

DOLLIVER MEMORIAL STATE

2757 Dolliver Park Ave, Lehigh, IA 50557

Welcome to Dolliver Memorial State Park, where Webster County's rich cultural heritage and picturesque landscapes convene. Located along the scenic Des Moines River Valley, Dolliver Memorial State Park – spread across 614 acres – boasts unique bluffs, canyons, flatlands, ancient Native American mounds and an abundance of exploration opportunities.

PARK AMENITIES/POINTS OF INTEREST/THINGS TO DO

While visiting, enjoy the park's rugged and well-maintained trail system. Nearly 6 miles of winding trails lead through the Copperas Beds — unique sandstone formations that tower 100 feet above Prairie Creek. Here you will see an ancient (more than 350 million years old) river bed and witness the erosive power of Prairie Creek that uncovered and left behind this breathtaking feature. The trail continues up into oak-covered hillsides and along two hilltop prairies as you travel through the woods. Follow the trail north to Bone Yard Hollow, a unique historical area in Webster County. Bone Yard Hollow is said to have been given its names by early settlers who found large numbers of bison bones in the canyon. It is believed that the first inhabitants in the area drove herds of bison from the prairie over the cliff to their deaths so they might use the animals for their meat, hides, horns and bones.

Located in the upland timber, ancient Native American mounds overlook the Des Moines River Valley. There are one linear and two conical mounds at this site. All the mounds in this area probably date to the Woodland Culture approximately 1100 A.D. The Indian mounds were either ceremonial or burial in nature.

There are two historic day-use lodges, South Lodge and Center Lodge, named for their locations in the park. These structures, built in the 1930s, stand as a legacy to the craftsmanship of the Civilian Conservation Corps. Their rustic-style architecture mirrors the rugged natural beauty of their surroundings. In addition, Dolliver has several campsites (22 with electrical hookups), a modern shower building and dump station along with two family cabins and one open shelter available to rent. A boat ramp allows access to the Des Moines River for canoeists and anglers. Dolliver has many picnic areas, one with a playground. Dolliver is a great place to hike, picnic, canoe, fish, and explore the woodlands, creeks, and hilltop prairies.

SPECIAL PARK RULES

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

LOCAL EVENTS/ATTRACTIONS

Some of the local events worth checking out during your visit to Dolliver might be the Dam to Dam River Cleanup or Webster County Fair (July), the Carp Fishing Tournament or Dragon Boat Bash (August), or the Cruise to the Woods (October).

Fort Dodge is home to several attractions, including Blanden Memorial Art Museum, Community Orchards, Fort Museum and Frontier Village, Sports Park Raceway, Gypsum City OHV Park is approximately 9 miles North, Brushy Creek State Recreation Area is approximately 5 miles east. Check out www.fortdodgeweb.com and www.myfortdodge.com for local attractions and events in Webster County.

LOCAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Park Office: 515.359.2539 Park Manager: Kevin Henning

SEVERE WEATHER

If park staff is available when severe weather occurs, park staff will alert visitors via vehicle sirens and the PA system. It is recommended to use the rest rooms located near the south shelter, cabins and campground areas for emergency shelters on park grounds.

For emergencies, please call 911.

For reservations, visit http://lowastateparks.reserveamerica.com or call 877.427.2757

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