

VILLAGE CREEK STATE PARK

Village Creek State Park is located in east-central Arkansas just 40 miles west of Memphis. The historical heritage of the park is both fascinating and colorful. Pioneer settlers moved into the area during the early 1800's. In 1821, Congress authorized construction of the Old Military Road. Completed in 1829, it provided the first real access to the area for settlers. Also called the Memphis to Little Rock road, it became a major route of Indian Removal for Creek, Chickasaw, and 600 Cherokees between 1832 and 1850. A Post Office was established by 1826 with the mail route following the Military Road. Today's park includes a portion of the now historic road and some of the land owned by William Strong, the area's first Postmaster.

The 7,000 acres comprising the park are situated entirely upon an unusual geologic formation called Crowley's Ridge. Park facilities are centered in a long, wide valley which runs through the center of the park land. This valley has been cut into the eastern side of Crowley's Ridge by the erosive action of Village Creek.

Covering most of this rugged terrain is a mixed hardwood forest. The forest community in the park and on Crowley's Ridge differs distinctly from any other area of Arkansas. Several tree species commonly seen in the woods at Village Creek are uncommon to the rest of the state, such as beech, sugar maple, butternut, cucumber tree, and tuliptree or yellow poplar.

FACILITIES

Lodging ♦ Nestled in the woods along a ridge near Lake Dunn are 10 modern housekeeping cabins (1, 2, and 3 bedrooms; one 2-bedroom unit is barrier-free). These cabins are fully furnished including kitchen utensils and linens, plus air conditioning and heating for year-round vacation comfort. Woodburning fireplaces, ceiling fans, televisions, screened-in porches, picnic tables, and grills make these beautiful cabins the perfect place for a weekend or weeklong "get away."

Camping ♦ There are 96 campsites situated around Lake Dunn. Included are 24 Premium A sites, 5 Standard A sites, and 67 Standard B sites (equestrian camp features all Standard B sites.) Each offers dual voltage electrical outlets, freeze-proof water hookups, a table and grill. Five modern bathhouses, two sanitary trailer stations, a swimming beach, playground, boat dock and launch ramp are conveniently

located in or near the campgrounds.

Fishing and Boating ♦ Village Creek contains two lakes - Lake Dunn and Lake Austell. Lake Dunn offers a bait shop and dock where fishing boats, electric motors, kayaks and pedal boats can be rented. The boat rentals are available on weekends in April and May and Tuesday through Sunday from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Both lakes offer swim beaches and are stocked with bass, bream, crappie and channel catfish. (**Note:** Both lakes are restricted to electric motors.)

Day Use Facilities ♦ Scenic and spacious picnic areas with tables, grills, water and modern bathhouse are available in the Lake Austell Day Use Area. A playground and swimming beach with sun deck overlook the lake. There are four covered rental pavilions located in the picnic area. Call or come by the Visitor Center to reserve these popular facilities.

Visitor Center Complex ♦ The Visitor Center houses an audiovisual theater, grocery store, gift shop and park offices. The Discovery Room is located adjacent to the Visitor Center and exhibits the geologic history and natural communities of Crowley's Ridge. An auditorium is located next to the Discovery Room for musical performances, special events and private use.

Other Facilities ♦ Hospitals, motels, restaurants and other facilities are nearby in Wynne or Forrest City.

NOTE: Campers **must** register at the Visitor Center **before** occupying a site. All sites are reservable and may be reserved up to one year in advance. Pavilions must be reserved at the Visitor Center before being used (deposit required). Cabins may be reserved by contacting the Visitor Center. Service animals are welcome in all facilities.

INTERPRETIVE SERVICES

Programs ♦ A variety of natural and environmental educational programs, guided hikes and activities are offered daily throughout the summer months. Organized groups may request programs of specific interest year-round. Arrangements must be made in advance.

Trails ♦ The **Big Ben Nature Trail** meanders one-half mile along Village Creek. A self-guided trail information brochure is available at the Visitor Center. The **Austell Hiking Trail** extends over one mile from the Visitor Center to the picnic area through lush forest and some of the park's most rugged and scenic

terrain. Five more miles of hiking trails in addition to 15 miles of horse trails through the park's natural areas offer nature enthusiasts the chance to view the haunts of white-tailed deer, wild turkey, and many varieties of small game and birds.

Special Events ♦ A variety of special events are held throughout the year such as Spring Wildflower Walks, Fall Foliage Weekend and musical performances. Call or write the park for dates and details.

LOCATION

Take Exit 242 off I-40 just east of Forrest City and travel 13 miles north on State Hwy. 284; OR, travel 6 miles south on Hwy. 284 from Wynne.

For further information on park hours, programs, or services, contact:

Village Creek State Park
201 CR 754

Wynne, AR 72396

Telephone: (870) 238-9406

For cabin reservations ONLY call 1-800-264-2467
e-mail: villagecreek@arkansas.com

For information on Arkansas's other fine state parks, contact:

Arkansas State Parks
One Capitol Mall, 4A-900
Little Rock, AR 72201
Telephone: (501) 682-1191
www.ArkansasStateParks.com



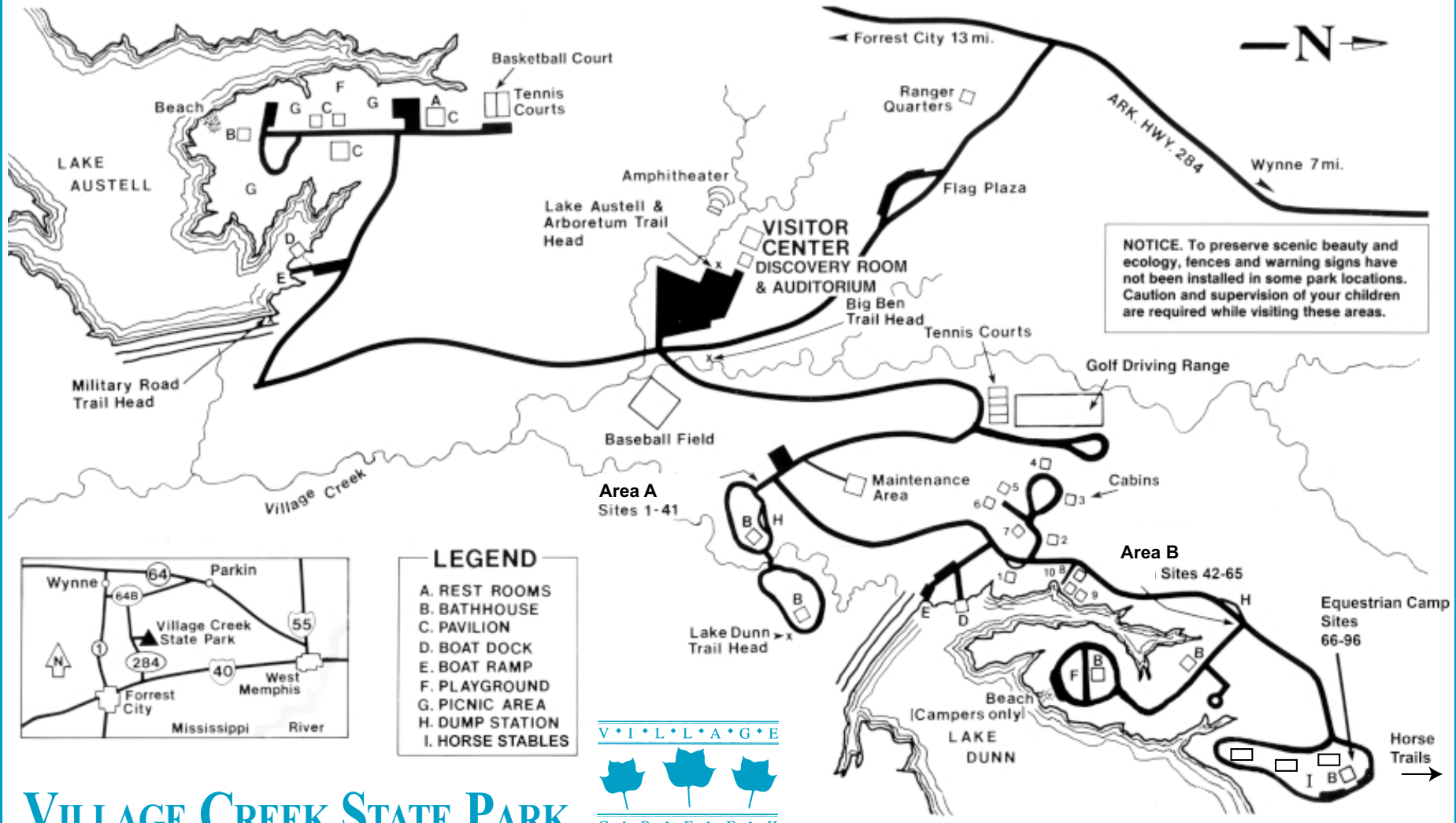
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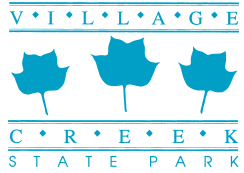
VILLAGE CREEK STATE PARK



ARKANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & TOURISM



VILLAGE CREEK STATE PARK



Forrest City 13 mi.

ARK. HWY. 284

Wynne 7 mi.

