

## WELCOME TO THE OZARKS OF NORTH CENTRAL ARKANSAS.

Bull Shoals-White River State Park is a place where water generates life. The park was designated in 1955 to provide recreational opportunities to the public. After completion of Bull Shoals Dam in 1952, the cold tail-waters of the White River soon became a trout fishing paradise. This 732-acre park also provides unlimited scenic views and a wonderful closeness to nature. Several nature trails have been built for you to enjoy views of the White River, Bull Shoals Lake, and the Ozark countryside. Park interpreters present a variety of interpretive programs, walks, and lake tours throughout the year.

### BIG BLUFF TRAIL

Length: 1 3/4 mile loop trail  
 Trailhead: Open field area south of Rent-A-Camp  
 Difficulty: Moderately strenuous  
 Special Note: Children should be accompanied by an adult.

The first part of this loop trail is a level walk over the remains of the railroad tram constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to bring in steel and lumber from Cotter to construct Bull Shoals Dam. Once the trail crosses the paved road, it goes up the hillside to an area overlooking the White River, Bull Shoals Dam, and the Ozark hill country. The trail then leads you through cedar glades, mature deciduous forests, and across streams. These areas provide excellent habitat for colorful Ozark wildflowers. Pick up a wildflower checklist at the park visitor center before walking this trail.

### LAKESIDE TRAIL

Length: 1 mile  
 Trailhead: East end of Lakeside Picnic Area  
 Difficulty: Moderately easy  
 Constructed in 1979 by the Young Adult Conservation Corps, this loop trail offers relatively easy walking. Bull Shoals Lake, combined with the Ozark plant and animal life, makes the trail an ecosystem in itself. Any season of the year, even in the deepest winter, a surprise awaits you around each corner. Eagle Point and Titmouse Alley provide excellent habitat for bird watching. Bald eagles, waterfowl, and gulls are often seen from Eagle Point in winter. During spring, summer, and fall over 90

species of migrating and summer resident songbirds populate the area. Stop at the Visitor Center and pick up our field checklist of birds at Bull Shoals.

### HERITAGE & HABITAT TRAIL

Length: 1/2 mile  
 Trailhead: Northwest of the visitor center  
 Difficulty: Easy-Moderate  
 The stories along this trail are of hard use and nature's ability to regenerate itself. Along this trail you will see how this land looked during the construction of the dam and now, how it is ecologically succeeding into the forest it once was: A forest that provides a home

for plants and animals as part of Bull Shoals-White River State Park.

### GASTON WILDFLOWER GARDEN AREA AND TRAIL

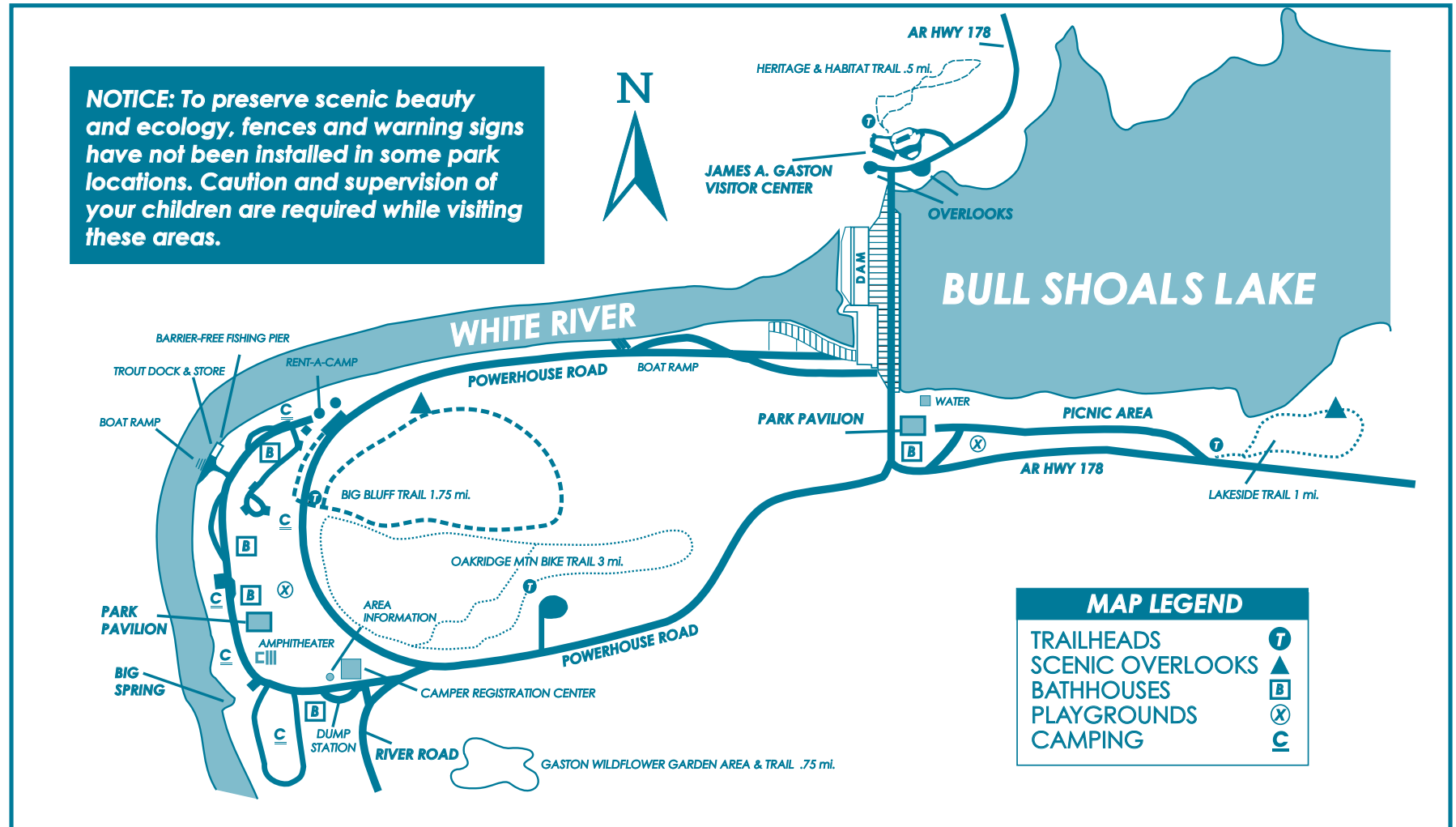
Length: 3/4 mile  
 Trailhead: Across from the camper registration center on River Road  
 Difficulty: Easy

This paved loop trail meanders through three acres of wildflowers that change each week through the season. Wildlife, including birds and butterflies, can be viewed throughout the trail. Several habitats, including meadow, woodland and low wetland areas

can be viewed from the trail, along with their distinct wildflower species. The area is continually under development. Contributions may be made at any time; check with the park interpreter for more information.

### OAKRIDGE MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL

Length: 2-4 miles  
 Trailhead: .5 miles from entrance of the park on Powerhouse Road  
 Difficulty: Easy-Moderate  
 Constructed by the Bull Shoals - Lakeview Rotary Club, this multi-use trail offers both hikers and mountain bikers access to remote areas of the



park. The trail traverses the oak-hickory upland forest for a unique walking or riding experience; expect creek crossings, dirt roads, open meadows, long downhills, and taxing uphill.

*NOTE: Bicycle helmets are strongly recommended.*

## INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS

Join us for the many activities available during the spring, summer, and fall seasons.

- Slide presentations, campfire stories, music, games, owl prowls, and night hikes are a few of the evening programs.
- Birds, wildflowers, and history are covered on guided nature walks held during the morning and evening hours.
- Nature demonstrations, trout fishing workshops, and cooking demonstrations provide activities throughout the day.
- Certificates and badges are awarded to children ages 6-14 for competing in the Park Explorer program.
- Lake and river cruises are offered from April through October.
- Throughout the year there are special events to help you better enjoy the Ozark's nature and culture. A few special events to note are:
  - Eagle Awareness Weekend ~ May
  - Trout Days ~ June
  - Autumn Celebration ~ October

Check the park interpreters' program schedule posted on all park information boards. And see our programs listed at [www.ArkansasStateParks.com/bullshoalswhiteriver](http://www.ArkansasStateParks.com/bullshoalswhiteriver)

## TRAIL RULES

- **Stay On Marked Trails** - All trails are marked with blazes painted on trees. Stepping off the trail kills delicate plants, compacts the soil, and destroys the natural beauty.
- **Watch Your Step** - The main cause of accidents in the park is not watching the spot your foot will fall.
- **Do No Harm** - Never harm any wildlife or plant! The park was set aside for their protection.
- **Avoid Unwanted Encounters** - At one time or another, snakes will be encountered. Poison ivy is also common near trails. Our best advice is to stay on designated trails.

- **Wear Appropriate Footwear** - Hiking boots or sneakers are recommended.
- **Take Water With You - Especially When It's Hot!** - Take a canteen or a plastic bottle of water. Glass containers on state park trails are prohibited.
- **Don't Hike Alone** - Hike with someone, or tell someone where you are going and when you should return.
- **Ride On Designated Trails Only** - The Oakridge Trail is the only multi-use trail in the park. Please do not ride on the Lakeside or Big Bluff Trail.
- **Always Yield The Trail** - Slow down and communicate with other trail users.

To protect the environment and for the safety of you and others, it is unlawful to:

- \* Possess alcoholic beverages on trails.
- \* Carry glass containers on trails.
- \* Litter.
- \* Deface natural or cultural features.
- \* Allow pets off their leash.
- \* Ride ATVs on trails.
- \* Harass or kill wildlife or remove any wild plants.
- \* Camp or build campfires on trails.
- \* Be on trails after dark.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

If our trails have provided you with beauty and recreation, please consider giving something back by becoming a trail volunteer. Volunteer trail maintenance can be as easy as picking up litter and cleaning small debris off trails. Stop by the visitor center or call (870) 445-3629 if you are interested in helping.

## OFF-SEASON PROGRAMMING

Special programming for schools and other organized groups may be scheduled November through March. These programs must be scheduled in advance. Please contact the park interpreter for available dates and further information. Phone: (870) 445-3629.

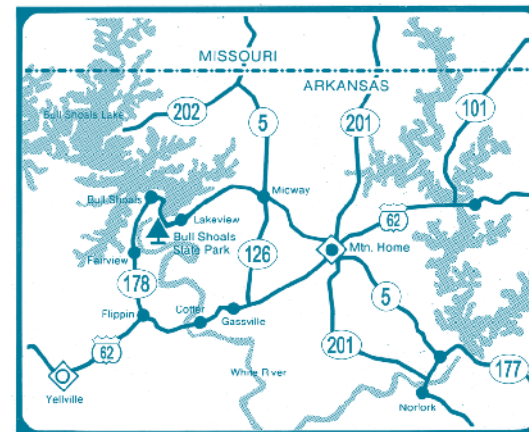
## THE BEST WAY TO ENJOY BULL SHOALS - WHITE RIVER STATE PARK

is to explore its natural beauty along its trails and to participate in our many interpretive programs. Together we can protect park resources for today and the future.

## IN AN EMERGENCY

Notify the visitor center, camper registration center, Trout Dock, or camp host, or call from one of the pay phones in Camp Areas 'A' or 'B'.

**911 - Emergency**  
**445-3629 - Park Ranger**  
**425-2400 - Sheriff's Office**



## BULL SHOALS-WHITE RIVER STATE PARK

153 Dam Overlook Lane  
 Bull Shoals, AR 72619

PHONE: (870) 445-3629

E-MAIL: [bullshoalswhiteriver@arkansas.com](mailto:bullshoalswhiteriver@arkansas.com)

or visit us and other parks at

[www.ArkansasStateParks.com](http://www.ArkansasStateParks.com)



As a part of our conservation mission, the Arkansas State Parks Department has printed this on recycled paper.

# Interpretive Program & Trails Guide

*"Where Water Generates Life"*

