The 680-acre Shawnee State Fishing Lake and Wildlife Area is located northwest of Topeka and northeast of Silver Lake. From the intersections of U.S. Highways 24 and 75 in Topeka it is approximately 8 miles north and 4 miles west. The main entrance to the area is just west from the corner of 86th and Landon Streets. The Forestry, Fish and Game Commission of Kansas purchased the property in 1959 with federal funds made possible through the Dingell-Johnson Act. Development of the area as a state fishing lake was initiated in the early 1960s.

**FISHING and BOATING**

Shawnee State Fishing Lake is approximately 135 surface acres in size. Channel catfish numbers are good because the lake receives monthly stockings of catchable sized fish through an urban stocking program. Angling for largemouth bass is usually good. Also present are black crappie, walleye, flathead catfish, common carp, and redear.

Boats must run at no wake speeds. All state and federal boating regulations apply on the lake. The boat ramp is located in the southeastern corner of the lake.

Approximately 60 acres on the east side of the wildlife area are designated for use by the Shawnee County Hunter Education Group. Public access and use of the hunter education facilities is prohibited.

**HUNTING and WILDLIFE**

Shotgun and archery hunting are allowed on the area year-round. No center-fire rifles or handguns allowed. Located at the northeastern edge of the Flint Hills, the Shawnee State Fishing Lake Wildlife Area is dominated by native grasses, forbs, and scattered brushy areas. Primary management techniques include prescribed burning, timber encroachment control, and control of invasive plant species. Food plots are also scattered throughout the wildlife area. The most popular species hunted are upland birds, rabbits, and waterfowl. Deer, furbearers, amphibians, and reptiles may also be found.

**THINGS TO REMEMBER**

All alcohol beverages, including cereal malt, are prohibited.

Please take all your trash with you. Everything you bring onto the area should be taken with you when you leave.

Target shooting, off-road vehicle use, and horse riding are prohibited.

Campfires in provided metal rings only. Area users are encouraged to check area information boards for the most up-to-date regulations and posted notices.

**CAMPING**

Camping on the area is free to the public. Camping is allowed in designated areas on the east side of the lake. No electrical or water hookups are available. Campfires are allowed but must be contained in provided metal fire rings in designated areas.