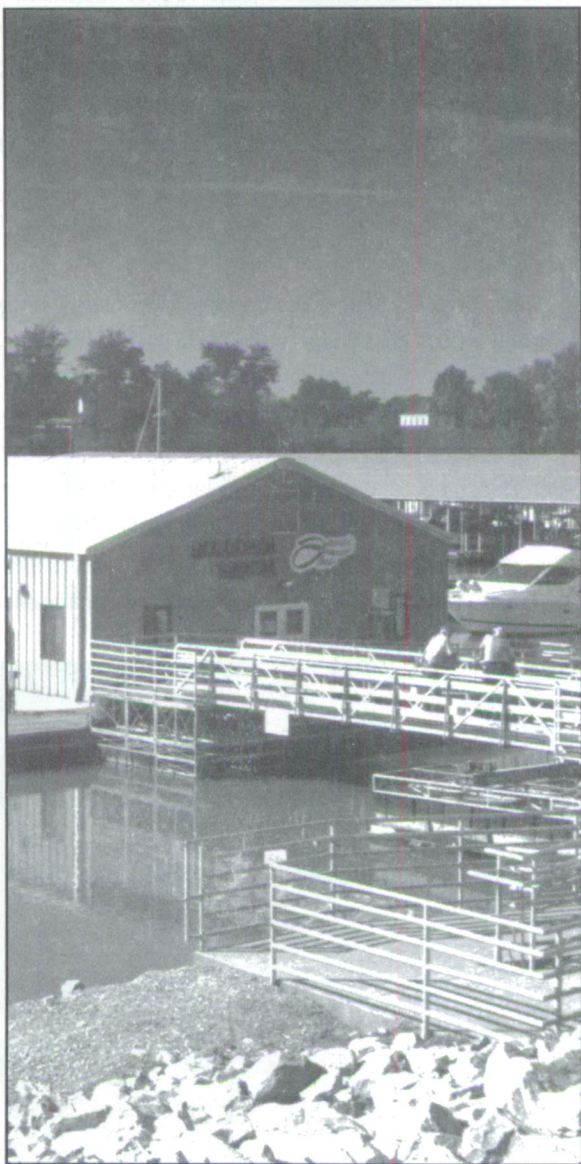


# Golconda Marina



**Illinois**  
Department of  
**Natural Resources**

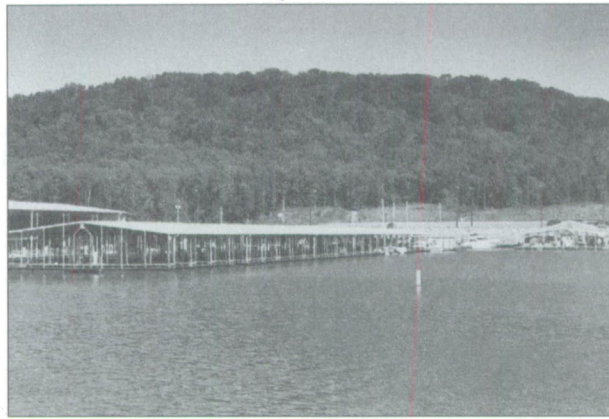
## Golconda Marina

With slips for more than 200 boats, Golconda Marina is an Ohio River landmark. Located in extreme southeastern Illinois in the town of Golconda, the marina serves as the gateway to the river's Smithland Pool. A 23,000-acre recreational area of fingered tributaries off the Ohio River, Smithland Pool is recognized as one of the finest fishing and boating areas in the nation.

## History

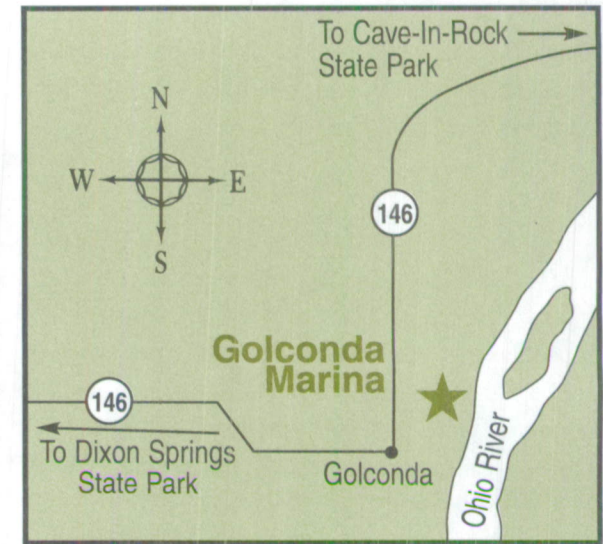
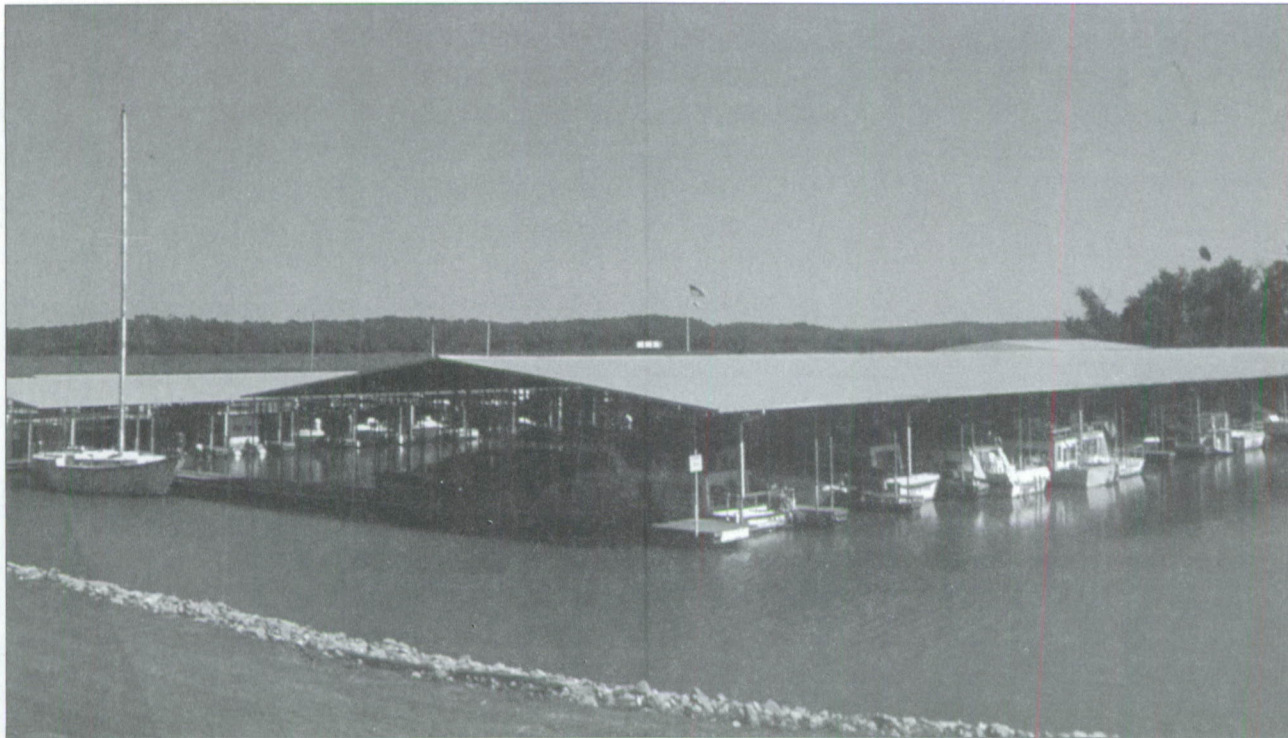
The site for the marina was created in 1937 when barrow dirt was used to build a flood wall around the town of Golconda. The resulting pit formed a water-impoundment area that offered excellent trapping and fishing.

The marina began as a project of the Lusk Conservancy District and was completed as a joint venture of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Opened in 1988 as one of the Ohio River's most up-to-date facilities, the marina is owned by the Department of



Natural Resources, which leases it to a private concessionaire.

A large bluff on the north side of the marina, also owned by DNR, features camping, picnicking, and 2 hiking trails overlooking the river. Called Rauchfuss Hill after a farm family who lived there for many years, the site also has been known as Steamboat Hill because of the view it offers of steamboats traveling the Ohio River.



## Smithland Pool

Smithland Pool was formed in 1980 upon completion of the Smithland Navigation Project at Hamlettsburg. The pool is more than 72 miles long, extending from north of the Smithland Lock on the Ohio River to the Uniontown Lock. From Smithland Pool there is easy, deep-water access to Evansville, Ind. (110 miles), Kentucky Lake (56 miles), Barkley Lake (54 miles) and Mobile, Ala. (655 miles).

The pool's shoreline, numerous islands and deep, clean water attract outdoor recreationists looking for excellent boating, water skiing and fishing.

## Fishing

Popular fish available to anglers include largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, Kentucky spotted bass, crappie, bluegill, sauger, striped bass, white bass and catfish.

## Facilities

The marina is a full-service facility, offering overnight moorage, covered slips, boat rental, gas, diesel, mechanic service, food and shower facilities. Accessibility for disabled visitors is provided.

The concession building is open March 1 through Nov. 20. It houses a full line of fishing equipment, boating accessories, bait, food, drink and camping supplies.

Many fishing tournaments are hosted at the marina. Courtesy transportation from the marina is provided by several Golconda businesses, or, if you enjoy walking, a short stroll will put you in the heart of Golconda.

## The Town

Home to about 1,000 residents, Golconda is a typical river town. It features early 20th century architecture reflecting the prosperous times when the river trade made it the economic center of the area. Visitors to Golconda today will find both elegant dining and down-home barbecue, as well as a variety of overnight accommodations, including cottages, motels, cabins and bed-and-breakfast inns.

The town is rich in history and was known as an overnight stop for riverboat pilots and captains. Residents also tell tales of local river pirates who once cruised the Ohio.

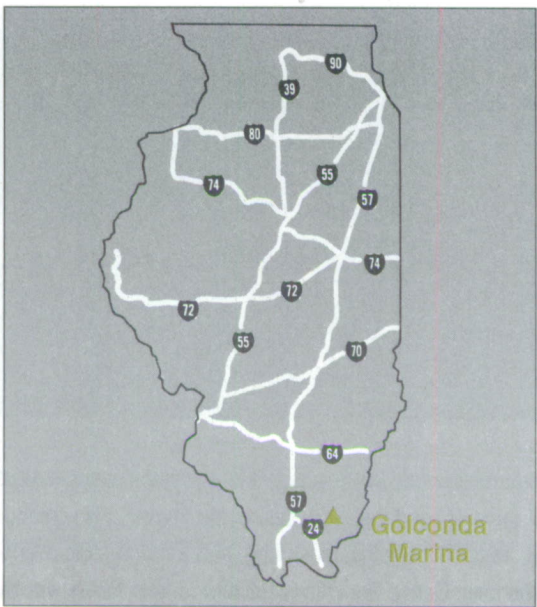
## Recreation

Nearby state parks offer outstanding camping, hiking and picnicking facilities. Several riding stables where horses can be rented and boarded also are nearby. Dixon Springs State Park is a few minutes' drive west Golconda on Illinois Route 146. Cave-In-Rock State Park is a short jaunt north of Golconda and offers an excellent restaurant and beautiful cabins.

## Hunting

A public hunting area, Dog Island Wildlife Management Area, is 18 miles south of Golconda on the Bay City blacktop. Its 221 acres, including 25 acres of water, feature a variety of game species. In addition to observing state and site-specific regulations, all hunters must sign in and out at the parking lot.

For more information about Golconda Marina, call (618) 683-4545 or contact Dixon Springs State Park at (618) 949-3394. To contact the marina, phone (618) 683-5875.



## Golconda Marina

R.R. 1

Golconda, IL 62938, 618-683-5875

- While groups of 25 or more are welcome and encouraged to use the park's facilities, they are required to register in advance with the site office to avoid crowding or scheduling conflicts.
- At least one responsible adult must accompany each group of 15 minors.
- Pets must be kept on leashes at all times.
- Actions by nature can result in closed roads and other facilities. Please call ahead to the park office before you make your trip.
- We hope you enjoy your stay. Remember, take only memories, leave only footprints.
- For more information on state parks write to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Public Services, 524 S. Second St., Springfield, IL 62701-1787, or call (217) 782-7454.
- For more information on tourism in Illinois, call the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs' Bureau of Tourism at 1-800-2CONNECT.
- Deaf and hearing-impaired individuals may call the Department of Natural Resources' TTY number, (217) 782-9175, or use the Ameritech Relay Number, 1-800-526-0844.

Rod R. Blagojevich  
Governor

Joel Brunsvold  
Director

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