



IOWA STATE PARKS

LAKE MANAWA STATE PARK

1100 S Shore Dr, Council Bluffs IA 51501

Welcome to Lake Manawa State Park, one of the most popular outdoor recreation facilities in the Omaha/Council Bluffs metropolitan area. The park's 1,529 acres encompass a beautiful 753-acre natural lake. Lake Manawa was formed during a flood in 1881 when a portion of the river channel was cut off by the meandering of the great Missouri River. Over the years, the resulting "oxbow" lake became a major outdoor recreation center for millions of visitors. "Manawa" is a Native American term meaning "peace and comfort."

PARK AMENITIES/POINTS OF INTEREST/THINGS TO DO

Lake Manawa is the premier boating spot in the Omaha/Council Bluffs area. Boat motors of any size may be operated on the lake. Modern boat ramps are located on the north, south and west sides of the lake. Paddle boats and canoes are available for rent at the beach area from the concessionaire. A Missouri River boat ramp also provides boaters access to the river.

Lake Manawa is also a favorite spot for anglers of all ages. Good catches of crappies, bluegills and catfish may be had throughout the year. Excellent populations of good size bass and walleye can be expected.

Lake Manawa is a great place for swimmers and sunbathers, young and old. A modern beach facility provides opportunities for swimming, as well as refreshments.

Lake Manawa provides many locations for family picnics. A number of open picnic shelters are located around the lake.

Lake Manawa provides ample opportunity for a hike, leisurely walk or bike ride on a total of seven miles of paved trails. These trails connect to the trail system that runs throughout Council Bluffs including the Wabash Trace Trail and the Bob Kerry Pedestrian Bridge. There are also eight miles of unpaved trails perfectly suited for mountain biking located on either side of the Missouri River access on the south side of the park.

SPECIAL PARK RULES

Pick up the rules/regulations booklet for more information on general park rules.

LOCAL EVENTS/ATTRACTIONS

Lake Manawa hosts Winter-Fest Ice Fishing Derby (Jan), Fourth of July fireworks over the lake and Black Squirrel Triathlon (August). The park is also a short driving distance of any major attraction or event in the Omaha/Council Bluffs area, which includes but is not limited to the NCAA College World Series (June), Western Trails Historic Center, Durham Museum, Union Pacific Railroad Museum, Strategic Air and Space Command Museum and the Henry-Doorly Zoo.

LOCAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Park Office: 712-366-0220

Park Manager: Grant Carstens

Park Technician: Gavin Campbell

Park Technician: Mason Rohatsch

For emergencies, please call 911

SEVERE WEATHER

There is no designated storm shelters at the park. The city of Council Bluffs has a severe weather siren that can be heard in the park and will sound when a severe weather warning has been issued for the area. Visitors are advised to tune their radio to 1110 AM or 103.7 FM for weather information and can use necessary.



TRAIL INFORMATION

Trail Name	Trail Activity	Length	Level of Difficulty	Estimated Hike Time
1 Lake Manawa Trail	Hiking, Biking	2.0 mi.	Easy	48 minutes
2 Lake Manawa Loop Trail	Hiking, Biking	0.5 mi.	Easy	12 minutes
3 Interior Trail	Hiking, Biking	.65 mi.	Easy	16 minutes