

**News Release**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Central Park Featured on State of Iowa's "99 Counties, 99 Parks" list**  
Local park part of initiative inviting residents and visitors to explore Iowa's outdoors

Central Park in Jones County is one of 99 county parks featured in a new effort announced by the State of Iowa today to encourage residents and visitors alike to explore Iowa's outdoors. The "99 Counties, 99 Parks" initiative highlights the wide array of recreational activities the state has to offer within its county parks.

"Iowa's county parks are great places to feed your sense of adventure," said Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds. "We have an abundance of natural beauty in this state and we're thrilled to issue an invitation for people to experience it first-hand. I know my family will be outside exploring all our county parks have to offer this summer, so I hope my fellow Iowans will join us."

Jones County Naturalist, Michele Olson stated "Central Park like many other statewide County Conservation Board parks and areas is a hidden gem! From the 25-acre lake to the campground, nature center, shelters and enclosed pavilion, to the hiking trails, lake walk and fishing pier, playground, and sand beach - Central Park has something to offer everyone."

The "99 Counties, 99 Parks" initiative features one county conservation-managed park in each of Iowa's 99 counties. Individuals are encouraged to visit [traveliowa.com/99parks](http://traveliowa.com/99parks) to browse parks by interest (or view all 99) and find the parks that best fit their needs. In addition to traditional activities like fishing, boating and hiking, the list includes parks with golf courses, archery ranges, disc golf courses, observation towers, eco-cruises, Olympic-sized swimming pools and luxury cabins.

"In addition to being beautiful, our county parks play an important role in Iowa," said Gov. Reynolds. "Research shows that natural beauty and outdoor activities are key qualities in places where individuals want to travel or live. We think the '99 Counties, 99 Parks' initiative is another great way to help spread the good word and surprise people about Iowa."

Families are encouraged to download the "99 Counties, 99 Parks" [Family Fun Guide](#). Available on the "99 Counties, 99 Parks" website, the guide features a variety of activities, including recipes, a scavenger hunt and art projects as well as information on geocaching and creating nature sculptures.

Participants can track their visits to the featured parks on the “99 Counties, 99 Parks” [checklist](#). Many of the parks also include “selfie stands” where visitors can take photos and share their experiences on social media using #ThisIsIowa or #99parks.

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Social media posts for your use:

**Facebook:** We're so excited to be featured in @Travel Iowa's <Tag> #99Parks promotion. Find us, and lots of other great county parks, here: <http://www.traveliowa.com/99parks>

**Facebook:** Iowa is full of natural beauty and we're proud to be a part of it! Check out @ Travel Iowa's <Tag> newest promotion showcasing a county park in each of Iowa's 99 counties. #99Parks <http://www.traveliowa.com/99parks>

**Twitter:** We're so excited to be featured in @Travel\_Iowa's #99Parks promotion. Find us, and lots of other great county parks, here: <http://www.traveliowa.com/99parks>

**Twitter:** Check out @Travel\_Iowa's #99Parks promotion about the natural beauty that can be found in Iowa's county parks – you might see a local favorite! <http://www.traveliowa.com/99parks>