EXPLORE IOWA STATE PARKS!

Founded in 1920, Iowa’s state park system boasts 87 state parks for you to explore and enjoy.

Lake Darling State Park, dedicated in 1950, is named after cartoonist J. N. "Ding" Darling for his devotion to conserving Iowa's natural beauty. Come for a scenic picnic or celebration at the lodge, or enjoy an extended stay in our camping cabins. Lake Darling abounds with wildlife. Anglers will encounter a wealth of fish at the lake, from catfish to bullheads, bluegill to largemouth bass. Hike through a re-established prairie, or trek through the woods to a historic cemetery. Journey through a variety of Iowa's natural scenery at Lake Darling State Park.

Plan ahead and prepare:
• Make sure you prepare for the day by bringing plenty of water, sunscreen, bug spray, and comfortable walking/trekking shoes.
• Always make sure someone knows you are out on the trail.
• Dispose of waste properly:
  • Pack out all trash, leftover food and litter.
  • Pick up any litter you find on the trail and make the place better for the next visitor who comes along.
• Respect wildlife:
  • Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them. Leave all young wildlife as you find them and don’t assume they’ve been abandoned. Many adults hide young to keep them safe while they are out feeding or leading predators away.

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State Parks
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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www.iowadnr.gov/destinations