



ESCAPE

THE ORDINARY

Experience the Great Outdoors
in Vermilion County, Illinois




If you're ready to get off the beaten path, you've come to the right place.

Tucked away in East Central Illinois, you'll discover wide open prairies, lush, wooded ravines, soaring views, healing waters and exhilarating adventures at every turn.

Enjoy stunning award-winning deep water fishing ponds or float down the river in a canoe. For the adventurous or casual hiker, hundreds of miles of all-terrain hiking and mountain biking trails await you. Whether you're looking for serenity in nature, canoe trips down a scenic river, paddleboarding on tranquil ponds or picnicking with friends and family, there's something for everyone in Vermilion County Parks. With more park acres per capita than any other county in Illinois, our 15,000+ acres and over 100 miles of trails are just what your soul needs – rest and solitude or adventure and excitement.





Unique to a single Illinois county park, here you can go running, hiking, mountain biking, disc golfing, sledding, kayaking, or tubing down our meandering national scenic river in a park of nearly 4,000 acres. Your day can start with fishing for trout, bass and panfish, hiking, hunting or scuba diving in the afternoon, and end the day with a perfect night of camping--all against a backdrop of breathtaking natural beauty.

As the first park in the United States to be located on strip-mined land, you'll find an angler's paradise alongside towering bluffs with beautiful vistas in all directions.

Lushly forested uplands and bottomlands along the Middle Fork National Scenic River are habitats for birds, wildlife and wildflowers. At the same time, trails provide pathways to inspiration and physical fitness.



KICKAPOO STATE PARK AND RECREATION AREA

PARK FEATURES

16 miles of scenic hiking trails and over 25 miles of mountain bike trails and 180 campsites with camping and shower houses, open year-round. This award winning park was ranked #1 campground by the news-gazette.com People's Choice Awards. With over 200 water acres, including 22 deep-water ponds, the park was recently cited as the Top Trout Fishing Spot in Illinois by FishingBooker.com.

ACTIVITIES

Bicycling, Bird Watching, Boating, Camping, Canoeing, Fishing, Hiking, Hunting, Ice Skating, Kayaking, Mountain Biking, Mushroom Hunting, Paddleboarding, Playgrounds, Picnicking, Running, Scuba Diving, Tubing and Wildlife Viewing

AMENITIES

Kickapoo Adventures – Make a splash with canoe, kayak, paddleboard, paddleboat, guided paddling trips and tube rentals, bike rentals, fishing licenses, bait, ice and firewood.
www.kickapooadventures.com 217-446-8399


Park Bistro – Enjoy beautiful lakeside dining and entertainment in season.
www.facebook.com/kickapooStatePark 217-898-1013

Multiple well-kept campgrounds and shelter rentals.

PARK INFO

10906 Kickapoo Park Rd.
Oakwood IL 61858
217-442-4915
www2.illinois.gov/dnr

"The Earth has music for those who listen."
- William Shakespeare



Kennekuk County Park includes 3,000 sprawling acres of prairie, timber, scenic river, lake and ponds of all sizes, bordered on the west by the Middle Fork National Scenic River and the Middle Fork State Fish and Wildlife Area. The park includes two Illinois Nature Preserves (Windfall Prairie and Horseshoe Bottoms). Anglers, hikers, hunters, bird watchers, water sports enthusiasts, picnickers, and history buffs all discover something new with every visit.

KENNEKUK COUNTY PARK



PARK FEATURES

Primarily composed of oak/hickory forest habitats and native tall prairie grass areas. You will find well-stocked lakes and ponds, including the 170-acre Lake Mingo and the Middle Fork National Scenic River. Enjoy ten miles of trails plus the winding 7.5-mile Lake Mingo Trail and a 1/3-mile concrete ADA, universally accessible trail.

ACTIVITIES

Bicycling, Bird Watching, Boating, Canoeing, Cross Country Skiing, Fishing, Hiking, Hunting, Kayaking, Mushroom Hunting, Picnicking, Playgrounds, Running, Wildlife Viewing.

AMENITIES

Visitor Center – Features a natural history museum and 1000-gallon aquarium. For current hours, call the phone number to the left.

Rental Facilities – Many open-air or enclosed shelters are available for reunions, parties, weddings, and other family or business events. To reserve, call the number to the left.


Bunker Hill Historic Area – Relocated and restored chapel, general store, schoolhouse, barbershop, train depot and car, and much more. Holiday lights in December.

PARK INFO

22296-A Henning Road
Danville, IL 61834
217-442-1691
vccd.org/kennekuk-county-park/

“And into the forest I go, to
lose my mind and find my soul.”

- John Muir



Situated along the beautiful Vermilion River, this 1,900-acre park is tucked away in eastern Vermilion County. Within the preserve are four registered Illinois Nature Preserves (Duffin Woods, Forest Glen Seep, Howard's Hollow Seep, and Doris L. Westfall Prairie). Visitors will enjoy its wooded ravines, grassy meadows and miles of winding trails. Stop at the Pioneer Homestead and take time to stroll through the arboretum and the prairies of restored tallgrass.

FOREST GLEN PRESERVE



PARK FEATURES

Primarily composed of beech/maple forests, dominant trees include the American beech, sugar maple, tulip tree, and yellow poplar. Twenty-five miles of trails, including the popular 11-mile River Ridge Backpack Trail and 1/3-mile asphalt ADA, universally accessible trail. The 72-foot Observation Tower offers a spectacular view of the Vermilion River bottoms and the surrounding vast forest. Within the park you will find multiple well-stocked ponds, and restored Pioneer Homestead, along with the 40-acre Michael G. Reddy Arboretum that provides easy tree identification.

ACTIVITIES

Berry Picking, Bird Watching, Boating, Camping, Canoeing, Fishing, Hiking, Hunting, Mushroom Hunting, Picnicking, Playgrounds, Wildlife Viewing

AMENITIES

Rental Facilities – Several open-air or enclosed shelters for reunions, parties, weddings, etc., are available by reservation.

Camping – Modern, Tent, Primitive and Group Camping with showers, water, and camp store.

PARK INFO

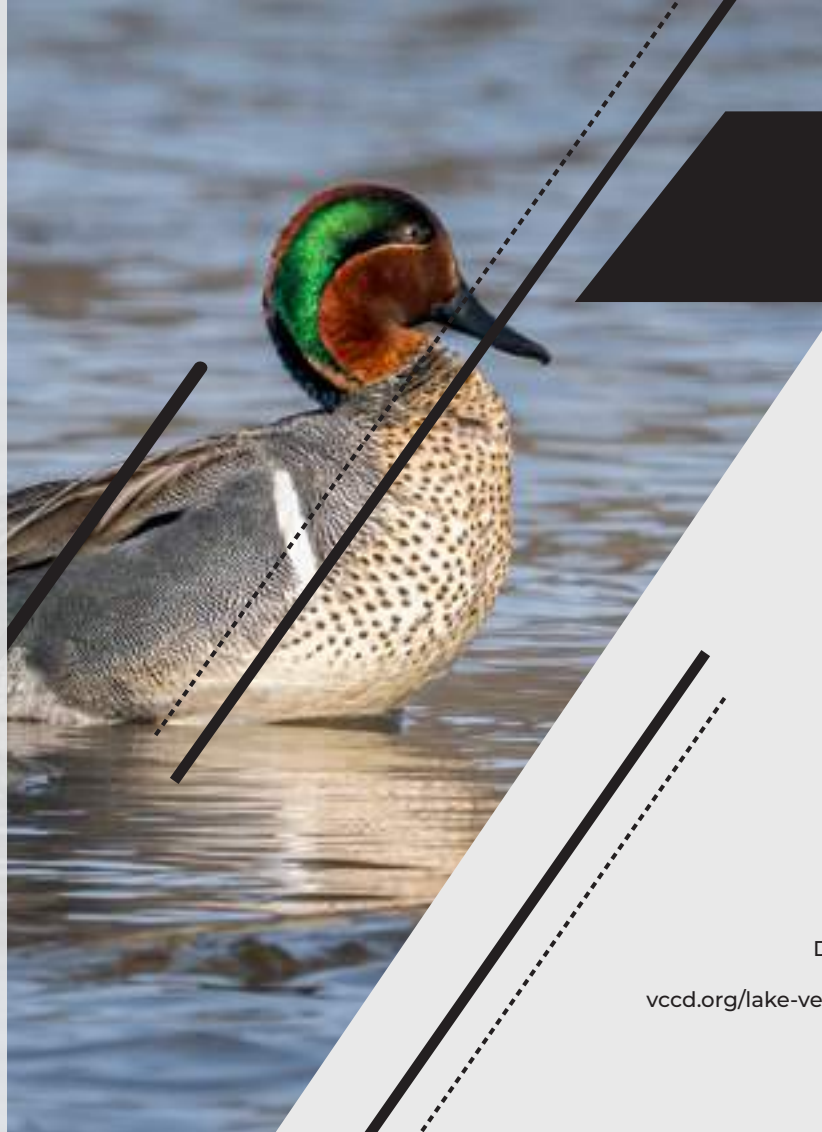
20301 E 900 North Road
Westville, IL 61883
217-662-2142
vccd.org/forest-glen-preserve/

"I took a walk in the woods and came out taller than the trees."

- Anonymous

Fun begins at this 7-acre park set along the north end of the 1,000-acre Lake Vermilion. This green space provides the perfect launch point for anglers, water sports enthusiasts and wildlife lovers. You may even catch a glimpse of river otters, bald eagles, and a seagull or two.

Coming in 2023 – Denmark Walk and Bike Trail across Danville’s beautiful Lake Vermilion



LAKE VERMILION PARK

PARK FEATURES

Access to the beautiful 1000-acre Lake Vermilion. Excellent wildlife viewing and water sports of all kinds, including boating and fishing.

ACTIVITIES

Fishing, Hunting, Jet Skiing, Picnicking, Playground, Pontoon Boating, Power Boating, Sail Boating, Water Skiing/Tubing, Kayaking, Canoeing, Wildlife Viewing.

AMENITIES

Boat Ramp
Concession Building
Dock System
Fuel Available

PARK INFO

2607 Denmark Road
Danville, Illinois 61834
217-442-1691
vccd.org/lake-vermilion-county-park/



*"The greatest adventure is what lies ahead."
- J. R. R. Tolkien*

Canada geese, mallards, wood ducks, kingfishers, great herons, sandhill cranes, bald eagles, along with songbirds and seasonal migrants, frequent this exceptional park's 53 acres of natural wetlands. The ADA-universally accessible floating boardwalk and observation tower allow visitors a unique "wide-angle" view.



PARK INFO
West Newell Road
Danville, Illinois 61834
217-442-1691
vccd.org/heron-county-park/

HERON COUNTY PARK

PARK FEATURES

950-foot floating boardwalk, the second-longest in Illinois, with three observation areas. 30-foot Eagle View Observation Tower with two viewing decks with an ADA access ramp. Large great blue heron rookery. The ½-mile, self-guided trail is a haven for wildlife, including beavers, muskrats, and river otters.

ACTIVITIES

Bird and Wildlife Watching, Hiking, Waterfowl Hunting (during season), Picnicking

AMENITIES

Restrooms
Shelter



"Nature is not a place to visit. It is home."
- Gary Snyder

With 2700 acres, this park is a favorite of equestrians, skiers, hikers, birdwatchers, and hunters. The area includes the first and only Illinois waterway designated as part of the National Wild & Scenic River System. The river extends through Kennekuk County Park and Kickapoo State Park.



MIDDLEFORK STATE FISH AND WILDLIFE AREA

PARK FEATURES

35 miles of marked scenic equestrian and cross-country skiing trails. A 54-site campground that can accommodate horses. Trap range and archery trail. Access to the Middle Fork National Scenic River.

ACTIVITIES

Archery, Camping, Canoeing, Cross Country Skiing, Equestrian Trails, Fishing, Hiking, Hunting, Picnicking

AMENITIES

Campground
Equestrian Campground Rentals
Nature Preserve

PARK INFO

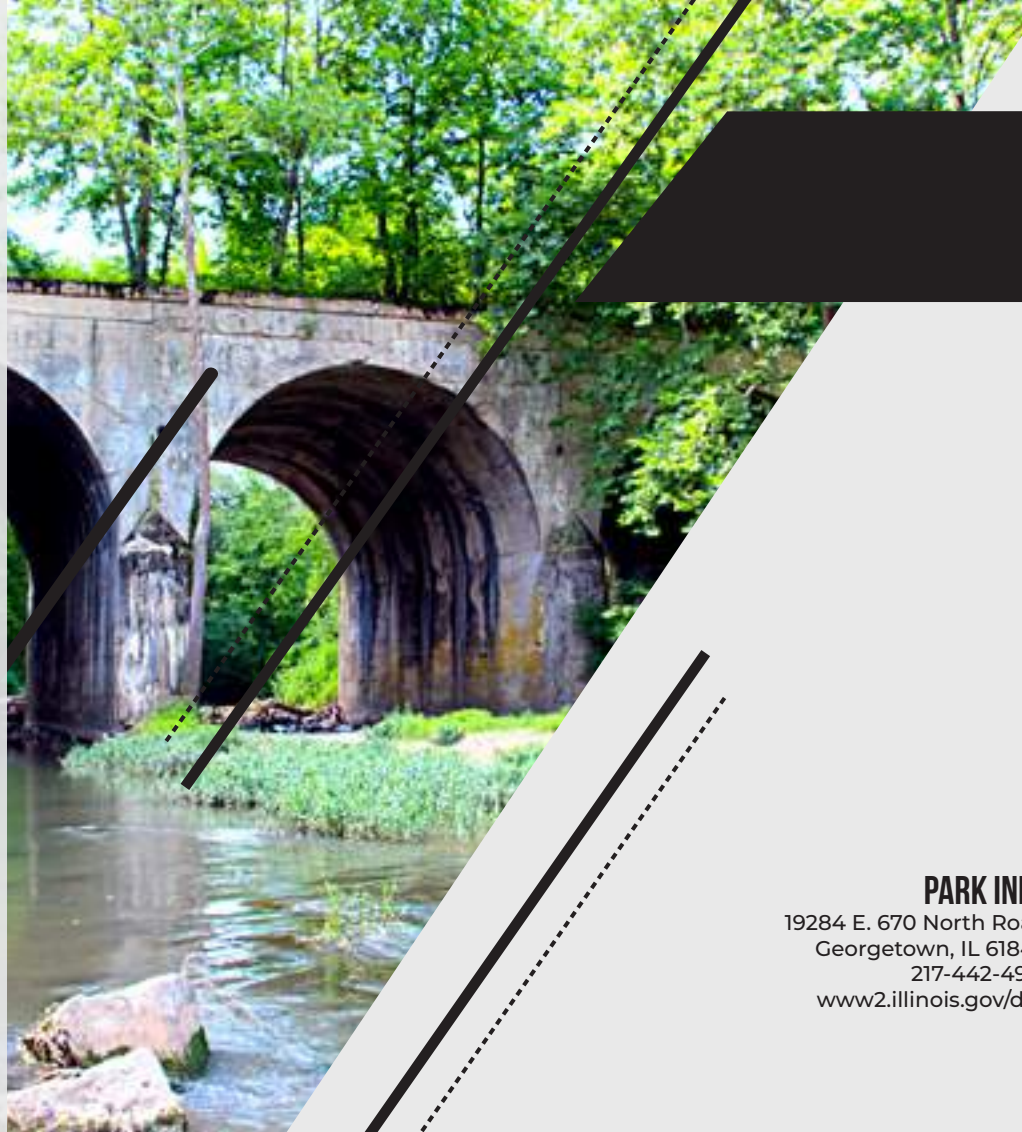
County Road 2250 N
Danville, IL 61834
217-442-4915
www2.illinois.gov/dnr



"Leave the road, take the trails"
- Pythagore

The Harry "Babe" Woodyard State Natural Area, named after state legislator, Harry "Babe" Woodyard is located in southern Vermilion County. Here you will find 1,250 acres set aside to enjoy bird watching, stream fishing, hiking trails, and hunting. This area encompasses 2.2 miles of the Little Vermilion River, noted as a significant stream because of its aquatic features.

It is a sportsman's and naturalist's paradise



HARRY "BABE" WOODYARD STATE NATURAL AREA

PARK FEATURES

The park is home to 12 state endangered or threatened species and provides a habitat for 23 forest interior species. The majority of the park is covered with lush forest.

ACTIVITIES

- Bird Watching
- Fishing
- Hiking
- Hunting

PARK INFO

19284 E. 670 North Road
Georgetown, IL 61846
217-442-4915
www2.illinois.gov/dnr



"Wilderness without wildlife is just scenery."
- Lois Crisler

The new, multi-purpose recreational trail designed for pedestrians and bicyclists, traverses prairies, woodlands and wetlands as it winds between Oakwood and Danville.

Currently, two sections of the trail are completed the three-mile path in Vermilion County over the trestle bridge and the 6.7-mile trail between Urbana and St. Joseph.

Later the Kickapoo Rail Trail will be a 24.5-mile trail that follows the former CSX/Conrail railroad from Kickapoo State Park just outside of Danville to Urbana. It will pass through the communities of Oakwood, Fithian, Ogden, St. Joseph and Mayview.



KICKAPOO RAIL TRAIL

FEATURES

The trail's crown jewel, the Kickapoo Rail Trail Bridge, a renovated trestle bridge, soars 88 feet above the Middle Fork of the Vermilion River.

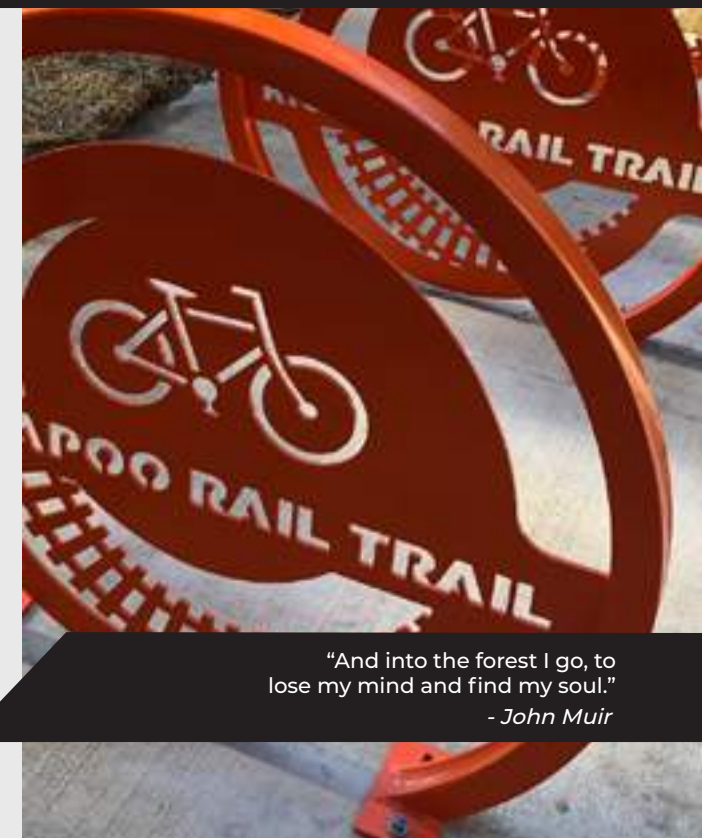
ACTIVITIES

The gentle grade, 10-foot width, and spectacular river views make it a new favorite for walkers, runners, cyclists, and people with wheelchairs and strollers

AMENITIES

Parking and restrooms are available at the trailhead on US 150, west of Danville on Route 150 East, east of Oakwood

RAIL TRAIL INFO
onekrt.org



*"And into the forest I go, to
lose my mind and find my soul."
- John Muir*

ENJOY OUR AREA PARKS



Carver Park

412 Union Street, Danville

Playground, softball, football, lighted basketball and tennis courts, concession, shelter

Douglas Park

520 S. Bowman Avenue, Danville

Picnic, skateboard park, 20 horseshoe pits, Discovery Garden, playground, softball, basketball, shelters, stage

Danville Stadium

401 Highland Blvd, Danville

Opened in 1946 as a farm location for the Brooklyn Dodgers. In 1947 the MLB team played an exhibition game which included players like PeeWee Reese, Duke Snider, and Jackie Robinson. The current team, Danville Dans, play at the Stadium in June/July/August.

Ellsworth Park

100 Ellsworth Avenue (East end of Oakwood Ave.), Danville

9-hole disc golf, lighted basketball, playground, soccer, football, fishing, concession, shelters, picnic

Fetch Dog Park – Espenscheid Park

Kimball Street north of Voorhees, Danville

www.FetchDogPark.org
Out of town guests are welcome. Fully fenced, off-leash dog park ¾ mile fitness trail, 1 mile walking/running trail

Hoopeston-McFerren Park

Illinois Route 1, Hoopeston

Playground, pool, mini-golf, fishing pond, shelters, civic center, basketball, baseball, tennis, restrooms

Liberty Park

200 E. Liberty Lane, Danville

Picnic, playground, lighted tennis, paved walking trail, basketball

Lincoln Park, Danville

1000 Logan Avenue

AMBUCS Independence Playground (ADA), lighted basketball, tennis, picnic, sandlot, shared-use path, baseball/softball, pavilion, concession, bandshell. Home to Lamon House and Danville Tennis Center.

Southgate Habitat Area Trail

3630 Southgate Drive (Exit 220, off I-74) ¾ mile paved trail (loops around a 4.5-acre pond)

ADA compliant, picnic. The surrounding area features native trees, shrubs, grasses and wildlife. Paved parking, small picnic shelter. No restroom facilities.

ENJOY OUR AREA PARKS

Winter Park

900 E. Winter Avenue, Danville

AMBUCS "Playground for Everyone" a fully accessible playground and spray water park, restrooms, shelters, softball, sand volleyball, concession, soccer park, and walking trail

- Cross Country Course located around the Danville Area Soccer Complex, runners and walkers may choose course lengths of 1, 1.5, 2, 2.5, 3 and 3.1 miles. The grass and dirt paths lead through gently rolling open and forested areas.

Winterview Park

1200 E. Winter Avenue, Danville

Danville Soccer Association, softball, concession, picnic, shelters

Check out our website visitdanvillearea.com for the many parks in Vermilion County communities that offer amenities including, splash parks, picnic areas, basketball courts, ball diamonds and more.

Contact Our Office for More Information

Danville Area Visitors' Bureau
800-383-4386
info@danvilleareainfo.com
visitdanvillearea.com

For Additional Information:

Hunting/Fishing Licenses
www2.illinois.gov/dnr

Kennekuk Road Runners
www.kennekukroadrunners.com

Kickapoo Mountain Bike Club
www.kickapoo.bike

Middlefork Audubon Society
www.middleforkaudubon.org

Middle Fork Trail Riders
(Equestrian riders)
[Facebook.com/middleforktrailriders](https://www.facebook.com/middleforktrailriders)
www2.illinois.gov/dnr





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