

Contact Information

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Kanopolis Project Office

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Kanopolis Lake

Kansas



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Kansas City District



Welcome



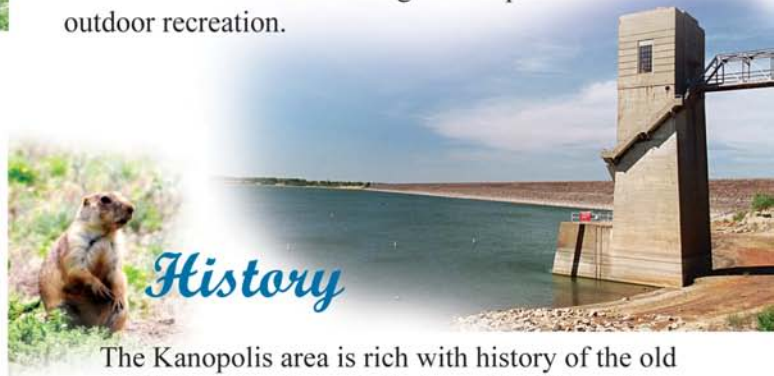
The Kansas City District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Kanopolis staff are proud to welcome you to Kanopolis Lake. We invite you to use and enjoy the lake and its facilities. Additional information may be obtained at the Corps Visitor Center near the Southeast end of the dam or from one of our park rangers.



The Lake

Construction of Kanopolis Dam began in 1940 but was suspended for 3 ½ years during World War II. Construction costs were \$12.3 million when storage of water began in 1948. Kanopolis was the first lake in the Kansas City District and is just one unit in a system of flood control lakes in the Kansas and Missouri River basins. Nearly

100 times the initial cost of Kanopolis has been saved by reducing flood damages. Each year 250,000 people visit the lake and surrounding area to pursue outdoor recreation.



The Kanopolis area is rich with history of the old west. Native Americans led a bountiful life on the prairie and along the Smoky Hill River. The historic travel trails moved settlers to the west. Fort Ellsworth and Fort Harker held legendary fames of George Armstrong Custer, Buffalo Bill Cody, and Wild Bill Hickok. Longhorn cattle drives met the railroad in Ellsworth and rivaled the reputation of Dodge City. Travel the Legacy Trail and you will discover an 80 mile auto tour that highlights scenic vistas and historic locations around the lake area. Pick up a trail map at the Information Center.



Fishing

White bass, saugeye and walleye fishing are well known, but catches of crappie, channel cat and hybrid wipers can be equally good. In March and April, white bass may be taken in the shallows near Bluff Creek or up-river during the spawn. Early spring is also best for walleye spawning along the dam. Spring crappie fishing can be popular around the dam, tower harbor and Yankee Run. As the water warms, walleye and saugeye prefer the flats around Boldt Bluff. Channel cats are best during summer nights.

Ice fishermen may find good angling for crappie, walleye, and white bass. With a trout permit, you can catch trout in Sand Creek below the dam. Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks stock trout every month between October and March.



Public Hunting

Nearly 16,000 acres of public land are available for hunting. Most of this acreage is located upstream and along the river. Nearly all federal land is open to hunting except developed parks and the wildlife refuge. Lands behind the dam are restricted to shotgun and archery hunting only.

Public hunting around Kanopolis boasts excellent whitetail deer and Rio Grande turkey hunting. Waterfowl are frequent along wetland areas during fall and spring migrations. Fur bearing species of coyote, fox, beaver, raccoon, and bobcat are prevalent along riparian corridors. Upland bird species of pheasant, quail and prairie chicken can be found in prairie areas.

Both the Corps and Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks manage lands for natural resources. The Corps has active land management programs such as prescribed burning, tree and shrub planting, grain food plots and timber stand improvements for wildlife habitat. The Corps' most important wildlife

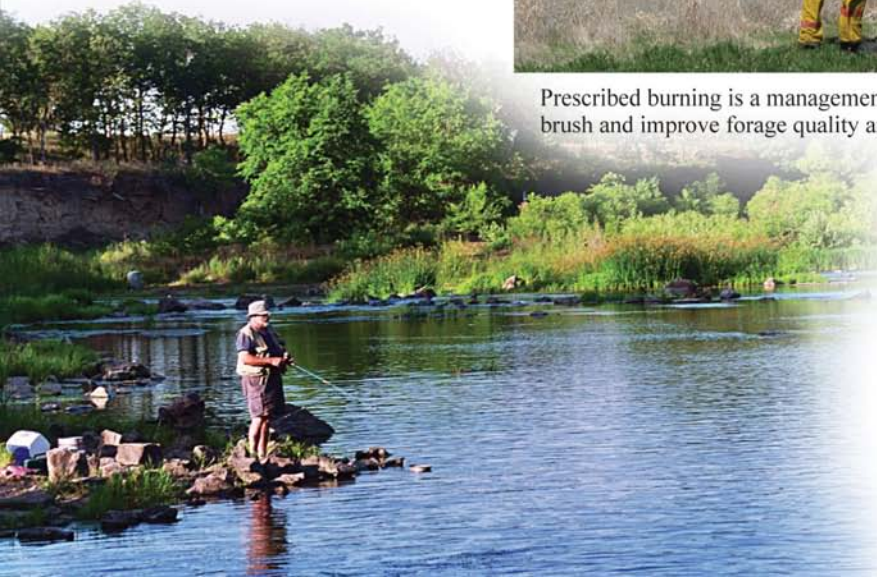
management tool is the agricultural leasing program. Nearly 12,500 acres are leased into 41 units for farmers to utilize with specific wildlife management requirements. Access to public lands is restricted to walk-in only and vehicle parking lots are provided along roadways.



Prescribed burning is a management tool used to reduce brush and improve forage quality and wildlife habitat.

Entrance and User Fees

The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, which operates the Kanopolis State Park, charges an entrance fee for the use of its facilities. Rate information is posted at park entrances and is available at the State Park Office and marina. User fees are charged for overnight camping at all state and Corps campgrounds.





Recreation

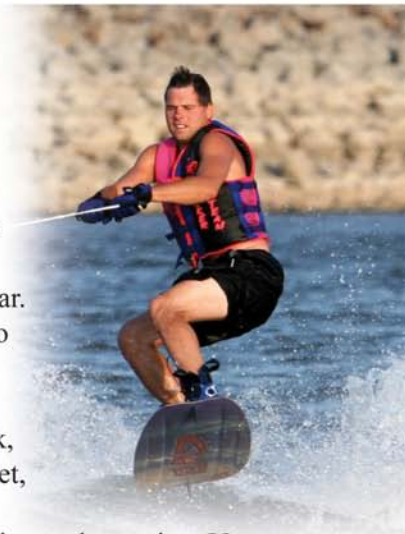
Kanopolis Lake, with a normal pool surface of about 3400 acres, attracts thousands of campers, hunters, fishermen and water sport enthusiasts each year.

Four developed parks meet the needs of the visiting public by providing lake access, parking areas, drinking water, swimming beaches, boat ramps and camping and picnicking facilities.

Two of these areas, Langley Point and Horsethief, are managed by Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. A marina concession at Langley Point offers boat slip rental, gas and oil, a general store and snack bar.

Riverside and Venango Parks are managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Riverside Park, located near the dam outlet, provides recreational opportunities such as fishing and camping. Venango Park, located at the north end of the dam, provides a full range of developed recreational facilities including campgrounds, picnic shelters, a swimming beach, hiking trails and an ATV trail.

In addition, the Corps maintains the Yankee Run and Boldt Bluff, access areas located along the west side of the lake, for fishing and primitive camping.



Play It Safe

With many people using the lake, it is important to know and follow the basic rules of water safety. The most important thing to remember is to always wear your life jacket whenever you are on or near the water. Your life depends upon it!



While You Are Here

Those of you who are first-time visitors to a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-operated project should become familiar with the rules governing the use of the lake, parks, and resource areas. You may obtain a copy of these rules (Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations) at the Kanopolis Lake Information Center or from a gate attendant or park ranger. All federal and state fishing and hunting regulations are also enforced and sportsmanship and safety should be considered at all times.

