Welcome to Lake Leatherwood. This historic 1000-acre city park is a pristine example of Ozark Mountain countryside. hardwood forests cover steep hills divided by a narrow 65-acre lake that is continuously recharged by cold spring water.

At the north end of Lake Leatherwood, a hand-cut limestone dam spills millions of gallons of water into a pool far below where white water curbs in eddies beside the red rocks of Iron Spring to form a creek that flows across boulders and rocks on its downhill course through the lower valley.

The cut limestone-faced dam, one of America’s largest, was built in the 1960s by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Both the dam and the park are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

On the west side of Lake Leatherwood, the land rises past a small marina to broad level land that provides room for picnic areas, a barbecue shelter house, pavilion, volleyball, and a WPA-era bathhouse. The hiking and mountain biking trail begins and ends here.

Treat yourself right. Spend a day enjoying one of America’s largest city parks. Lake Leatherwood gives you a lot to choose from.

TRAILS FOR EVERYONE:
The trails at Lake Leatherwood City Park are designed as low-impact, single-track nature trails for foot and bike traffic. Many rocky ledges, steep slopes, extended grades, creek crossings and terrain make most trails challenging for both foot and bike traffic. The trails have been marked with two colors to help with orientation. Be aware that the trails are multi-use and are shared between hikers and bikers. The trails are always busiest on weekends and holidays. Proceed as though you may encounter others around you and every corner.

TRAIL RULES
- No motorized vehicles or park stock are allowed on any trail
- No glass containers are allowed
- All dogs must be on a leash at all times.
- No fires are permitted along the trails.
- Leave all natural and manmade objects where they lie.
- Pack it in, Pack it out - “Leave No Trace”

HIKING LAKE LEATHERWOOD:
The following are some suggestions and considerations for using the Lake Leatherwood trails.

- Know your limits.
- Carry plenty of water. The only potable water available is in the day-use area. Never drink the lake water or water from springs or streams.
- Beware of biting critters. You might want to wear insect repellent during the spring and summer months. Arteries, chiggers, and other insects are abundant.
- Practice low-impact hiking. Avoid trail use when the trails are extremely wet. Do not create new trails or shortcuts. Keep clear of sensitive flora and fauna.
- Be aware of natural hazards. Exercise caution around cliffs, stillwater, and streams.

WILDLIFE:
Shooting wildlife with a camera is legal, but be careful; they don’t call you wild for nothing. Undeveloped areas give shelter to different kinds of park friends, including white-tailed deer, bobcat and wild turkey. Keep an eye out for our resident ducks and geese. They can get kind of pushy around meal time.

SWIMMING:
Bring a lawn chair and a book, catch some rays, and watch the clouds change shape. We supply a WPA-era diving platform, a sandy bottom swimming area, shady picnic sites, and beautiful views of cattails, water lilies, and naged Ozark hills.

BOATING:
This is a no wake lake. A paved boat ramp makes launching your own boat easy.

FISHING:
Catch your own supper from the dock, the bank, or a boat. A boat pile, crappie, bass, and small-mouth bass and channel catfish. Lake Leatherwood has secluded inlets where you can snag the big ones or nap and tell stories about the one that got away. Those 16 years and older need an Arkansas Fishing License.

For more information about Lake Leatherwood or Eureka Springs’ other parks and springs, contact us at:

Eureka Springs Parks & Recreation Commission
250 Spring Street
Eureka Springs, Arkansas 72632
(479) 236-2866
espark@arkansas.net
Reservations direct line: (479) 236-3721

Hiking Lake Leatherwood:
Lake Leatherwood’s trails offer many opportunities for all levels of hikers, from flat and easy to mountians and difficult. The following are the rules of conduct established by the International Mountain Bikers Association.

- Ride on open trails only. Some trails dead end into or lead to private property. Stay on the marked trails.
- Leave no trace. Practice low-impact hiking. Avoid trail use when extremely wet. Pack it in, pack it out.
- Control your bike. Mountain biking, even on a second, can cause problems for you or another user. Be smart and alert.
- Yield the trail. Don’t startled others. Let them know you are approaching. Pass safely and be prepared to stop, if necessary.
- Never accrue animals. The parks is full of deer and other wildlife. Give animals extra room and time to adjust to you. Keep your head up.
- Plan ahead. Know your equipment, your ability, and the area in which you are riding. Prepare accordingly. Always wear a helmet.

Hike fun and be safe!
Valley Trails
These trails start on or near the valley floor. They have fewer humps, however, contain rugged terrain and more creek crossings.

Beech Trail
2 miles
This trail crosses the valley floor, following the creek crossings. It is a bit more challenging for beginners.

Leatherwood Trail
2 miles
This trail follows a ridge line, offering great views of the valley below.

Fuller Trail
2 miles
This trail follows the shoreline of the lake, offering great views of the lake and surrounding mountains.

Bird Blind
This trail provides a great view of the lake and surrounding mountains.

Ridge Trails
These trails follow mountain ridges and are ideal for experienced hikers.

Overlook Trail
2.5 miles
This trail offers great views of the valley and surrounding mountains.

Lost Ridge Trail
1 mile
This trail offers great views of the valley and surrounding mountains.

Leatherwood Trails
Legend
- Challenge Trail
- Valley Trails
- Ridge Trails
- Spur Trails or Other Unmarked Trails
- Point of Interest
- Trailhead or Kiosk

Lake Leatherwood Trails

Minter's Rock Trail
2 miles
This trail offers great views of the valley and surrounding mountains.

Twin Peaks Trail
3 miles
This trail offers great views of the valley and surrounding mountains.

Beech Loop Trail
2 miles
This trail offers great views of the valley and surrounding mountains.

Downhill Challenge Trail
1 mile
This trail is the most challenging, offering great views of the valley and surrounding mountains.

Equipment Needed:
- Hiking boots
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- Map and compass
- First aid kit

Safety Tips:
- Stay on the trail
- Watch for wildlife
- Do not feed wildlife
- Keep pets on leash

Camping:
- River Campground
- Lake Campground

Restrooms:
- River Restrooms
- Lake Restrooms

Services:
- Park Store
- Picnic areas
- Restrooms

Emergencies:
- Call 911

For more information, visit the park website.