

TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome to Carlyle Lake, and thank you for visiting us. We are one of five lakes and many miles of river-way offering exceptional opportunities for water recreational activities managed by the St. Louis District. Surrounding these waters are thousands of acres of public land, managed for your enjoyment of natural resources.

All members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers team appreciate the opportunity to be of service to you. To assist you during your visit, we have developed a variety of publications. They are available from the Carlyle Lake Project Office, campground entrance booths, a park ranger, or the Carlyle Lake Visitor Center.

Please become familiar with the rules that apply to your recreational activities. They have been developed to make your visit safe and enjoyable and to preserve natural resources. If you observe anyone performing unsafe acts or otherwise violating regulations, please contact a park ranger.

The St. Louis District hosts millions of visitors annually. Please be extremely careful in and around the water, on trails, and near bluffs or steep areas. One careless moment can result in a lifetime of regret. Remember to wear your life jacket when you are on or near the water.

We hope your visit will be a pleasant experience. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact us at the phone number or address on the back of this publication. We are here to serve you. Come again soon, and tell your friends about this beautiful natural resource.



Courtney M. Wilson
Operations Manager

PHONE NUMBERS

911 is the emergency phone number for police, ambulance, and fire in Bond, Clinton, and Fayette counties.

Non-Emergency Phone Numbers:

Clinton County Sheriff (618) 594-4555
Bond County Sheriff (618) 664-2151
Fayette County Sheriff..... (618) 283-2141

Carlyle Lake Project Office
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
801 Lake Road Carlyle, IL 62231
Phone: (618) 594-2484

Carlyle Lake Visitor Center
795 Lake Road Carlyle, IL 62231
Phone: (618) 594-5253

Carlyle Lake Wildlife Management Area Illinois
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
712 N 300 Street E, Vandalia, IL 62471
Phone: (618) 425-3533

Eldon Hazlet State Park
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
20100 Hazlet Park Road Carlyle, IL 62231
Phone: (618) 594-3015

Dam West Campground (618) 594-4410
Boulder Campground (618) 226-3586

Lake Information Recording (618) 594-4637

West Access Marina (618) 594-2461
Boulder Access Marina (618) 226-3223
Tradewinds Marina (618) 749-5649
Carlyle Sailing Association..... (314) 325-9283

Email

Carlyle.Lake@usace.army.mil

Website

www.mvs.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/
Carlyle-Lake

Facebook

www.facebook.com/carlylelake

PARK INFORMATION 2025

CARLYLE LAKE



**GET OUT AND ENJOY
YOUR LAKES AND RIVERS**



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
St. Louis District
DP 1130-2-25



AT CARLYLE LAKE

RULES & REGULATIONS

Rules and regulations governing public use of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers water resource development projects are published in Title 36, CFR and are posted on bulletin boards or are available from a park ranger, the Visitor Center or Project Office. The following additional regulations are in effect for all U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District Projects as authorized in Title 36 CFR 327.12a.

General Rules

1. The operation of drones or other UAV's is prohibited on all Corps land without a permit.
2. The operation of powerless flight devices including, but not limited to, sail planes, gliders, balloons, parasails, and hang-gliders is permitted. Powerless flight devices shall not be operated on any part of the dam, roads, bridges, over beaches or other heavy use areas.
3. The use of all kite tubes, defined as a "towable, inflatable device designed to be airborne," are banned from use on Corps managed waters through the St. Louis District.
4. All wastewater must be collected in a container and disposed of in authorized disposal facilities. In primitive areas where sanitary facilities are not provided, human waste must be buried 100 feet from any body of water and/or campsites.
5. The use of America the Beautiful Senior Pass, America the Beautiful Access Pass, Golden Age or a Golden Access Passports by someone other than the person to whom the pass was issued, is prohibited.
6. All motorized vehicles operated on roadways on public land administered by the Corps of Engineers must be licensed and operated by licensed drivers.

Picnic Area Rules

7. Picnic areas, designated by the Operations Manager and marked with appropriate signs, close at 10:00 p.m. Other areas, which are not posted, will remain open to public use.

Beach Rules

8. Alcohol is prohibited on the sand and water portions of all swimming beaches and are marked with the appropriate signs.
9. All glass and other dangerous objects including, but not limited to, lawn darts and horseshoes, are prohibited on the sand and water portion of swimming beaches.
10. Beach users must stay within designated swimming areas.
11. An established dog friendly beach is available at Coles Creek. Dogs on a six-foot leash will be allowed on Coles Creek Beach. Dogs will not be permitted at any other Carlyle Lake beach.

Camping Rules

12. A responsible person must register with the Park Attendant prior to placing any equipment on a campsite. All campers are required to present valid identification upon registration and designate their primary camping unit. Check out time is 4:00 p.m. Reservation sites will be available for occupancy when available, but no later than 5:00 p.m.
13. At Carlyle Lake the majority of sites are classified as single capacity sites. The only exceptions are designated buddy sites, which are double capacity sites.
 - a. The total number of camping units for single capacity sites is limited to one recreational vehicle or trailer and three additional tents. If no recreational vehicle or trailers are on the site, a maximum of four tents will be permitted.
 - b. The total number of camping units for double capacity sites is limited to two recreational vehicles or trailers and six tents. If no recreational vehicles or trailers are on the site, a maximum of eight tents will be permitted.
 - c. The maximum number of people permitted to stay overnight on a single capacity site is eight. Up to 16 people are permitted to stay overnight on double capacity sites.
14. Campground roads and facilities are to be used by registered campers or their visitors only. Interfering with or restricting the use of the shoreline by boaters or other lake users is prohibited.
15. All wheeled vehicles, including but not limited to mopeds, boat trailers, motorcycles, and other vehicles, must be kept on camping pads registered to vehicle users or in designated parking areas. All motor vehicles must be parked lengthwise on the camp pad except at sites with irregularly shaped pads. Parking on the grass, roadside or obstructing traffic is prohibited. Empty boat trailers may be stored on the grass provided that they are moved onto and off the grass by hand.
16. Picnic tables and lantern holders must remain on gravel surfaces at campsites with gravel impact areas.
17. To avoid tree damage, hanging lanterns are to be suspended a minimum of 8" from the side of trees and 24" from over head limbs. Driving axes, nails, or other objects into trees is prohibited.

2025 SPECIAL EVENTS

- Eagle Watch** Jan. 25
Case-Halstead Library
- Polar Plunge** Feb. 22
Dam West Recreation Area
- Fireworks Spectacular** Jun. 28
Dam West Recreation Area
- Cruz-In the Dam Car Show** Aug. 8
Mariner's Village Resort
- PWDCA National Specialty** Aug. 21-23
Coles Creek Recreation Area
- Carlyle Lake Triathlon** Sep. 21
Dam West Recreation Area
- Carlyle Lake Haunted Trail** Oct 17-18
Dam West Recreation Area /
Little Prairie Nature Trail
- Campground Trick or Treat** Oct 25
Dam West Campground

All dates are subject to change. Please visit our Facebook page @carlylelake for up to date information.

Fishing Tournaments & Other Private Special Events

Special events, such as weddings, business parties, etc. can be made in person or by calling the Carlyle Lake Project Office at (618) 594-2484.

Carlyle Lake Sailing Events

The Carlyle Lake Sailing Association hosts sailing events year-round. Please visit their website for the calendar of events at <https://www.csa-sailing.org>

VISITOR CENTER

The Carlyle Lake Visitor Center, located in the Dam West Recreation Area, has exhibits, literature and information to help you plan your stay at Carlyle Lake.

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sat & Sun Apr. 5 - May 25
Daily May 26 - Sep. 1
Sat & Sun Sep. 6 - Sep. 28

CAMPING SEASONS & FEES

Dam West **Apr. 4 - Nov. 2**

Single Capacity Standard \$20/night
 Double Capacity Standard \$40/night
 Single Capacity Full Hookup \$30/night
 Double Capacity Full Hookup \$60/night

Coles Creek **May 2 - Sep. 28**

Single Capacity Standard \$20/night
 Double Capacity Standard \$40/night
 Single Capacity Full Hookup \$30/night

Boulder **Apr. 18 - Oct. 13**

Single Capacity Standard \$20/night
 Double Capacity Standard \$40/night
 Single Capacity Full Hookup \$30/night

Dam East-McNair

North and South Loop **Apr. 4 - Nov. 2**
 Spillway Loop **Open Year Round**
 Single Capacity Standard \$20/night

During non-peak recreation season (November-March) the Spillway Loop (sites 33-47) of Dam East-McNair Campground will remain open.

Individual campsites are available for advanced reservations, through Recreation.gov in each of the campgrounds. Federal senior and access discounts apply. Only registered campers are allowed in the campgrounds after 10:00 p.m.

GROUP CAMPING

A minimum two-day stay is required for group areas on weekends and holidays.

Lotus Group Area

May 2 - Sep. 1 \$300/night
Ten full hookup campsites, shower house, and playground.

McNair Group Area C

Apr. 4 - Nov. 2 \$150/night
Five electric pedestals without grills or tables. Primitive camping and grills are at the shelter. This area is limited to five recreational vehicles or trailers.

DAY USE FEES

There is a \$5/day fee to use the boat launching ramps at Keyesport, Dam West, Dam East, Coles Creek, and Boulder. There is a \$5/day/vehicle fee to use the beach at Keyesport, Dam West, McNair, and Coles Creek.

Total day use fees will not exceed \$5/day/vehicle. The fees do not apply to children under the age of 16, or campers registered at Corps of Engineers campgrounds.

Fees can be paid at automated fee machines, which have been installed in all day use areas. These machines have taken place of honor vaults and only accept debit/credit cards. A Corps of Engineers annual pass is available for a \$40 fee. The pass is valid for a period of 12 months from the month of purchase. This pass is valid only at USACE projects for which a day use fee is charged. Annual passes are honored nationwide at Corps of Engineers managed facilities. A voucher for an annual pass can be obtained from any automated fee machine. Once purchased, the voucher must be brought to the Carlyle Lake Project Office, Visitor Center, or Campground fee booth within seven days of purchase to receive an annual pass.

Day use fees are not required if the individual is an America the Beautiful pass cardholder, or camping at a USACE Campground.

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL PASSES

America the Beautiful Passes (Senior Annual, Senior Lifetime, Access, Military, and Volunteer) can now be obtained/purchased at the Carlyle Lake Project Office, Campgrounds, and Visitor Center. Additional information is available at: <http://www.nps.gov/findapark/passes.htm> or call the Project Office at (618) 594-2484. Previously issued Golden Age and Access Passports will be honored for the lifetime of the card holder. A driver's license or other form of identification will be required at the time of purchase to obtain a pass.



Scan to Learn How to Use the Day Use Fee Machines



Scan to Make a Reservation at USACE Facilities

RESERVATIONS

Contact the R1S (Recreation One Stop) toll free, at (877) 444-6777 or TDD at (877) 833-6777 for reservations or go online to www.recreation.gov. You can reserve individual campsites at Dam West, Coles Creek, Boulder, and Dam East-McNair; group areas at Lotus and Dam East-McNair; and picnic shelters at Boulder, Coles Creek, Dam West, Dam East, and Keyesport. For specific information on any of the facilities you are interested in reserving and/or to make an online reservation, go to www.recreation.gov.

All fees will be paid in full at the time of reservation. Reservations may be changed or canceled, subject to additional service fees, at the same phone number. A credit card may be used to pay fees by phone or online.

Picnic Shelter Reservations

R1S reservations for picnic shelters must be made a minimum of three days in advance. Reservations may be made up to 360 days in advance for picnic shelters.

\$30.00 per day (8:00 am. until 10:00 pm). If a shelter is not reserved, it is available on a first come, first serve basis.

Reservable May 1 - Sep. 30
 Picnic Shelter \$30/day

Campsite Registration

All campsites located at Dam West, Boulder, Coles Creek, and Dam East-McNair Campgrounds are reservable. All sites will be available to reserve from current day up to six months in advance. QR codes are located on each individual site post and can be scanned to check availability and pay. You can also check availability by visiting www.recreation.gov.

Plans can change and people often cancel their reservation, making it possible to snag a last minute campsite. Recreation.gov's Availability Alerts make it easier to know when campsites are canceled, so you don't have to check the website constantly. Availability Alerts are a way to get notified when sold-out campsites become available.

All campers must register at the fee booth to verify their primary camping unit and provide trailer/RV license plate number prior to placing any equipment on a campsite at Dam West, Coles Creek, and Boulder Campgrounds. If outside the fee booth hours, visitors should follow directions posted at the fee booth.

**Check out time is 4:00 pm.
 Check in time is 5:00 pm.**

After completing registration, campers must place their primary camping unit on the site at the time of occupancy. If a tent is the primary camping unit on the site at the time of occupancy, then tent camping only is permitted on the site for the duration of the stay.

Group Area Reservations

Group reservations can be made for Group Area C at Dam East-McNair Campground. If Area C has not been reserved, this area will be available on a first come, first serve basis. Group sites are also available at Lotus Group Area within Coles Creek Recreation Area. R1S reservations for group areas must be made a minimum of three days in advance. Lotus Group Area may be reserved up to 12 months, to the day, in advance.

QUIET HOURS

10:00 p.m. - 6:00 a.m.

Pet Owners - Please remember all pets must be on a leash no longer than six feet, including on the Carlyle Lake Bike Trail, and must not interfere with another visitor's recreational experience. All waste must be properly disposed.

PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Interpretive Programs

Throughout the recreation season, Memorial Day to Labor Day, Carlyle Lake park rangers will offer the following interpretive experiences to visitors:

Dam Tours

Saturdays | 9:00 a.m.

Visitors are welcome to gather at the gatehouse atop the dam. Parking is available along the spillway. Unavailable on the Saturday of Fireworks Spectacular. (Approximately 1 hour)

Campground Programs

Fridays or Saturdays | 8:00 p.m.

Presentations will be held at the amphitheaters in Dam West, Coles Creek, and Boulder Campgrounds. (Approximately 45 minutes)

All interpretive experiences are subject to weather conditions and staffing availability. For more information, please contact the Carlyle Lake Project Office at (618) 594-2484 Ext. 3.

Hiking Trails

Chipmunk Nature Trail (1/2 mile) is located near McNair Campground, Little Prairie Nature Trail (3/4 mile) in the Dam West Spillway, and Willow Pond Nature Trail (1/4 mile) is located by the Visitor Center. Brochure available at the Carlyle Lake Visitor Center. There are also over nine miles of nature trails within Eldon Hazlet State Park.

Bike Trail

The Carlyle Lake Bike Trail offers over 60 miles of federal, state, and county roads including a scenic view from atop the Carlyle Lake Dam and a trip through Southern Illinois wetlands. Bikers, walkers, and joggers can all enjoy this multi-use trail. Brochure available at the Carlyle Lake Visitor Center.

Carlyle Lake Paddling Trails

Carlyle Lake offers eleven designated areas for paddlers to explore. These areas are abundant with scenic views and wildlife and are safe for paddlers. Brochure available at the Carlyle Lake Visitor Center.

Dam West Pontoon Rentals (618) 594-2461

Located at West Access Marina, this established business offers tritoon and pontoon rentals, providing the perfect opportunity to get out on the water and enjoy Carlyle Lake. Learn more at: <https://dwphome.com/>

ELDON HAZLET STATE PARK

Eldon Hazlet State Park, located just two miles east of Illinois Route 127, spans 3,000 acres of recreational space. Visitors can enjoy a variety of amenities, including boat ramps, an accessible boat dock, picnic sites, shelters, an archery range, a swimming pool, hiking trails, and a camp store. The park is also home to one of the largest campgrounds in the Illinois state park system, offering over 300 campsites. For more information, please contact the Eldon Hazlet State Park Office at (618) 594-3015. Camping reservations can be made at www.exploremoreil.com

LODGING

Mariner's Village Resort (618) 594-7666

Located adjacent to Dam West Beach, this charming hotel offers a delightful stay in the heart of all things Carlyle Lake. Enjoy convenient access to the area's best attractions and make the most of your visit. Learn more at: <https://marinersvillagecarlylelake.com/>

Hazlet Cottages (618) 594-8701

The cottages are situated on the shores of Carlyle Lake within Eldon Hazlet State Park, offering guests a picturesque setting. Learn more at: <https://hazletcottages.com/>

Carlyle Lake Recreation Areas	Amphitheater	Beach	Boat Access	Camping	Courtesy Dock	Dump Station	Fish Cleaning	Golf Course	Marina - Fuel	Picnic Area	Playground	Restaurant	Restrooms	Showers	Trails	Visitor Center
Boulder	■		■	■	■	■	■		■	■	■		■	■		
Coles Creek	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			■	■		■	■		
Dam East-McNair		■	■	■	■	■	■			■	■		■	■	■	
East Spillway		●	●	■		●	■			■	■		■	●	■	
General Dean			■	●		●	●			■	●	●	■		■	
West Spillway		●	●	●		●	■	●	●	■	■	●	■	●	■	●
Dam West	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	●	■	■	■	●	■	■	■	■
Eldon Hazlet SP			■	■	■	■	■		●	■	■		■	■	■	
Keyesport		■	■	●	■		■	●	■	■	■	●	■			

■ SERVICE / FACILITY AVAILABLE ● WITHIN 2 MILES OF AREA ENTRANCE ■ WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE