

2024 Edition



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Rock Island District

LAKE RED ROCK'S SUMMER FUN GUIDE

Programs and Activities for Spring/Summer 2024



www.lakeredrock.org

May

- 18—Vessel Safety Check**
10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.—Whitebreast Ramp
- 24—Creatures of the Night Hike**
9:00 p.m.—Howell Station Campground
- 25—Playscape Planting Day**
10:00 a.m.—Playscape
- 25—Meet Bobber, the Water Safety Dog!**
2:00 p.m.—Wallashuck Campground
- 31—Wetland Exploration**
7:00 p.m.—South Tailwater Rec. Area

June

- 1—Raptor Identification**
10:00 a.m.—Red Rock Visitor Center
- 1—Meet Bobber, the Water Safety Dog!**
2:00 p.m.—North Overlook Campground
- 4—Nature Playtime**
10:00 a.m.—Playscape
- 7—Geocaching**
7:00 p.m.—Howell Station Campground
- 14—Let's Go Paddling!**
5:00-7:00 p.m.—Roberts Creek
- 15—Owl Pellet Investigation**
10:00 a.m.—Red Rock Visitor Center
- 15—Saving Iowa's Wildlife, One Bird at a Time**
1:00 p.m.—Red Rock Visitor Center
- 19—Junior Rangers (for kids 8-10 yrs.)**
9 a.m.— 3 p.m. -pre-registration required
(call the Corps office for details)
- 20—Outdoor Adventurers (for kids 11-12 yrs)**
9 a.m.— 3 p.m.—pre-registration required
(Call the Corps office for details)
- 21—Stargazing 101**
9:30 p.m.—Whitebreast Campground
- 22—Tree I.D. Hike**
10:00 a.m.—Whitebreast Campground

June, Continued

- 22— Geology of the Cliffs of Cordova**
6:30 p.m.—Cordova Park Office
- 22—Stargazing 101**
9:30 p.m.—Whitebreast Campground
- 27—Nature Explorers (for kids 13-14 yrs)**
9 a.m.— 3 p.m. -pre-registration required
(call the Corps office for details)
- 28—Nature's Fireworks: Fireflies**
9:00 p.m.— Howell Station Campground
- 29—ISU Insect Zoo: Bugs Make the World Go Round**
10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.—Visitor Center
- 29— Meet Bobber, the Water Safety Dog!**
2:00 p.m.—North Overlook Beach

July

- 5—Forest Scavenger Hunt**
7:00 p.m.—Howell Station Camp.
- 6—Owl Pellet Investigation**
10:00 a.m.—Red Rock Visitor Center
- 9—Junior Rangers (for kids 8-10 yrs.)**
9 a.m.— 3 p.m. -pre-registration required
(call the Corps office for details)
- 12-14—Lake Red Rock Balloonfest**
(Visit www.lakeredrockballoonfest.com for details)
- 17—Outdoor Adventurers (for kids 11-12 yrs)**
9 a.m.— 3 p.m.—pre-registration required
(Call the Corps office for details)
- 19—Let's Go Paddling!**
5:00-7:00 p.m.—Roberts Creek
- 20—Iowa's Amazing Turtles**
10:00 a.m.—Howell Station Campground
- 20—First Nations:Those Who Have Gone Before**
1:00 p.m.—Red Rock Visitor Center
- 26—Nature Playtime**
7:00 p.m.—North Overlook Campground

July, Continued

27—Owl Pellet Investigation

10:00 a.m.—Red Rock Visitor Center

August

2—Let's Go Paddling!

5:00-7:00 p.m.—Roberts Creek

3—Raptor Identification

10:00 a.m.—Visitor Center

6—Nature Playtime

10:00 a.m.—Playscape

7—Red Rock Hydropower Project Tour

10:00 a.m. (pre-registration required—see program description for details)

8—Red Rock Hydropower Project Tour

10:00 a.m. (pre-registration required—see program description for details)

9—Red Rock Hydropower Project Tour

10:00 a.m. (pre-registration required—see program description for details)



10—Historic Town of Red Rock

1:00 p.m.—Red Rock Visitor Center

10—Meet Bobber, the Water Safety Dog!

3:00 p.m.—Whitebreast Beach

16—Creatures of the Night Hike

8:30 p.m.—Wallashuck Campground

17—Butterfly Safari

1:00 p.m.—Playscape

21—Historic Town of Red Rock

1:00 p.m.—Red Rock Visitor Center

23—Stargazing 101

9:30 p.m.—Whitebreast Campground

24—Tree I.D. Hike

10:00 a.m.—Whitebreast Campground

Attention 4th Graders: Get Your Pass for Free Access to Federal Lands and Waters!

Visit www.everykidoutdoors.gov to learn more!



August, Continued

24—Stargazing 101

9:30 p.m.—Campground

30—Let's Go Paddling!

5:00-7:00 p.m.—Roberts Creek

31—Owl Pellet Investigation

10:00 a.m.—Visitor Center

31—Meet Bobber, the Water Safety Dog!

2:00 p.m.—North Overlook Beach

September

21—Monarch Watch: Butterfly Tagging

10:00 a.m.—South Overlook Boat Ramp

Lake Red Rock Balloonfest



July 12-14th

at the
North Overlook Beach

For event details, please visit
www.lakeredrockballoonfest.com

Free Vessel Safety Checks

Sat., May 18—10 a.m.-1 p.m.—Whitebreast Ramp

Is your boat ready for the water!? Let's check your equipment including: life jackets, registration and numbering, navigation lights, ventilation, fire extinguishers, distress signals, and more. It only takes about 15-30 minutes, depending on the size of your boat, and it's free! No preregistration needed.

Creatures of the Night Hike

Fri., May 24 -9:00 p.m.—Howell Station Camp.

Fri., Aug. 16- 8:30 p.m.—Wallashuck Camp.

Hike along a woodland trail in search of the "Night Shift." Follow the tracks left behind by critters of the night and listen for owl calls and other lurking creatures!

Playscape Planting Day

Sat., May 25—10:00 a.m.—Playscape

Get your hands dirty planting seeds, flowers and herbs for this season's feast of the eyes and taste-buds! Gardeners of all ages welcome! You can also make a garden craft to take home!

Meet Bobber, the Water Safety Dog!

Sat., May 25—2:00 p.m.—Wallashuck Camp.

Sat., June 1—2:00 p.m.—N. Overlook Camp.

Sat., June 29—2:00 p.m.—N. Overlook Beach

Sat., Aug. 10—3:00 p.m.—Whitebreast Beach

Sat., Aug. 31—2:00 p.m.—N. Overlook Beach

Bobber is a fun loving pup that likes to meet new people and help them learn how to be safe around the water. Come meet him and pick up some great safety tips!

Wetland Exploration

Fri., May 31—7:00 p.m.—South Tailwater

Go "mucking" at one of the lake area's wetlands! Dip nets and tubs will be available for you to try and catch some of the critters swimming and crawling in and around the area! Mucking can be messy, so please wear old shoes and clothes.

Raptor Identification

Sat., June 1—10:00 a.m.—Visittor Center

Sat., Aug. 3—10:00 a.m.—Visitor Center

It's a bird.... It's a plane....no, it's a Raptor! But what kind of raptor? Let's learn how to identify them together!

Nature Playtime

Tues., June 4—10:00 a.m.—Playscape

Fri., July 26—7:00 p.m.—N. Overlook Camp.

Tues., Aug. 6—10:00 a.m.—Playscape

Nature is full of great adventures and new things to see, hear, smell, and touch! Young children and their families can join us for short activities to investigate the world. Activities will have a different theme and may include stories, hikes, songs, or crafts!

Geocaching

Fri., June 7—7:00 p.m.-Howell Station Camp.

You're never too old for hide-and-seek: have some fun and give geocaching a try! This sport uses the technology of GPS (Global Positioning System) to hunt for caches hidden in an area. Bring your own smartphone with the geocaching app, a GPS unit, or borrow a GPS from us. Learn some of the basics, then try it on your own anywhere you travel!

Let's Go Paddling!

Fri., June 14—5:00-7:00 p.m.—Roberts Creek

Fri., July 19—5:00-7:00 p.m.—Roberts Creek

Fri., Aug. 2—5:00-7:00 p.m.—Roberts Creek

Fri., Aug. 30—5:00-7:00 p.m.—Roberts Creek

Experience both canoeing and kayaking in the same day! Give one or both types of watercraft a try and see how much fun paddling can be! (You must be at least 10 years old to use kayaks. Life jackets will be provided. Programs may be cancelled if inclement weather and wind conditions.)



Owl Pellet Investigation

Sat., June 15—10:00 a.m.—Visitor Center

Sat., July 6—10:00 a.m.—Visitor Center

Sat., July 27—10:00 a.m.—Visitor Center

Sat., Aug. 31—10:00 a.m.—Visitor Center

Take a closer look at what owls leave behind after they eat! You'll get your own owl pellet to dissect. Search through the bones to figure out what critter became its last meal!

Saving Iowa's Wildlife, One Bird at a Time

Sat., June 15—1:00 p.m.—Visitor Center

Come learn about Iowa Bird Rehabilitation's mission, hear their stories, and see how they are creating a future for our feathered friends.

Junior Rangers (preregistration required)

Wed., June 19—9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Tues., July 9—9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Attention boys and girls! If you are between the ages of 8 and 10 years old and would like to learn what it's like to be a Park Ranger at Lake Red Rock, sign up for one of these day camps. For more information, contact the Corps office.

Outdoor Adventurers (preregistration required)

Thurs., June 20—9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Wed., July 17—9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Boys and girls ages 11-12 years old: Have fun learning how to build a fire, make an emergency shelter, perform basic wilderness first aid, learn basic GPS skills, and paddle a kayak! Group size is limited and pre-registration is required. For more information, please contact the Corps office.

Stargazing 101

Fri., June 21 - 9:30 p.m. - Whitebreast Camp.

Sat., June 22- 9:30 p.m.—Whitebreast Camp.

Fri., Aug. 23—9:30 p.m.—Whitebreast Camp.

Sat., Aug. 24—9:30 p.m.— Whitebreast Camp.

Join Dr. Lee Wymore, amateur stargazer and retired biology teacher at Indian Hills Community College, to learn to identify some stars and constellations in our galaxy, the Milky Way. He'll

bring an 8" Dobsonian reflector telescope to observe the wonders of the night sky (cancelled if cloudy/raining)

Tree I.D. Hike

Sat. June 22 - 10:00 a.m. - Whitebreast Camp.

Sat., Aug. 24—10:00 a.m.—Whitebreast Camp.

Come see the forest for the trees! Take a look at some of the different species growing along the Stu Kuyper Nature Trail and pick up a few tips how to identify them on your next outing!

Geology of the Cliffs of Cordova

Sat., June 22—6:30 p.m.—Cordova Park Office

The sandstone bluffs ringing much of Lake Red Rock have an interesting geological history involving ancient rivers flowing across Iowa some 300 million years ago. Come learn about the features and fossils of this fascinating landscape!

Nature Explorers Camp (preregistration required)

Thurs., June 27—9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Boys and girls ages 13-14: Get outdoors and explore nature with us! We'll head to the forest to build an emergency shelter, try our culinary skills making a solar oven and baking a snack with the sun, design artwork using sun print paper, and build a fire! Group size is limited and preregistration is required. For more info. or to register, please call the Corps office.

Nature's Fireworks: Fireflies

Fri., June 28—9:00 p.m.— Howell Station Camp.

Ooh! Aah! The brilliant flashes of fireflies brighten the warm summer nights and offer a wonderful display! Take a walk in search of "nature's fireworks" and learn a bit about the insects that create the show!

ISU Insect Zoo: Bugs Make the World Go Round

Sat. June 29—10:00-12:00 p.m.—Visitor Center

You are invited to check out over 100 species of living arthropods! Knowledgeable Insect Zoo staff will talk about why our multi-legged friends are important for a healthy Earth, how you can help them in your outdoor spaces, and how you can Spread the Bug Love! Hands-on opportunities to handle millipedes, beetles, roaches, and more! Bring in your photos of bugs to be identified or even the bug itself!

Forest Scavenger Hunt

Fri., July 5—7:00 p.m.—Howell Station Camp.

Search for clues about the hidden world of plants and animals in Red Rock's woodlands. Use your mind and your hide-and-seek skills to help in your quest!

Iowa's Amazing Turtles

Sat., July 20—10:00 a.m.—Howell Station Camp.

Join Pete Eyheralde, professor at William Penn University, for a closer look at some of these amazing reptiles! You'll even get a chance to see live examples of the different species that live in our state!

First Nations: Those Who Have Gone Before

Sat., July 20—1:00 p.m.—Visitor Center

Join Cherie Haury-Artz from the Office of the State Archaeologist for a look at the indigenous cultures of Iowa with a special focus on the Ioway and Meskwaki and their contributions to understanding Iowa's past.

Red Rock Hydroelectric Project Tours*

***(Preregistration required)**

Wed. Aug. 7 - 10:00 a.m.—North Tailwater

Thurs., Aug. 8 - 10:00 a.m.—North Tailwater

Fri., Aug. 9—10:00 a.m.—North Tailwater

Join Missouri River Energy Services (MRES) for an hour-long tour of the Red Rock Hydroelectric Project. Participants must be at least 16 years old and wear closed-toe shoes. Tours are free of charge, but pre-registration is required. To register, please complete the online form at <https://www.mrenergy.com/>

Red Rock: The Town Beneath the Lake

Sat., Aug. 10—1:00 p.m.—Visitor Center

Wed., Aug. 21—1:00 p.m.—Visitor Center

Red Rock was a thriving, industrious community and home to many pioneering people. Once hopeful that the Red Rock Dam would save them from the river's frequent flooding, it eventually sealed their fate.

Butterfly Safari

Sat., Aug. 17—1:00 p.m.—Playscape

Take a "safari" through a tallgrass prairie to stalk monarchs, fritillaries, wood nymphs and other butterfly species. We'll use the butterfly nets available for free checkout at the visitor center!

Monarch Watch: Butterfly Tagging

Sat., Sept. 21—1:00 p.m.—S. Overlook Ramp

Join the Monarch Watch volunteer effort! We'll attempt to tag some of these unique butterflies as they pass through the Red Rock area during their fall migration. Data from tagged butterflies helps researchers track the monarchs' journey to Mexico.



EXPLORE THE PLAYSCAPE A NATURAL PLACE TO PLAY!



- **PLAYGROUND CREATED WITH NATURAL MATERIALS**
- **LOCATED OFF THE BIKE TRAIL WEST OF NORTH OVERLOOK CAMPGROUND**
- **A FUN PLACE TO EXPLORE AND PLAY!**

Non-denominational church services are held
Sundays from Memorial Day weekend
through Labor Day weekend.



Fifield Recreation Area
9:30 a.m.
1672 Highway G28, Pella, IA

Coal Ridge Church
11:15 a.m.
1034 Highway S71, Knoxville, IA



**JOIN THE
RED ROCK LAKE
ASSOCIATION**

**Help us make Iowa's
Largest Lake the best
it can be!**

BEST PARKS - BEST WATER QUALITY
BEST FISHING - BEST RECREATION

www.redrocklakeassociation.com



**OUTDOOR GEAR
CHECKOUT** **FREE!**

- Nature Science Pack
- Pond Study Adventure Kits
- Birdwatching Exploration Packs
- Bug Exploration Packs
- Animal Track Packs
- Life Jackets
- GPS Units
- Disc Golf Sets

Available from the Red Rock Visitor Center - Ph.(641) 828-7522

Free Junior Ranger Activity Books



Learn about Park Rangers and the Corps of Engineers while you explore the lake!

Pick up a copy at the visitor center or download the booklet from our website at www.lakeredrock.org

Need a Life Jacket? Borrow One!



LIFE JACKET LOANER STATIONS AVAILABLE

Sizes Infant, Child, Youth and Adult
Borrow for free and return at end of day

Loaner Station Locations:

- South Overlook Ramp
- Whitebreast Beach
- Whitebreast Ramp
- N. Overlook Beach
- Marina Cove Ramp
- Visitor Center
- Howell Station Landing



Programs may be subject to change. Outdoor programs will be cancelled if raining. Please call the Corps of Engineers office at (641) 828-7522 if you have any questions or wish to confirm scheduled program dates, times, and locations.

Meet "Bobber," the Water Safety Dog!



Hey Kids! Bobber will be stopping at Lake Red Rock's beaches, boat ramps and other parks throughout the summer to make sure you know how to be safe around the water! Bobber wants you to use the buddy system and wear your life jacket! If you see him, stop by and say hello - he might even be handing out a few water safety goodies during his visits! Keep your eyes open - you never know where or when he'll turn up!

RED ROCK VISITOR CENTER

Located on the South Side of the Dam

- **Helpful Staff**
- **Lake Information**
- **Programs and Activities**
- **Nature Books and Souvenirs**
- **Scenic Overlook of Iowa's Largest Lake**

Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Year-Round
Sat.-Sun. 12:00-4:00 p.m. (April-Sept.)

Ph. (641) 828-7522 - www.lakeredrock.org



Questions? Contact Us!

Lake Red Rock (Corps Office and Red Rock Visitor Center)

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