

# **STONE STATE PARK**

# 5001 Talbot Rd, Sioux City, IA 51103

Welcome to Stone State Park located in the scenic Loess Hills of western Iowa. Although the park is located close to the creature comforts of Sioux City, you might be surprised at the extraordinary scenic beauty and abundant wildlife you can find in this rugged park.

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

Stone State Park is on the Loess Hills National Scenic Byway. The byway passes through this unique land formation that's about 200 miles long, stretching from near Sioux City, Iowa in the north to St. Joseph, Missouri in the south. Stone State Park is a great place to begin an exploration of the Loess Hills. The park is known for the outstanding scenic overlooks of the Big Sioux and Missouri river floodplains.

You can explore the park on more than 15 miles of trails. Visitors can start with the self-guided Carolyn Benne Nature Trail. Several interpretive signs explain the natural history of the park. Bicyclists can explore a network of trails in the area. Road bicyclists can do a 17-mile loop with a combination of highways, city streets and paved city bike trails. Mountain bikers enjoy the challenging 6 miles of dirt trails in the park. Hikers will enjoy exploring the park's 1,600 backcountry acres. And equestrians are welcome to bring their horses for a day of riding the park's 6 miles of multi-use trails. There is also a campground available for overnight stay with several campsites, including electric hook-ups available. This park also features three cabins, three open shelters, and one day-use lodge, all available for reservation.

The Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center is located at 4500 Sioux River Road in the southwest corner of the park. The nature center features a variety of displays on the Loess Hills cultural and natural resources. The trails around the nature center will stretch your legs as you see many of the insects, plants and other wildlife that reside in the park. Check <u>www.woodburyparks.com</u> for more information and a list of programs.

Fishermen will find excellent catfishing in the Big Sioux River flowing along the western border of the park. Kids might enjoy catching panfish or learning about aquatic life from the shores of two-acre Turtle Lake.

### **SPECIAL PARK RULES**

Mountain biking and horseback riding are permitted only on the designated multi-use trails. In the winter, the same trails are open to snowmobiling. The park gates are closed after 10:30 PM, so campers should access the park from Memorial Drive or the east entrance. Pick up the rules/regulations booklet for more information on general park rules.

### LOCAL EVENTS/ATTRACTIONS

Sioux City celebrates the 4<sup>th</sup> of July with a free concert and fireworks at the Grandview Park band shell. The concert features nationally known artists of different genres. A number of people watch fireworks from our scenic overlooks on that night. The Missouri River Runners and Friends of Stone Park team up to organize the annual Broken Toe Trail Run the first Saturday in October. Participants can run or walk the challenging route through the park hills.

#### LOCAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Park Office: 712.255.4698 Park Ranger: Vacant Park Manager: Bryan Hendrix

#### **SEVERE WEATHER**

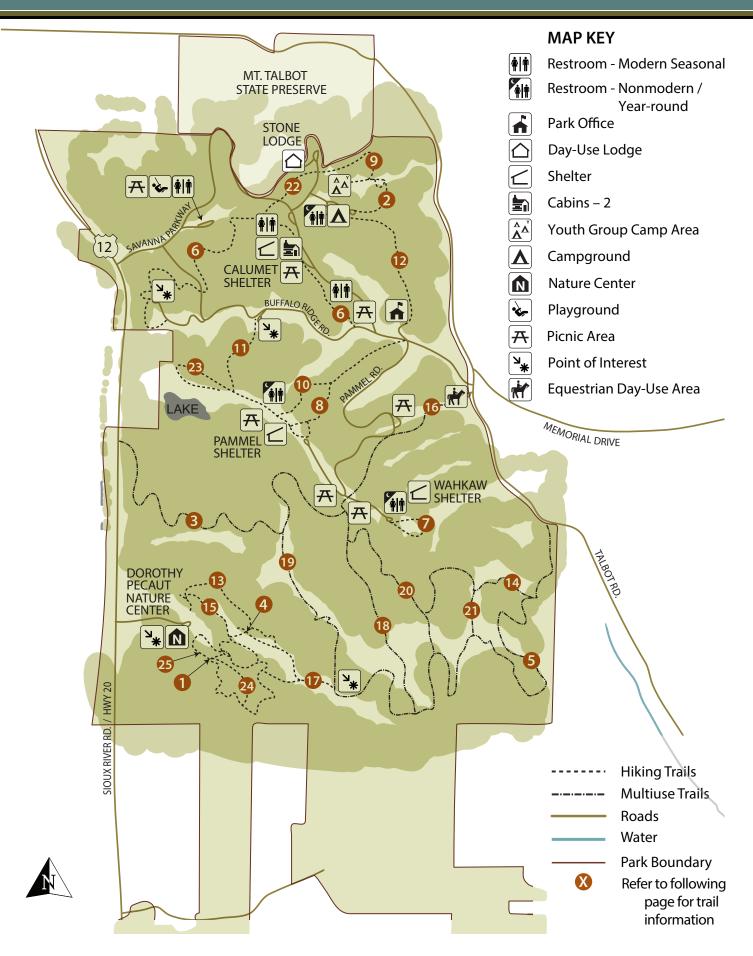
There are no designated storm shelters at the park. Sioux City operates a siren that will notify park users when a severe weather warning has been issued for the area. The campground shower building can be used for an emergency shelter if necessary.

#### For emergencies, please call 911

For reservations, visit http://iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com or call 877.427.2757



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## **TRAIL INFORMATION**

	TRAIL NAME	TRAIL ACTIVITY	LENGTH	LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY	ESTIMATED HIKE TIME
1	Badger Run	Hiking	0.1 mi	Moderate	under 5 min
2	Bear	Hiking	0.2 mi	Moderate	under 5 min
8	Big Sioux	Hiking, Mountain Biking, Snowmobiling, Equestrian	0.7 mi	Moderate	20-30 min
4	Bluestem	Hiking	0.1 mi	Moderate	3-5 min
6	Broken Toe	Hiking, Mountain Biking, Snowmobiling, Equestrian	1.8 mi	Moderate	50-60 min
6	Buffalo Run	Hiking	1.1 mi	Moderate	25-35 min
0	Bunny Hill	Hiking	0.2 mi	Moderate	5-10 min
8	Buzzard Roost	Hiking	0.3 mi	Moderate	5-10 min
9	Carolyn Benne	Hiking	0.4 mi	Moderate	10-15 min
10	Deer Run	Hiking	0.4 mi	Moderate	10-15 min
1	Elk Pt.	Hiking	0.2 mi	Moderate	5-10 min
12	Elk Run	Hiking	0.4 mi	Moderate	10-15 min
B	Hidden Valley	Hiking	0.4 mi	Moderate	10-15 min
14	Loess	Hiking, Mountain Biking, Snowmobiling, Equestrian	0.5 mi	Moderate	10-15 min
Ð	Loess Loop	Hiking	0.3 mi	Moderate	10-15 min
16	Longfoot	Hiking, Mountain Biking, Snowmobiling, Equestrian	0.5 mi	Moderate	10-15 min
Ð	Lucia	Hiking	0.2 mi	Moderate	5-10 min
18	Mark's Glen	Hiking, Mountain Biking, Snowmobiling, Equestrian	0.6 mi	Moderate	15-20 min
19	Mt. Lucia	Hiking, Mountain Biking, Snowmobiling, Equestrian	0.9 mi	Moderate	25-35 min
20	Ruth's Ridge	Hiking, Mountain Biking, Snowmobiling, Equestrian	0.5 mi	Moderate	10-15 min
21	Springbrook	Hiking, Mountain Biking, Snowmobiling, Equestrian	0.1 mi	Easy	under 5 min
22	Tunnel	Hiking	0.2 mi	Moderate	5-10 min
23	Turtle Lake	Hiking	0.5 mi	Easy	10-15 min
24	Walnut Valley	Hiking	0.2 mi	Moderate	5-10 min
25	Whitetail Ridge	Hiking	0.8 mi	Moderate	20-30 min

Walking times are figured at a rate of 2 mph.