

# STOCKTON LAKE MISSOURI



## Welcome

The Corps of Engineers welcomes you to Stockton Lake. We hope your visit will be enjoyable and safe. Information you may need which is not in this pamphlet may be obtained at the Information Center at the west end of the dam.





## Recreation

Stockton Lake, with 298 miles of shoreline, 12 parks and 24,900 acres of water surface, attracts thousands of outdoor enthusiasts each year. Stockton Lake is for campers, picnickers, fishermen, hunters, water skiers, swimmers, power boaters, sailors, scuba divers, canoeists, photographers, bird watchers, nature lovers, and others.

Recreation areas around the lake accommodate a wide variety of outdoor recreational interests. Eleven of Stockton's public use areas are operated by the Corps of Engineers and one by the Missouri Division of Parks and Historic Preservation. Marinas offering a full range of services and supplies are located at Stockton State Park, Mutton Creek, and Orleans Trail. Locations of parks and a list of facilities are furnished on the map side of this pamphlet.

Persons 62 or older may obtain a Golden Age Passport for a one-time \$10 fee which allows the holder a 50 percent discount on Federal use fees.

The Golden Access Passport is issued free to the blind or permanently disabled. The passport provides a 50% discount on Federal use fees. Both passports may be obtained at the project office. They must be applied for in person and proof of age or disability must be furnished.

## While You Are Here

In order to manage the parks and natural resources and ensure that visitors have a safe and enjoyable recreation experience, guidelines have been established to assist visitors. Please observe all posted regulations and familiarize yourself with rules governing park use. Copies of these rules (Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations) may be obtained at the project office or from gate attendants and rangers.

## Remember the Basics for Water Safety

### Boating

- Drinking and boating do not mix
- Obey all the state boating laws
- Watch for obstructions near the shoreline
- Be alert for changing weather conditions and head for shore immediately if bad weather threatens
- Always wear an approved personal flotation device
- Stay out of restricted areas
- Watch for swimmers and other boats



### Swimming

- Swim and wade only where you are familiar with water depth and bottom conditions
- Do not swim alone
- Watch children closely
- Be sure water is deep enough before diving
- Swimmers must not swim in boat channels or around launching ramps and docks

## Stockton Lake Horse Trail



### Please Observe Trail Rules

- Horses must be walked while in the trailhead area
- Horses should not be tied directly to trees
- Please - No bathing horses near water Spigots
- Horses Cannot Be Ridden in Parks Beyond the trailhead area
- Horses should not enter lake
- No littering; leave a clean campsite
- Follow safe hiking and riding practices
- Camping available at both trailheads

## Stockton History

Osage Indians controlled the area when the French first explored this region. By the late 18th Century, traditional Osage culture had been changed considerably because of European contact and trade influence. Pressure by Euro-American settlers in the last part of the 18th Century, prompted southeastern tribes such as Cherokee, Chicksaw and Choctaw, to infiltrate traditional Osage lands. Increasing pressures from settlers, other tribes and the U.S. Government led to the 1825 treaty which expelled the Osage from Missouri.

The removal of the Osage and other Indian tribes from southwestern Missouri opened the way for new Euro-American immigrants. The City of Stockton was first platted as Lancaster, later changed to Fremont, and named Stockton in 1859 in honor of a Mexican War Commander, I.F. Stockton. Most of the original town was destroyed during the Civil War.

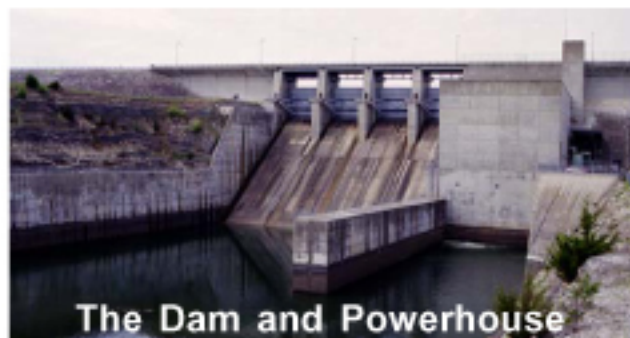


### Fish and Wildlife

Whether you are an avid fisherman, hunter, or weekend naturalist, Stockton offers an abundance of fish and wildlife for your enjoyment. Small coves along the lakeshore provide hundreds of protected fishing spots. The lake, fed by clear streams, is populated with many different species of fish, including black bass, white bass, walleye, bluegill, crappie, and catfish.

Lands surrounding the lake provide excellent hunting opportunities for quail, dove, squirrel, raccoon, rabbit, deer, and turkey. Waterfowl, including both ducks and geese, are usually found at the lake in the fall. All public lands around the lake are open to hunting except the parks and waterfowl refuge. The Missouri Department of Conservation manages the refuge to enhance the populations of both game and non-game wildlife species.





**The Dam and Powerhouse**

Construction of Stockton Dam began in October 1963, and the project was placed in operation in December 1969. The dam consists of an earth/rock embankment, concrete spillway, and the hydroelectric power plant. Water released through the power plant produces electric energy which is marketed by the Southwest Power Administration [www.swpa.gov/generation.htm](http://www.swpa.gov/generation.htm). Four large spillway gates can be used during flood release operations to supplement discharges made through the power plant. The design of the gated spillway prevents overtopping the dam and permits the controlled release of excess flood water.

The powerhouse contains a single turbine-generator unit which transforms the energy of moving water into electrical energy. Water is channeled through a gigantic intake tube where it spins the turbine blades. The turbine turns coils of wire in the generator to convert mechanical energy into electricity. This electricity is distributed to meet peak electrical energy demands for homes, businesses, and industry.

## The Lake

Stockton Lake, on the Sac River, is nestled among the rolling, tree-covered hills at the western edge of the Missouri Ozarks. The 24,900-acre lake reached normal operating pool level of 867 feet above mean sea level in December 1971.

In 1998, Stockton Lake began providing an additional source of drinking water for the City of Springfield. An agreement between City Utilities of Springfield and the Corps of Engineers will provide approximately 7 million gallons of water per day for Springfield residents until the year 2040 when that number will increase to 30 million gallons per day.



Location Map

- FROM DAM SITE**
- To Nevada - 44 Miles
  - To Springfield - 51 Miles
  - To Joplin - 83 Miles
  - To Kansas City - 136 Miles
  - To Jefferson City - 140 Miles
  - To St. Louis - 269 Miles



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers.**

Kansas City District

**For Additional Information Contact:**

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