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Pikes Peak State Park
5K, 10K & 11K
 Clayton County, Iowa



Pikes Peak State Park 5K, 10K & 11K

42.995741, -91.165036

32264 Pikes Peak Road, McGregor, IA 52157

5K, 10K & 11K WALK DIRECTIONS

Drive to the parking lot for the picnic area across the road from the campground. Park in the middle section of the lot on the left side. The entrance to the trail will be in front of you. Carry water and watch your step; There are tree roots and rocks on the trail. Restrooms and water are available near the concession stand (open daily 10 to 4:30). The park is named after Lieutenant Zebulon Pike, sent by the government in 1805 to select a site for a military fort. Pike chose this site, but the government built the fort across the river. Pikes Peak officially became a state park in 1936.

1. Enter the Weeping Rock Trail.

11K Walkers: Note the sign to Point Ann (3.5 miles). You will be following these trail signs to Point Ann and retracing your steps back to this spot. Point Ann is a bluff that overlooks the Mississippi River and the town of McGregor.

2. All Walkers: Left on Weeping Rock Trail at the intersection with East Hickory Ridge Trail.

3. All Walkers: Continue on Weeping Rock trail passing West Hickory Ridge Trail intersection.

4. 5K Walkers: After about 1K farther turn around at the bench along the trail and retrace your steps back to West Hickory Ridge intersection. If you reach the foot bridge and water falls you have gone too far. Go to step 13.

5. 10K Walkers: Right on Chinquapin Ridge Trail.

11K Walkers: Left on Chinquapin Ridge Trail to Homestead Parking. Cross the parking lot to the left and following signs to Point Ann. At Point Ann turn around and retrace your steps to the finish. Ignore the rest of these directions.

6. 10K Walkers: Left on Bluebird Trail. (4K)

7. Left on Point Ann Trail.

8. Right to go to the Old Quarry.

9. Turn around and return to Point Ann Trail.

10. Right on Point Ann Trail to Homestead Parking.

11. Cross parking lot to the left and enter Chinquapin Ridge Trail.

12. Right on Weeping Rock Trail; you walked here before going the other direction.

13. Left on West Hickory Ridge Trail to Hickory Ridge and effigy mounds.

14. Left at Hickory Ridge passing the effigy mounds on your right to a bench overlooking the Mississippi River. There are 63 mounds in the park. The effigy mounds were built by ancient American Indians of the Woodland Culture, who inhabited the area from 800-1200 AD.

15. Right at the bench with the river on your left and the mounds on the right.

16. Left at Bridal Veil Trail and go down the railroad tie steps past Bridal Veil Falls.

17. Climb the boardwalk steps to the Crow's Nest overlook.

18. Continue up the boardwalk and cement path to the overlook by the concession stand and finish. The 500 ft bluff provides a majestic view of the confluence of the Wisconsin and Mississippi Rivers.