The Kankakee is a clean river, great for landing small-mouth bass, channel catfish, walleye and northern pike. Rock Creek is also a good fishing spot. The park has two boat ramps for launching craft with motors of 10 horsepower or less; there's a launch at the Chippewa Campground and a launch at Area A parking lot on the south side of the river. However, please realize boating can be hazardous because the river is shallow and rocky.

**Canoeing**

Kankakee River State Park provides first class canoeing opportunities with many limestone outcrops that make it a scenic trip in any season. Canoists have no problem navigating the river's shallow water and rocks. Call the park office for further canoe information.

**Camping**

Pleasant sites at reasonable prices make Kankakee River State Park a great place to pitch camp. Potawotami Campground has two rental cabins as well as 110 Class A sites located in a wooded setting. More than 150 sites are offered at Chippewa Campground, which has Class B electrical, C and D facilities. The Horseback Campground off Illinois Route 113 is open April 1 through October 31. Davis Creek Campground is available by reservation for chaperoned youth and church groups. All areas require camping permits, available at the campground or from park personnel in state vehicles. Reservations with a credit card can be taken by calling the park office.

**Picnicking**

For a light lunch or a large get-together, check out the park's picnic areas. Tables are placed in pleasant settings throughout the park, and you'll also find playgrounds in several locations. Shelters are available on a first-come, first-served basis. There are three shelters that may be reserved by calling the park office for reservation forms. Groups of 25 or more are asked to obtain a permit, which is free, at least two weeks before planning to visit the park.

**Trails**

The park's trail system stretches for miles along both sides of the river. Hiking, biking and cross-country ski trails are on the river's north side, while horse and snowmobile trails can be found on the south. A 3-mile route along Rock Creek lets hikers take in the beauty of limestone canyons and a frothy waterfall. A bicycle trail begins at Davis Creek Area and travels 10.5 miles to Area A parking lot, at one point crossing a suspension bridge. Cross-country skiers have 15 miles of trails in the form of a linear trail along the river and a loop in the west end of the park.

A 12-mile equestrian trail is located in the wildlife management area along Route 113 and is open April 1 through October 31. When there's snow cover of four inches or more, the park is open from sunrise to sunset for snowmobiling. Directional signs for the trails are posted and maps are available at the park office.

**Riding Stables**

Rent a horse at the park's riding stables on Deselme Road, 0.75 mile north of Route 102. Guided horse rides, pony rides and cookouts all can be arranged at the stables. Stop by or call (815) 939-0309.

**Concession Stand**

For refreshments, ice, firewood and bait visit the log cabin concession stand, just inside the park's main entrance on the right.

**Park Restrictions**

Alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the park at all times. Because the Kankakee River is unpredictable with its fast current, drop offs and rocky bottom, no swimming is allowed in the park in any area, including Rock Creek.

---

All motorized vehicles are prohibited on all of the Kankakee River State Park Trails. Kankakee State Park has a full time site interpreter located in the Visitor Center. Available are guided hikes, school and youth programs. Contact the park office for further information: P.O. Box 37, Bourbonnais, IL 60914, (815) 933-1303.

**If the outdoors in Illinois is where you want to be—**

For only $10, you can subscribe to Outdoor Illinois magazine, a publication of the Department of Natural Resources. You will receive 12 issues for $10, plus a free, full-color wall calendar in the December issue. Call toll-free in Illinois, 1-800-720-3249. Outside Illinois, call (217) 782-1687. TTY (217) 782-9175. Or send a $10 check or money order to Outdoor Illinois, P.O. Box 19225, Dept. NL, Springfield, IL 62794-9225.