



Almost every evolution in surface-mining coal has been used on the lands now Pyramid State Park. The original park was surface-mined in the 1930s and 1940s using steam-powered shovels. Reclamation during that time consisted of planting trees on overburden strewn almost haphazardly across the landscape. This contrasts sharply with the modern mining and reclamation practices used on the 16,000 acres purchased from Arch of Illinois. The newer lands have a gently rolling landscape and large, deliberately planned lakes. Advances in reclamation technologies allow much of this land to be pastured or farmed.

### Surface-Mining Operations

Pyramid State Park is presently Illinois' largest state park, encompassing more than 19,000 acres in southwestern Perry County. The original 924 acres of surface-mined land were used for research by Southern Illinois University, with the area designated a state park in 1968. The state expanded the park in 2001 with the purchase of approximately 16,000 acres from the Arch of Illinois mine company. A variety of habitats may be found in the park, from steeply forested hills and numerous lakes and wetlands to broad expanses of grasslands. A rich variety of wildlife inhabit the area, including deer, turkey, rabbits, geese and ducks. More than 80 species of birds have been documented at the site.

### Pyramid State Park

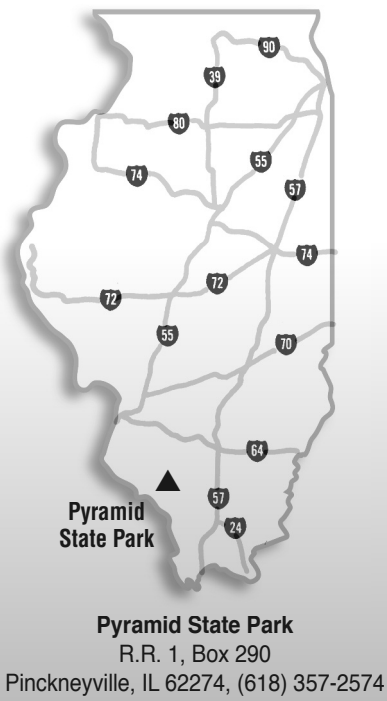
The Department manages Pyramid State Park as five distinct units.

- Original Pyramid – the 3,200-acre area originally known as Pyramid State Park
- East Conant – a 2,824-acre tract north and west of the original park
- Galum – a 4,385-acre tract west of the original park
- Captain – a 6,105-acre tract west of the original park
- Denmark – a 2,931-acre tract south and west of the original park

### Hunting and Fishing

Hunting and fishing are major public uses of the park and site specific regulations are available at the site office. Large numbers of migratory waterfowl are attracted to the park. During waterfowl season, a daily drawing is held for staked blind locations on the Galum, Captain and Denmark Units. Waterfowl refuges exist on the Captain and Denmark Units.

### Orientation



- 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. We hope you enjoy your stay. Remember, take only memories, leave only footprints.
- For more information on state parks, write to the Department of Natural Resources, Office of Land Management, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271, or visit our website at <http://dnr.state.il.us>.
- For more information on tourism in Illinois, call the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Bureau of Tourism at 1-800-2CONNECT.
- 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.

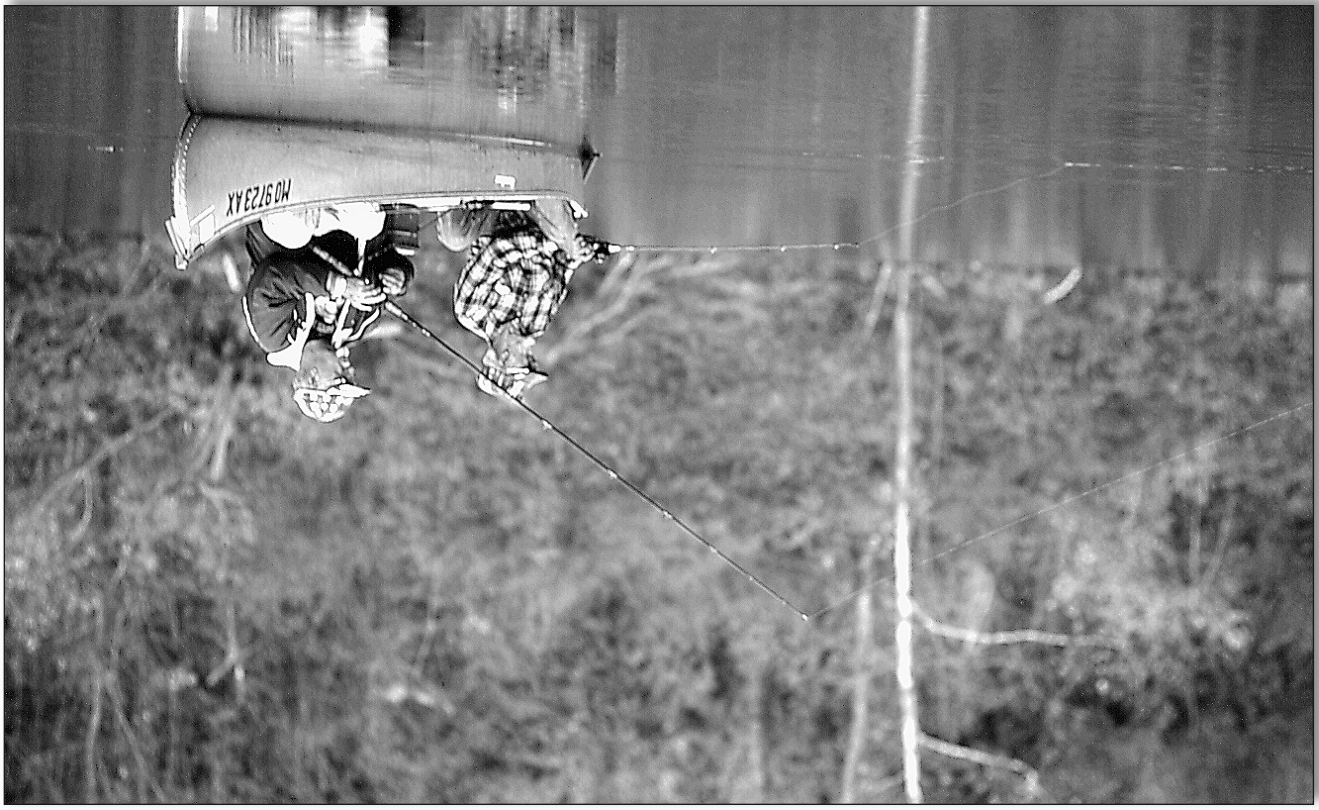
Equal opportunity to participate in programs of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and those funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies is available to all individuals regardless of race, sex, national origin, disability, age, religion or other non-merit factors. If you believe you have been discriminated against, contact the funding source's civil rights office and/or the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, IDNR, One Natural Resource Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271; 217/785-0067; TTY 217/782-9175.

This information may be provided in an alternative format if required. Contact the DNR Clearinghouse at (217)782-7498 for assistance.

### Trails

Pyramid State Park contains more than 50 lakes and ponds, offering an excellent fishing resource to the public. Fisheries' management focuses on maintaining or improving existing populations of largemouth bass, bluegill, redear sunfish and channel catfish. All lakes have a 10 horsepower limit. Although primitive boat launches are available at several lakes, ramps and approaches are steep, and the use of a four-wheel drive vehicle is recommended.

Deer and upland game hunting are also popular activities at Pyramid. The site is managed as a quality hunting area, requiring that all bucks harvested have a minimum of four points on one side. Upland game hunting is allowed by drawing only, and a tree upland game application must be submitted by mail to the Springfield Department of Natural Resources Office.



### Camping

Tent and trailer camping are permitted at designated camping areas only. The original Pyramid Unit contains three Class C camping areas, a Class D hike-in campsite and a small equestrian campground. All campers must obtain a camping permit from site staff.

### Picnicking

Picnic areas within the original park unit are numerous but small due to the steep terrain. Picnic tables and grills are available.

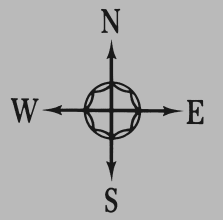
### Field Trials

Between Sept. 1 and April 15 each year, dog field trials, including horseback trials, will be conducted on the newly acquired Arch property. The site also hosts the annual National Shoot to Retrieve Field Trial. Most field trials will be held on the Captain, Denmark and Galum management units.





# Pyramid State Park



## Captain Lakes

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 8 - Merganser Lake     | 13 - Super Lake      |
| 9 - Snow Goose Lake    | 14 - Bufflehead Lake |
| 10 - Canada Goose Lake | 15 - Pintail Lake    |
| 11 - Blue Goose Lake   | 16 - Wigeon Lake     |
| 12 - Gadwall Lake      | 17 - Black Duck Lake |

## Galum Lakes

- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 18 - Bluebill Lake   | 21 - Redhead Lake |
| 19 - Ringneck Lake   | 22 - Scaup Lake   |
| 20 - Golden Eye Lake | 23 - Galum Lake   |

## Denmark Lakes

- |                       |
|-----------------------|
| 1 - Ruddy Duck Lake   |
| 2 - Green Wing Lake   |
| 3 - Shoveler Lake     |
| 4 - Canvasback Lake   |
| 5 - Mallard Lake      |
| 6 - Blue Wing Lake    |
| 7 - Lesser Scaup Lake |

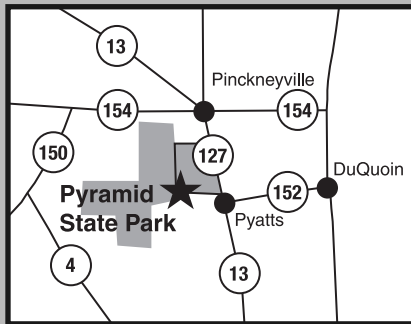
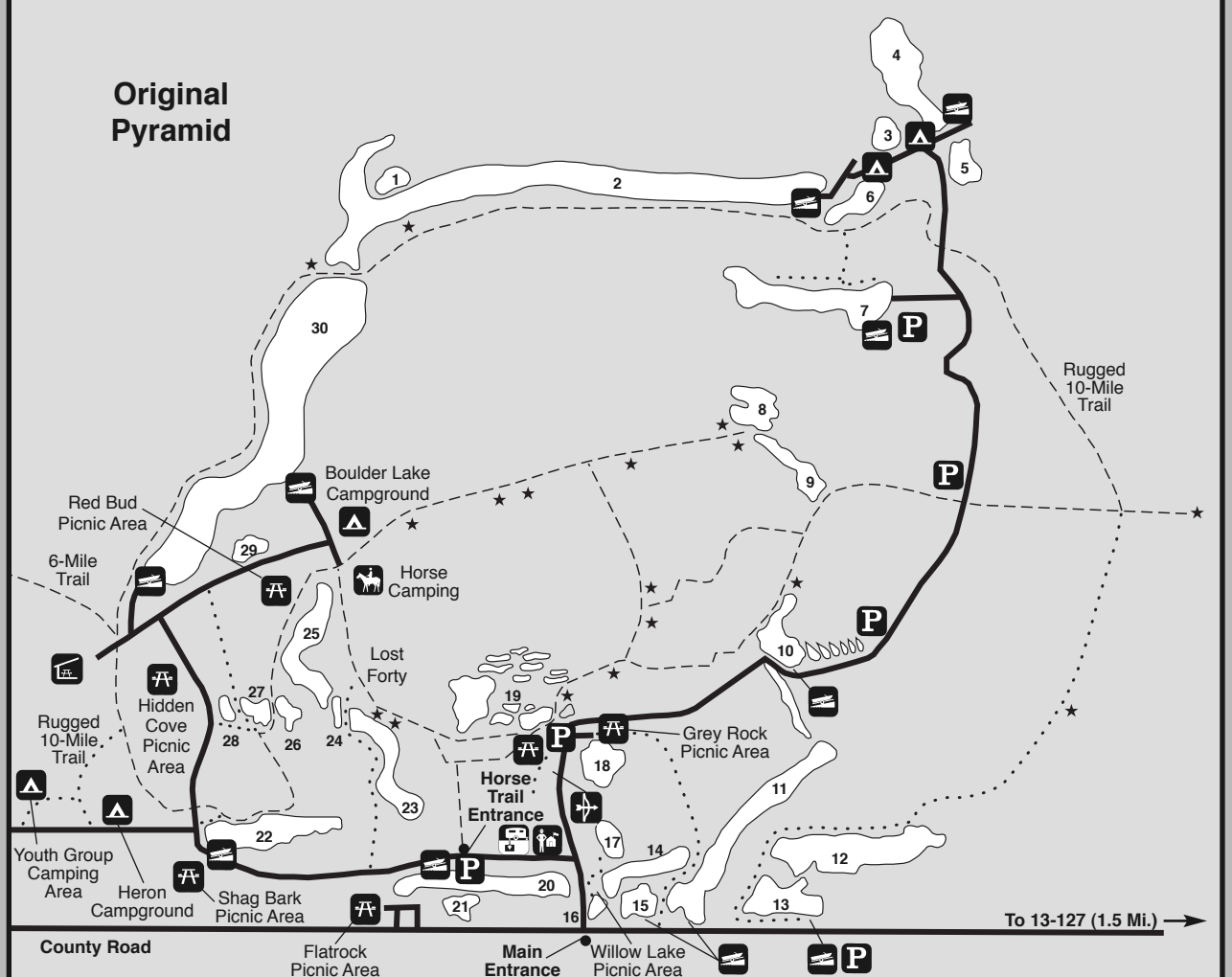
## Pyramid State Park Lakes & Ponds

- |                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 - Stump Pond          | 16 - Willow Lake  |
| 2 - Wesseln Lake        | 17 - Ridge Lake   |
| 3 - Plum Lake           | 18 - Serene Lake  |
| 4 - Clear Lake          | 19 - Chain Lakes  |
| 5 - Cottonwood Lake     | 20 - Crystal Lake |
| 6 - Beehive Lake        | 21 - Ring Lake    |
| 7 - Lost Lake           | 22 - Heron Lake   |
| 8 - Hidden Lake         | 23 - Hook Lake    |
| 9 - Blackberry Lake     | 24 - Reed Lake    |
| 10 - Pine Lake          | 25 - Marsh Lake   |
| 11 - Spring Lake        | 26 - Elm Lake     |
| 12 - Beaver Lake        | 27 - Ash Lake     |
| 13 - Little Beaver Lake | 28 - Oak Lake     |
| 14 - Cedar Lake         | 29 - Little Pond  |
| 15 - Crescent Lake      | 30 - Boulder Lake |

## Legend

- IDNR Boundary
- ..... Foot Trail
- Horse Trail
- Archery Range
- Boat Launch
- Campground
- Equestrian Campground
- Parking
- Park Office
- Picnic Area
- Picnic Shelter
- Sanitary Dumping Station
- Hike-In Camping

## Original Pyramid



"EAST CONANT"

"GALUM"

"ORIGINAL PYRAMID"

"CAPTAIN"

"DENMARK"

← To Rt. 4

To Rt. 127 →

To 13-127 (1.5 Mi.) →