The trails at Lake Leatherwood City Park are designed as low-impact, single-track nature trails for foot and bike traffic. Many rocky ledges, steep slopes, extended grades, and varied terrain make most trails challenging for both foot and bike traffic. The trails have been marked with two colors to help with orientation. Be aware that the trails are multi-use and are shared between hikers and bikers. The trails are always busiest on weekends and holidays. Proceed as though you may encounter others around any and every corner.

**Trail Rules**
- No motorized vehicles or pack stock are allowed on any trail.
- No glass containers are allowed.
- All dogs must be on a leash at all times.
- No fires are permitted along the trails.
- Leave all natural and manmade objects where they lie
- Pack it in, Pack it out—"Leave No Trace!"

**Hiking Lake Leatherwood**
The following are some suggestions and considerations for using the Lake Leatherwood trails.

- **Know your limits.**
- **Carry plenty of water.** The only potable water available is in the day-use area. Never drink the lake water or water from spigots or streams.
- **Be aware of biting critters.** You might want to wear insect repellent during the spring and summer months, as ticks, chiggers, and other insects are abundant.
- **Practice low-impact hiking.** Avoid trail use when the trails are extremely wet. Don’t create new trails or short cuts. Stay clear of sensitive flora and fauna.
- **Be aware of natural hazards.** Exercise caution around bluffs, sinkholes and snakes.

Lake Leatherwood trails offer many opportunities for all levels of cyclists, from flat and easy to mountains and difficult. The following are the rules of conduct established by the International Mountain Bikers Association.

- **Ride on open trails only.** Some trails dead end into or lead to private property. Stay on the marked trails.
- **Leave no trace.** Practice low-impact cycling. Avoid trail use when extremely wet. Pack it in, pack it out.
- **Control your bike.** Inattention, for even a second, can cause problems for you or another user. Be smart and alert.
- **Yield the trail.** Don’t startling others. Let them know you are approaching. Pass safely and be prepared to stop, if necessary.
- **Never scare animals.** The park is full of deer and other wildlife. Give animals extra room and time to adjust to you. Keep your head up.
- **Plan ahead.** Know your equipment, your ability, and the area in which you are riding. Prepare accordingly. Always wear a helmet.

**Lake Leatherwood**

Lake Leatherwood is a 1600-acre city park. The park is a pristine example of Ozark mountain countryside. Hardwood forests cover steep hills divided by a narrow 85-acre lake that is continuously recharged by cold spring water. Lake Leatherwood has seclusion inlets where you can snag the big ones or nap and tell stories about the one that got away. Those 16 years and older are considered adults. Children should be supervised when at the lake. Keep an eye out for our resident ducks and geese. They can get kind of pushy around meal time.

**Wildlife**
- Shooting wildlife with a camera is legal, but be careful; they don’t call ‘em wild for nothing. Undeveloped areas give shelter to different kinds of park friends, including white-tailed deer, bobcat and wild turkeys. Keep an eye out for our resident ducks and geese. They can get kind of pushy around meal time.

**Aquatics**
- Catch your own supper from the dock, the bank, or a boat: blue gill, crappie, bream, large- and small-mouth bass, and channel catfish. Lake Leatherwood has secluded inlets where you can snag the big ones or nap and tell stories about the one that got away. Those 16 years and older are considered adults. Children should be supervised when at the lake. Keep an eye out for our resident ducks and geese. They can get kind of pushy around meal time.

- Diving platform, a sandy bottom swimming area, shady picnic sites, and beautiful views of cattails, water lilies, and rugged Ozark hills.

- No glass containers are allowed.
- Dogs must be on a leash at all times.
- Pack it in, Pack it out—"Leave No Trace!"

**Recreation**
- Campsites are in the day-use area. Never use the park campsites.
- The only potable water available is in the day-use area. Never drink the lake water or water from spigots or streams.
- In summer and fall, bring insect repellent. Some trails are extremely wet. Don’t create new trails or short cuts. Stay clear of sensitive flora and fauna.

- Practice low-impact hiking. Avoid trail use when extremely wet. Pack it in, pack it out.

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Valley Trails
These trails stay in or near the valley floors. They have fewer hills, however contain rugged terrain and more creek crossings.

Beacham Trail
4 mile loop 2 hours
Beacham Trail circles the lake, passing Leatherwood Dam, the dam quarry and other interesting destinations. Although this trail traverses few extended hills, the varied terrain makes it especially challenging for bicyclists. It begins at either Beacham Trail Head or Meadow Trail Head.

Leatherwood Trail
1 mile 30 minutes
Leatherwood Trail connects the main park facility with Leatherwood Fields, Eureka Springs’ Municipal Ball Park. It is predominantly flat and perfect for the light hiker, runner or beginning cyclist. The trail can be accessed from the Meadow Trail Head or the Leatherwood Fields Trail Head.

Fuller Trail
2 miles 1 hour
Fuller Trail follows the shoreline of the lake from near the boat ramp to Leatherwood Dam. A short spur leads to The Point, a great picnic spot with a view of the dam. This trail is mostly flat, but has a few tricky rocky areas and stream crossings.

Fishing Trail
Fishing Trail provides lake side fishing from rock ledges and bluffs. Please park out trail.

Bird Blind
Lake Leatherwood Bird Blind is located in the meadow close to the Beacham Trail entrance. Over 179 bird species have been documented by the State of Arkansas.

Ridge Trails
These trails follow mountain ridges, are hilly, and take you to the park's extremes.

Overlook Trail
2.5 mile loop 1.5 hours
This trail leads to a bluff overlooking Leatherwood Dam. The dam is highly visible only when the leaves have fallen. There is a long climb either way to the dam overlook. Moss-covered bluffs line the ridge. This is a nice loop when combined with Beacham and Malladays Hollow Trail.

Lost Ridge Trail
1.5 mile
One of the newest trails in the park, the trail traverses a bench littered with interesting bluffs and has interesting views of the dam. If approached from Hereford the trail climbs 100 feet and 300 feet in elevation.

Miner’s Rock Trail
3 miles 1.5 hours
Once up the long, steep hill, several miles of mildly graded trail meander along benches beneath beautiful rocky bluffs.

Twin Knobs Trail
3 miles 1.5 hours
By far the most physically challenging trail in the park, this trail climbs over 300 vertical feet. It can be accessed from either Leatherwood or Hyde Hollow Trail. Views from the ‘knobs’ are great during the winter and early spring. This trail shares routing along the Bench Loop Trail. Use Hyde Hollow and Beacham Trails to create a loop.

Bench Loop Trail
3 mile loop 2 hours
Bench Loop Trail is located on the same mountain as Twin Knobs Trail. It is comprised of two benches at different elevations that are connected by short grades. The trail passes several rock outcroppings and bluffs. It can be accessed only by ascending the Twin Knobs Trail.

Downhill Challenge Trail
1 mile
The only one-way trail in the park, this trail caters specifically to skilled mountain bikers. Many TTF’s (Technical Trail Features) make the trail especially challenging. It is recommended riders use extreme caution and wear appropriate gear when riding this trail.