



# IOWA STATE PARKS

## WAUBONSIE STATE PARK

2585 Waubonsie Park Rd, Hamburg IA 51640

Welcome to Waubonsie State Park, which provides one of the rarest and greatest vistas of Iowa's unique Loess Hills. With the recent addition of the Wa-Shawtee Unit, there are nearly 2,058 acres of recreational opportunity and quiet beauty to explore and enjoy. Whether you've come in for a quiet break, a relaxing drive, a fun night around the campfire or a cozy stay in a secluded cabin, we hope you have a satisfying experience and join us again soon.

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

The extensive trail system at the park varies to fit the needs of many users. The Sunset Ridge Nature Trail highlights the heart of the park, and visitors who hike its 2-mile circuit will pass through long stretches of pristine hardwood timber which opens suddenly to native prairie ridges, offering sweeping views of the Missouri River Valley. Other paths, such as the Ridge, Bridge and Valley trails, plunge deep into quiet and shaded woodland valleys, wander past ancient bur oaks and snake along the crest of narrow ridgelines. Exploring all of these trails on foot can lead to a day-long journey over several miles, so be sure to bring along plenty of water, sunscreen and seasonally appropriate clothing and gear. Those with physical challenges can access the beautiful view from the Waubonsie Overlook via an easily accessed trail. Eight miles of multi-use trails wind through the rugged hills in the northern regions of the park, offering both challenging hikes and relaxing rides to equestrians, mountain bikers and snowmobilers.

There are a myriad of non-equestrian campsites, several with electrical hookups, modern shower and rest room facilities and a dump station. The equestrian campground contains a plethora of campsites and non-modern rest room facilities. Seasonal and year-round cabin accommodations are available to reserve. Two year-round family cabins, two-bedroom and three-bedroom. Five camping cabins are also available, two are year-round and one studio cabin. These facilities may be reserved through the state parks reservation system. A year-round lodge is also available through the state parks reservation system.

Lake Virginia was added to the Wa-Shawtee Unit in the park in 2005. At seven acres, it is large enough to support good populations of game fish such as largemouth bass, bluegill and channel catfish. Anglers can find plenty of space to launch a boat from the new concrete boat ramp and dock. Paddle sport enthusiasts will find this a great place to drop in a canoe or kayak and explore.

### **SPECIAL PARK RULES**

Lake Virginia is limited to electric motors only. Pick up the statewide park rules/regulations booklet for more information on general park rules.

### **LOCAL EVENTS/ATTRACTIONS**

The Riverton Wildlife Management Area is 6 miles east of the park and has great opportunities to view migratory waterfowl, eagles and other wildlife. Fifteen miles up the scenic bluff road is Forney Lake with more great wildlife watching opportunities. The town of Sidney, 6 miles north, is home of Iowa's largest annual outdoor rodeo (July). Nebraska City nine miles west and is home of the Arbor Lodge Museum and State Park—the birthplace of Arbor Day.

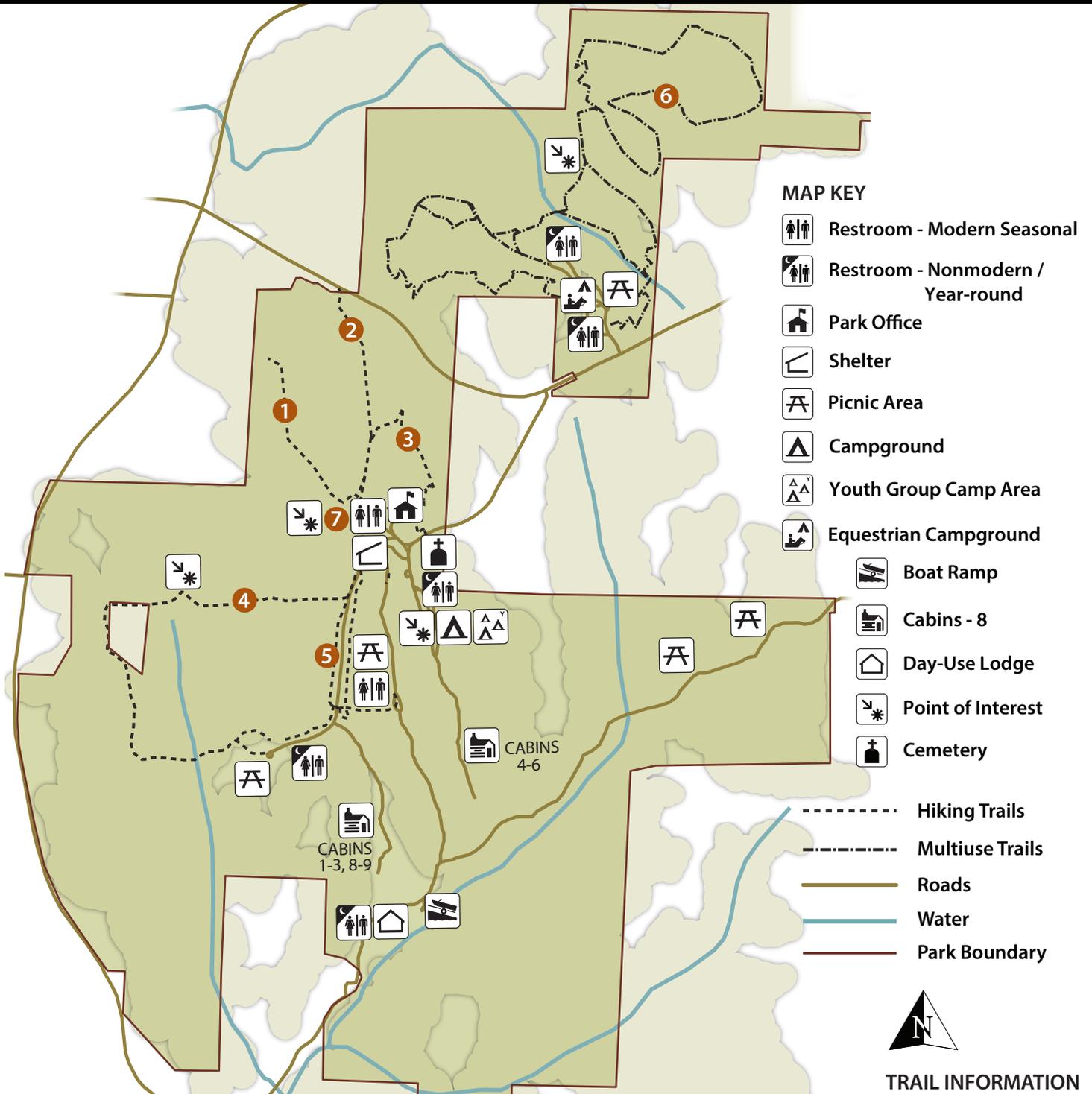
### **LOCAL CONTACT INFORMATION**

Park Office: 712-382-2786  
Park Manager: Matt Moles  
Park Technician: Sarah Lammers

### **SEVERE WEATHER**

The shower building in the modern campground can be used as an emergency shelter if necessary during severe weather. Park staff will provide updates and warnings if severe weather conditions occur.

**For emergencies, please call 911.**



**TRAIL INFORMATION**

TRAIL NAME	TRAIL ACTIVITY	LENGTH	LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY	ESTIMATED HIKE TIME
1 Ridge	Hiking	0.4 mi	Easy	10-15 min
2 Bridge	Hiking	0.6 mi	Easy	15-20 min
3 Valley	Hiking	0.7 mi	Moderate	20-30 min
4 Sunset Ridge	Hiking	2.1 mi	Moderate	1 hr
5 Mincer Interpretive/ Picnic Area	Hiking	0.3 mi	Easy	5-10 min
6 Equestrian	Equestrian	5 mi	Moderate	3 hrs
7 Overlook	Hiking	0.1 mi	Easy	under 5 min

Walking times are figured at a rate of 2 mph.