



IOWA STATE PARKS

LAKE WAPELLO STATE PARK

15248 Campground Rd, Drakesville IA 52552

Lake Wapello was named in honor of the famous Native American Chief Wapello. The park was an Iowa Fish and Game Commission project that gave the citizens of Iowa their first artificial lake. Rich in Civilian Conservation Corps history, which built most of the park's infrastructure, Lake Wapello boasts outdoor opportunities for just about any outdoor enthusiast.

PARK AMENITIES/POINTS OF INTEREST/THINGS TO DO

Lake Wapello is a pristine, 289-acre lake. Here you will find some of the finest fishing for bluegill, redear sunfish, largemouth bass, crappie, and channel cats in the state. Extensive renovations were made to the lake during the early 1990s and in 2009. Fishing jetties, universally accessible fishing piers, and shoreline access were installed and enhanced to allow better shoreline fishing experiences. Underwater reefs, sunken cedar trees and spawning beds were added to provide better fish habitat.

Several watershed erosion control structures were installed throughout the park. These improvements have made water quality and fishing superb. Canoeing, kayaking, fishing and pleasure cruising are very enjoyable on the lake with a 5-mph maximum.

Lake Wapello has one of the finest sand beaches in southern Iowa and the largest beach house facility in Iowa's state park system. Lake Wapello also has a day use lodge with a maximum capacity of 60 that may be reserved up to a year in advance.

The campground offers several sites with electric sites and full hook-up options. Modern shower and rest room facilities are available, as well as a trailer-dump station. The park also has several cedar-sided seasonal family cabins to rent April through October and one family cabin to rent year around. These cabins are very popular for family vacations and reunions.

The lake also has a 7-mile Lake Shore Trail, which will take you around the lake and through the park. Cross country skiing is a popular activity in the winter and there are several areas designated for cross country skiers. The park also offers multi-use trails for hiking and snowmobiling. A nature trail is located on the north side of the park.

There is a concession store available at the park that is ran by the Friends of Lake Wapello. They provide boat rental, firewood, ice, and a variety of other items.

SPECIAL PARK RULES

The lake has a 5-mph maximum. Pick up the rules/regulations booklet for more information on general park rules.

LOCAL EVENTS/ATTRACTIONS

Lake Wapello is in the heart of Amish country. Many craft and furniture shops are just a few miles from the park.

LOCAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Park Office: 641-722-3371

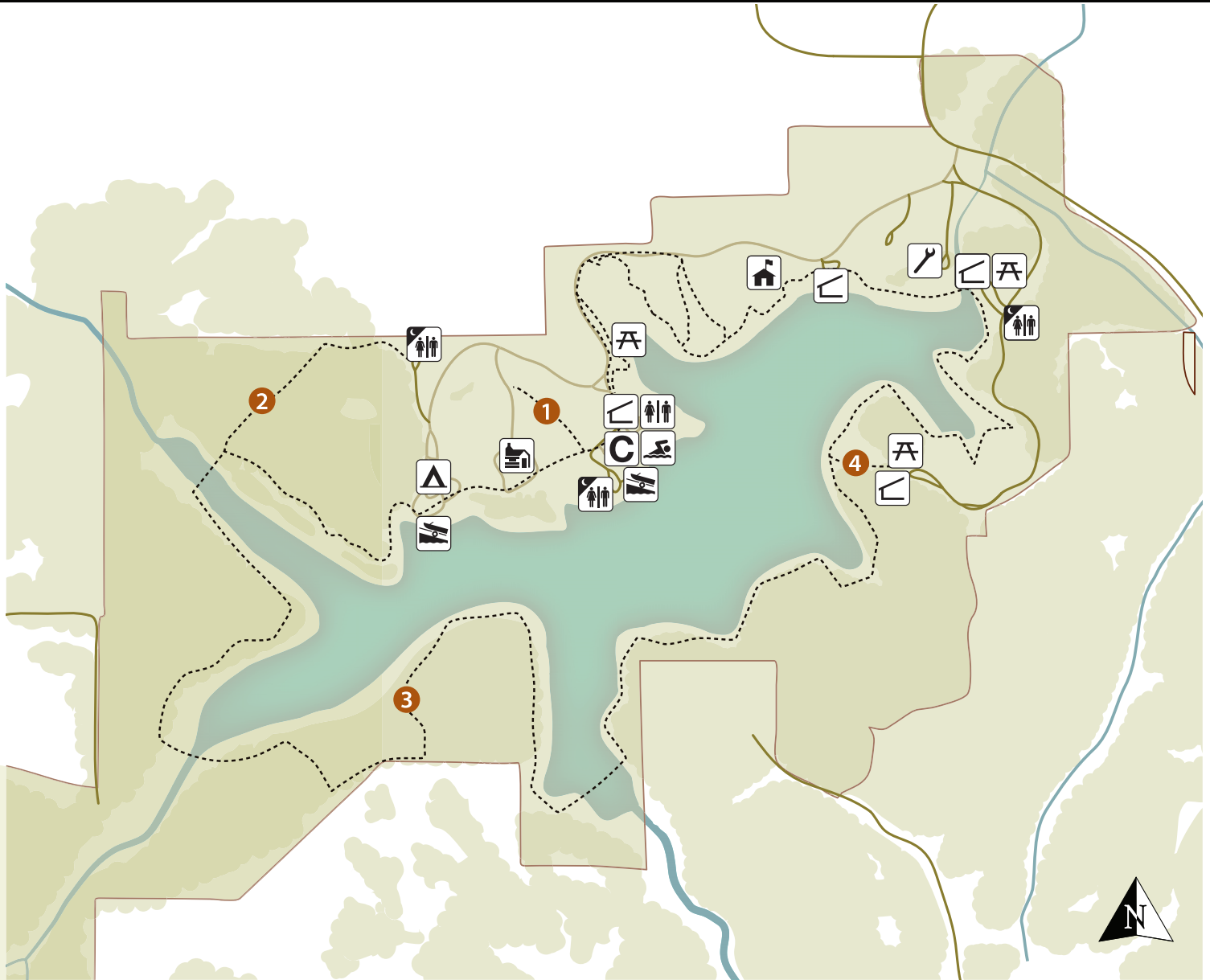
Park Ranger: Joe Mayhew

Park Manager: Rachel Godby

For emergencies, please call 911

SEVERE WEATHER

There are no designated storm shelters in the park. Campground hosts and park staff monitors weather conditions and will alert the public of severe weather warnings. In an emergency, the campground shower building can be used as a shelter.



MAP KEY

- Hiking Trails
- Roads
- Water
- Park Boundary
- Restroom - Modern Seasonal
- Restroom - Nonmodern Year-round
- Park Office
- Shelter
- Campground
- Boat Ramp
- Cabins
- Concession
- Picnic Area
- Beach
- Maintenance Shop

TRAIL INFORMATION

TRAIL NAME	TRAIL ACTIVITY	LENGTH	LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY	ESTIMATED HIKE TIME
1 Boat Ramp	Hiking	0.2 mi	Easy	5 min
2 Campground	Hiking	0.4 mi	Moderate	10-15 min
3 Lakeshore	Hiking	6.6 mi	Moderate	3-3½ hr
4 Smith Knoll	Hiking	0.2 mi	Moderate	5 Z