

Please let wild animals remain wild. Feeding of deer is prohibited. Feeding of all wild animals can result in harm to both animals and people. Animals who depend on handouts become a nuisance to park visitors and a danger to themselves. Please lock up all food and coolers inside cars or campers. Roll up car windows tightly. Visitors should report raccoon or other wildlife problems to the park office.

PLEASE STAY ON MARKED TRAILS.

1. EASY (1 mile)—Circles wildlife exhibit, starting at exhibit parking lot.
2. EASY (1.5 miles)—Begins at north end of campground. Winds north through pine plantation, then south along swimming pool complex and back east to campground.
3. EASY (1.5 miles)—Begins at north end of campground, travels east through magnificent stand of oak and hickory, passes a woodland marsh, and winds back to the point of origin.
4. MODERATE (3 miles)—Begins at wildlife exhibit, branches north through heavy pine plantations, then west through more pines, hawthorn, etc., and back east along the southern edge of Kunkel Lake to the point of origin.
5. MODERATE (6 miles)—The "Ouabache Trail" begins at the wildlife exhibit and circles the entire property, using portions of all trails. Trail 5 may be started and finished at any trail entrance. The trail will take you through virtually all types of trees and terrain available in the area. Several interesting footbridges dot the trail.

DESCRIPTION OF TRAILS

ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

BOATS, CANOES, PADDLEBOATS—For rental by day or hour. Lifejackets available. Private boats may be launched for daily fee. Only electric trolling motors, powered by no more than 12-volt batteries, are allowed.

CAMPING—Electric and primitive youth tent sites for approved groups only. Campground equipped with flush toilets, hot water and showers. Occupancy limited to 14 consecutive nights. Most sites will accommodate trailers. No full hookups, but waterfill station and dump station available. Reservations available through the Central Reservation System.

FIRE TOWER—A 100-foot tower offers scenic views of the entire area. An adult must accompany children climbing the fire tower.

FISHING—Bass, bluegill, etc. State license required. Contact park office for license purchases.

HIKING—Miles of moderate trails—**no bicycle or vehicles of any kind permitted on hiking trails.**

INTERPRETIVE NATURALIST SERVICE—Explore the world of natural resources while enjoying interpretive and recreational programs. Seasonal naturalist on staff. Program schedules at InterpretiveServices.IN.gov or (260) 824-0926.

PAVED BIKE TRAIL-2¼ miles—Asphalt trail connects east end of park south of campground to bridge at 450 East and Bluffton's Rivergreenway Trail.

LODGE RECREATION BUILDING—Rustic building with fireplace, kitchen facilities and parking. Reservations up to one year in advance available through the Central Reservation System. Contact park office for details.

PICNICKING—Two modern picnic shelters, one open shelter, many tables, and charcoal grills. Playground equipment throughout the park and softball field with backstop. Reservations for shelters are available through the Central Reservation System.

SWIMMING—Olympic-size pool and waterslide, diving boards and wading pool. Open the Saturday before Memorial Day to no later than Labor Day. Limited hours during late May, early June and late August.

TENNIS / BASKETBALL COURTS—Located near the swimming pool, both of these courts are equipped with lights and available first-come, first-served.

WILDLIFE—A 20-acre exhibit consisting of American bison in a natural setting.

For a complete list of rules and regulations, inquire at park office.

- All motorized vehicles shall remain on paved roadway. Snowmobiles and horseback riding are prohibited.
- Report lost or found articles to the park office.
- Drinking water should be taken only from pumps, hydrants or fountains provided for that purpose. This water is tested regularly for purity.
- Swimming is limited to Olympic-size pool during times designated by the DNR.
- Motorists shall observe posted speed limits and park only in designated areas.
- Please comply with the Carry In/Carry Out trash policy in all day-use areas. Overnight guests must put waste in receptacles provided for that purpose.
- Fires shall be built only in designated places.
- Camping is permitted only in the campground. No youth groups are permitted in the family campground.
- Vending or advertising without permission of the Department of Natural Resources is prohibited.
- Dogs and cats must be attended at all times and kept on a leash no longer than 6 feet.
- Any firearm (except validly licensed handguns) BB in possession in a state park must be unloaded or un-loaded and stored in a case or locked within a vehicle, except when the owner is participating in an activity authorized by written permit.
- Do not injure or damage any structure, rock, tree, brush or trees (either dead or alive) for firewood flower, bird or wild animal. Do NOT gather limbs, tree, rock, tree, etc.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Visitors shall observe the following rules, which are designed to fulfill the purpose for which state parks were established, namely, to preserve a primitive landscape in its natural condition for the public's use and enjoyment.

THIS IS YOUR PARK

CENTRAL RESERVATION SYSTEM

Reservations for all types of camping, family cabins, and shelters at state parks, reservoirs and forests can be made online or by calling toll-free.

camp.IN.gov
1-866-6campIN
(1-866-622-6746)



Reservations for the Indiana State Park Inns and Inn-operated cabins can be made online or by calling toll-free.

IndianalInns.com
1-877-lodges1
(1-877-563-4371)



Please carry out all trash you produce in order to keep your park clean and beautiful for others to enjoy.

FOR MORE INFORMATION



Write: Ouabache State Park
4930 E. St. Road 201
Bluffton, IN 46714
Call: (260) 824-0926
FAX: (260) 824-9402



Indiana Department of Natural Resources
dnr.IN.gov

SPECIAL NOTE

Receipts from admission and service charges are used to help defray the operation and maintenance costs of the park. List of fees available in the park office.

The programs, services, facilities, and activities of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources are available to everyone. DNR prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information please write to: Department of Natural Resources, Executive Office, 402 W. Washington St., W256, Indianapolis, IN 46204, (317) 232-4020.

DNR Indiana Department of Natural Resources

INDIANA

OUABACHE STATE PARK



This area of Wells County was once occupied by the Miami, whose villages flanked the banks of the river that bears the name Wabash, the pronunciation of which matches that of the state park, Ouabache.

In 1829, the first settler built a cabin along the river, near the eventual state park site. After the Native Americans were removed to reservations in Kansas and Oklahoma during the 1830s and '40s, the area was rapidly settled and cleared for farming.

Ouabache was first acquired and operated as the Wells County State Forest and Game Preserve in the early 1930s. By that time the area had been cleared of most of its mature timber stands and, as a result, was severely eroded. The area gradually returned to a more natural state through the efforts of the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) and the WPA (Works Progress Administration) programs of reforestation

also is popular with hikers and joggers. The entire trail east edge of Bluffton. This 10-foot-wide paved trail park boundaries and follows the Wabash River to the gatehouse, connects to a Rivergreenway Trail outside northern boundary. Many types of wildlife such as deer, fox and squirrels are frequent companions along park roads and throughout the property. Motorists should watch for park visitors and wildlife. Please obey posted speed limits and drive cautiously.

any kind are prohibited on the trail. The Wabash River winds along the southern edge of the park, while county Road 100 South is the northern boundary. Many types of wildlife such as deer, fox and squirrels are frequent companions along park roads and throughout the property. Motorists should watch for park visitors and wildlife. Please obey posted speed limits and drive cautiously.

An asphalt bike trail, accessible at the entrance the fire tower. commonly known as buffalo, is located just north of kel Lake. A wildlife exhibit featuring American bison, playfields, and boating and fishing on 25-acre Kun-Olympic-size swimming pool, tennis and basketball courts, seasonal naturalist service, picnic areas, state park. Features include a modern campground, In 1983, the State Recreation Area became a existence.

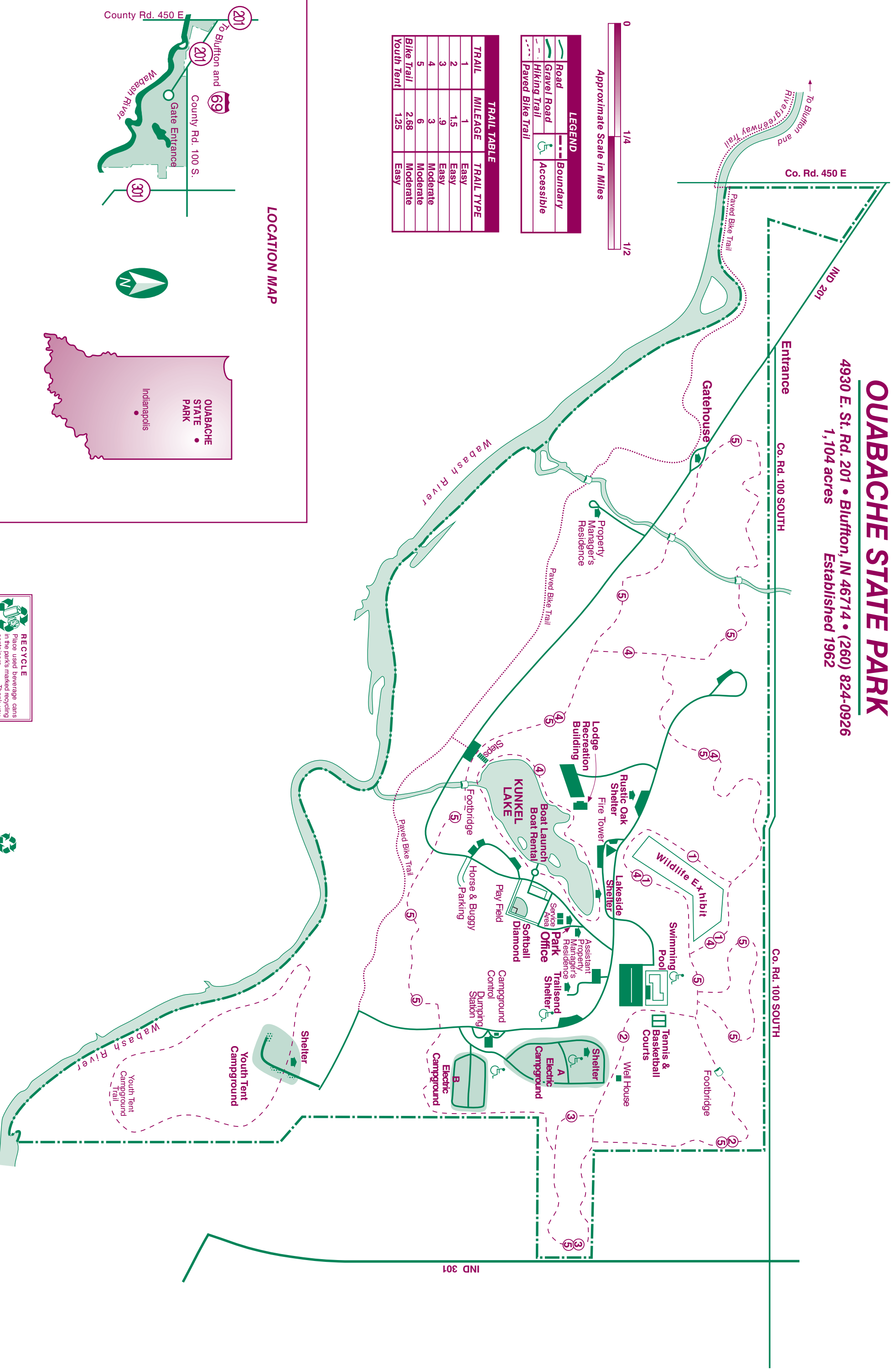
By the early 1960s the game-raising program was phased out. In 1962 the park was designated the Division of State Parks. These days, other than the park's appearance scarcely resembles that of its early existence.

At one time the park was widely acclaimed as the "Greatest Wildlife Laboratory in the United States" for its raising of pheasants, quail, raccoons and rabbits. One can still see remnants of their old pens along some of the trails.

and land management. Their major activities included constructing the various buildings and shelters of native stone and timber, planting for a nursery and developing a game preserve.

OUABACHE STATE PARK

4930 E. St. Rd. 201 • Bluffton, IN 46714 • (260) 824-0926
 1,104 acres Established 1962



RECYCLE
 Place used beverage cans
 in the parks marked recycling
 containers. Thank you.

Printed on Recycled Paper