

COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE

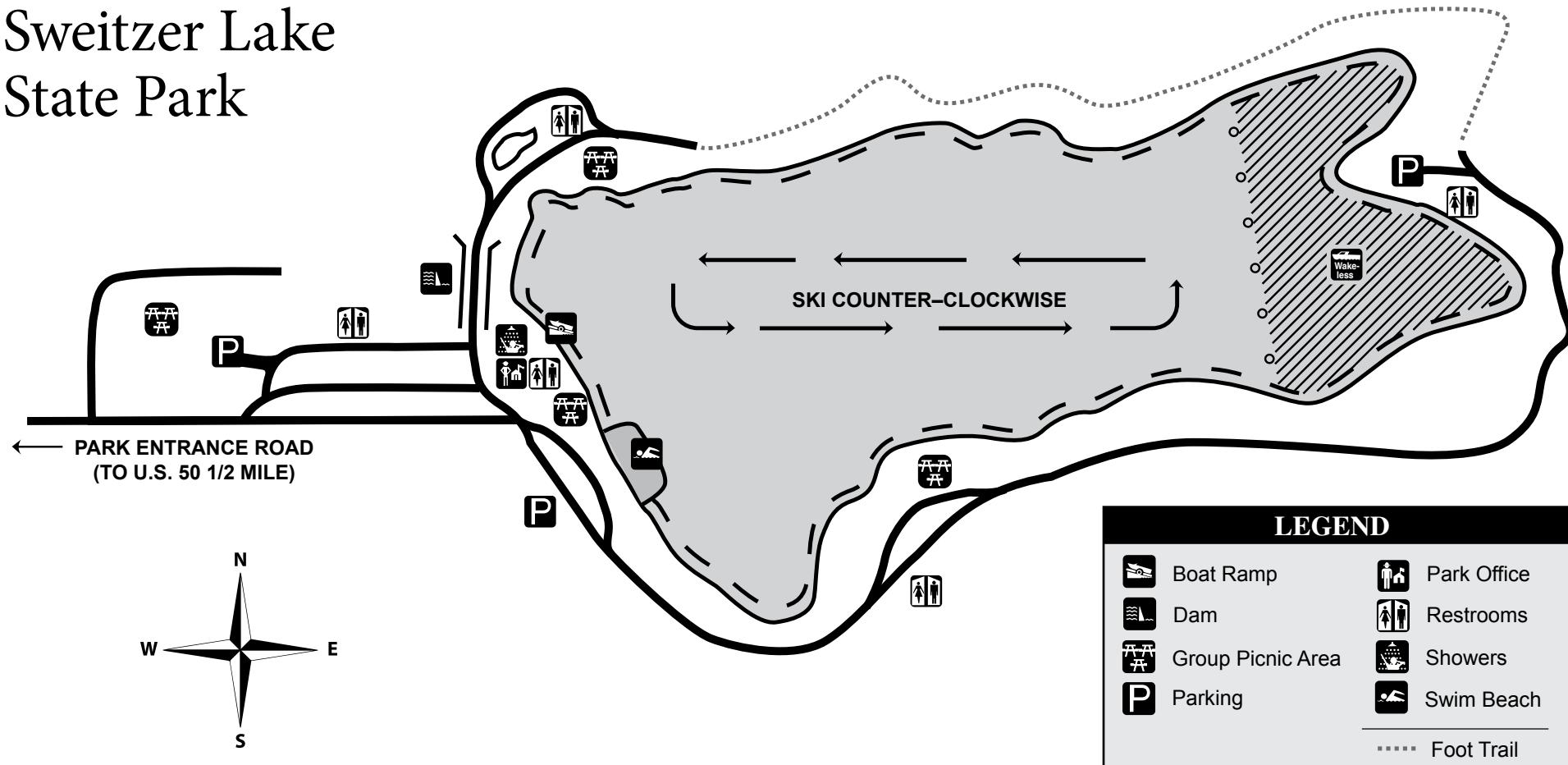
Sweitzer Lake State Park

ENJOY YOUR STATE PARKS



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Sweitzer Lake State Park



Well-known as a fine boating and water sports area, Sweitzer Lake State Park welcomes several thousand visitors annually, many from the surrounding Delta/Montrose area.

With land donated in 1953 by the Morgan Sweitzer family to what is now Colorado Parks & Wildlife, man-made Sweitzer Lake was built for the sole purpose of recreation. Since 1972, the area, with its 137 surface-acre lake and 211 land acres, has been administered by Colorado Parks & Wildlife.

Coined the "oasis on the edge of the desert," Sweitzer Lake has become a bird sighting area and a waterfowl observation site by the Audubon Society. About 179 species of birds have been spotted in the area.

In the distance, the majestic San Juan Mountains, the Uncompahgre Plateau and Grand Mesa—the largest flattop mountain in the world—encompass Sweitzer Lake. The western edge of the West Elk Mountain Range near Crawford can be seen from the picnic area on the west side of the lake, where the environment has been altered with shade trees and grass.

A day-use area with no overnight camping, Sweitzer Lake offers picnicking, swimming, sightseeing, boating and fishing. The park is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. between October 1 and May 1, and from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. from May 1 to September 30.



HELP PROTECT YOUR PARK

Sweitzer Lake State Park was built and is maintained for your enjoyment. In the interest of safety and for the preservation of your park, please observe the following regulations:

1. Place trash in the receptacles provided.
2. Keep your vehicle on designated roads or in parking lots. Off-road driving can damage the resources and wildlife habitat.
3. Keep your pet on a leash no longer than six feet to avoid accidents with vehicles and wildlife.
4. Use fire grills or rings provided and make sure your fire is completely out before you leave.
5. Report any problems to a park ranger.



Passes & Permits

Visitors to Sweitzer Lake are required to display a current Colorado State Parks pass on their vehicle windshield. Two types of passes are available. A daily pass is valid from the day purchased until noon the following day. An annual pass is valid at any Colorado State Park. For annual pass holders who own more than one car, multiple passes are available for an additional fee. Sweitzer Lake State Park is a day-use only park.

For Colorado's senior citizens 64 and older, Colorado Parks & Wildlife offers the Aspen Leaf annual pass, which allows admission to all state parks every day. Persons accompanying the Aspen Leaf pass holder in the same vehicle are admitted free.

Colorado Disabled Veterans (DV) displaying Colorado disabled veteran license plates are admitted free without a pass.



Boating

Power boating, sailing and canoeing are popular. A boat ramp is located at the west end of the lake near the dam.

Boaters at Sweitzer Lake State Park are subject to Colorado Boating Statutes and Regulations. Brochures are available at the entrance station and park headquarters.



Wildlife

A wide variety of small mammals live around Sweitzer Lake. Visitors can view mule deer, rabbits, raccoons, mink, muskrat and pheasant. The lake provides a haven for many native ducks, migratory waterfowl, pelicans, swans, eagles and much more. Hunting blinds are reservable.



Hunting

Hunting within the park's boundaries is controlled. Information on seasons and regulations is available from the park office, which can be reached at (970) 874-4258.



Fishing (Catch and Release Only)

Sweitzer Lake, generally considered a good fishing spot for youngsters, contains catfish, bluegill and carp. Fish in this lake contain selenium and are not edible.



Water Sports

Water-skiing, swimming, power boating, sailing, canoeing, jet skiing and sailboarding and scuba diving are popular. Swimming is permitted in the swim area only. There are no lifeguards at the swim area.



Picnicking

Picnicking is Sweitzer Lake's primary visitor activity with 32 picnic sites, and some shelters and lake views.



Community Facilities

Delta, two miles from Sweitzer Lake, offers all medical, commercial and religious facilities.



Accessibility

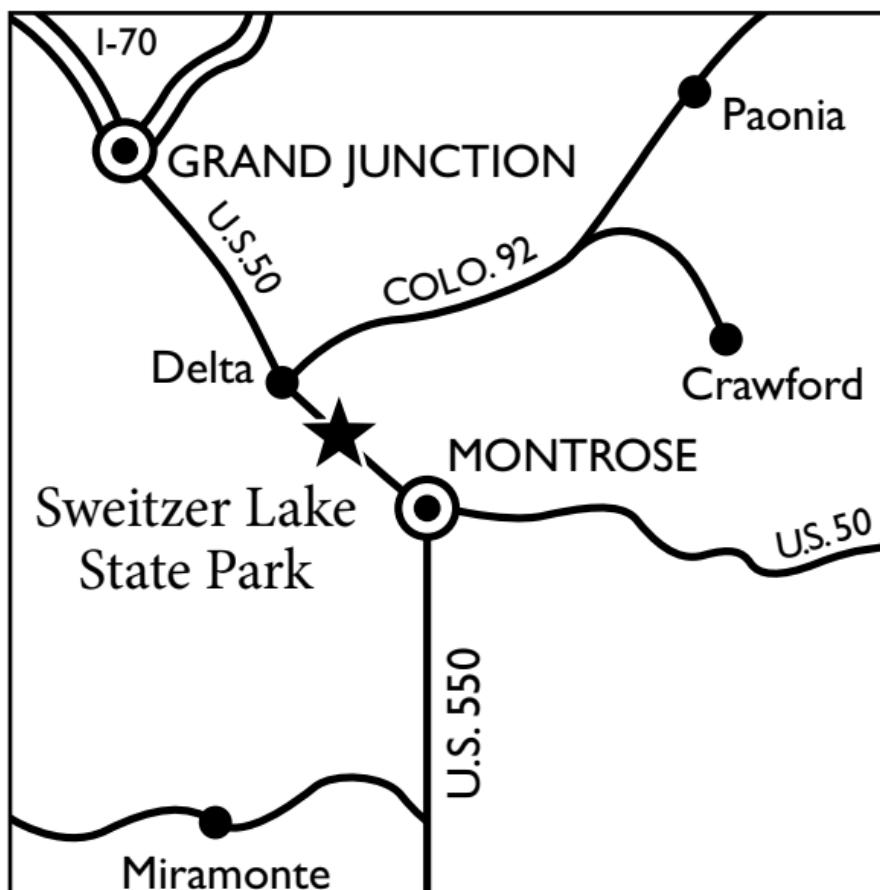
There is an accessible restroom and picnic site near the park headquarters.

+ FIRST AID

First aid can be obtained at the park headquarters or from any park ranger.

► LOCATION

General: Sweitzer is located one mile south of Delta on U.S. 50. Follow the signs turning east on E. Road.



Sweitzer Lake State Park
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This program receives Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you need more information, please write to: Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Civil Rights, U.S. Department of the Interior 1849 C Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20240



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