

22. LONG'S PARK - A 7 acre area on the Iowa River which offers electrical outlets for campers, water, grills, toilet, tables, open shelter house with electrical outlets, site of pioneer mill and launching area.
23. REECE MEMORIAL PARK - 80 acres on Honey Creek, open shelter house on over-look, closed shelter house with electricity, six picnic areas with tables and grills, three wells, camping, foot trails.
24. ZIESMAN WILDLIFE AREA - Undeveloped wildlife area of ten acres on the South Fork of Iowa River.
25. IZAAK WALTON PARK - 50 acres partially wooded land on Highway 65 open to the public but developed and maintained by the Hardin County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League. Trap, small bore, large bore, pistol ranges and picnic area.
26. GEHRKE WILDLIFE - Swamp wildlife area of 6 acres on South Fork of the Iowa River, contains large spring and many specie of native plants.
27. UTECH WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA - Border plantings on this 2 acre area provides wildlife cover.
28. TWIN ELMS ACCESS - On South Fork of Iowa River, fishing, hunting, wildlife habitat, undeveloped 24 acres.
29. FLOWING WELL PARK - 13 acres which is subject to overflow from South Fork of Iowa River in time of high water, fishing and wildlife habitat.
30. STEINBERG WILDLIFE - 3 separate areas totaling 15 acres planted and developed for wildlife habitat.
31. ROBINSON WILDLIFE - Native wildlife habitat area of 26 acres on South Fork of Iowa River.
32. FALLING ROCK ACCESS - Iowa River access, fishing.
33. WILDCAT CAVE ACCESS - 7 acres of native growth adjacent to Iowa River, undeveloped with walk-in access.

Canoe Float Trips

Various lengths of canoe float trips are possible on the Iowa River through Hardin County. Plan your trip taking into consideration the weather and the water level. Be sure your equipment is well packed and waterproof. Keep alert for obstructions and cross fences. Respect all private property including cross fences, do not trespass. Use marked county controlled areas. DO NOT LITTER.

Bigelow Park to Iowa Falls city boat dock is 12 miles with one portage at the north (left) end of the dam. It is not possible to portage at Iowa Falls dam. Canoe Launching Facility to Cross' Ford is 5 miles, be watchful for fences. Cross' Ford to Eagle City is 4 miles of scenic river, Eagle City bridge to Huse bridge is 1½ miles, two fences probable. Huse bridge to Mann Area camping is 2.7 miles with no access, county property marked with pullout spots, watch for cross fences. Mann Area to Hardin City Access is 1.7 miles with pullout spot. Hardin City Access to Sylvan Hill with access at Hardin City bridge, camping at county property. Sylvan Hill to Leverton Timber is 1.6 miles with pullout spot. Leverton Timber to Steamboat Rock is 3.5 miles with pullout and parking at Iowa River Improvement and Conservation Club (private). Portage at east (left) end of Steamboat Rock dam. Steamboat Rock-Tower Rock Park is .6 miles below dam. From Steamboat Rock-Tower Rock to Long's Park at Union no charting has been done and no marked pullout spots. Remember, respect private property.

Fall Leaf Tours

The Iowa River Green Belt in Hardin County is noted for its display of leaf color during the normal fall season. Generally reaching its peak around October 10, this spectacle is viewed by thousands each fall. A marked Scenic Trail has been established extending from Iowa Falls to Eldora through the Green Belt.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Hardin County outdoor recreation areas belong to its people, may you find enjoyment in them and be proud to help maintain them.

Full rules and regulations will be posted in each area, please follow these simple rules.

ALL AREAS ARE TO BE VACATED FROM 10:30 P.M. to 5:00 A.M. EXCEPT FOR NORMAL OVERNIGHT CAMPING.

PLEASE BUILD YOUR FIRES IN PLACES SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATED.

REFUSE MUST BE PICKED UP AND PLACED IN DESIGNATED DISPOSAL CONTAINERS.

FIREARMS, WEAPONS AND EXPLOSIVES ARE PROHIBITED IN ANY PARK OR CAMPING AREA.

ALL VEHICLES INCLUDING AUTOS, SNOWMOBILES, MINI-BIKES, MOTORCYCLES AND ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES MAY BE USED ONLY ON ACCESS ROADS BY A LICENSED OPERATOR.

ALL NATURAL GROWTH MUST BE UNDISTURBED. ONLY FALLEN LIMBS AND PROVIDED WOOD MAY BE USED FOR FUEL.

NATURAL AND MAN MADE FEATURES MUST NOT BE DISTURBED.

OBSERVE RECREATION BOUNDRIES, DO NOT TRESPASS.

HELP KEEP OUR AREAS CLEAN, DO NOT LITTER OR POLLUTE.

BOARD MEMBERS

The Hardin County Conservation Board attempts to carry on a program which will take advantage of the outdoor recreation potential within the county, they also strongly advocate the preservation of the natural resources as they are found within the county.

Current membership of the Board is:

George Hammer Union
George Ibeling Ackley
Jerry Welden Iowa Falls
William Trampe Iowa Falls
Harold Luiken Steamboat Rock

HARDIN COUNTY OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS



HARDIN CONSERVATION BOARD

County Office Building

Eldora, Iowa 50627

Telephone 515-858-3461 Ext. 57



Parks

1. **BIGELOW PARK** - Laying on each side of the Iowa River, this 10 acre park offers fishing, river access, picnic tables, grills, toilet and water. It contains a small native prairie area which is a portion of the county outdoor classroom system.
2. **BESSMAN-KEMP PARK** - Situated in the bend of the Iowa River just above Alden, this 10 acre park provides tables and grills, toilets, a well, fishing, river access and an area for camping.
3. **ALDEN RIVER ACCESS** - This small area provides picnic tables and grills for picnicing at the Alden where a canoe portage is available.
4. **IRA NICHOLS OUTDOOR CLASSROOM** - This 16 acre area is maintained for use by all persons. Contains some 400 varieties of trees, shrubs and plants. Normally locked, it is open by appointment to any group. This area is located 2 blocks west of Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls.
5. **HIGHWAY #20 REST AREA** - Maintained within the corporation at the west edge of Iowa Falls, this area provides an overnight stop for a limited number of vehicles. Grills, tables, toilet and well are provided.
6. **HANSEN SWAMP** - This 11 acre area is maintained entirely as wildlife habitat and has walk-in access.
7. **CANOE LAUNCHING FACILITY** - This undeveloped area on the Iowa River at the east corporation line of Iowa Falls provides access to the river with boat or canoe; parking area for auto and trailer.
8. **CROSS' FORD RIVER ACCESS** - Located on the Iowa River five miles below Iowa Falls, this area provides an access to the river for boats and canoes, tables and fire rings for primitive camping.
9. **EAGLE CITY ACCESS** - This three segment area provides camping, river access, outdoor classroom area, fishing, tables and camp facilities, toilets and two wells. One of two developed areas in the Iowa River Green Belt.

10. **HEADQUARTERS SEGEMENT** - Located on the Iowa River this 245 acre area is the site of the County Conservation Board workshop and storage area, nursery plot of trial plantings, outdoor classroom. Generally heavily timbered on rolling ground, foot trails give access to interesting areas. Supervisor in residence.
11. **WILKINSON WILDLIFE** - 40 acres of native timber being maintained as wildlife habitat. Walk-in access.
12. **NICHOLS TIMBER** - Maintained only as a timber and wildlife area this 35 acres adjoins the Mann Area.
13. **MANN WILDERNESS AREA** - Undeveloped except for access road, this 115 acre wilderness area is the site of plantings of conifers for transplanting. Adjoins Iowa River.
14. **OX-BOW LAKE AREA** - With access only by Iowa River or walk-in from county road, this 22 acre area is a portion of abandoned stream bed with an acre of water remaining. Maintained for wildlife.
15. **SETCHELL AREA** - 35 acres of varied timber growth, this area serves as wildlife habitat. Undeveloped.
16. **HARDIN CITY ACCESS** - This heavily timbered 20 acres adjoins the Iowa River, only development is access road.
17. **SYLVAN HILL** - Small picnic area with table, grill and toilet overlooks river valley, foot trails into heavily wooded area extending along Iowa River, 39 acres.
18. **LEVERTON TIMBER** - Wilderness area with limited access on Iowa River. 205 acres of unusual ecological structure. No developments.
19. **HARTMAN WILDLIFE** - 10 acres of upland game habitat, undeveloped.
20. **STEAMBOAT ROCK-TOWER ROCK** - On Iowa River south of Steamboat Rock offers camping, tables, grills, fishing, toilets, wells, scenic Tower Rock and Pioneer keystone bridge.
21. **LEPLEY PARK** - Well, picnic tables, grills and camping area available in this memorial park. Bird and wild flower preserve area.

