



MAP AND GUIDE: BIG STONE LAKE STATE PARK

35889 MEADOWBROOK
STATE PARK ROAD
ORTONVILLE, MN 56278
BIG STONE COUNTY
320-839-3663



! VISITOR TIPS

- Fishing is very popular at Big Stone Lake. Special border water regulations apply. Visit mndnr.gov/fishing to learn more.
- The park office is staffed from April to October. Check for hours.
- In an emergency call 911.
- Non-emergency sheriff's number: 320-839-3558.

🕒 ONLY HAVE AN HOUR?

- Fish Big Stone Lake. Need gear? Rent a canoe or kayak, or borrow a fishing pole from the park office. Cast a line from shore at the Meadowbrook or Bonanza boat landings or picnic areas.
- Relax at the lake and picnic areas.
- Hike trails in the Bonanza Area of the park.



LOOKING FOR MORE TO EXPLORE?
VISIT MNDNR.GOV/BIGSTONE

ABOUT THE PARK

Protected as a state park in 1961, this landscape offers diverse prairie habitats and access to Big Stone Lake. The 12,610-acre lake is the headwaters of the Minnesota River. Its shores have been a gathering place for humans for thousands of years. A visit to the park will reveal three unique units. The largest, Meadowbrook Area, is being restored to prairie, woodland and wet-meadow communities. The Overlook Area is a rest stop ten miles northwest of Meadowbrook. It has a magnificent view of the lake. The Bonanza Area is a wealth of wooded hillsides and tallgrass prairie just a mile northwest of the Overlook Area.



Discover where prairie meets the lake.

Bluebird Trail

1-mile loop

Mostly flat • Mowed grass

Go for a prairie adventure in the Meadowbrook Area. Watch for bluebird boxes placed along the trail and spot pollinator species at work in the plum thickets. Wildflowers abound in late summer.

Bonanza Area Hiking Club Trail

1 mile one-way

Rolling hills • Mowed grass • Packed dirt

Trek over the creek and through the woods for excellent wildlife sighting opportunities. Keep an eye out for wild turkeys, white-tailed deer and pileated woodpeckers.

Prairie Trail

2-mile loop

Mostly flat • Mowed grass

Enter the wilds of the tallgrass prairie in the Meadowbrook Area. Experience big bluestem, Indian grass, and switch grass towering over you. Wildflowers such as blazing star, wild onion, goldenrods, Maximillian's sunflower, Joe pye weed and milkweeds offer blooms for numerous pollinator species.

- Watch migrating waterfowl and songbirds. You can checkout binoculars from the park office.
- Checkout a GPS and find a park geocache.
- Enjoy excellent stargazing on clear nights.

- Have fun at seasonal interpretive programs.
- Take the Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge Auto Tour or find more hiking just one mile south of Ortonville.

A FULL SET OF STATE PARK RULES AND REGULATIONS IS AVAILABLE AT MNDNR.GOV.



PARK OPEN

8 a.m.–10 p.m. daily.



VEHICLE PERMITS

Permits required; purchase at park office or entrance kiosk.



PETS WELCOME

Keep on leash; pick up after; attend at all times; not allowed in buildings or beaches.



CAMPGROUND QUIET HOURS

10 p.m.– 8 a.m.; only registered campers may be in campground during quiet hours.



FIREWOOD

Must be purchased at this park or from vendors who sell wood approved for this park; no gathering firewood in the park.

BE OUR GUEST

Camp near the lake with an electric or non-electric campsite. Call 866-857-2757 or visit mndnr.gov/reservations.

? MORE INFORMATION

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Information Center
500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
888-646-6367 or mndnr.gov/parks

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This information may be available in alternative format upon request.

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STATE PARKS AND TRAILS