

### Wildlife

The areas around Carlyle Lake are home to an abundance of wildlife, including the Eastern Massasauga rattlesnake, an Illinois endangered species. The shy, retreating nature and small size of this snake, averaging only 24 inches, make it hard to find.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources, in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, has initiated a study to understand the habits, range and habitat necessary to sustain this protected species. Should you come upon a Massasauga, please do not kill it or disturb it, but report it to the park staff, a campground host or call (618) 594-3015. Your cooperation is vital for their survival.

#### **Illinois Department of** Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271

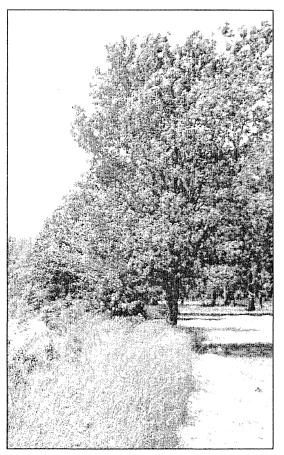
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State of Illinois Illinois Department of Natural Resources

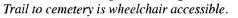


# **Eldon Hazlet** State Park **Hiking Trail Guide**



## **Trail Descriptions**

Cherokee Trail [3.0 miles]



Three miles of winding trails take you through a mature oak-hickory forest, over four footbridges and along the shoreline for great views of the lake. Loop 1 (1.5 miles) has been developed as a tree identification trail and connects to the Osage Youth Campground. Loop 2 (.75 mile) passes by views of the lake. Loop 3 (.75 mile) passes by Burnside Cemetery, a pre-Civil War cemetery where some of Clinton County's original settlers are buried.

#### Kaskaskian Trail [2.5 miles]

This trail is named in honor of the Mississippian Native Americans who inhabited the Kaskaskia River Valley from approximately A.D. 900-1300. The Kaskaskian Trail leads the hiker through a variety of natural habitats and offers excellent wildlife viewing opportunities. The trailhead is at the park office, although the trail may be accessed from many areas including the Illini Campground, Osage Youth Campground, Pawnee Trail and the Apache Day Use Area.

#### Illini Trail [1.5 miles]

Trail is wheelchair accessible.

Located across from the campground store, this trail winds through a restored prairie and loops around the Homer Guthrie Fishing Pond. The fishing pond is open to bank fishing.

## **All Hiking Trails** Are Closed

on Wednesday through Sunday from early November to early January due to the

**Controlled Pheasant Hunting Program** 



