The Park

Located on the Mississippi River about 1½ miles north of Oquawka near Illinois Route 164, Delabar State Park offers quality outdoor experiences for anglers, hikers, campers and picnickers.

Many of the park's 89 acres are forested with sturdy oaks, along with some birch and hickory trees. These forested areas serve as natural habitat for a variety of wildlife species, including squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, deer, groundhog and quail. More than 50 species of birds have been identified in the park, making Delabar State Park a natural haven for birders from throughout the state.

The park is named to honor two brothers, Roy and Jack Delabar, who donated the site to the state in 1959 to be developed as a state park. The park officially opened in 1960.
Facilities

Picnicking — Three picnic areas are available: one at the south end, one at the north end and one in the center of the park. All three are equipped with picnic tables and camp stoves. Picnic areas are conveniently located near parking areas. The center picnic area has a shelter to accommodate family and group gatherings.

Drinking water and toilets are provided, and a playground is located near the center picnic area.

Cooking fires are permitted only in the camp stoves. Open fires are prohibited.

Camping — Areas for both tent and trailers are available. Electrical hook-ups, drinking water, a sanitary station and a jet pump for filling trailers are available. Campers must obtain a permit from the park staff before setting up camp. Group camping is available. Groups of 25 or more must have advance permission from the site superintendent.

Trails — Two marked trails covering nearly two miles through the woods are available for nature lovers and wildlife observers.

Fishing — River fishing is popular at Delabar State Park. Boats with motors of any size are allowed on the river. A launching ramp at the south end of the park and two boat docks make river access easy. While there are no boat rentals at the park, there is a marina nearby.

For anglers who prefer to fish lakes, Delabar State Park is located near Gladstone Lake, in Henderson County Conservation Area. The 27-acre Gladstone Lake has a maximum depth of 25 feet and 1½ miles of shoreline. It has a variety of fish for the angler, a launching ramp, picnicking areas and camping.

Winter Sports — Many visitors take advantage of the backwaters of the Mississippi River for ice fishing and, when the ice is thick enough, ice skating.
Delabar State Park
RR 1, Box 118, Keithsburg, IL 61442, 309-374-2496

- 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. Please call ahead to the park office before you make your trip.
- We hope you enjoy your stay. Remember, take only memories, leave only footprints.
- For more information on state parks write to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Public Services, 524 S. Second St., Springfield, Ill., 62701-1787, or call (217) 782-7454.
- For more information on tourism in Illinois, call the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs’ Bureau of Tourism at 1-800-2CONNECT.

Telecommunication Device for Deaf and Hearing Impaired
Natural Resources Information (217) 782-9175 for TDD only
Relay Number 800-526-0844

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