IOWA STATE PARKS

Iowa Great Lakes

1500 Harpen St, Milford IA 51351

(OKOBOJI AND SPIRIT LAKE AREA PARKS)

Welcome to one of the most exciting areas of Iowa, known collectively as the Iowa Great Lakes. It is here you will find many things to do, both on and off the water. The Iowa Great Lakes region boasts many state parks and campgrounds located in the following areas: Claire Wilson State Recreation Area, Elinor Bedell State Park, Emerson Bay State Recreation Area, Fort Defiance State Park, Gull Point State Park, Lighthouse Point State Recreation Area, Lower Gar Access State Recreation Area, Marble Beach State Recreation Area, Mini-Wakan State Park, Okamanpedan State Park, Pikes Point State Park, Templar Park State Recreation Area and Trapper's Bay State Park.

PARK AMENITIES/POINTS OF INTEREST/THINGS TO DO

The "lakes area" of northwest Iowa offers a tremendous array of outdoor recreation opportunities, year-round. The unique setting of beautiful and clear Lakes East and West Okoboji, Big Spirit Lake and other water bodies truly provides wonderful opportunities for outdoor recreation. There are several area beaches and boat ramps to choose from to access the lakes. From canoes to sailboats to ski rigs, pleasure boating is one of the most popular activities on the lakes.

West Okoboji, Spirit Lake and the many other lakes in the area are some of the prime fishing spots in Iowa. Anglers will find challenging sport pursuing a variety of game fish, including walleye, northern pike, muskie, yellow bass, smallmouth bass, perch, bluegills, crappies, catfish and bullheads.

The lakes area also boasts a very expansive trail system which provides bikers, hikers and walkers many miles of recreational trails to enjoy. Located at Gull Point State Park is a 1.5-mile self-guided interpretive trail where the user can learn about the natural and cultural history of the area.

There are four state park campgrounds to choose from for your stay at the lakes. They are Emerson Bay State Recreation Area, Elinor Bedell State Park, Gull Point State Park, and Marble Beach State Recreation Area. All campgrounds include electrical sites and non-electrical sites as options.

SPECIAL PARK RULES

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

LOCAL EVENTS/ATTRACTIONS

There are a variety of entertaining local events and attractions to choose from in the Iowa Great Lakes Region. Whether it's the nightlife of Okoboji, a concert, dinner cruise, the amusement park or a long list of other choices, you can find it. For an up-to-date list of events and attractions, call the area chamber of commerce at 712-332-2107, visit www.vacationokoboji.com or pick up a *Vacation Okoboji Guide* at one of the local campgrounds.

LOCAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Park Office: 712-337-3211
Park Ranger: Chase Gehrke
Park Manager: Darin Jones
Park Technicians: Jack Wolff & Marc Lane

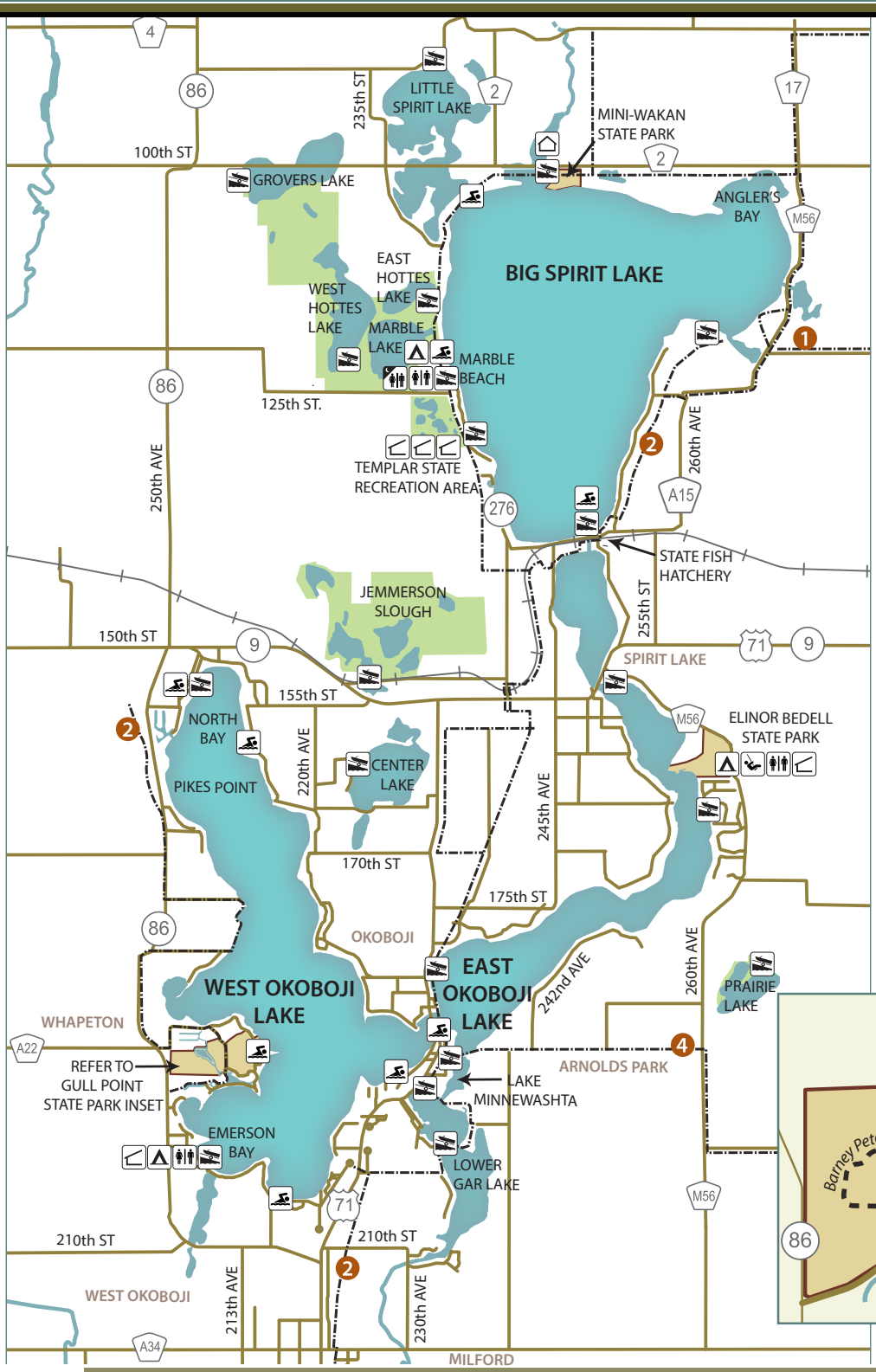
For emergencies, please call 911

SEVERE WEATHER

Tune into FM radio 103.9 for up-to-date severe weather information. In case of severe weather, the Lakes Regional Hospital located two blocks south of Hwy 9 on Hwy 71 is a designated shelter. If you are a camper in one of the lakes area campgrounds, it is recommended to use the shower buildings as an emergency shelter.

IOWA DNR
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

IOWA GREAT LAKES



MAP KEY

- Beach Area
- Boat Ramp
- Campground
- Day-Use Lodge
- Picnic Area
- Park Office
- Playground
- Shelter
- Restroom - Modern Seasonal
- Restroom - Nonmodern Year-round
- Trail
- Road
- Park Boundary
- Multiuse Trails
- Water

GULL POINT STATE PARK INSET



TRAIL INFORMATION

Trail Name	Trail Activity	Length	Level of Difficulty	Estimated Hike Time
1 *Superior / Swan Lake Loop*	*Biking*	*29 mi*	*Moderate*	*3 hr*
2 *Iowa Great Lakes*	*Hiking, Biking*	*14 mi*	*Moderate*	*1.5 hr*
3 *Barney Peterson Nature Trail*	*Hiking*	*1.5 mi*	*Moderate*	*40-50 min*
4 *Terrill Loop*	*Biking*	*31 mi*	*Moderate*	*3 hr*

Walking times are figured at a rate of 2 mph.

www.iowadnr.gov/Places-to-Go/State-Parks