

## Orwell Lake

The main purposes of the Orwell Lake Dam is to reduce flood risks to the region and to provide water supply.

Congress authorized the construction of the Orwell Dam with the Flood Control Act of 1948.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began building the dam in May 1951 and finished in July 1953.

The lake's drainage area is 1,820 square miles and includes 8,600 acre-feet of storage (an acre-foot is the amount of water needed to cover an acre one foot deep). The lake has 20 miles of shoreline and is 4 miles long.

Dam Type - Rolled earth  
Maximum Height - 47 feet  
Top Width - 20 feet  
Length - 1,355 feet



## Emergency - Call 911

## Thank you for visiting!

Orwell Lake Recreation Area is operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District. Our trained staff is here to assist you, and we welcome your comments and suggestions.

Volunteer opportunities are available. Visit [corpslakes.us/volunteer](http://corpslakes.us/volunteer), [www.volunteer.gov](http://www.volunteer.gov), or Call 1-800-VOL-TEER (800-865-8337) for more information.

Thank you for helping us keep the park clean. We hope you enjoy your visit. While around water please use the buddy system.

### Please recycle!

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
St. Paul District  
Orwell Lake Recreation Area  
14780 Orwell Rd  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537  
(218)736-6463  
[www.mvp.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil)



CEMVP 65-1-50 | Rev. 1.21



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
St. Paul District

**ORWELL LAKE  
RECREATION  
AREA**  
Fergus Falls, Minnesota



**BUILDING STRONG®**

## Visitor Information

Do you get excited watching wildlife in a natural setting? Do the mysteries of their actions entice you? If so, then the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recreation areas at Orwell Lake are the place for you.

Viewing wildlife from our recreation areas is easy because of a wildlife sanctuary located adjacent to Orwell Lake. This 660-acre sanctuary, maintained by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, provides food and shelter for many animals all year long.

While hunting is authorized within our facilities at specified locations, it is prohibited within the sanctuary.

## Recreation Facilities

Orwell Lake has two day-use areas for your enjoyment. One, located at the lake's main entrance, has a fully accessible picnic shelter with additional picnic tables and benches around the area.



There is a fenced playground area and bathroom facilities. Fishing is very popular here, too. You will find the second area, called the overlook area, just north of the dam. This area is equipped with a picnic shelter area and is an excellent area for wildlife viewing.



## Location

Orwell Lake is located about 10 miles southwest of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, in Otter Tail County. This wildlife haven is less than 15 minutes from Interstate Highway 94 and about 30 minutes from Breckenridge, Minnesota. See location map for details.

## Lake Access

There are two boat accesses on Orwell Lake (see location map). Use of the south, primitive access, is exclusive to duck/flat-bottom boats. Use of the north access, equipped with concrete planks, is for larger boats. The lake is limited to boats with motors of 10 horsepower or less.



## Hunting and Fishing

Orwell Lake is a great area for walleye, northern and crappie fishing. Duck, goose, fox, pheasant, Hungarian partridge and white-tailed deer hunting is also good within the region. Be sure to check with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for specific regulations for hunting and fishing.



## Water Safety

Your safety is our number one priority while you visit Orwell Lake. Be sure to wear your U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket every time you are in or around the water.





# ORWELL LAKE RECREATION AREA



Water Safety Link

## DAY USE AREA

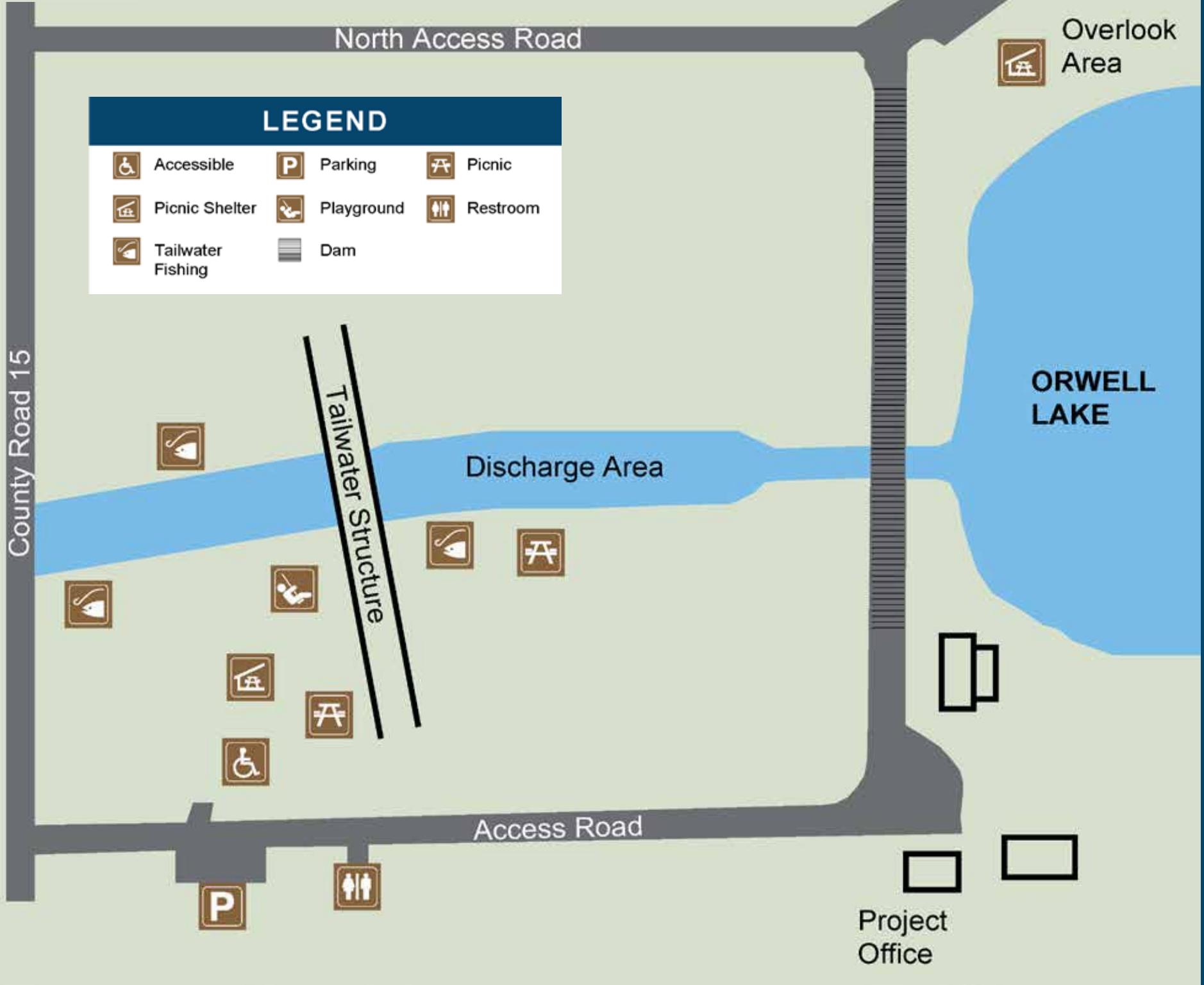


Bobber.info



Overlook Area

LEGEND			
	Accessible		Picnic
	Picnic Shelter		Playground
	Tailwater Fishing		Restroom
	Dam		
	Parking		



### LOCATION MAP

