

Beaver Creek Park is part of a unique area in North Central Montana Plains country, the Bear Paw Mountains. The Park is a 10,000 acre strip along the north slopes of the Bear Paw Mountains, about one mile wide by seventeen miles long, and is the largest county park in the Nation. Within this natural recreation area are rolling grasslands, pine woods, aspen and cottonwood groves, rocky cliffs and cold rushing streams. The vegetation ranges from Box Elder, Alder, Willow and Buffalo Berry on the north end to cool leafy Cottonwood, Aspen, Ponderosa Pine, Lodge Pole Pine and Douglas Fir on the south end.

Beaver Creek, Bear Paw Lake and Lower Beaver Creek Lake are well stocked with Rainbow and Brook Trout, Walleye and Northern Pike, Bass and Perch. The Park abounds with wildlife. Among the many animals you may see are whitetail and mule deer, bobcat, beaver, coyote, fox, mink, pheasants, grouse, Golden eagles and hawks.

Geologic formations range from glacial deposits at the northern end through volcanic strata and dikes, to metamorphic and sedimentary rocks in which fossils can be found.

Plant and bird species from the Rocky Mountains merge here with those of the Plains providing an excellent area for biological studies.

Activities

This large, varied park offers limitless opportunities for recreation. You can camp by lake or stream, and fishing in both is excellent. Picnicking is a major activity all through the summer. You may hike or ride horseback on maintained trails or cross country. The Bear Paw Nature Trail is an educational and scenic trek. Some people come to watch birds and animals, to sightsee, photograph, paint, or just to relax. There are children's summer camps and cabin site leases. Winter activities include ice fishing, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, sledding and some snowmobiling.

Facilities & Services

There are many developed camp and picnic grounds in the southern half of the Park. Most are equipped with tables, fire grates and vault toilets. Smaller campgrounds do not require prior reservations but some special areas may be reserved for large group activities. Also available at Camp Kiwanis is a youth camp with cottages, activity building and a dining/recreation building. These are available for organized groups by advance reservation only and there is a fee for their use.

This is Your Park, provided for your pleasure and enjoyment. What can you do to help preserve the park environment?

- Campfires add to the experience of the outdoors. Campers are encouraged to pick up dead fall for camp use.
- Be on the lookout for signs of vandalism.
- The park staff is helped by your comments and reports on the condition of the park amenities.
- Respect other park users. Just as you, they are using the park for enjoyment, recreation and relaxation.
- Bicycling and hiking are wonderful ways to get "off-road". Bicycles can be used on all trails and hiking leaves virtually no trace or damage.
- Pack it in, Pack it out. Beaver Creek Park provides garbage and trash services however your help will enhance staff efforts to maintain an inviting, safe and pleasing park environment for all.
- As you explore the park, you may encounter flora that you do not recognize. Noxious weeds are having an increasingly negative impact not only on the park but all grasslands. If you suspect or question the flora you encounter, bring your concerns and questions to the attention of the park staff.

Take pride in your park, protect it from damage.



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Rules and Regulations

Violation of any of the rules and regulations is a misdemeanor and is subject to penalty and fines.

All Park users must be in possession of a current Park Permit which may be purchased at the park office, Hill County courthouse and designated business in Havre. A \$15 penalty will be charged to permits sold on site.

The following ARE PROHIBITED at all times:

RULES:

- All Park use including camping without a permit.
- Littering and vandalism.
- Removal of trees, topsoil, or vegetation.
- Cutting of firewood without a permit issued from park superintendent.
- Cutting of green trees or standing trees.
- Use of firearms.
- Underage drinking.
- Loud music.
- Hill climbing with motorized vehicles.
- Motorized vehicles may not be driven off established roads. This includes snowmobiles and ATVs during the winter months when the ground is frozen and there is adequate snow cover on the ground so as to not cause damage or disturb vegetation. During the summer camping season, May 15th to September 15th, no off-road vehicles such as dirt bikes or ATVs are allowed at any time.
- Unattended fires. Your campfire must be out before leaving. Be especially careful with cigarettes. Camp fires must be within approved rings. Fires may be restricted by County Commissioners when the fire danger is high. Persons found negligent of causing forest or range fires will be held accountable for the cost of fighting such fires and any resulting damage.
- FIREWORKS AT ANYTIME.

REGULATIONS:

- Maximum speed limit in the park is 55mph. Lower speeds are posted in some areas. All vehicles and drivers must be licensed.
- Campers and trailers are limited to a maximum of 14 days in any 30 day period in a given area.
- Vehicles and campers left unattended for more than 48 hours will be considered abandoned and will be towed away at owners expense.
- Campers and picnickers are responsible for the clean up of their picnic or campsite before leaving it. Deposit all rubbish in the containers provided. Do not throw bottles, cans or other rubbish in the creek, in toilet vaults or fire pits.
- Quiet time begins at midnight and ends at 7:00am.
- Dogs must be on a leash at all times.
- No motor boats are allowed on Bear Paw Lake.
- Lower Beaver Creek Lake has a 10 horse power limit, no wake ruling for trolling and fishing purposes only.
- 12c houses must meet regulations as provided by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks.
- Persons wishing to use large group picnic areas must make prior reservations through the park office.
- No livestock shall be allowed on the Park without following Hill County Grazing Policy. No livestock will be permitted on the Park from the first day of January until the day after Labor Day.

A reward of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) will be paid to any persons who provide information leading to the arrest and conviction of any person or group of persons who willfully damage or destroy any park property.

Photo - HelmutWolfe Studio



Beaver Creek Park

Hill County
Havre, Montana