



# IOWA STATE PARKS

## McINTOSH WOODS STATE PARK

1200 E Lake St, Ventura IA 50482

Welcome to McIntosh Woods State Park, a 60-acre natural refuge located along the northwest shore of Iowa's second largest natural lake - Clear Lake. McIntosh Woods is home to the only two yurts in our state park system. It is also the "anchor" base for anglers trying their luck on beautiful Clear Lake anytime of the year. So, whether you are here to fish, camp, swim, boat, sail, ski, snowshoe, paddle, or just relax, we hope you enjoy your stay.

### PARK AMENITIES/POINTS OF INTEREST/THINGS TO DO

McIntosh Woods' natural features include a bur oak-dominated forest and a sandbar that extends out into Clear Lake. This natural sandbar is used by hikers, fishermen, birdwatchers, boaters and waterfowl hunters. McIntosh Woods hosts the largest boat ramp (three lanes) on Clear Lake. Anglers can try their luck fishing for walleyes, panfish and channel catfish. After a successful day fishing, clean your catch at the popular fish cleaning station. This newly dredged end of the lake has increased the fishing and boating opportunities, providing even better water quality for those recreational activities.

The two yurts are unique, extremely popular and available to reserve as an overnight accommodation on the lakefront. A yurt is a traditional dwelling of the nomadic people of central Asia. They were found from Anatolia to Mongolia and, in Iowa, exclusively at McIntosh Woods State Park. Additionally, McIntosh Woods' shaded campground is a favorite for many and is heavily used by boaters and fishermen. Also, within the park is a swimming beach with a playground and an open shelter that can be reserved.

A one-mile interpretative hiking trail winds its way through the park with several key features highlighted along the route. The trail takes you through Mallard Marsh on a walkway above the marsh that leads to a wildlife viewing blind where you can take photos of waterfowl, birds and a variety of wildlife species. In winter, you can cross-country ski, snowshoe, ice fish, fly kites, take brilliant pictures of our natural resources and enjoy other activities.

### SPECIAL PARK RULES

Please practice courteous boat ramp and parking etiquette. Remember the 14-inch length limit on walleyes and bag limit of three. Pick up the rules/regulations booklet for more information on general park rules.

### LOCAL EVENTS/ATTRACTIONS

Ventura Access, located one mile west of park, is a satellite with an open shelter to rent, a basketball court, rest rooms, two-lane boat ramp and a universally accessible fishing dock. Another satellite area, referred to as the Harbor Inn, is located south of Ventura. It has an open shelter, rest room and shoreline fishing off a jetty. Just south of the fishing jetties is an area referred to as Ventura Cove, which provides a paved multi-use trail that winds through this wooded area. Across the lake from the natural sandbar at McIntosh Woods is another wonderful undeveloped public area referred to as Lone Tree Point/Farmer's Beach. This wildlife refuge provides excellent outdoor opportunities, whether you would like to shoreline fish, hike, ski, snowshoe or stargaze. Clear Lake State Park is located on the southeast portion of the lake. For plenty of ideas for things to do in the Clear Lake area, visit [www.clearlakeiowa.com](http://www.clearlakeiowa.com)

### LOCAL CONTACT INFORMATION

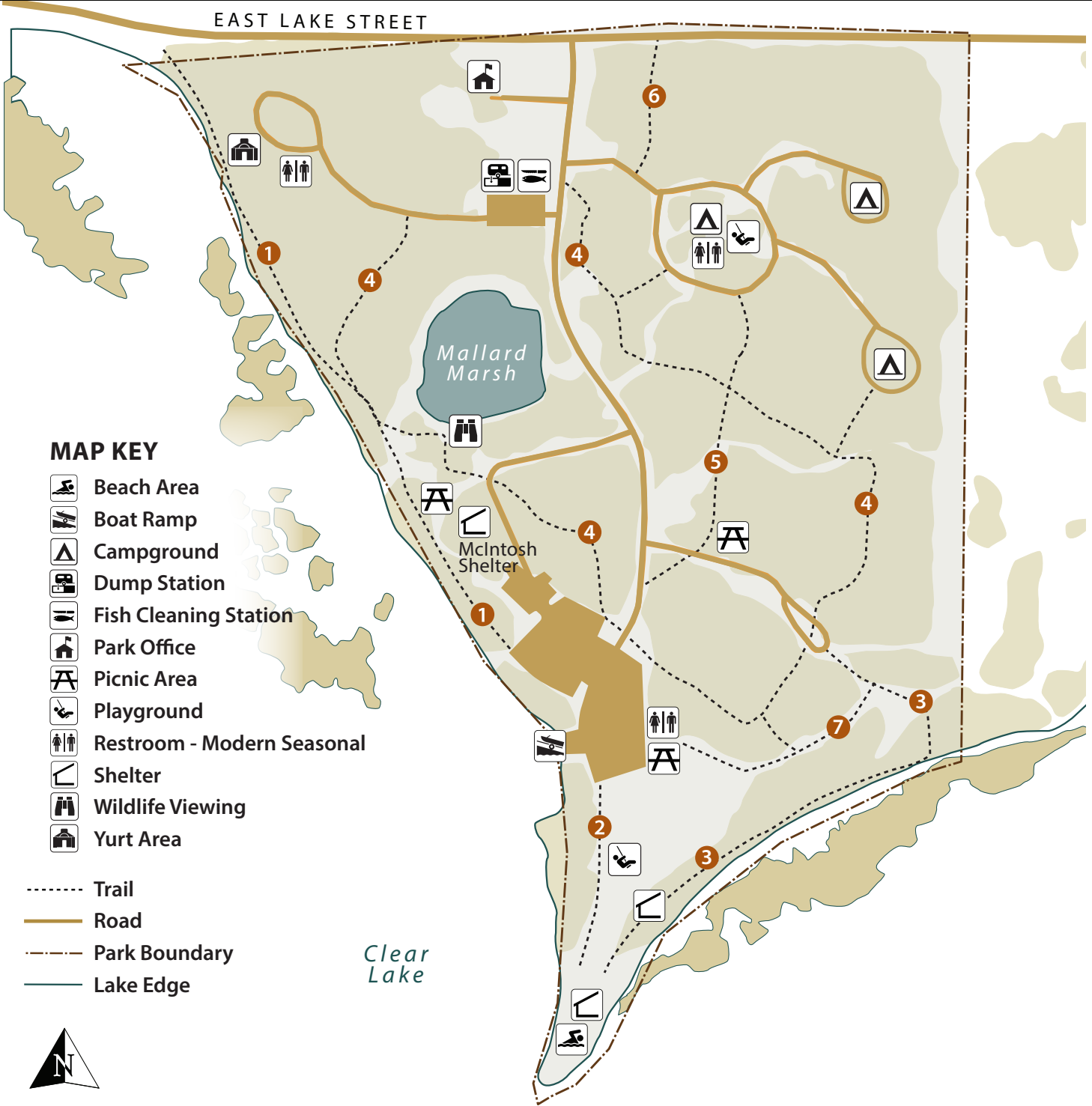
Park Office: 641-829-3847

Park Manager: Hannah Winkowitsch

**For emergencies, please call 911**

### SEVERE WEATHER

The city of Ventura has a storm shelter located across from the gas station or one block west of the four-way stop sign. There are sirens located nearby that will sound when a severe weather warning is issued.



Walking times are figured at a rate of 2.5 mph.