

Diamond Lake Park

By Director Mark Vavroch

Diamond Lake Park, managed by Poweshiek County Conservation is a great place for recreation just outside of Montezuma. The park encompasses 660 acres of land and features a 90 acre lake, a fish cleaning station, hiking trails, a playground, 4 shelter houses, paved bike trails, and 100+ electrical and tent campsites, three shower houses, three restrooms, and 2 dump stations. Thanks to support from the County Conservation Board we are constantly updating and adding to these amenities.

Diamond Lake Park provides 80 electrical camping sites equipped with 50 amp boxes, and several sites are located along the lakeshore for the camper/angler. The park also offers 40 non-electrical primitive sites on the north side of the park for tent camping. Again, many of these primitive sites are located along the water's edge for great fishing opportunities and views!

The park offers opportunities for bikers and hikers as well. Stagecoach Trail is a hard surface trail that provides a direct link of Diamond Lake Park to the City of Montezuma. The north segment of the trail traverses through the Diamond Lake Wildlife Area providing excellent opportunities for viewing wildlife. The park also has several miles of grass trails around the main lake and the 7 acre pond east of Diamond Lake.

An early partnership built this park. Diamond Lake was built as a city reservoir in the early 1950s for the City of Montezuma, and remains their primary water source today. The Montezuma Water Department pulls around 600,000 gallons of water per day from the lake for community use. In 1958 the Conservation Board and the City of Montezuma signed an agreement allowing the Board to acquire and develop land around the lake as a county park. This arrangement still exists today, and that relationship between city and county government continues to help grow a strong local economy for Montezuma and Poweshiek County!

Diamond Lake Park is an excellent recreational area that many residents of Poweshiek County, as well as many out of county visitors enjoy. The Board is committed to providing opportunities for families to relax and appreciate the solitude richness and peacefulness of nature. Come visit Diamond Lake Park and spend a few days!