Fall River State Park is positioned between the Cross Timbers region and the grasslands of the Flint Hills. The 980-acre park is a unique blend of forested flood plains, oak savannahs, and tallgrass prairie. Outdoor enthusiasts will find much to their liking in this beautiful outdoor setting.

Camping, swimming, boating, water skiing, hiking, and picnics are popular pursuits at Fall River. Forty-five electric/water hookups are available, plus more than 46 basic campsites, all users have access to three modern bath houses. Children can enjoy the playground and swings, plus six hiking trails and the orienteering course offer visitors an experience of the flora and fauna of the region.

A favorite pastime here is canoeing the Fall River, which feeds into the 2,450-acre reservoir. Bird watchers, photographers, and naturalists will enjoy a variety of native plants and animals. Fall River offers good fishing opportunities for channel and flathead catfish, white bass, crappie, largemouth bass, and walleye. More than 8,000 acres of public wildlife area next to the park are managed for game and nongame species.

Fall River State Park is providing rustic cabins. The cabins are available to visitors year round. They are located on the lake with a beautiful view of Fall River reservoir and the tall grass prairie. Cabins are located in the Gobbler’s Knob area of the park, which sits within Fredonia Bay where amenities such as boat docks, playgrounds, horse shoe pits, fishing pier, hiking, and park sponsored outdoor programs are available.

Casner Creek Trail is accessible at two trailheads, one in the Casner Creek Campground, and one at the youth fishing pond at the entrance to South Rock Ridge. The trail takes you through a wooded area, and a profuse display of prairie wildflowers. It is a great trail to introduce children to hiking and tallgrass prairie ecosystems. Casner Creek Trail is moderate in difficulty, open to both foot and bicycle traffic.

Turkey Run Trail runs through a wooded ravine, crosses an intermediate stream and ascends across the tallgrass prairie that features a breathtaking view of Fall River Lake and the Flint Hills. The edge effect from wooded ravine to prairie provides frequent sightings of white-tailed deer and other native wildlife. Bald Eagles are common sights during the winter months along the trail. The trail is rated moderately difficult to hike and open to foot and bicycle traffic.

The ADA accessible Overlook Trail has a beautiful view of Fall River lake. An interpretive sign with the history of the flora and fauna allows viewing from a wooden dock.

Post Oak Trail loop takes you along a portion of Craig Creek, you will see post and blackjack oaks, lichen covered sandstone outcroppings, and open grass meadows. This gently rolling trail offers hikers or mountain bikers a moderate challenge.

Catclaw trail will take you through tallgrass prairie, sloping sandstone ridges, and wooded oak savannahs, a favorite feature is the panoramic view of Fall River Lake. Native plants garnish the hillsides. You will find the trail to be moderate in difficulty, open to both foot and bicycles.

The Bluestem Prairie trail can be accessed by the Catclaw trail or at the north end of the quarry section. The Catclaw Trail sign with the history of the flora and fauna allows you to archery hunting. The trails will remain open during this period.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Park lands are for the use of everyone. Please familiarize yourself with regulations to ensure that all visitors have an opportunity for a safe and enjoyable experience.

You can help in developing, protecting, and maintaining the park’s trails, facilities, and its natural wonders by becoming a volunteer or a member of the Friends Group.

All the park’s trails are open to foot and bicycle traffic. During high lake levels or heavy rains, portions of the trails may be hazardous or impassable. Biking is prohibited when the trail is wet enough that damage may occur.

Portions of the Quarry Bay trails may be open to archery hunting. The trails will remain open during this period.

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs described herein is available to all individuals without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, age, sex, religion, disability, familial status, sexual orientation, marital status, political affiliation, or military or veteran status. Complaints of discrimination should be directed to the Office of the Secretary, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, 1520 S Kansas Ave., Topeka, KS 66612-1327.

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