

## A Word About Weather

Summers are hot and humid: temperatures over 100 are frequent; humidity usually exceeds 50 percent. Winters are mild and prolonged freezes are rare. In May and June severe thunderstorms are frequent. Tornadoes may occur.

## Off-Season Is Great!

If you enjoy solitude — or the illusion of it — visit Chickasaw between September 1 and March 31. It's a delightful time of the year — and less than 250 people a day use the Lake District;



only one-fifth of the annual visitation uses the Travertine District in these seven months.

## Want To Learn More?

*Platt National Park, Environment and Ecology* by Barker and Jamerson. . . \$5.95  
Order from the University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Oklahoma, 73069.

## For A Safe Visit

Waters of the mineral springs are for your use — but don't take them in abundance without the recommendation of a physician.

Drive carefully on the roads; children may be playing.

Always walk on the left side of park roads, facing on-coming traffic. Be especially careful at night.

Don't leave small children unattended.

Do not swim alone; use the buddy system.

Operate your boat with caution; obey all Coast Guard regulations.

Water skiers must wear a life saving device. There must also be an observer — in addition to the operator — in the boat.

Boat harbors are closed to water skiing. You cannot ski within 500 feet of swimming beaches or mooring areas, or within 100 feet of swimmers.

Bicycles are numerous during the summer and have the rights of any other vehicle. Cyclists must ride in the right lane on all park roads.

## Keep In Mind

Firearms are prohibited unless adequately sealed, broken down, or otherwise packed to prevent their use.

Pets must be kept under physical control. They may not be taken into pavilions or near pools or springs.

Fires are permitted only in fireplaces or grills in designated camping and picnic areas. Portable stoves and grills must be used in or on existing fireplaces.

Park features — wildflowers, animals, trees, rocks and minerals — are to be left in place and undisturbed.

Boats may be launched from trailers only at the designated ramps. You may carry and launch small boats anywhere.

Boat operators are responsible for compliance with Federal and State operation and safety requirements.

Docks are for loading and unloading only; do not tie-up for unreasonable periods of time.

Swim at your own risk.

A state license is required for fishing at the Lake District.

Bicycles are not permitted on the trails on Bromide Hill or east of the Nature Center.

★ ★ ★ National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

# CHICKASAW NATIONAL RECREATION AREA OKLAHOMA

Chickasaw National Recreation Area came into existence ~~only two years ago~~ with the combining of the former Platt National Park and the Arbuckle Recreation Area.

Platt National Park was created in 1902 as the Sulfur Springs Reservation and given national park status four years later. It was named to honor Connecticut Senator Orville Hitchcock Platt, a tireless fighter for Indian rights. Arbuckle Recreation Area was created in 1965 to assure that the lands surrounding the Bureau of Reclamation's Lake of the Arbuckles would be available to all the people for recreational use.

The new national recreation area was named to honor the people of the Chickasaw Nation. In 1902 they ceded the natural springs in and about the village of Sulfur to the Federal government to be preserved as a common water supply.

Chickasaw National Recreation Area is managed for your use and enjoyment by the National Park Service of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

A RECREATION AREA



## What You Can See and Do

There are two public use areas for your outdoor recreation enjoyment: The Travertine District is the former Platt National Park; the Lake District is Lake Arbuckle with its surrounding lands.

### Travertine District

This is an area for quiet outdoor recreation, popular for years with families. Within these wooded vales are campgrounds, picnic areas, hiking trails and spring-fed creeks, ideal for children to splash in.

The springs are the reason this area was originally preserved. They are both fresh water and cold mineral-water. Hiking trails take you to many of them.

Buffalo and Antelope Springs, with a flow of several millions of gallons daily, are the source of Travertine Creek. They are located at the east end of the District.

Mineral water springs are either sulfur or bromide. Those at the base of Bromide Hill in the western part of the District are bromide, most of the others are sulfur springs.

The Travertine Nature Center is the center of activities: programs for children and adults and the trail head for guided and self-guiding nature walks.

The six-mile Perimeter Drive orients you to the Travertine District (get a guide at the Nature Center). It includes the grazing area of the small bison herd, a favorite of most visitors.

### Lake District

This is the 2,350-acre Lake of the Arbuckles and the land adjoining its 40-mile shoreline. It's an area for active outdoor recreationists.

There are four developed areas along the shore. One, the Goddard Youth Camp, is an environmental study area and is not open to the general public. The other three have boat ramps and camping and picnicking facilities:

Guy Sandy, on the west side of the lake, is reached over an improved county road intersecting with State Route 7 about five miles west of the City of Sulphur.

The Point and Buckhorn are on the east side of the lake. The Point is reached over a surfaced county road intersecting with State

Route 7 about two miles west of Sulphur. Buckhorn is reached over an improved road intersecting with U.S. 177 about five miles south of the City.

You must have an Oklahoma license to fish the lake; fishing laws are strictly enforced. Trot-lines are permitted, with State regulation applying. Free floating lines are dangerous and are prohibited.

You can swim anywhere, but at your own risk. The beach at Buckhorn is the only one officially designated as a swimming area.

You may water ski or tow similar devices provided you adhere to regulations. Scuba and skin divers must have a permit, issued only at the Point Ranger Station.

Hunting is permitted in compliance with Federal and State laws except in concentrated public-use and developed areas. Closed areas are clearly posted.

## How You Get There

Chickasaw National Recreation Area is just south of the City of Sulphur in south-central Oklahoma. Sulphur is 12 miles east of I-35; the interchange is 71 miles south of Oklahoma City, 52 miles north of the Texas state line.

## Some Nearby Attractions

Lake Murray State Park is a popular water-oriented recreation area, with facilities for heavy boats. It's just east of I-35, about 32 miles south of the Sulphur Interchange.

Lake Texoma, 25 miles east of Lake Murray, has a state park near its southern end with many recreational opportunities.

Fort Washita, on the east side of Lake Texoma, was built at the request of the Chickasaw and Choctaw Indians who wanted the protection of our government promised when they were relocated here. The 115-acre, 136-year-old fort is worth a special trip.

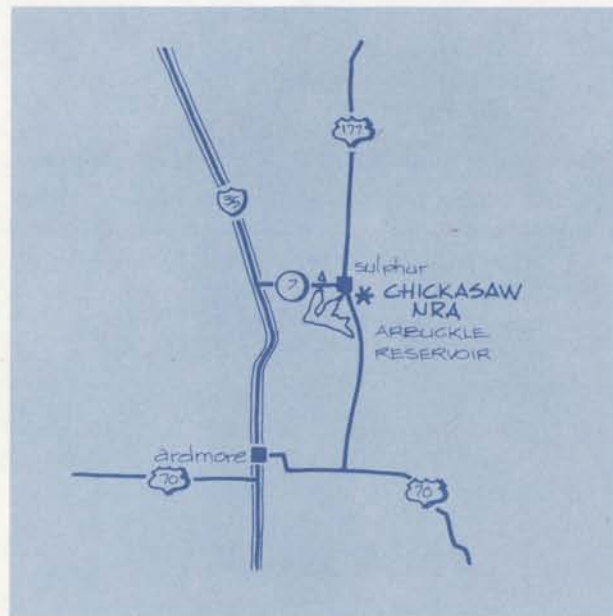
## Overnight Accommodations

A variety of motel accommodations is offered in the City of Sulphur.

Camping is an attraction of the National Recreation Area. There are five campgrounds for general use and one, Central, reserved for groups. Each site has a table and fireplace. There are no trailer hookups but a sanitary dump station is maintained at the Bromide Pavillion area of the Travertine District. The fee is \$3 per night and there is a 14-day limit. Telephone reservations are accepted (405 622 6121).

The campgrounds in the Travertine District have outdoor lighting, city water and comfort stations. Rock creek has 106 sites, 64 at Cold Springs.

The Lake District has three campgrounds:



Buckhorn, 172 sites; The Point, 52 sites; and Guy Sandy, 39 sites. Some have flush toilets, wash basins and drinking fountains; some have only chemical toilets. You take whatever is available on your arrival.

## Meals and Snacks

There are no food concessions in the Recreation Area. Groceries, meals, snacks, bait and gasoline are available in the City of Sulphur.