

History

Lake Ashtabula is formed by Baldhill Dam on the Sheyenne River. The Sheyenne River is the longest river in North Dakota entirely contained within the state borders. Once water passes through the dam, it continues on in the Sheyenne until it joins the Red River of the North just north of Fargo, North Dakota.

Congress authorized the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to design and construct Baldhill Dam in 1944 to stabilize flows on the Sheyenne River. Baldhill Dam serves as a multi-purpose facility, providing water supply, flood abatement, wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities. The dam was first put into emergency service in 1950 and completed in 1951. The Corps renovated it in 1997 and made additional modifications to it in 2004 to provide additional water storage during flood events.

The Corps of Engineers owns the shoreline around Lake Ashtabula and is responsible for the management of these lands. The shoreline is divided into four zones,to include limited development, recreation, protected areas and restricted areas. Most of the larger segments of the shoreline are utilized as developed recreation areas, wildlife management areas or dam operation areas. The remaining lands are classified as limited development and are managed for a wide variety of activities, including dispersed recreation, agriculture and wildlife.

Emergency- Call 911

Thank You for visiting!

Lake Ashtabula - Baldhill Dam Recreation Area is operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Our trained staff is here to assist you, and we welcome your comments and suggestions.



To make reservations for campsites or day-use shelters use Recreation.gov or Toll Free 877-444-6777

For more information contact:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Lake Ashtabula Project Office
2630 114th Ave SE
Valley City, ND 58072
701-845-2970
www.CorpsLakes.us
www.recreation.gov
Reservations:(877) 444-6777





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LAKE ASHTABULA BALDHILL DAM Valley City, North Dakota









Camping

The Corps of Engineers operates six developed recreation areas, providing a variety of facilities around Lake Ashtabula. There are four different campgrounds to choose from, as well as two primitive hike-in campsites accessible from the North Country National Scenic Trail that offer a variety of facilities and experiences. Visitors can choose from the alcohol-free setting at East Ashtabula Crossing to the wooded seclusion of Eggert's Landing.

All campgrounds offer trailer sites with electrical hookups, as well as tent sites. All of the campgrounds have campsites that may be reserved through the National Recreation Reservation Service, 1-877-444-6777 or www.Recreation.gov. There is also three designated swimming areas and seven boatlaunching ramps available. Picnic facilities and playgrounds are located at almost all sites. The recreation areas are fully operational from the first of May through the end of September.

Fishing

Lake Ashtabula provides excellent fishing opportunities for northern pike, perch, walleye and white bass. In addition to seven boat ramps, there are three accessible fishing piers and four automated fish cleaning stations available for use. Fishing licenses and bait may be purchased from concessionaires around the lake.

Hunting/Wildlife Management

The Corps actively manages 2,800 acres of land surrounding Lake Ashtabula for wildlife. All of these lands are open to the public for recreation, including wildlife viewing, hiking and hunting.

Hiking

Lake Ashtabula is home to 35 miles of the North Country National Scenic Trail, a 4,200 mile long non-motorized hiking trail that starts near Lake Sakakawea in North Dakota and ends in Crown Point, New York. The trail segments at Lake Ashtabula are strictly for foot travel only. For information and trail conditions, please contact the Lake Ashtabula office.

Skiing

Groomed cross-country ski trails are maintained, weather permitting, at Eggert's Landing. Eggert's Landing has about 3 miles of trails groomed for both skating and classic styles of skiing.

Scenic Byway

The Sheyenne River Valley National Scenic Byway is a 63-mile long motor route, starting at the Baldhill Dam and traveling south along the beautiful Sheyenne River to the town of Lisbon, North Dakota. The route includes 25 interpretive stops.







Regulations

Copies of the "Rules and Regulations" brochure are available at the brochure boxes at each recreation area. Special site rules are posted on bulletin boards. All local, state and federal laws are applicable.

Water Safety

Your safety is our concern. Just a reminder that about half of all boating accidents involve alcohol and almost all boating fatalities occur when life jackets are not worn. Please use alcohol in moderation in areas where it is allowed. Always wear your life jacket when on the water.

The park rangers at Lake Ashtabula take an active role in water safety. They present numerous water safety programs to children, as well as adults. If you are interested in a water safety program, please contact the office for more information. Most accidents can be prevented, please make your trip to Lake Ashtabula a safe one.



LAKE ASHTABULA - BALDHILL DAM

