



Public Works/Lake Management

Cedar Lake
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CEDAR LAKE

Cedar Lake is a 1,750 acre impoundment which was constructed by the City of Carbondale solely as a municipal water supply for Carbondale and surrounding communities. The City of Carbondale owns and regulates the lake, the water within the lake and oversees its watershed. Half of Cedar Lake's shoreline is owned by the City and half by the U.S. Forest Service as part of the Shawnee National Forest. Through a mutual agreement with both parties, limited recreational use was developed and is permitted on Cedar Lake. Users should be familiar with the complete regulations posted in the parking lot at the Carbondale boat launch, available to review at the City Clerk's Office and on line at www.explorecarbondaile.com.

LAKE RULES & REGULATIONS *(incomplete but simplified version)*

Boats & Watercrafts

Only legally registered boats with valid state water usage stamps, may be used on Cedar Lake. No other floatation devices, inflatable rafts, inner tubes, surfboards, or sailboards are allowed on Cedar Lake. All watercraft users must also comply with Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) regulations including all required safety equipment.

Boat motors are limited to a maximum of 10 horsepower (hp). Officially authorized government watercrafts are exempt from the horsepower limit. **Boat motors must have legible factory affixed ID tags** containing the serial number, model number and horsepower rating. **Only 1 gas powered motor is allowed in the water at any time.** Individuals in boats with larger motors may use Cedar Lake but **any motor larger than 10 hp must remain unused and in the raised position at all times** (including during loading and unloading) while on the lake. Fuel lines shall be disconnected or propellers removed from second gasoline powered motors or for motors larger than 10 hp, as well.

No tying off or docking of boats along the shoreline of Cedar Lake on City of Carbondale property, except at the designated, City access area. No unattended, overnight storage of boats or equipment.

No boating within 150' of areas marked with buoys as restricted, such as the water intake structure, the spillway and the swimming areas.

Fishing

Anglers are subject to statewide IDNR regulations, plus the following site specific...

Pole and Line Fishing Only with a two pole maximum (2 hooks or lures per pole limit). *No jug*

or trot line fishing.

Large or Smallmouth Bass 14” – 18” length protected slot limit (no possession); 5 fish under 14” length,

1 fish over 18” length, daily creel limit

Striped, White or Hybrid Bass – 17” minimum length limit; 3 fish daily creel limit

Crappie (White, Black or Hybrid) – 25 fish daily creel limit

Fish-Offs/Fishing Tournaments

Any organized group of competing anglers on Cedar Lake (whether accessing from Pomona or Carbondale Boat Launch) must request permission in advance from the City of Carbondale.

Fish-off/Fishing Tournament Permits are required for all events and must be approved by the City of Carbondale. All events are limited to a maximum of 20 boats. A \$25 fee is required for each scheduled fish-off/fishing tournament. Call the Lake Supervisor at 618/549-8441 for permit applications, information and scheduling. Statewide tournament permits are also required and issued by IDNR for all fishing competitions. Statewide tournament permit information and applications are available on line at www.ifishillinois.org.

No Swimming or wading is permitted, except at the City of Carbondale’s designated Poplar Camp Beach during regular beach hours. No jumping or diving off rocks, no snorkeling or scuba diving. No rock climbing on the City’s Cedar Lake property.

No Camping or fires on the surrounding City of Carbondale’s Cedar Lake property.

Archery Deer Hunting is the only hunting permitted on the surrounding, City of Carbondale’s Cedar Lake property. To assist hunters, boats may be tied or docked along the City’s shoreline during archery season only. No hunting in closed areas designated by No Hunting and/or No Trespassing signs and delineated areas on maps. Only temporary stands and blinds may be used and must be removed at the end of each day’s hunt. No use of bark piercing nails or screws. No off-road vehicle use. Do not park blocking roads, drives or gates. No hunting is allowed during the state’s two designated deer firearm hunting seasons. Illinois Department of Natural Resources hunting regulations apply.

No alcoholic beverages

Dogs must be leashed and controlled while on the City’s Cedar Lake property. No dogs may enter the water and owners or agents of dogs must clean up after their animals.

No Littering – no exceptions! – If you bring it with you when you come, take it with you when you leave. Dumpsters and recycling bins are available for users at the Carbondale boat launch for trash and litter found or generated while using Cedar Lake. No household or other garbage brought in from outside the City of Carbondale’s Cedar Lake area may be left in dumpsters at the boat launch.

Parking is permitted in designated (striped) parking spaces only. No parking on roadways, on shoulders or on lawn areas unless such areas are specifically designated for parking.

No motorized vehicle use off designated roads and parking areas. No mountain bike, horse or pack animal use on trails or off designated roadways.

Firearms and fireworks are prohibited