



IOWA STATE PARKS

GEORGE WYTH STATE PARK

3659 Wyth Rd, Waterloo, IA 50703

Welcome to George Wyth State Park, an “urban wildlife sanctuary” located between Waterloo and Cedar Falls in Black Hawk County. Visitors can “get away” from the busy metropolitan area and take advantage of a variety of outdoor activities in a very natural setting.

PARK AMENITIES/POINTS OF INTEREST/THINGS TO DO

George Wyth has four lakes each with its own niche. Brinker Lake (formerly East Lake) is 180 acres and open for power boating after 9 a.m. George Wyth Lake is 75 acres and no-wake with a universally accessible fishing pier. The beach is also located on George Wyth Lake and wind surfing is a popular activity year-round. Fisher Lake is a 40-acre natural lake and an oxbow to the Cedar River which borders the park. Alice Wyth Lake is 60 acres and only allows electric motors. Anglers can try their luck for crappie, bluegill, walleye, northern, bass and channel catfish in any of the lakes. There is a boat ramp at each of the lakes and there are three universally accessible jetties around George Wyth Lake.

George Wyth is a popular place for camping most of the year. With several sites, (electric - 20, 30, & 50 amp and non-electric) it is busy every weekend. There are modern showers, rest rooms and a dump station. There is also access to the Cedar Valley Trails right from the campground. There are four open shelters throughout the park that can be reserved for a family picnic or special occasion. At the back of the park is our popular day-use lodge, ideal for family reunions, weddings and receptions. The shelters and lodge can be reserved through the state park reservation system.

The park has more than 3 miles of paved trails in the park that connects with the Cedar Valley Trail system which has more than 100 miles of paved trails in the Cedar River valley. You can walk, run, bike and inline skate. There are also 5 miles of hiking trails. Official soft trails are being developed in partnership with the Cedar Valley Association for Soft Trails (CVAST). There are approximately 10 miles of groomed, unpaved trails specifically designated for mountain biking, off-trail running, bird watching and hiking; and these trails will provide easier access to parts of the lakes. The Cedar Valley Paddler’s Trail joins the four lakes and Cedar River and two lakes at the Hartman Reserve Nature Center with portages. This trail is a 10-mile loop with 2 miles of portage and 8 miles of water.

George Wyth also has a bird blind located at the back of the park. Birders have seen more than 200 species of birds throughout the year, with many rare birds spotted. Other wildlife can also be seen through the blind.

SPECIAL PARK RULES

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

LOCAL EVENTS/ATTRACTIONS

Annual events include: the Polar Plunge and Fools Run 5K in April, Death by 5K- a 5K every 2.5 hours for 24 hours in May, the Accel Triathlon in July, and the Park-to-Park ½ marathon as well as the YMCA triathlon and the Fast Track Trail run in September.

LOCAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Park Office: 319.232.5505

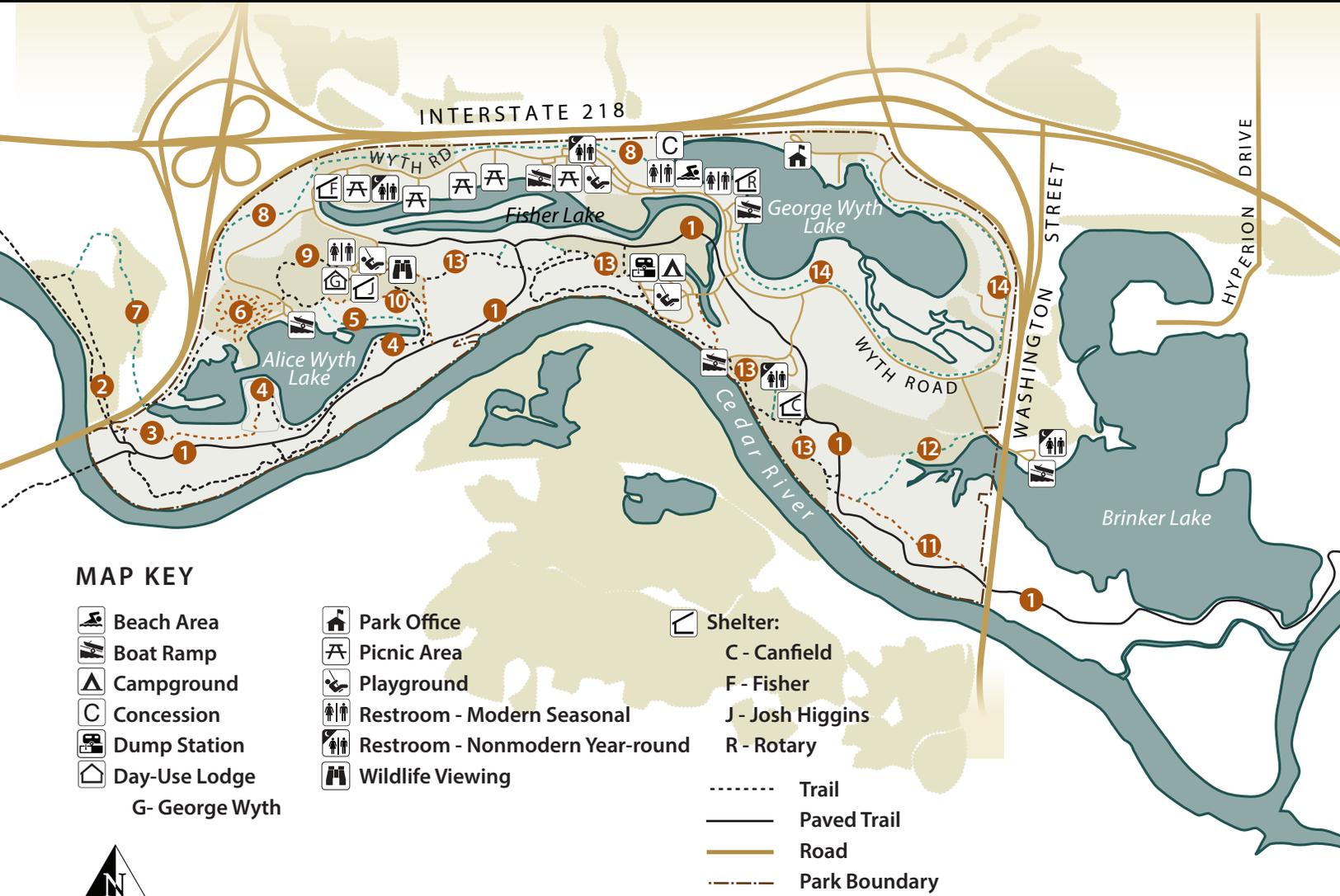
Park Ranger: Chase Burtness

Park Manager: Lori Eberhard

SEVERE WEATHER

There are no designated storm shelters at the park. It is recommended using the campground shower building, or the restroom at the beach for emergency shelters in severe weather. There are also four pit toilets, one at Brinker Lake, Canfield Shelter, the Frisbee picnic area, and Fisher shelter that can be used as emergency cover.

For emergencies, please call 911.



MAP KEY

- Beach Area
- Boat Ramp
- Campground
- Concession
- Dump Station
- Day-Use Lodge
- Park Office
- Picnic Area
- Playground
- Restroom - Modern Seasonal
- Restroom - Nonmodern Year-round
- Wildlife Viewing
- Shelter:
 - C - Canfield
 - F - Fisher
 - J - Josh Higgins
 - R - Rotary
- Trail
- Paved Trail
- Road
- Park Boundary



TRAIL INFORMATION

Trail Name	Trail Activity	Length	Level of Difficulty	Estimated Hike Time
1 Cedar Valley Lakes Trail	Hike, Bike, X-Country Ski, Snowshoe	3.33 mi.	Easy	1 hr. 20 min.
2 Huggy Bear Trail	Hike, Bike, X-Country Ski, Snowshoe	.37 mi.	Moderate	9 min.
3 Fast Times Trail	Hike, Bike, X-Country Ski, Snowshoe	.47 mi.	Moderate	11 min.
4 Tunnel Trail	Hike, Bike, X-Country Ski, Snowshoe	.57 mi.	Moderate	14 min.
5 Fisherman's Trail	Hike, Bike, X-Country Ski, Snowshoe	.34 mi.	Moderate	8 min.
6 PT Trail	Hike, Bike, X-Country Ski, Snowshoe	.40 mi.	Moderate	10 min.
7 Wonderland Trail	Hike, Bike, X-Country Ski, Snowshoe	.89 mi.	Moderate	21 min.
8 Prison Break Trail	Hike, Bike, X-Country Ski, Snowshoe	.23 mi.	Moderate	6 min.
9 Twisty Trail	Hike, Bike, X-Country Ski, Snowshoe	.23 mi.	Moderate	6 min.
10 Lodge Trail	Hike, Bike, X-Country Ski, Snowshoe	.10 mi.	Easy	2 min.
11 Thorny Cottonwood Trail	Hike, Bike, X-Country Ski, Snowshoe	.71 mi.	Moderate	17 min.
12 BLT Trail	Hike, Bike, X-Country Ski, Snowshoe	.76 mi.	Moderate	18 min.
13 George Wyth Main Trail	Hike, Bike, X-Country Ski, Snowshoe	1.23 mi.	Easy	30 min.
14 Dike Double Trail	Hike, Bike, X-Country Ski, Snowshoe	.73 mi.	Easy	18 min.

Walking times are figured at a rate of 2.5 mph.