

AREA HISTORY & POINTS OF INTEREST

Cagles Mill Lake is located within the Wabash River Valley in an area of scenic beauty. Picturesque Cataract Falls is at the headwaters of the lake, providing a pleasant experience for visitors. An early settler appropriately described the region as "a sensitive display of rolling hills surrounded by numerous streams and creeks. The hills often rise into steep rock bluffs or furnish valleys with soil as rich as the prized river bottoms." It was this presence of fertile soil and abundance of fresh water that had for centuries attracted Native Americans to the area.

The Miami, Shawnee and Potawatomi were the dominant tribes that inhabited the region through the 18th century. However, in the late 1700s, the relentless western expansion of white settlers reached the area and threatened the tribes' claim to the land. Frequent conflicts followed, culminating with the battles of Tippecanoe and Fallen Timbers, which effectively destroyed the tribes as an organized fighting force, and forced the surrender of their land claims in the Indiana Territory.

The "Ten O'clock Line" Treaty, signed in 1809, gave pioneers claim to the land south and west of a line established by the shadow of a tree at ten o'clock. This line crossed what is now the Lieber State Recreation Area and Lower Cataract Falls. With the signing of that treaty and, subsequently, the Treaty of 1818, land in the Cagles Mill Lake area opened for settlement.

A great migration of pioneers eager to claim the valuable resources of the area ensued. They cleared the dense hardwood forests and farmed the river bottoms. The plentiful water supply spurred development of grist mills and sawmills, which gave rise to the local communities of Cataract and Cunot. Cagles Mill Lake bears the name of an old grist mill that was downstream from the lake. Cagles Mill was destroyed and rebuilt several times before finally being destroyed by fire in 1975. The old low-level dam is still in place.

Development of the region progressed rapidly with the discovery of limestone rock beds, gravel deposits, and other mineral deposits near Cloverdale, Putnamville and Reelsville. The National Trail (U.S. 40) and the onset of the railroad encouraged growth by providing employment and increasing business, while easing the transportation of goods and raw materials. The Vandalia, Monon and B&O railroads played an integral part in the diversified development of the Cagles Mill Lake area.

Today, more than a century later, many of the same industries provide a livelihood for area residents who take pride in their resourceful heritage. Livestock and grain farms, forest industries, and limestone quarries contribute to the local economy. The railroad lines (under different names) are still active and important for transport of area products Visitors to the site of the old Jennings Mill in Cataract can relive the old days.

> For a list of park events, visit interpretiveservices.IN.gov

AQUATIC CENTER—Located at Lieber SRA.

Opens Memorial Day. Length of season may vary.

BEACH—Swimming permitted Memorial Day

BOAT RAMPS—Available at two locations, boat-

BOAT RENTAL—Pontoon and fishing boats

available for hourly or daily rental. Visit the marina

CAMPING—Campsites available include electric and non-electric sites. Occupancy limited to 14

CONCESSION & CAMPGROUND GROCERY—

Open summer months. Wood, ice, picnic supplies

FISHING—Bass, bluegill, catfish, crappie, hybrid stripers and walleye. State license required and

HIKING—Easy to moderate nature trails are

HUNTING—All hunters are required by law to sign

in and return a hunting permit card to a hunter signin station. Hunting in resting areas is allowed by permit

INTERPRETIVE & RECREATIONAL

PROGRAMS—Explore the world of natural

MARINA—Located at Lieber SRA, provides

concessions, seasonal mooring, fuel, boat rental

PICNIC AREAS—Tables, grills, toilet facilities, playground equipment and playfields. Accessible

SHELTERS—Reservations for shelters available

through the Central Reservation System.

resources while enjoying seasonal interpretive and

recreational programs at the Nature Center. Program

schedules are available at InterpretiveServices.IN.gov

consecutive nights. Reservations available through the

For swimming availability, contact the property office.

launching ramps are marked on the map.

ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

through Labor Day.

Central Reservation System.

and groceries available.

available at property office.

or call (765) 276-4933.

and fishing supplies.

picnic sites available.

available for hiking all year.

only. Areas available for disabled hunters.

for details.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- · Before hunting sign in at a check station. Take the appropriate check-in card with and when checking out.
- · No person shall conduct or participate in a fishing tournament on a reservoir property administered by the Division of State Parks, except under a license.
- No person shall launch, dock, or moor a watercraft or other floating device, except during approved periods and at sites designated by the department for those purposes. No person shall leave watercraft unattended in a courtesy dock.
- Any firearm, including a handgun, BB gun, air gun, CO₂ gun, bow and arrow, or paint gun must be unloaded or un-nocked and stored in a case or locked in a vehicle except in accordance with the terms of a one-day hunting permit and record card obtained from a hunter sign-in station and possessed by the person in the field for a specified date.
- A person who possesses a pet must attend it at all times and keep the animal caged or on a leash no more than 6 feet long.
- · Vending or advertising without DNR permission is prohibited.
- Camping is permitted only in the campground. Youth groups must be under adult supervision.
- · Fires shall be built only in designated places.
- Please comply with the Carry In/Carry Out trash policy in all day-use areas. Overnight guests must put waste in receptacles provided for that purpose.
- Motorists shall observe posted speed limits and park only in designated areas. (25 mph maximum)
- · Drinking water should be taken only from pumps, hydrants or fountains provided for that purpose. This water is tested regularly for purity.
- Report lost or found articles to the property office.
- · Use of metal detectors is prohibited.

For a complete list of rules and regulations, inquire at property office. DESCRIPTION OF HIKING TRAILS

TRAIL & DESCRIPTION DISTANCE DIFFICULTY Moderate Covered Bridge Nature Trail .75 miles

Stone trail with benches and covered bridge, wheelchair accessible.

Overlook Trail .5 miles Easy Stone trail with benches and wildlife viewing platform. .5 miles Moderate

Loop trail of pavement and stone that can be used to connect upper and lower falls.

Creekside Trail .75 miles Moderate Starts at upper falls overlook and follows the creek to the lower falls.

PLEASE STAY ON MARKED TRAILS.

CENTRAL RESERVATION SYSTEM



Reservations for all types of camping, family cabins, and shelters at state parks, reservoirs and forests can be made online or by calling toll-free.

Call: 1-866-6camplN (1-866-622-6746) Online: camp.IN.gov

Reservations for the Indiana State Park Inns and Inn-operated cabins can be made online or by phone.

> Call: **1-877-lodges1** (1-877-563-4371) Online: Indianalnns.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION



Write: Cagles Mill Lake 1317 W. Lieber Rd, Suite 1 Cloverdale, IN 46120

Call: 765-276-0194 Online: on.IN.gov/liebersra

Call: 765-795-4439

US Army Corps of Engineers Cagles Mill Lake, Dam/Tailwater 11979 S. Co. Rd 375 W. Poland, IN 47868

SPECIAL NOTE

Receipts from admission and service charges are used to help defray the operation and maintenance costs of the lake. List of fees available in the lake office.

THIS IS YOUR LAKE

Visitors shall observe the rules, which are designed to fulfill the purposes for which the state operates reservoir properties, namely, to manage these areas for the enhancement of wildlife and for the use and enjoyment of the public.



Please carry out all trash you produce in order to keep your park clean and beautiful for others to enjoy!

@INdnrstateparks @indianadnr @INDNRstateparks See everything Indiana State Parks has to offer at stateparks.IN.gov.

OUTDOOR Subscribe to Outdoor Indiana magazine today, Visit OutdoorIndiana.org or call 317-233-3046.

The programs, services, facilities, and activities of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources are available to everyone. DNR prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information please write to: Department of Natural $Resources, Executive\ Office,\ 402\ W.\ Washington\ Street,\ W256,\ Indianapolis,\ IN\ 46204,\ (317)\ 232-4020.$ CATARACT FALLS COVERED BRIDGE

Cataract Falls Bridge is the only surviving covered bridge in Owen County. It is also one of only six Smith trusses in Indiana. This construction was patented by Robert W. Smith and built by his company or under license to him. While the majority of Indiana's covered bridges have Burr Arch trusses, Smith's design was a simple latticework of crossing timbers. The members pointing away from the center as they go up were in tension, and the members pointing in as they go up were in compression.

and delivered the pieces to be assembled on location. This allowed the Cataract Bridge's white pine timbers to have smooth, planed surfaces and uniform dimensions. Smith trusses were produced in a manner at odds with the romantic conception of covered bridges as a product of pre-industrial times. Instead, bridges like the one at Cataract show many characteristic of the late 19th century Industrial Age that are more likely associated with iron bridge construction. This bridge may be the best surviving example of a Smith truss.

Instead of constructing his bridge on site, Smith built

bridges in the controlled environment of his Toledo shops

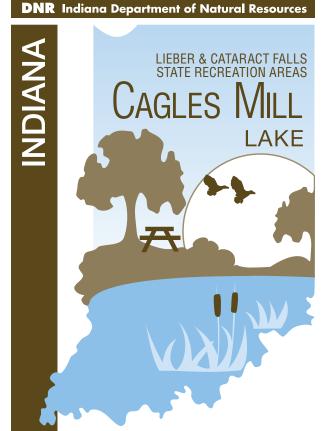
The preservation work was partially funded with National Historic Covered Bridge Preservation (NHCBP) Program and Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) grants. NHCBP provides funding to assist efforts to preserve, rehabilitate, or restore National Register-eligible and listed covered bridges. TEA-21 funds activities "designed to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of the nation's transportation system." The program has been instrumental in preserving numerous bridges, depots, and one-of-a-kind transportation-related historic structures throughout Indiana. Both programs are funded by acts of Congress, and operated by the Federal Highway Administration through the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT). Rehabilitation cost approximately \$520,000. The DNR's share was approximately \$110,000.

The bridge was entered in the National Register of Historic Places in April 2005, and documented by the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) in 2004.

DNR PROPERTIES NEARBY

- McCormick's Creek State Park-camping, hiking trails, saddle barn, play/sports fields, swimming, camping, Interpretive Services, Interpretive Center, picnicking, INN, cabins
- Owen-Putnam State Forest-horse trails, hiking, camping, hunting, bike trails
- Chinook Fish & Wildlife Area-fishing, boating, boat ramp, trapping, wildlife watching

Pick up an Indiana Recreation Guide for more information.



Cagles Mill Lake lies in Putnam and Owen counties in south-central Indianaapproximately midway between Indianapolis and Terre Haute.

Cagles Mill Lake was designed and built by the Louisville District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and is operated primarily for flood control in the Eel and White river watersheds, forming an integral unit of the comprehensive flood-control plan for the Ohio and Mississippi rivers.

Cagles Mill Lake was the first flood-control lake project in the Louisville District selected for construction under the authority of the Flood Control Act of 1938. Construction began in July 1948 and was completed in June 1953. The lake also is known locally as Cataract Lake.

The recreation facilities at the lake are maintained and operated by the State of Indiana, Department of Natural Resources, with the exception of the dam site, which the Corps maintains and operates.

Please let wild animals remain wild.

Feeding wildlife is prohibited. Feeding of wild animals can result in harm to both animals and people. Animals who depend on handouts become a nuisance to visitors and a danger to themselves. Please lock up all food and coolers inside cars or campers. Roll up car windows tightly.

.IN.gov/stateparks