

# Perry Lake

## Kansas



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers** ®  
Kansas City District

#### **Perry Lake Project Office**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
10419 Perry Park Drive  
Perry, KS 66073  
(785) 597-5144

E-Mail: [perry.lake@nwk02.usace.army.mil](mailto:perry.lake@nwk02.usace.army.mil)  
[www.nwk.usace.army.mil/perry/perry\\_home.htm](http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/perry/perry_home.htm)

#### **Perry State Park**

Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks  
5441 West Lake Road  
Ozawkie, KS 66070  
(785) 246-2449

E-Mail: [perryssp@wp.state.ks.us](mailto:perryssp@wp.state.ks.us)  
Web: [www.kdwp.state.ks.us](http://www.kdwp.state.ks.us)



#### **Perry Wildlife Area**

Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks  
P.O. Box 21  
Valley Falls, KS 66088  
(785) 945 6615

E-Mail: [bradr@wp.state.ks.us](mailto:bradr@wp.state.ks.us)  
Web: [www.kdwp.state.ks.us](http://www.kdwp.state.ks.us)



#### **Jefferson County Economic Development**

P.O. Box 104  
300 Jefferson  
Oskaloosa, KS 66066  
1-800-896-3198

E-Mail: [jcede@ruralnet1.com](mailto:jcede@ruralnet1.com)  
Web: [www.jfcountyks.com](http://www.jfcountyks.com)



## Welcome to Perry Lake



Jefferson County - Paradise on the Plains

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers welcomes you to beautiful Perry Lake in Jefferson County. Perry Lake offers numerous opportunities for outdoor recreation. Other nearby activities in Jefferson County include browsing through antique shops, visiting historical villages, and of course discovering the rich Kansas history that our region has to provide. Jefferson County is a wonderful place to be, for the fun of it!

### Benefits

Congress authorized the construction of Perry Lake with passage of the River and Harbors Act in 1954. Authorized purposes for its construction included flood control, recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, navigational releases and water storage for downstream communities. Construction progressed throughout the 1960's, with a final dedication in 1969. Perry Lake has prevented over \$4 billion in flood damages since it began operation in 1969. Total cost of construction was just under \$50 million, recouping its cost nearly 80 times over.



### Corps of Engineers Parks

Parks operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are conveniently located around the lake.

The Corps charges user fees for camping, shelter reservations, boat launching, the swimming beach and special events. The amount of the fee is based upon the type of facilities provided. Visitors must remember the Perry State Park is not a Corps of Engineers park and therefore does not honor camping or day use permits sold by the Corps of Engineers and vice versa. Holders of Golden Age and Golden Access Passports receive a fifty-percent discount on the user fees in all Corps parks.

Longview Park, Old Town Park, Rock Creek Park, and Slough Creek Park provide camping, with over 500 individual campsites available. In addition, Longview Park and Slough Creek Park have group campgrounds.

The National Recreation Reservation Service (NRRS) is a partnership between the US Army Corps of Engineers, US Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Reclamation, and the Bureau of Land Management to provide a "one-stop" shopping experience for a wide range of recreation facilities on federal lands. Reservations are possible for campsites, picnic shelters, and group camp areas through a toll-free phone number (877-444-6777, TDD 877-833-6777), the web [www.ReserveUSA.com](http://www.ReserveUSA.com) and at selected field locations.





## Perry State Park

Situated amidst woodlands, the park offers some of the finest mountain bike and equestrian trails in the state. The park hosts a horse campground for equestrian trail-users.

Campers will find ample opportunity for various types of camping in the Perry State Park. There are 124 sites with electricity and water hookups and 250 primitive sites available for camping. Showers and toilets are located in close proximity to all campgrounds. Perry State Park provides two boat ramps that are very close to the infamous fishing hole, the "Hog Trough."



A motor vehicle permit is required for every motorized vehicle entering the state park. A camping permit is also required for overnight camping. These permits may be purchased at the state park office during normal business hours; otherwise a self-pay station is available. Hunting licenses, fishing licenses and boat registration can be obtained at the park office.

## Perry Wildlife Area



The Perry Wildlife Area is located on the northern part of Perry Lake. Opportunities abound with over 10,000 acres of land available for hunting and wildlife viewing. Designated marsh areas are marked on map. Together, the marsh areas comprise nearly 1,000 acres of wetlands. During dry years, water is pumped to some of the marsh areas to ensure adequate water levels.

Two refuge areas are maintained within the Perry Wildlife Area. A handicapped/youth hunting area is open year-round to hunters 16 years of age and younger. Statewide special youth restrictions apply. Consult posted signs at entrances throughout the wildlife area for pertinent rules and regulations.

The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks works throughout the year on wildlife enhancement programs such as tree and shrub plantings, food plots, habitat brush piles, controlled burns, erosion control, and an agricultural lease program.



## Water Safety

Perry Lake is the destination for fishermen, boaters, and swimmers throughout the year. Always remember to know and follow the basic rules of water safety. Water and alcoholic beverages do not mix. Most of all, wear your life jacket, your life depends on it!



### Boating

- Obey all state boating laws and ensure that your boat is equipped with proper safety equipment
- Know your buoys and what they mean
- Stay at least 100 feet from the control tower
- Watch for obstructions throughout the lake
- Be alert for changing weather conditions and head for shore immediately if bad weather threatens
- Do not overload your boat

### Swimming

- Never swim alone
- Swim and wade only where you are familiar with water depth and conditions
- Watch children closely
- Do not swim in boat channels or around launching ramps and docks

### Skiing

- Stay in open water, away from other boats and out of restricted areas
- Always have two people in the boat when skiing; one to steer and one to watch the skier

### Personal Watercraft (PWC)

- Operate at no wake speeds (5 mph or less) near docks, boat ramps, swimmers, moored or anchored boats, or non-motorized watercraft
- Operators 12-15 years of age must be accompanied by a person over 17 years of age or they must have completed an approved safe boating course.

### Additional Information

<http://watersafety.usace.army.mil/>

## Trails

**Perry Lake Trail** is a 30 mile long hiking trail with its main trailhead in Slough Creek Park and major access points at Longview Park and Old Military Trail. The trail is a designated National Recreation Trail and is well known for its panoramic, breathtaking views.

**Thunder Ridge Trail** is an interpretive trail approximately 2.5 miles long located at Slough Creek Park. Several stops along the trail provide a glimpse of the local habitat.

**Delaware Marsh Trail** is another interpretive trail approximately 1.7 miles long located at the Delaware Marsh south of the dam. Interpretive stops along the way provide hikers a brief overview of a wetlands habitat and its management.

**State Championship Tree Trail** is located at the site of the State Championship Cottonwood Tree near Ozawkie. Hikers proceed on a 1 mile loop into a heavily wooded area and emerge again at the site of the historic tree.

**Perry Mountain Bike Trail** is located at the Perry State Park. The trail is nearly 20 miles long with moderate to difficult terrain. The trail is known nationwide for its well-designed layout and is a challenge for even the most experienced riders.



**Perry Lake ATV and Motorcycle Trail** is located at the Outlet Park south of the dam. The total trail acreage is 140 acres with easy to difficult terrain. A children's ride area, picnic shelter and restrooms are located at the parking area.

**Equestrian Trail** is located throughout Perry State Park and Rock Creek Park. Equestrian riders will enjoy a 25 mile long trail winding through upland forest habitat.



## Hunting

Perry Lake has approximately 21,600 acres of public land managed for wildlife.

Hunting is permitted on most public lands, including agriculture leases, with the exception of several restricted areas that are clearly marked on the map. Perry Lake has two refuge areas that are closed to hunting from October 1 thru January 15 of each year. Hunting is permitted in these two areas outside of those dates. From September 1 until October 16, waterfowl hunting will be prohibited in some areas as indicated on the map.

Public lands are delineated by yellow survey marker signs mounted on yellow posts.

Remember that every ethical hunter should respect the rights of neighboring landowners and ask permission before hunting on private property. Always make sure of your target and impact area before shooting. Perry Lake does not have any area available for target shooting or sighting in of firearms.

All public hunting lands and refuge areas are subject to Kansas State laws and regulations.

Report violators of fish and game laws to the local Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks Conservation Officer or report it to Outdoor Alert at 1-800-228-4263.

## Fishing

Perry Lake has a dynamic fishery dominated by a few sport fish, white crappie, channel catfish, white bass and sauger. White crappie are the most sought after of the four species with good numbers of large fish produced on an annual basis. Fish over 1.5 lbs are fairly common, drawing local as well as national tournaments. The Rock Creek area offers good ice fishing while the Old Town area offers very good fall and open water fishing.

The channel catfish fishery has similar notoriety. The Hog Trough is an area that fishermen have used for thirty years to catch fish. Two fish feeders are also used to assist bank fishermen in catching fish. The best spots for catching channel catfish are on the mud flats in the upper end of the reservoir into the Delaware River.

White bass offer exciting top water fishing and non-stop action. These fish run up the Delaware River in March and April providing more rod bending fun. Sauger are doing well with Perry Lake providing brood fish for the rest of Kansas. Fishermen love the opportunity to catch a large record-sized sauger as several have been netted at Perry Lake.

### Fisheries Biologist Perry State Park

Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks  
5441 West Lake Road  
Ozawkie, KS 66070  
(785)246-2449



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of Engineers**

## Jefferson County Economic Development

The Jefferson County Economic Development Commission was formed to promote economic growth in Jefferson County by encouraging tourism and helping local businesses. Listed below are attractions to visit during your stay in Jefferson County.

**Village Green Golf Course** is located 1/4 mile east of the intersection of K-4 and K-92 Highways.

**State Championship Tree Park** is the location of one of the largest Eastern Cottonwood trees in the state of Kansas. The tree measures over 29.5 feet around the trunk and is over 112 feet tall. The park is located 1 mile west of Ozawkie on K-92 highway.

**Old Jefferson Town** is a recreation of an historical village from the 1860s. The site contains a church, school buildings, mercantiles, homes, the old Winchester Jail, and the John Stuart Curry Art Gallery. The village is located in Oskaloosa on US-59 highway.

**Meriden Antique Engine and Threshing Association** maintains a replicated historical village containing a working sawmill, grain elevator, restored church, a mercantile and other displays dating from the 1870s. The village is located north of Meriden on K-4 highway.



**Valley Falls Historical Museum** is housed in a native limestone structure built around 1870. Many historical artifacts are on display. The museum is located in the city of Valley Falls.

**Rees Fruit Farm** sells fruit, cider and produce. The farm is located at the intersection of K-4 and US-24 highways.

**Cedar Falls Bed and Breakfast** is located north of Perry on Ferguson Road.

**The Barn** is a bed and breakfast inn located south of Valley Falls on K-4 highway.

**Inn The Country Bed & Breakfast** - located on Linn St. in Valley Falls.

## Partnerships

Managing over 30,000 acres of land at Perry Lake is a daunting task for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Fortunately, many organizations assist the Corps of Engineers through partnerships, outgrants and leases.

**Kansas Trails Council** maintains and administers the Perry State Park Mountain Bike Trail and the Perry Hiking Trail.

**Kansas All-Terrain Vehicle Association** maintains and oversees the ATV and Motorcycle Trail.

**Jefferson County Economic Development and Glacial Hills Development Resource and Conservation** has a partnership to develop the State Championship Tree Park.

**Capital City Radio Control Club** maintains an area for a model airplane maneuver area.

**Topeka USD 501** administers an area for youth outdoor education.

**Seaman USD 345** maintains an environmental study area.

**Topeka Audubon Society** oversees two parcels of land, one as an untouched sanctuary, and the other for nature study and bird watching.

**Perry Yacht Club** provides dock and storage for nearly 150 sailing yachts.

**Rock Creek Marina** facilities include a restaurant, store, gas dock, maintenance and storage buildings and boat slips. They may be contacted at (785) 484-2656.

**Perry Yacht and Marina** facilities include a restaurant, store, gas dock, maintenance and storage buildings and boat slips. They may be contacted at (785) 597-5555.

**City of Valley Falls** manages ball fields, trails, boat ramp and a campground.

**City of Ozawkie** maintains a recreation site providing access to the shoreline for the general public.

**Jefferson West Ball Association** oversees a public recreation area.

**Pheasants Forever** manages a wetland, trail, and two picnic areas for nature study & youth education.

**Jefferson County Conservation District** manages a wetlands area, trail, and shelter for wildlife habitat and youth education.

**Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks** manages Perry State Park and the Perry Wildlife area.

**ABATE of Kansas** manages a portion of Paradise Point Park as a quasi-public recreation area.