DNR NEWS RELEASES

Learn about the DNR's COVID-19 response and how the current health emergency is impacting DNR facilities, services and events.

Search for a News Release

Search

DNR News Releases

New changes for Iowa state parks due to COVID-19; campgrounds close

4/7/2020 2:05:00 PM View Count 16121 Return

Dear Visitors,

With the latest closures by Governor Reynolds to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in Iowa, we are announcing new changes to park operations, **including the closing of campgrounds for recreational use** through April 30, 2020.

Iowa State Parks are open for day-use only. The areas of state parks that are still open include: roads and trails; lakes, rivers and streams including shorelines, boat ramps and access points; and open spaces such as grassy areas.

Our highest priority is the health and well-being of our visitors, volunteers and employees. Please remember to be careful and responsible when visiting state parks:

- **Keep 6 feet distances** between you and other park visitors.
- **Avoid popular areas where people may congregate** such as scenic overlooks, buildings, busy trails, etc.

- **Bring your own hand sanitizer and soap**, and use frequently.
- **Stay home** if you have been sick in the last two weeks. Cover coughs and sneezes.

The following facilities are **currently closed** in state parks:

- **Bathrooms including pit latrines and port-a-potties.** No soap or sanitizer will be available in the park.
- **Campgrounds** and group/youth camps for recreational use.
- **Playgrounds**
- **Cabins**
- **Lodges and shelters**
- **Visitor centers and museums**

All programs and events at state parks are cancelled or postponed through at least April 30, 2020. Watch for updates at **iowadnr.gov**

We are monitoring the situation. As conditions change, so may our policies on park visitation and overnight stays. We will keep you informed of any changes moving forward.

If you have reservations for the month of May and feel cancelling your stay is the safest choice, **we will waive the cancellation fee** for visits (cabins, campsites, lodges, shelters) with arrival dates through May 31, 2020. A transaction fee of $4.00 ($6.00 for reservations originally made by phone) will still apply. To cancel your May reservation, call (877) 427-2757.

Thank you for your patience and flexibility. We appreciate your support of Iowa state parks as we all work together to keep each other safe. For more information about COVID-19, please visit the Iowa Department of Public Health website: **idph.iowa.gov**

Tags

COVID-19 , state parks , campgrounds

Share

Our Mission
To conserve and enhance our natural resources in cooperation with individuals and organizations to improve the quality of life in Iowa and ensure a legacy for future generations.

DNR Home
Contact Us
Site Policy
Adobe Reader
Employee Signin.

Purchase a Hunting or Fishing License

Make a Park Reservation

MAGAZINE

Customer Service: 515-725-8200 | Iowa DNR Headquarters Wallace State Office Building | 502 East 9th Street, 4th Floor | Des Moines, IA 50319-0034