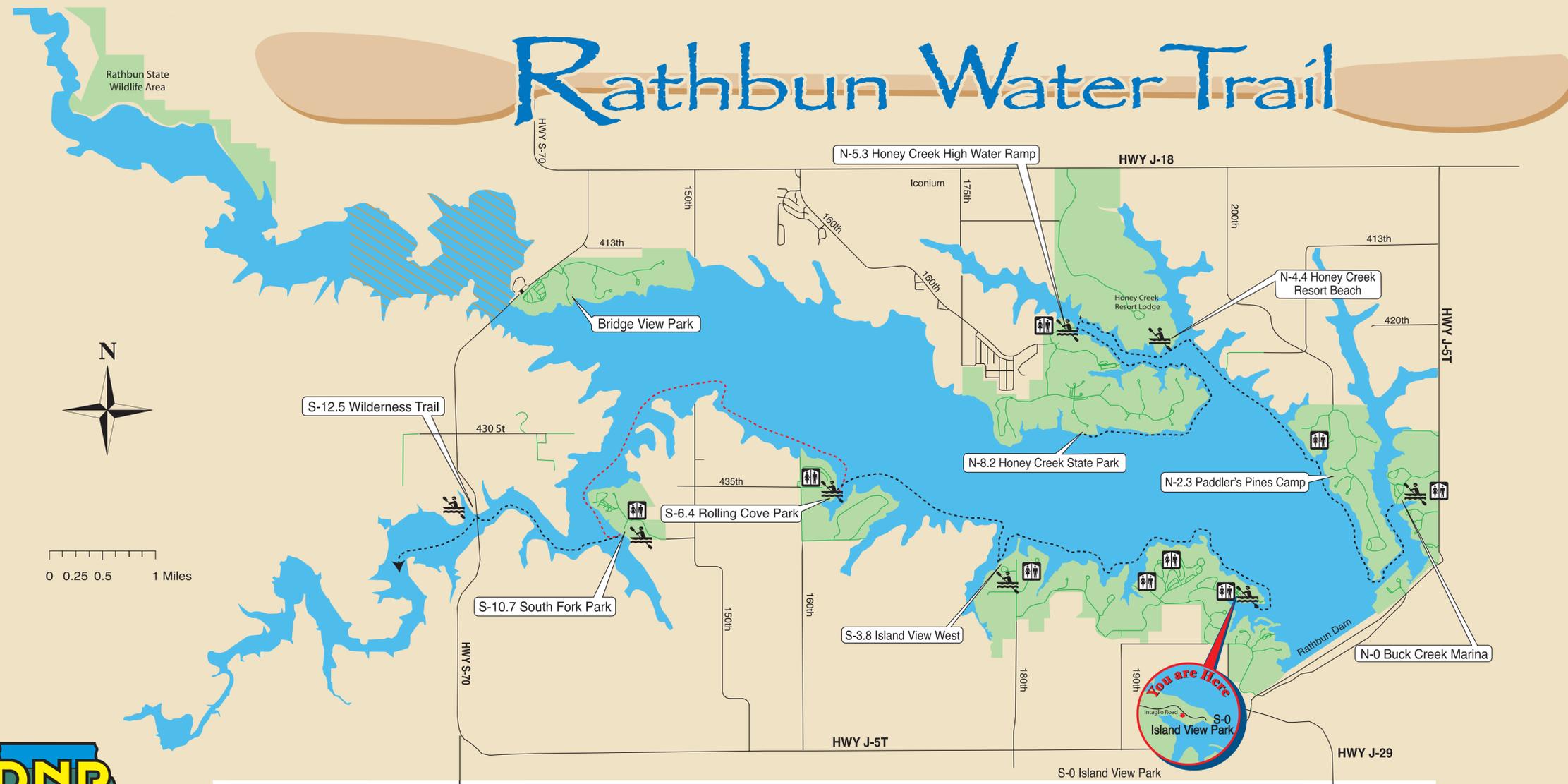


Rathbun Water Trail



Legend		Water Trail Coordinates									
.....	Main Trail	South Access Points		Latitude	Longitude	Distance to Next	North Access Points		Latitude	Longitude	Distance to Next
- - - - -	Seasonal Trail May - September	S-0	Intaglio Road at Island View Park	N 40°50.012	W 92°54.310	3.8 miles	N-0	Buck Creek Park Marina	N 40°50.794	W 92°52.491	2.3 miles
	Waterfowl Refuge (No Trespassing during Waterfowl Season)	S-3.8	Iris Road at Island View West	N 40°50.251	W 92°56.837	2.6 miles	N-2.3	Paddler's Pines Camp	N 40°51.037	W 92°53.320	2.1 miles
🚣	Access Point	S-6.4	Redhawk Road at Rolling Cove Park	N 40°50.839	W 92°58.618	4.3 miles	N-4.4	Honey Creek Resort Beach	N 40°52.033	W 92°55.134	0.9 miles
🚻	Restrooms	S-10.7	South Fork Park Marina	N 40°50.490	W 93°00.984	1.8 miles	N-5.3	Honey Creek High Water Ramp	N 40°52.219	W 92°56.051	2.9 miles
		S-12.5	South Fork Bridge Boat Ramp	N 40°50.754	W 93°02.589		N-8.2	Honey Creek State Park Campground	N 40°51.347	W 92°55.923	
			Total Distance			12.5 miles		Total Distance			8.2 miles

Introduction to Paddling on Rathbun Lake

Why paddle? There are so many reasons and Rathbun Lake gives you the opportunity to find them all. Relax and connect with nature, experience the waters without motor noise, enjoy a low impact cardiac workout, or simply for the challenge.

Whether your craft is a long, sleek sea kayak or a short, stable fishing canoe, just getting out on the water is the real pleasure. Rathbun Lake accommodates all boat styles and levels of skill. Sea kayakers can challenge themselves in the vast open waters that stretch for miles. And yet the lake also has endless coves, bays and inlets that offer a hiding place and quiet. It is a paddler's dream, offering challenge, shelter, fishing, viewing ... and solitude. On Rathbun Lake, there's no hassles...just put in and paddle!



Rathbun Water Trails

South Shore Trail: The south shore trail directs you to near shore areas of the lake generally less affected by southerly summer wind. Paddlers of all experience levels – beginner to long distance – will enjoy single or multi-day trips with easy access to the shore line, launch/retrieve points, restrooms, drinking water, and three established modern camping areas. A wilderness paddle experience is also available west of the South Fork Bridge.

North Shore Trail: Paddlers seeking an overnight trip to a secluded camp can take advantage of the no-trace, primitive camping area. You will pack all your gear into camp via your craft – no vehicle access.



Camping Trips

The trails offer access to four modern camping areas to make a multi-day adventure. Island View, Rolling Cove, and South Fork Campgrounds offer tent and full-hookup camping. Island View and Rolling Cove are operated by the Army Corps of Engineers, and sites may be reserved by calling 1-877-444-6777, or at www.recreation.gov. South Fork Campground is operated by a concessionaire. Honey Creek State Park Campground (Iowa DNR) campsites can be reserved through a link at www.iowadnr.gov. Access points are near the campgrounds and some campsites are easily accessed from shore.



Day Trips

Each segment of this water trail can be paddled individually or in combination depending on your paddling speed and ability. You can make a roundtrip paddle or a point-to-point paddle if you have another vehicle and driver.

Navigation

Access points are marked with a water trail sign and access number. Navigating on the water may require any of the following: map; compass; GPS unit. There are no further signs or buoys on the water to direct your travel.



Safety Guide

- Always wear a life vest (personal flotation device).
- Be familiar with your route before you go. Bring a map, compass, and/or GPS navigation.
- Let others know where you will be and how long you plan to be there.
- Boating alone is not recommended.
- Be aware of changing weather conditions. Windy conditions can cause waves that make paddling dangerous. Be aware of high wind forecasts. Strong winds can pose a serious challenge to paddlers on this large water body. Paddle within your experience and fitness level.
- Be prepared to swim. Fasten all ropes so there is no danger of being entangled if you overturn.
- Cold-water hypothermia can be paralyzing to both mind and body.
- Avoid high boat traffic areas and paddle near shore to reduce encounters with high-speed craft. Don't paddle near the dam control tower.
- Never paddle while under the influence of alcohol.
- Paddling distances may change with water level and the route you choose. Lake conditions and your paddling speed will determine the time between access points.

Angling

