TRAILS
Lake Pueblo State Park is a premier destination in Southeast Colorado for mountain biking. The paved Pueblo River Trail connects the city to the park for bicyclists and hikers. Within the park, the paved Pueblo Reservoir Trail connects Rock Canyon, the Visitor Center, the South Shore Marina, the North Shore Marina and the campgrounds.

ACCESSIBILITY
The campgrounds have reserved parking spaces and campsites that are accessible for people with disabilities. There is an accessible fishing pier at Anticline Fishing Pond located in Rock Canyon. There is also a paved trail around the pond. A second accessible fishing pier is available along the Arkansas River below the dam. Restrooms, showers, picnic tables, drinking fountains and grills throughout the park are also accessible.

FIRST AID/EMERGENCIES
Park rangers are trained and equipped to give first aid. In an emergency, go to the Visitor Center, a marina, a camper registration building, an entrance station or dial 911 on any phone.

Lake Pueblo State Park, one of Colorado’s most popular water sports areas, lies in an area of contrast. The high plains around the reservoir appear to stretch endlessly eastward, while Pikes Peak, the Greenhorn and the Sangre de Cristo mountain range forms a scenic alpine backdrop to the west. Buttes and limestone cliffs rim the lake’s irregular, 60-mile shoreline (at maximum conservation pool). The Arkansas River feeds the 11 mile-long body of water. The park’s low elevation – 4,900 feet – allows for a mild climate and a year-round recreation resource.

Accessibility

First Aid/Emergencies

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L

ake Pueblo State Park

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Regulations
Lake Pueblo State Park is managed and maintained for your enjoyment and for the protection of the park’s natural resources. For your enjoyment and the interest of public safety, we must insist that you observe the following regulations:

• Keep vehicles on maintained roads and parking areas.
• All open fires must be contained within rings or grills provided or in metal containers. Never build a fire on the ground.
• Keep pets on a six foot or shorter leash at all times. Please pick up after pets.
• Use proper receptacles for trash, wastewater and sewage.
• Camp only in designated campgrounds.
• Observe campground quiet hours from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.
• Tree cutting or wood gathering is strictly prohibited.
• Fireworks are not permitted.
• Only 3.2% beer is permitted.

Passes and Permits
All vehicles entering the park are required to display a current Colorado State Parks Pass. A Daily Parks Pass is valid from the day purchased until noon the following day. An Annual Parks Pass is valid at any Colorado State Park. For annual pass holders who own additional vehicles, multiple passes are available at a reduced fee. The Aspen Leaf is a discounted annual pass for Colorado residents ages 64 or older. The Aspen Leaf also allows reduced camping fees on weekdays.

Colorado disabled veterans displaying Colorado Disabled Veteran (DV) license plates are admitted free without a park pass. In addition to a parks pass, campers are required to purchase and display a camping permit at their campsite. Passes are available at main park entrances, the Visitor Center, camper registration buildings and self-service dispensers.

Visitor Center
The Visitor Center is located on the south side of the park. With a great view of the reservoir and dam from the back patio, the Visitor Center is the gateway to the park. Visitors can purchase park passes or registrations and learn more about the park. Here, visitors can also wander the displays to learn about the history of the reservoir and dam, the park’s wildlife, and other natural resources.

Picnicking
Picnic tables and grills are located throughout the park. Individual picnic shelters are for day use only and available on a first-come first-served basis.

Group Facilities
Lake Pueblo boasts five unique group picnic facilities for your special events. The areas are great for family reunions, business get-togethers, casual weddings or any large fathering. Two group picnic shelters (Lone Owl and Big Lizard) are located near the North Shore Marina, one group picnic shelter (Quail Run) is located near the South Shore Marina, and one group picnic shelter (Snakeskin) is located below the dam on the south side of the Arkansas River. A group shelter is also available in the Rock Canyon Swimbeach. It is only available from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Each shelter will accommodate up to 100 people. An eighty-four seat auditorium at the Visitor Center is also available for rental, Monday-Friday during normal business hours. Reservations are required to use the facilities. Please call the visitor center at (719) 561-9320 for more information or to make reservations.
CAMPING

Lake Pueblo State Park has a total of 400 campsites, which accommodate recreational vehicles, trailers and tents. Each campsite has a covered picnic table and fire ring.

All campsites in the Arkansas Point Campground located on the south side of the reservoir and in the Prairie Ridge, Eagle View and Yucca Flats Loops of the Northern Plains Campground located on the north side of the reservoir feature electrical hook-ups, centrally located water hydrants, flush toilets, coin operated showers and laundry facilities.

Juniper Breaks Campground and the Kettle Creek Loop in the Northern Plains Campground have no electricity. Centrally located water hydrants and vault toilets are available for your convenience. Campground information is available at the Visitor Center, camper registration buildings or online.

There are a limited number of campsites in Arkansas Point, Eagle View and Juniper Breaks available year round. Check online for specific amenities available during the winter season. The campgrounds are popular in the summer months and reservations are highly recommended (particularly on the weekends). For campground reservations, call 1-800-678-CAMP (2267) or (303) 470-1144 in the Denver area. Reservations may also be made online at www.parks.state.co.us.

Campgrounds are patrolled for your safety and assistance. Please camp only in designated campsites and display your camping permit in the campsite marker. A valid park pass is required on every vehicle, for every day you are in the park. Check out time is noon.

DUMP STATION

Dump stations are located in the Northern Plains and Arkansas Point campgrounds. It is illegal and a health hazard to dump any waste or sewage (including dishwater) anywhere except into dump stations.
Swimming

Swimming is permitted only at the Rock Canyon Swim Beach Area below the dam. Facilities include a sand beach, grass picnic area, group picnic shelter, individual picnic tables, grills, restrooms and showers. Rock Canyon is open from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Check online for the specific times and details. For your safety, no glass or pets are allowed inside the area.

Children under the age of 12 must be supervised. No lifeguards are on duty. Swimming is always at the individual's own risk. Cliff diving, rock jumping and swimming in the lake is prohibited.

Boating And Watersport

Water is the main attraction at Lake Pueblo State Park. The warm-water temperature makes Lake Pueblo ideal for water-skiing and fishing. Regular winds provide excellent conditions for sailboating and sailboarding as well. The lake is open to all types of boating. Two, six-lane public boat launching ramps are conveniently located near both marinas. Boaters must observe the Colorado Boating Statutes and Regulations, which are available online or at the park. Remember that swimming, cliff diving and rock jumping are not permitted in Lake Pueblo. Persons wishing to sleep on the water overnight may do so if their boat is at anchor off shore and equipped with the proper lighting. Boaters are not permitted to beach on the shoreline to sleep overnight on/in their boat or to set up camp along the shoreline. All on-board facilities must be self-contained and sealed.

The water level at Pueblo Reservoir can fluctuate. Boaters are warned to be especially alert to floating debris, submerged hazards, and shallow areas that may not be marked. There are standing, underwater trees west of the North Shore Marina.

Two full-service marinas are located at Lake Pueblo. The North Shore Marina is located on the north shore of the lake and the South Shore Marina is located on the south. Both marinas offer on-lake towing service, mechanical service/assistance, boat slips, food and fuel. The South Shore Marina offers pontoon and fishing boat rentals. Call the North Shore Marina at 719-547-3880 or the South Shore Marina at 719-564-1043.

Aquatic Nuisance Species

Zebra mussels, a fast spreading, non-native species with harmful effects on the environment, were found at Lake Pueblo in January 2008. In efforts to try to contain the spread of zebra mussels and other Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS), inspections of boats and trailers is required before launching and after loading every boat at Lake Pueblo. Boaters at Lake Pueblo may fish or moor 24 hours a day. However, they may only launch and load when the boat ramp inspection stations are open. Please check online for current inspection hours. All trailered and gas motorized boats, including personal watercraft, must launch and load at the boat ramps. Hand carried vessels with electric motors, hand propelled vessels and fishing aids are the only exceptions and may be launched from the shoreline. For additional information on Zebra Mussels, please go online at www.parks.state.co.us.

Fishing

Lake Pueblo is an excellent fishery and one of the top walleye, wiper and bass fisheries in the state. Fishing is permitted anywhere on the park with a valid fishing license, except from the boat docks, boat ramps, along the face of the dam, and in other areas closed to public access. The most common species caught at Lake Pueblo include channel catfish, sunfish, carp, walleye, bass, wipers, rainbow trout and brown trout.

Special regulations apply. Please refer to the Colorado Fishing Regulations or visit the Colorado Division of Wildlife online at www.wildlife.state.co.us for more information.

Wildlife And Hunting

With diverse ecology and several ecosystems within the park, Lake Pueblo supports an abundance of wildlife. A few of the commonly seen animals include mule and whitetail deer, bobcats, coyotes, prairie dogs, badgers, raccoons, cottontail and jackrabbits, beavers, several species of snakes, lizards, turtles, hawks, songbirds and waterfowl. Commonly seen birds include sea gulls, golden eagles, roadrunners, turkeys and great blue herons. Winter visitors include bald eagles, rare ducks and Canada geese.

Hunting in the park is controlled and permitted from the Tuesday after Labor Day through the Friday prior to Memorial Day. Only bow and arrows and shotguns loaded with birdshot are allowed. Waterfowl hunters must use steel shot. Hunting is allowed in designated areas only – please check online, with a ranger or at the Visitor Center for further details.

Arkansas Point Campground

© Ron Drummond
Juniper Breaks Campground

Sites located on a bluff or steep hill: 174, 175, 176 and 178

Northern Plains Campground

Walk-in sites W506-W519 are tent sites and only provide a bench and a fire ring. A parking space is available for one passenger vehicle. The sites are accessible by foot within an approximate distance of 50 to 120 yards from parking space to site. Distance varies on site location. Available on a first-come, first-served basis only.

The following campsites are accessible:

- Walk-in Tent Site
- Camper Registration Building
- Laundry
- Amphitheatre
- Playground
- Restrooms
- Dump Station
- Water Hydrant