

Welcome to the Crab Orchard Lake Campground:

Crab Orchard Lake Campground is a camping facility designed to enhance your visit while at Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge. The campground offers a wide range of camping opportunities. The following information is intended to assist in making your camping visit more pleasant. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Camping Guidelines

Fees: Campers pay fees at the Campground Station before setting up camp. Camping fees shall be paid daily or if desired, may be paid in advance for the duration of the visit. The daily fee covers use of the facility from 2 pm on the day of payment to 2 pm the following day. Interagency Senior and Access Passes are honored.

Full Service - \$28.00 daily

Electric and Water - \$23.00 daily

Non Electric - \$12.00 daily

Camping Permit: The camping permit is part of the fee envelope and must be placed on the campsite marker at the time of payment. The campsite is not secured until permit is placed at the campsite and the campsite is occupied with a habitable camping unit, or the site will become available for the next camper. No camping equipment or permits shall be placed on any campsite while that site is occupied by another camping party.

Length of Stay: Maximum camping period shall be limited to 14 days within a 16 day time period. All occupants, camping units, and personal property must move out of the campground for 48 hours at the end of any 14 days. After 48 hours occupants may re-register for a different campsite. Campers may only occupy the same campsite 14 days in a 30 day period.

Campsite Capacity: Each campsite is limited to a maximum of eight (8) people per site, two camping units (only one of which may be wheeled). Camping units are defined as follows: wheeled camping units (RV, pop-up, trailer, fifth wheel, truck camper, truck with topper) or tent. Tarps, awnings, dining canopies, screen tents, kid tents, hunting blinds or vehicles other than those listed, may not

solely occupy a campsite. A maximum of three (3) vehicles are permitted at a campsite at any one time. Vehicles include cars, RV's, trucks, vans, trailers, and boat trailers. Wheeled units need to be placed on pads provided; tents need to be placed on pads or within 15 feet of provided lantern poles.

Personal Property: The storage of personal property outside of a camping unit or vehicle is prohibited. Personal property includes but is not limited to: lawn mowers, house furniture, auto parts, dog houses, boat motors not on boats, storage trailers and any non-camping items.

Fires: Open fires are permitted only in the fire grates or rings provided at the campsite: Only dead, fallen timber may be gathered for firewood. Fires must not be left unattended and must be completely extinguished before leaving the campsite.

Check Out Time: Campsites must be vacated by 2 p.m. of the day the camping permit expires. After 2 p.m. an additional day will be charged.

Visitation: Visitation for registered campers is between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. Visitors are required to have a Refuge entrance pass. All other entry prohibited.

Visitor Parking: Non-camping visitors may park at the site only if the campsite capacity has not been reached (see campsite capacity). See campground attendant for overflow parking.

Peace and Quiet: Quiet hours are from 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Any activity, including motors and generators, that emits sound beyond the immediate campsite between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. is prohibited.

Alcoholic Beverages: The possession or use of any alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

Sanitation: No waste, water, sewage, or effluent from sinks, toilets, or other plumbing fixtures shall be deposited upon or into the surface of the ground or water. All solid waste material shall be deposited in trash dumpsters located in the campground. Sewage and other effluent must be dumped in the sanitary dump station

located at the entrance to the campground. Campsites must be cleaned before leaving.

Swimming Beach: The beach will be open daily from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Refuge entrance fees will be honored for this use. No person may enter the beach water alone or swim alone. Bathers under 17 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. No pets or glass within the beach area. This includes the sand, parking lot, picnic area, and water

Vehicle/Boats: Vehicle maintenance and or washing of vehicle is prohibited within campground. All-terrain vehicles (ATV's) are prohibited. All motorized vehicles must be licensed and operated by a licensed driver. Parking on the grass outside of the camping pad is prohibited. Individuals wishing to use an assistive mobility devices, such as a powered wheel chair or golf car, must check with the Visitor Center to obtain the appropriate permit.

Firearms: Firearms must comply with Illinois Concealed Carry and transportations laws.

Domestic Animals: All dogs must be on a leash not to exceed 10 feet in length. We prohibit allowing dogs to roam. We prohibit all other domestic animals on the refuge unless confined in a vehicle, boat, trailer, kennel or other container. Pet waste must be picked up and disposed of. We prohibit domestic animals to be left outdoors without owner present.

Violation of the Rules: Individuals violating regulations, rules or posted signs may be subject to citation and or immediate eviction. Upon eviction, at the demand of the Service, the individual shall immediately remove all equipment and personal property. The Service may refuse to permit an individual to re-enter for a period of up to 365 days from such eviction. No refunds will be granted in such cases.

For the full text of regulations covering the use of Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge, please pick up an information leaflet at the Campground Contact Station or the Refuge Headquarters.

July 2023