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# Black Bass Lake Park

Welcome to Black Bass Lake Park, a facility completed by the Eureka Springs Park and Recreation Commission. From humble beginnings as a lumber source and spring water gathering location this area has long contributed to Eureka's progress and well being. Black Bass Lake was created as a fire protection and drinking water reservoir from the abundant, pure springs in the upper reaches of Oil Spring Gulch, including Sycamore, Standing Rock, and Arsenic Springs. The earthen and cut stone dam dates to 1894 and is one of the oldest still standing in the Ozarks. The city now receives water from Beaver Lake via the Carroll Boone Water District, but water is still pumped to a 100' tall water tower on Hwy 62, as it has been for over a century.

Located just below town in the headwaters of the West Leatherwood Creek valley, visitors descend Oil Springs Road passing historic Oil and Johnson Springs and a wonderful example of a cavernous overhanging ledge on the way the park. The dam, the area below the dam, and the spillway area are No Access areas. General parking is by the kiosk and across the bridge. Restrooms and drinking water are planned for the future.

Enjoy the trails encircling the lake to access a non-motorized boat launch, a picnic area, several fishing spots, two wooden bridges and about one and a half miles of hiking and bike riding. Standing Rock, a vertical sandstone remnant, protrudes from the depths of the lake along Standing Rock Trail - while Sycamore Spring flows into the lake crossing Sycamore Spring. The Bluff Trail hugs the St. Joe geological formation, an amazing limestone outcropping, and features overviews of the lake and runs just above Sycamore Spring Trail.



City Reservoir, Eureka Springs, Ark.



Standing Rock Trail



Sycamore Spring Trail



Sycamore Spring





### STANDING ROCK TRAIL

Built upon a former pump house road bed, this trail begins just past the dam spillway and before the non-motorized boat ramp. It passes by Standing Rock and leads to a small picnic area and the two wooden bridges crossing both the wet weather creek and the headwaters of West Leatherwood Creek. The trail is mostly level, wide, and a multi-use trail.

### BLUFF TRAIL

Spurring off from and running above Sycamore Spring Trail, this rugged trail hugs the St. Joe limestone outcropping that rims the valley. The trail is steep at beginning and end, but mostly level, though narrow and rocky. This trail, featuring great views of the lake and valley, is favored by local mountain bike riders.

### SYCAMORE SPRING TRAIL

This trail begins on the opposite side of the dam and runs along the shoreline of the lake, crossing Sycamore Spring and heads to the wooden bridge crossing the head waters of West Leatherwood Creek. Abundant wildflowers line this trail in spring and summer. The trail is narrow, level for the most part, and follows an old fishing path.

## FLORA & FAUNA



Meadow Lily



Slider Turtle



Ribbon Snake



Moss