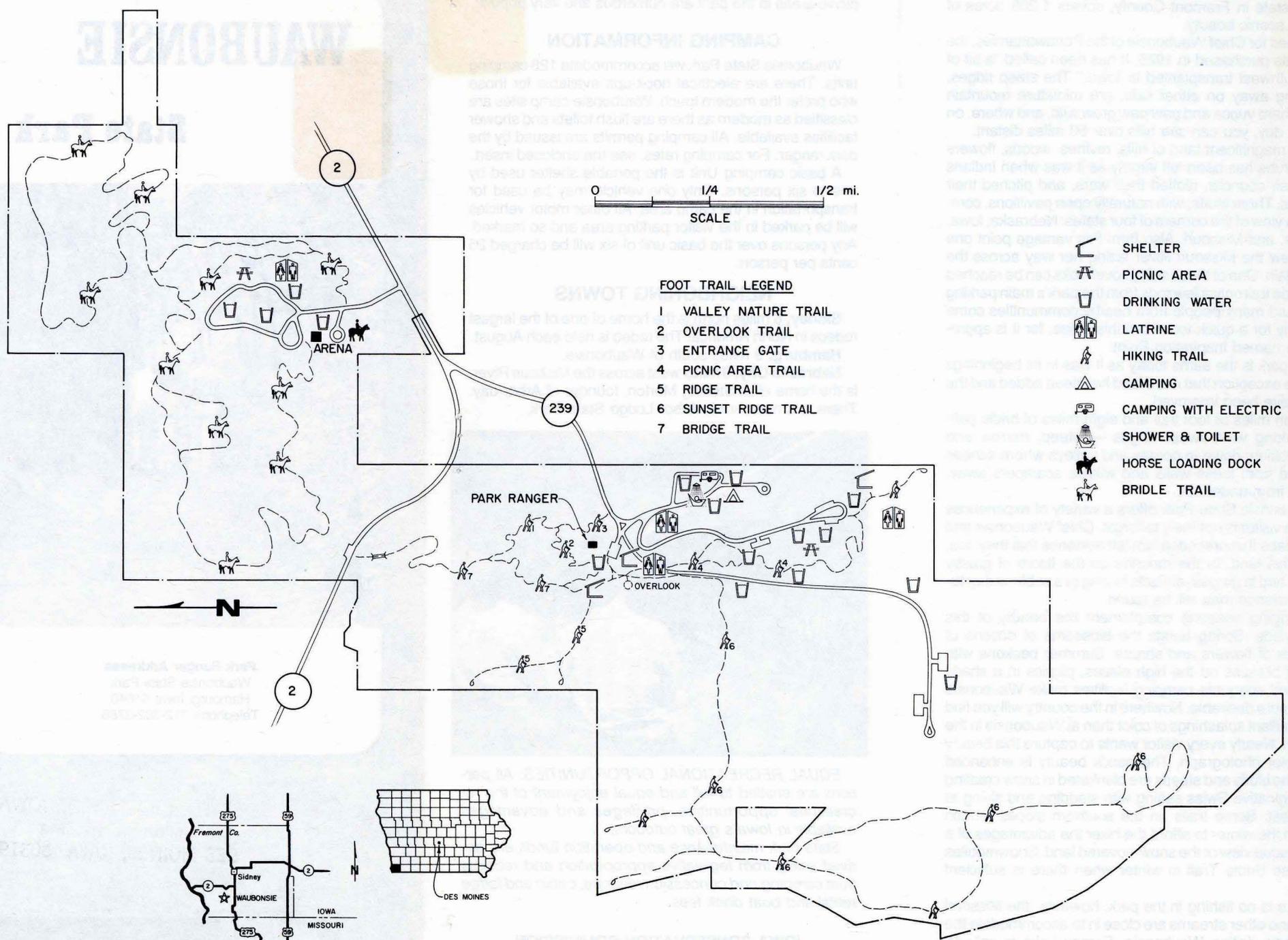
Waubonsie State Park will accommodate 128 campers. There are electrical hook-ups available for those who prefer the modern tent. Restrooms camp sites are classified as modern as there are flush toilets and shower facilities available. All camped permits are issued by the state ranger. For camping rates, see the enclosed map. A basic camping fee is the parking charges used for the motor vehicle. Motor vehicles are not to be parked in the picnic areas and are not to be driven over the picnic area. It will be charged for each person over the basic rate of \$6 will be charged for each person.



FOOT TRAIL LEGEND

- 1 VALLEY NATURE TRAIL
- 2 OVERLOOK TRAIL
- 3 ENTRANCE GATE
- 4 PICNIC AREA TRAIL
- 5 RIDGE TRAIL
- 6 SUNSET RIDGE TRAIL
- 7 BRIDGE TRAIL

- SHELTER
- PICNIC AREA
- DRINKING WATER
- LATRINE
- HIKING TRAIL
- CAMPING
- CAMPING WITH ELECTRIC
- SHOWER & TOILET
- HORSE LOADING DOCK
- BRIDLE TRAIL



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