

# Chicagoland

## River Experiences

Illinois has over 120,000 miles of rivers and streams.

Get outside and enjoy our natural treasures.

### Chain O'Lakes State Park

**RIVER:** Fox River

Lake and McHenry Counties

**WHAT TO DO:** Hiking, camping, fishing, boating, and horseback riding

8916 Wilmot Rd  
Spring Grove, IL 60081  
847/587-5512

**WEBSITE:** [dnr.state.il.us/lands/landmgt/PARKS/R2/CHAINO.HTM](http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/landmgt/PARKS/R2/CHAINO.HTM)

Coursing along the Fox River, Chain O' Lakes park is home to some of Illinois' best aquatic recreation opportunities. Characterized by its 7 chief lakes, the park offers a fun and variable current for canoeists and kayakers, with broader bodies for enthusiasts as well and on site boat rentals. Boats may launch for no charge, and the lakes are under no horsepower restrictions. With almost 250 campsites (151 Class A, 87 Class B/S) and three Rent-A-Cabins, Chain O' Lakes offers plenty of lodging on top of excellent fishing for a variety of species. Unique to the park is American Lotus, blooming on Grass Lake it is a summer visitor favorite. The 8.5 miles of foot trails and 8 miles of equestrian trails, along with horse rentals available on site for trail rides and hay tours, make the park a wonderful way to enjoy the outdoors.



### Cook County Forest Preserves

**RIVERS:** Access to Chicago and Des Plaines Rivers

Cook County

**WHAT TO DO:** Boating, fishing, picnicking, and hiking

536 North Harlem Ave  
RiverForest, IL 60305  
800/870-3666

**WEBSITE:** [www.fpdcc.com/](http://www.fpdcc.com/)

Boasting an extensive network of parks around Cook County, CCFP offers several bastions of nature in the densely populated, urban Cook County. With six nature centers, a multitude of lakes, trails, and more, the CCFP offers a vast amount of recreation activities throughout Cook County.

### Des Plaines Fish and Wildlife Area (Wilmington)

**RIVER:** Access to Kankakee River

Will County

**WHAT TO DO:** Hiking, camping, picnicking, fishing, boating, horseback riding, dog training, and hand trapping

24621 N. River Rd  
Wilmington, IL 60481  
815/423-5326

**WEBSITE:** [dnr.state.il.us/lands/Landmgt/PARKS/I&M/EAST/DESPLAIN/PARK.htm](http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/Landmgt/PARKS/I&M/EAST/DESPLAIN/PARK.htm)

Des Plaines Fish and Wildlife Area offers something for everyone! The natural prairie land, Kankakee River boat-access, fully-equipped picnic areas, and fishing on both the Milliken Lake and Kankakee River are wonderful ways to enjoy the warmer months outdoors. There is also a 12 mile equestrian trail open mid-April through October and dog training happening throughout the year. The sportsmen may also enjoy the park's hand-trap ranges, an archery range, and hunting- by- permit only.

### Kankakee River State Park

Kankakee and Will Counties

**RIVER:** Access to Kankakee River

**WHAT TO DO:** Biking, camping, canoeing, cross-country skiing, fishing, horseback riding, picnicking, and snowmobiling

5314 West Rt. 102  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
815/933-1383



Illinois' advocate for clean water and healthy rivers.

We work to reduce water pollution, preserve flowing streams and natural areas along rivers, and promote river stewardship.

Prairie Rivers is a non-profit organization that relies on the generosity of our members to fund our work.

We invite you to join our network and learn more at: [prairierivers.org](http://prairierivers.org)

1902 Fox Drive, Suite G,  
Champaign, IL 61820,

217/344-2371

