IOWA STATE PARKS

PINE LAKE STATE PARK

22620 Co Hwy S-56, Eldora IA 50627

Pine Lake State Park provides a pleasing mix of woodland, river and lake in the midst of rolling farmland. Of special appeal to nature enthusiasts are the ancient white pines, the white-barked birch trees and the rare ferns found along the Iowa River. The park is spread over 654 acres and has two beautiful lakes (Upper and Lower Pine), extensive hiking trails and bountiful fishing. Whether you are here to fish, camp or spend a weekend at the cabins just relaxing by river, we hope you enjoy your visit.

PARK AMENITIES/POINTS OF INTEREST/THINGS TO DO

Pine Lake has a number of fishing jetties on both Upper Pine Lake and Lower Pine Lake that provide great shoreline access. Both lakes, according to local anglers, are full of bass, crappie, northern and catfish. Each lake has a boat ramp for convenient lake access. Each lake shoreline has a designated segment as 24-hour fishing access and is highlighted on the map found on the reverse. The Iowa River also borders a portion of the park and is noted for its fine angling for channel catfish and smallmouth bass. Fishing anywhere at Pine Lake will provide with enjoyable experience.

The park has several miles of hiking trails that spur off from the 2.5-mile paved multi-purpose trail, ranging from flat and easy to rough and steep. These hiking trails will take you through a variety of habitats, from wetland areas around the fringes of the lakes and Iowa River, through successional woodlands and remnants of native prairie. The keen observer will likely see some of the wide variety of wildlife species that reside in these various habitats. The trails are a combination of grass and crushed rock. Some sections of the trail use existing roadways to make the trail complete.

Pine Lake has a large campground with several having electric hook-ups, a swimming beach and several picnic areas with four open air shelters that are able to be reserved. Constructed in 1935 by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), Pine Lodge is available to rent for weddings, family reunions and other gatherings or special events. Four stone and timber cabins are nestled along the Iowa River. Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration in the 1930s, these cabins have fireplaces to take the chill off a cool fall day. “Pine Creek” and “Bittersweet” cabins accommodate up to six people, “Goldfinch” and “Sandstone” up to four. “Pine Creek” is accessible to the mobility-impaired.

SPECIAL PARK RULES

The lakes are electric motor only. The park’s beach is unsupervised. Swimming is at your own risk. Pick up the rules/regulations booklet for more information on general park rules.

LOCAL EVENTS/ATTRACTIONS

Bring your clubs and enjoy a round of golf at Pine Lake Golf & Country Club, less than a mile away. A Civilian Conservation Corps Museum at the Hardin County Fairgrounds features park history displays and other historical information and is open year-round. Also of interest are the Hardin County Farm Museum in Eldora and the Hardin County Fair in July.

LOCAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Park Office: 641-858-5832
Park Manager: James Linden
Park Technicians: Austin Engebreston

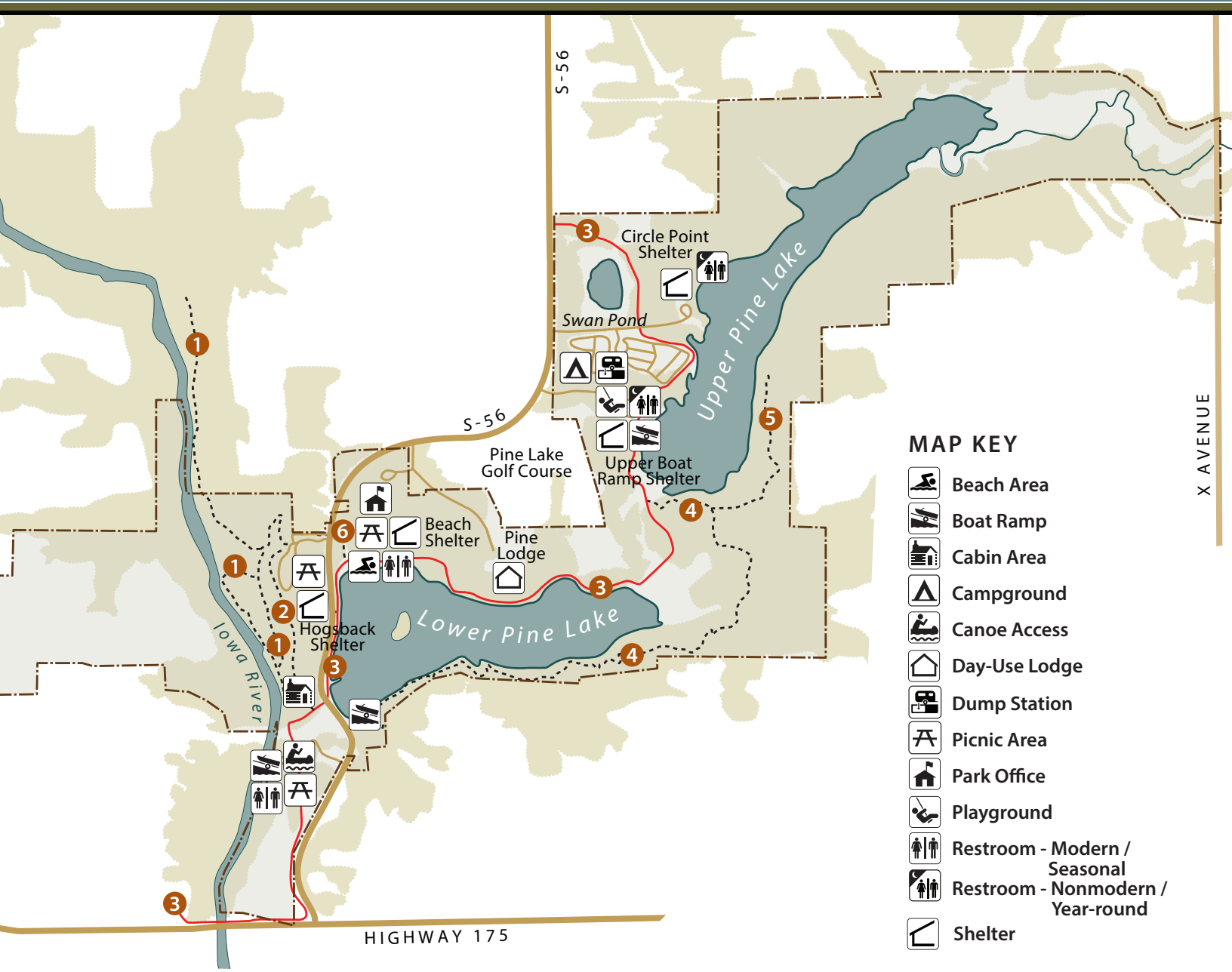
For emergencies, please call 911.

SEVERE WEATHER

The park does not have designated storm shelters or a severe weather siren. The shower building in the campground can be used as an emergency shelter if necessary.

IOWA | DNR
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PINE LAKE STATE PARK



TRAIL INFORMATION

Trail Name	Trail Activity	Length	Level of Difficulty	Estimated Hike Time
1 *Wildcat Trail*	*Hike, Cross-country Ski*	*1.3 mi.*	*Easy*	*31 mins*
2 *Hogsback Trail*	*Hike, Cross-country Ski*	*.3 mi.*	*Easy*	*7 mins*
3 *Pine Lake Bike Trail*	*Hike, Bike, Cross-country Ski*	*2.6 mi.*	*Easy*	*1 hour*
4 *South Trail*	*Hike only*	*1.4 mi.*	*Moderate*	*33 mins*
5 *Upper Pine Lake Trail*	*Hike, Cross-country Ski*	*.4 mi.*	*Easy*	*9 mins*
6 *Beach Trail*	*Hike only*	*.1 mi.*	*Moderate*	*2 mins*

Walking times are figured at a rate of 2.5 mph.
www.iowadnr.gov/Places-to-Go/State-Parks