History

Wolf Lake is a natural lake that was separated by dikes into five different sections following drainage. It straddles the Illinois and Indiana state line between 12th and 13th Streets, with the road on its east side running parallel to the Indiana State line. It's unclear how the area originally became known as Wolf Lake. Some local residents claim that Wolf was an early settler of an Indian chief. Others said that wolves were abundant around the lake 75 years ago, and that the area was once called "Wolf's Lake." Regardless of the cause, the lake is now called Wolf Lake.

William W. Powers, a former state legislator who was well known for his deep interest in the promotion of recreation for the residents of the district, was the one who had the lake named in his honor. He was also recognized as the Wolf Lake Conservation Area in 1947 and was known as the Wolf Lake Historical Society. The property was originally acquired by the State of Illinois in 1947 and was known as the Wolf Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area. It is a 530-acre tract with a 413-acre lake known as Wolf Lake. The main entrance to the park is at 12th Street and Avenue O.

The Area

William W. Powers
State Fish & Wildlife Area

TO COOK COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT'S "WOLF LAKE OVERLOOK"

PICNIC AREA

PRIVY

SHELTER #1 (PICNIC)

SHELTER #4 (PICNIC)

 ENTRANCE

PARKING

PICNIC AREA

PRIVY

SHELTER #3

PRIVY

WOLF LAKE

BOAT LAUNCH

PARKING AREAS

RAILROAD BRIDGE

WOLF LAKE

INIAN CREEK

CONCESSION & BOAT RENTAL (CLOSED)

BOAT DOCKS

PARKING

WOLF LAKE

SUPT. OFFICE

SUPT. RES.

34 ACRES SITE

AVENUE "O"/Burnham Ave.

90 EAST

3412 79

139 58

57

94

3412 294

60

East Chicago

Hammond

Columbus City