

try weather food  
read  
be safe

sites. Some facilities include flush toilets, wash basins and drinking fountains, some have only chemical toilets. You take whatever is available upon arrival.

Telephone reservations for campsites are accepted: Area code 405 622-6121. A fee of \$2 per night is charged at the Travertine District at the Lake District; you are limited to 14 days in any year.

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

Summers in south-central Oklahoma are hot and humid. Temperatures over 100 degrees are frequent; humidity usually exceeds 50 per cent. Winters are usually mild and rarely subject to prolonged freezing temperatures. From May through June, severe thunderstorms are frequent.

If you enjoy solitude — or the illusion of it — consider visiting Chickasaw National Recreation Area between September 1 and March 31. During this period less than 250 people a day use the Lake District facility and the Travertine District receives only 20 per cent of its annual visitation. In density, this is better than 23 acres of recreation area for each visitor! Visitation more than triples in March and April but it's far from crowded and this is a delightful time of year. Between May 1 and August 31, Chickasaw receives 80 per cent of all its use.

There is a new book, *Platt National Park, Environment and Ecology* by Barker and Jamerson, available from the University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, OK, 73069, for \$5.95.

For information about the State-operated areas write Oklahoma Tourist Information, Will Rogers Memorial Office Building, Oklahoma City, OK, 73105.

Waters of the several sulphur and bromide springs are for your use, but you are cautioned not to take them in abundance without prior recommendation of a physician.

Drive carefully on the roads, children may be playing.

When walking along park roads, always walk on the left side, facing on-coming traffic. Be especially careful at night.

U.S. Highway 177 runs through the Travertine District. All roads are posted and patrolled, but not all drivers observe the speed limits. Cau-

tion your family to be very careful crossing this road.

Please don't leave small children unattended. Do not swim alone; use the buddy system. Operate your boat cautiously, obeying all Coast Guard regulations.

Water skiers must wear a life saving device. Also, there must 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.

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

Pets must be kept under physical control. In the interest of sanitation, 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 charcoal grills are permitted anywhere in the Lake District.

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 three designated boat 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.

## rules

### PARKS AND FORESTS

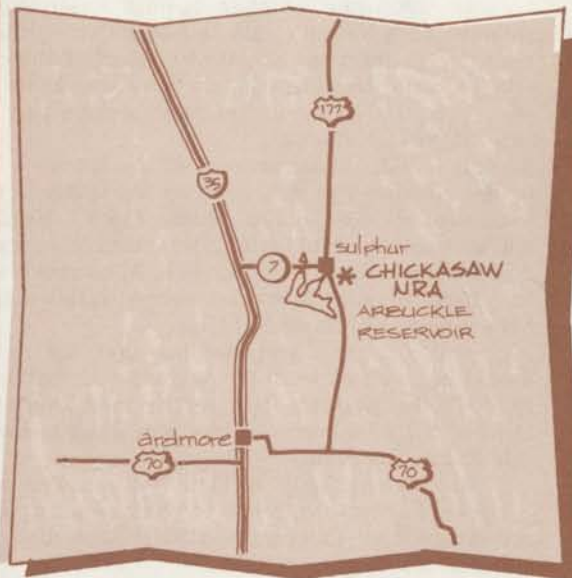
When you are enjoying yourself, what difference does it make if you are in a National Park or a National Forest? Both offer outstanding recreational opportunities and special facilities and services to enhance your visit.

Differences are in concept — which determines the way they are managed. National Forests are managed as renewable natural resources — timber, forage, water, wildlife. National Parks are set aside to be preserved, as they are, in perpetuity.

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

your SUPER 77 visit planner for

# Chickasaw National Recreation Area



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Preserve  
Enjoy  
this Resource



## Chickasaw

Your visit to ~~Platt~~ will be more than just a trip to a National Recreation Area. You'll go back to the scene of one of the earliest villages in Indian Territory, to the land of the Chickasaw Nation, and to early Federal efforts to preserve a community's water supply.

In the 1880's, many people were concerned over the plight of the American Indian. It was argued that the only fair treatment was to give them individual landholdings, citizenship, and absorb them into our culture. This position was advocated by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, and in 1887 Congress passed the Dawes Act to make this possible.

Reluctantly, the Chickasaw Tribe agreed to the provisions of the Dawes Act and in 1902 signed a formal agreement. As part of this agreement, the natural springs in and about the village of Sulphur were to be preserved and protected by the Federal government as a common water supply. For ceding this, the Chickasaw Tribe was paid \$20 an acre for the reserved lands.

Two years later, white settlers of the village of Sulphur living within the reserved lands were also required to move.

In 1906 the Sulphur Springs Reservation was renamed Platt National Park to honor Orville Hitchcock Platt, the Connecticut Senator who worked diligently to achieve better treatment for the American Indians. The next year, 1907, Indian Territory became part of the new State of Oklahoma.

In 1962, the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation was instructed by the Congress to dam south-central Oklahoma's Rock Creek. Nearly 2.9 million cubic yards of earthfill went into this dam which rises 140 feet above the stream bed. At normal pool level the Lake of the Arbuckles covers 2,350 acres and has a shoreline of about 40 miles.

Our Congress also decided that the new lake should be available to all the people for recreational use. In 1965 the National Park Service took over management of the 5,646 acres of land and water as the Arbuckle Recreation Area.

On March 17, 1976, Platt National Park and the Arbuckle Recreation Area were combined into one unit and renamed the Chickasaw National Recreation Area in honor of the Chickasaw Indians.

### Travertine District

Chickasaw National Recreation Area is a natural area and the activities and programs offered are nature-oriented. Headquarters for your activities will be the Travertine Nature Center — low, rambling stone and rough-sawn wood building with a shake shingle roof and an equally informal atmosphere. It is a nature museum *plus*. Out of here are conducted self-guiding nature walks, adult and children's programs. A schedule of

current programs and activities is available at the information desk.

Chickasaw National Recreation Area has three campgrounds, each with outdoor lighting, city water and comfort stations: Rocky Creek, Central and Cold Springs.

There is no swimming pool, but children are permitted to wade and splash in the creeks.

Hiking is a popular activity. The Park has more than 8 miles of good trails.

You can fish in the streams within the Park without a license.

Picnicking is popular. The many tables are for your use, free of charge.

Make time, early in your visit, to take the Perimeter Drive. It's only 6 miles and orients you to the interesting and scenic areas of this small park. Your guide for this drive is available at the Nature Center.

The Perimeter Drive takes you by the grazing area of the Park's small bison (buffalo) herd, a favorite attraction for most visitors.

### Lake District

Visitors come here to camp, boat, fish, swim, water ski, skin dive — and just to loaf.

Boats may be launched from public ramps at The Point, Guy Sandy and Buckhorn areas. These areas also have courtesy docks for loading and unloading purposes only.

You can swim anywhere, but at your own risk. Two beaches, at The Point and Buckhorn, have been specially designated for swimming, but there are no lifeguards.

You may water ski or tow similar devices provided the skier wears a life saving device and you have an observer, in addition to the operator, in the boat. (Ski mirrors do not count!) For your safety, and the safety of others enjoying the lake, you cannot water ski within 100 feet of swimmers, 500 feet of the swimming beaches and mooring areas, or in any of the boat harbors.

Scuba and skin divers must have a permit, issued only at The Point Ranger Station.

You can fish the lake at any time of the year provided you have a State fishing license; fishing laws are enforced. Channel catfish, largemouth bass, bluegill, sunfish and crappie are native; Northern Pike and Walleye Pike have been stocked. Trotlines are permitted — State regulations apply — in the coves and upper arms of the lake above the 5 mph buoys, but not in the main body or across main channels. Your name and address must be on the trotline. Free-floating lines, such as jug lines, are dangerous and strictly prohibited.

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

During the summer months, campfire programs are conducted at the campgrounds. Check park bulletin boards for schedules.

The nearest State Park to Chickasaw is *Lake Murray*. It is just east of I-35, about 32 miles south of the Sulphur Interchange.

Lake Murray is a 6,000-acre artificial lake created when a 130-foot-high dam was built across Anadarche Creek in a gap known as Lower Devil's Kitchen. It's deep enough for heavy boats and water skiing is a popular sport here. But camping, hiking and riding are as popular as the water-oriented activities.

*Lake Texoma* is about 25 miles due east of Lake Murray and covers 93,080 acres. A State Park is located near the south end and offers many recreational opportunities.

*Fort Washita*, on the east side of Lake Texoma is worth a special trip. It was activated in 1842 at the request of the Chickasaw and Choctaw Indians who wanted the protection we had promised when they were relocated here. In 1962 the Oklahoma Historical Society purchased the 115-acre site and appointed the Fort Washita Commission to manage it. It is well preserved and/or restored.

Chickasaw National Recreation Area is located on the south side of the City of Sulphur, entered through the City. 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.

The City of Sulphur offers a variety of motel and restaurant accommodations.

Many visitors coming to Chickasaw National Recreation Area come to camp. In the Travertine District, tent and trailer (no hook-ups) sites are available at Rock Creek; 111 sites; Central, 64 sites; and Cold Springs, 64 sites. Each site has a table, fireplace and parking spur. There are no hook-ups for trailers but a sanitary dump station is available in the Bromide Pavilion area of the Recreation Area.

Sulphur concessioner will rent and set up camping equipment; you make your own arrangements for these services. Contact Hicks' Service, 300 West Muskogee.

At the Lake District, tent and trailer sites (but no hook-ups) are available at Buckhorn Rock, 183 sites; The Point, 52 sites; and Guy Sandy, 39

nearby overnight directions

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