

2020 Visitor's Guide

Lake Tenkiller

www.LakeTenkiller.com

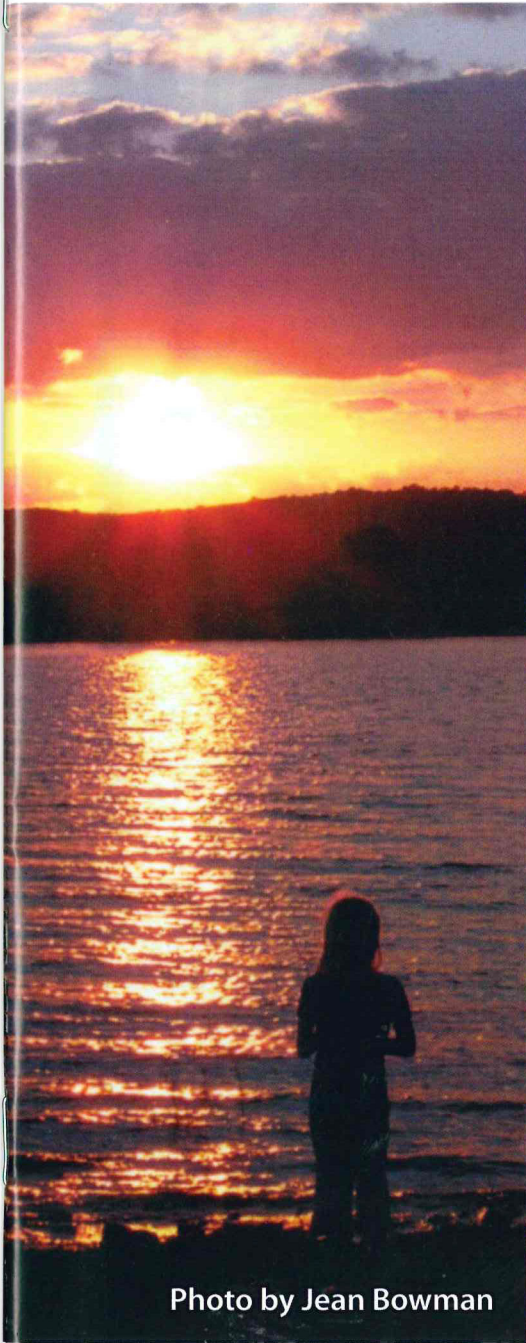


Photo by Jean Bowman



Photo by Jean Bowman



Photo by Rebecca Schmidt



Tahlequah · Illinois River
Gore - Trout Capital of Oklahoma



Marinas & Resorts

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 GTAA, P.O. Box 245,
 Cookson OK 74427
 (918) 457-4403 or
www.LakeTenkiller.com

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Jean Bowman
 Rebecca Schmidt

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Welcome to Lake Tenkiller

Scuba • Fish • Ski • Swim • Float
Cherokee Culture • Small-Town Atmosphere

Lake Tenkiller is Oklahoma's clear water lake. The nearly 13,000 acres of clear waters, and 130 miles of scenic shoreline with rocky banks and rock bluffs above and below the water provide the environment for the greatest variety of water sports activities and recreational entertainment.

The lake has 10 marinas and 20 parks managed by the State of Oklahoma or the Corps of Engineers with all levels of campsites available. There are 24 boat launching ramps around the lake, and rental boats of all kinds are available at most marinas.

Visitors can find excellent lodging and dining at the many resorts, motels and restaurants around the lake. For dining pleasure, there are floating restaurants, as well as a variety of excellent land-based restaurants — all happy to serve the casually dressed. There are paved roadways surrounding the lake and into each of the recreational access points, as well as a county airport.



Lake Tenkiller weaves 34 miles through the wild and rolling hills of Cherokee County. The lake was created in the Illinois River basin by the Tulsa District Army Corps of Engineers. Tenkiller is a proud example of how man and nature can combine their talents and beauty to produce a thing of lasting quality for this generation and generations to come.



Top photo by Marjorie Benedict-Scavone
The beautiful, clear waters of Lake Tenkiller are perfect for all types of fishing and boating activities, and with the many marinas and parks, there are plenty launch ramps and docks for your boat. Secluded coves are dotted around the lake and are popular anchoring spots.

Bottom photo by Valerie Westedt
Lake Tenkiller meanders through the hills of Cherokee County for 35 miles encompassing 12,900 acres and 130 miles of shoreline. The lake was named after the Tenkillers, a prominent Cherokee family who operated a ferry service near where the dam now stands.

Marinas & Resorts

Tenkiller Park

is 'Heaven in the Hills'

Tenkiller State Park is known as Oklahoma's "heaven in the hills." The sparkling blue waters of Tenkiller Lake offer water enthusiasts an abundance of recreational opportunities including water skiing, fishing, boating, tubing and scuba diving.

Guests may choose from 39 cabins ranging from one to three bedrooms. All cabins, except for the three bedroom, are duplexes, Cabins are equipped with dishes, linens, full kitchens, heat and air, and a television. The park also offers courtyard cottages.

The park features RV and tent campsites, as well as rest rooms and showers. The children's pond is stocked with rainbow trout for winter visitors.

Children age 16 and younger may catch their limit of three fish per day with no charge or permit required. The park's Pine Cove Marina offers fuel, gifts, sportswear, snacks, repairs and boat slip rentals, as well as featuring the floating Clearwater Cafe.

The underwater scuba diving park features underwater attractions ranging from a completely submerged school bus, various sunken boats, and aircraft fuselage and more.



**Explore Oklahoma's Only
Scuba Diving Underwater Park**

**Enjoy LAKE TENKILLER...
The Deepest, Clearest,
Most Beautiful Lake in Oklahoma**

- New Designated Scuba Park
- Lessons, Equipment Rental, Air
- Experience Oklahoma's Forgotten Past
- Great Diving – Novice to Advanced
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Contact Tenkiller Park

Phone: (918) 489-5641
 Cabin Office: (918) 489-5641
 Fax: (918) 489-2111
 e-mail: tenkillercabins@oklahomaparks.com
 Nature Center:
lbunn@OklahomaParks.com

Driving Directions

Driving east on I-40, take Exit 287. Follow Highway 100 North through Gore to the park.

Driving west on I-40, take Exit 297. Go 10 miles North on State Highway 82 to State Highway 100, then three miles South to the park.

Facilities include:

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake and river view • Meeting rooms • Outdoor swimming pool • Pets allowed • restaurant on site • Senior discount • Bicycle rental • Credit Cards accepted • 1,190 acres of park • Nearly 13,000 acres of lake | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenkiller Ferry Dam (Oklahoma's second tallest at 97 feet) • 39 cabins, some with fireplaces • 10 courtyard cottages • 10 camping areas with 240 campsites • Assigned camp ground • Nature center • Community building • Swimming pool with | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> slide and log roll • Boating • Fishing (in lake and trout-stocked stream) • Water skiing • Scuba diving and scuba dive park • Marina • Amphitheater • Kids fishing pond stocked with trout during winter season | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two swim beaches • Picnic shelters • Playgrounds • Volleyball and basketball courts • Hiking and nature trails • Hayrides and campfire programs • Naturalist |
|---|--|--|--|

How will I remember Lake Tenkiller? Drifting off to the soothing hum of the cicadas. Wading into crystal-clear waters. Setting up our little home-away-from-home under the pine trees at Cherokee Landing. My daredevils kayaked the roaring rapids of the Illinois, but I found my bliss at a slower pace, on calmer waters. While diving, we discovered remnants of Cookson, a little town washed away by a flood long ago. And that sunset drive on the Cherokee Hills Scenic Byway, ambling through the Ozark foothills? Breathtaking. These are the memories I'll cherish forever. Tenkiller State Park is called Oklahoma's "heaven in the hills" for a reason.



Save Your Spot!

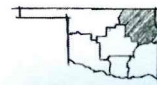
Land the Lake Tenkiller campsite of your dreams.

Book online at
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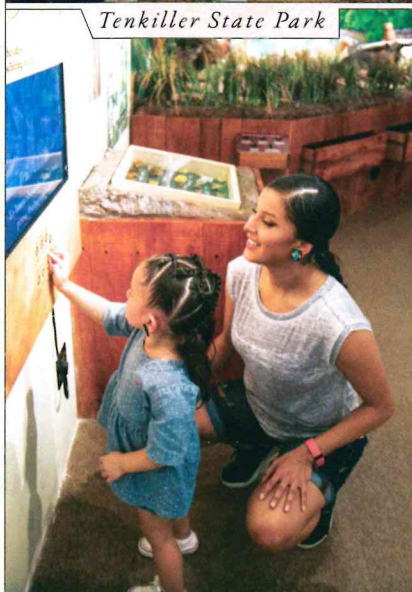
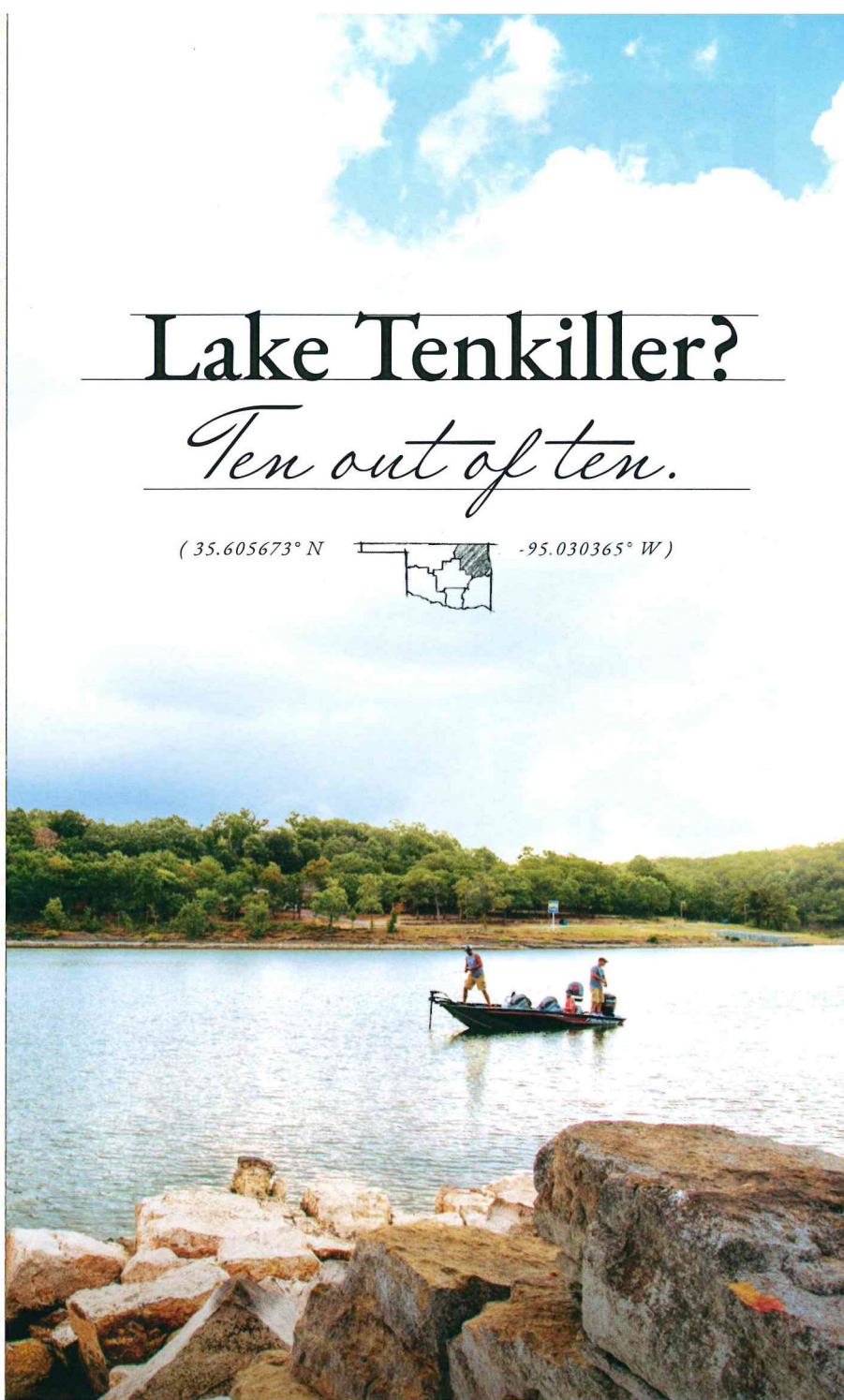
Lake Tenkiller?

Ten out of ten.

(35.605673° N



-95.030365° W)



Tenkiller State Park



Cherokee Landing

Relax and unwind.....



(918) 457-5674
SNAKECREEKMARINA.com



Photo by Don Bowman

Chicken Creek Store



Lake Tenkiller
19441 W Chicken Creek Rd
Cookson OK 74427
OPEN YEAR ROUND
918-457-4821

Groceries, Beer, Ice, Ethanol Free Gas,
Cabin Rentals, Grill & More

Accommodations

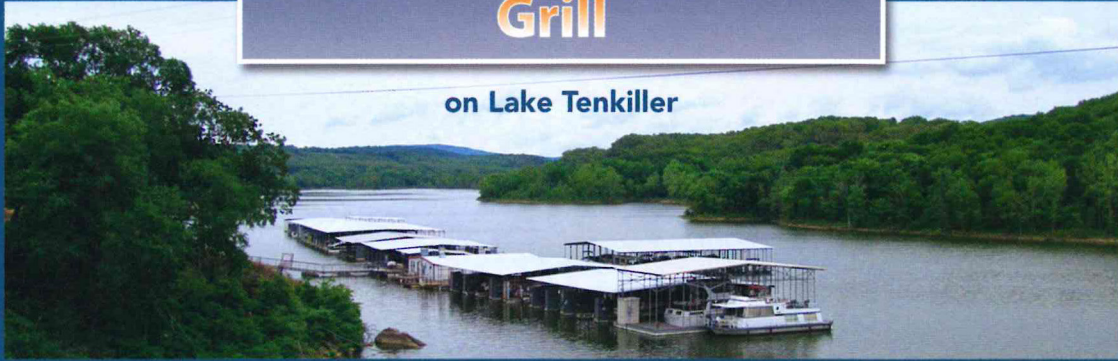
	Cabins	Condo/Homes	Mobile Homes	Motel Rooms	Kitchen/Kitchenette	Television	Air Conditioning	Outdoor Grills	Laundry Facilities	Fireplace	Meeting Room	Game Room	RV Hookups	Swimming Pool	Playground	Picnic Area	Allow Pets	Walk to Water	Open Year Round	Free WI-FI Access	Ad Page Number
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Marinas & Resorts

Caney Ridge Marina and Grill

on Lake Tenkiller



Ship Store • Boat Slips
Daily Boat Slips • Gas/Oil/Beer
Pop/Ice • Protective Cove
Hydro Hoist • Boat Lifts

Fully Equipped Lake front Cabins with Satellite TV
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CaneyRidgeMarina@yahoo.com

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Owners Nancy and Bill Davey

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Across from
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Luxury at the Lake

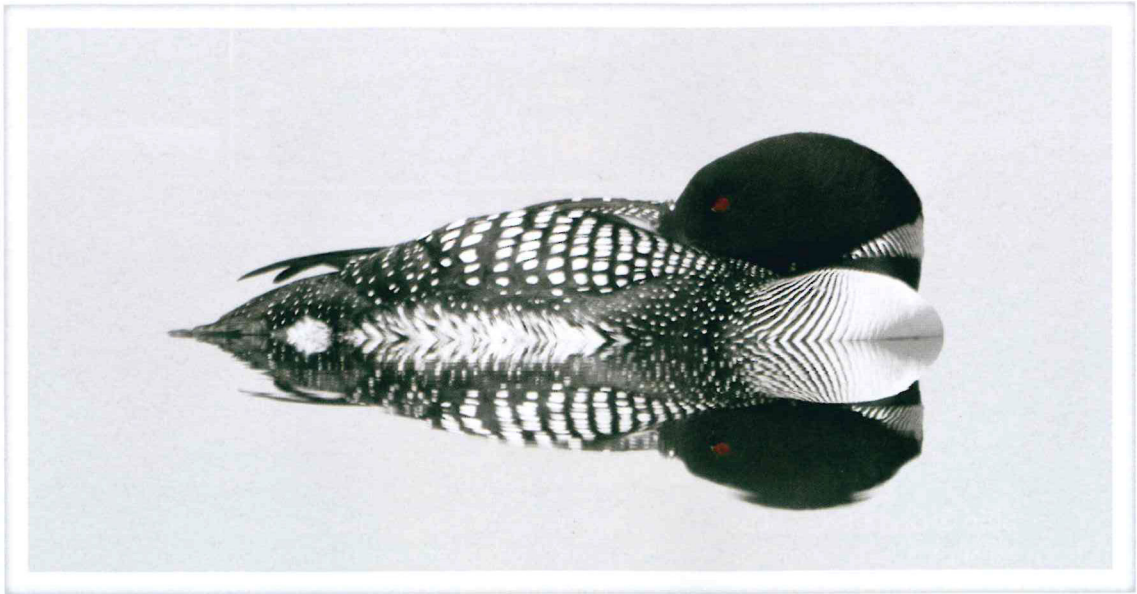
Blue Water Ridge

Luxury Cabin with breathtaking views of
Lake Tenkiller from three decks
Located on Ridg Route Road
by Pine Cove Marina & Tenkiller State Park

Email: AmigoParks@cox.net

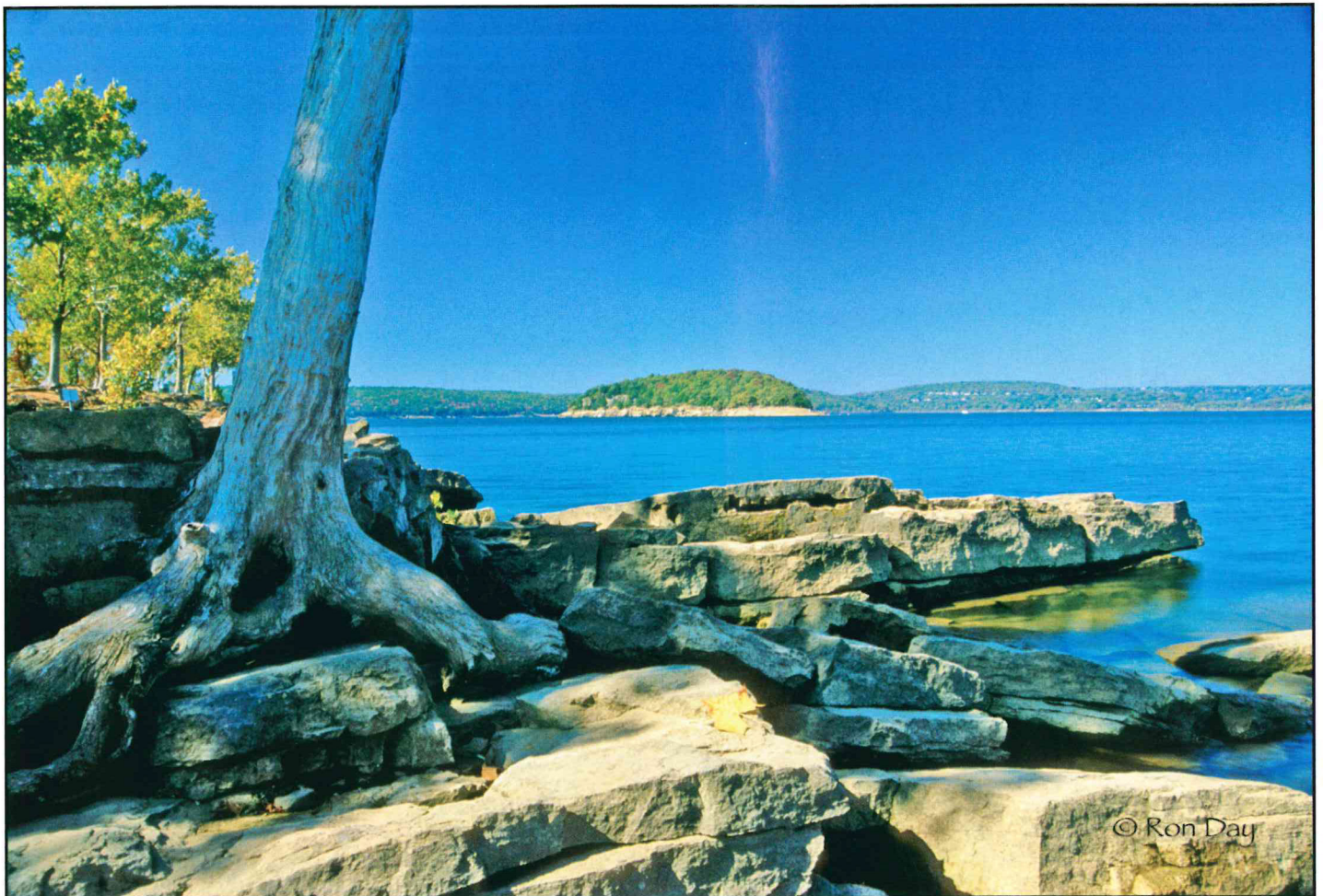
(918) 605-5099

Billy and Kim Parks

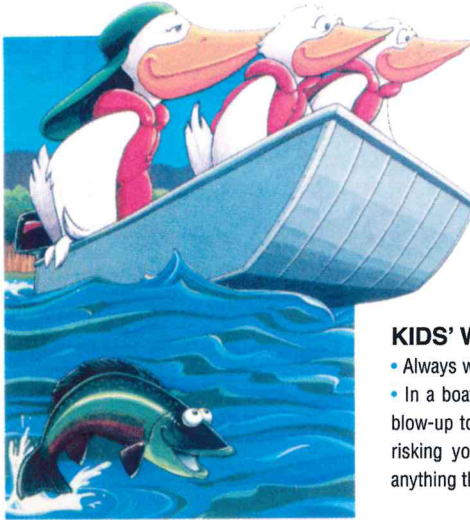


LOON AT SNAKE CREEK

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Corps of Engineers



WATER SAFETY

A FAMILY AFFAIR... Water Safety & You!

BOATING:

- Wear a life jacket
- Wear protective clothing - glasses, gloves, shoes
- Watch for other watercraft and keep a safe distance
- Keep your equipment in top shape
- Boat sober
- Be courteous and respectful of others - fishermen, swimmers, skiers, other boaters, etc.
- Let others operate your craft only after safety operation instructions.

KIDS' WATER SAFETY RULES:

- Always wear a life jacket when in or near the water
- Ask your parents to wear a life jacket, too
- In a boating accident, stay with your boat - climb on top of it if you can
- Never depend on blow-up toys, rafts or inner tubes to keep you floating
- Save someone from drowning without risking your life - use sticks, paddles, or other things to reach the person or throw them anything that floats like balls, milk jugs, ice chests or tubes.

Your Safety... Our Concern!

National Recreation Reservation Service

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TDD: 877-833-6777 INTL: 518-885-3639

Internet: www.recreation.gov

Advance Reservations: Individual Family Sites up to 240 days in advance of arrival.
Group Sites up to 360 days in advance of arrival.

US Army Corps of Engineers

For more information, call our office at

918-487-5252

www.swt.usace.army.mil/



In 1947, a newspaper reporter from Tulsa, Oklahoma came to the bustling construction site of the Tenkiller Ferry Dam. He had come to write an article about what was then one of the largest earthfill dams under construction in the United States. He was awestruck by the cold, clear waters of the Illinois River, the deep, winding river valley nestled in the Cookson Hills, and the green forested terrain with its towering rock formations. In his finished article, he predicted that Tenkiller Ferry Lake would one day become the emerald jewel in Oklahoma's crown of lakes.

He was right! Tenkiller Ferry Lake is a unit in the comprehensive plan for the control of floods and other multiple purposes in the Arkansas River Basin. It collects flood waters from a watershed area of 1,610 square miles above the dam site and provides flood protection for about 3,100 acres of land in the Illinois River Valley below the dam. In conjunction with other projects in the Arkansas River Basin, Tenkiller is a major aid in protecting the flood plain of the Arkansas River below the mouth of the Illinois River.

Tenkiller has hydroelectric power facilities comprising two generator units with an installed capacity of 40,000 kilowatts. The annual energy output totals about 95,100,000 kilowatt hours. It aids in navigation by providing controlled flows

from the Illinois River watershed into Robert S. Kerr Lake on the Kerr-McClellan Navigation System. The Tenkiller power pool of 12,900 surface acres and its adjoining public lands of 17,750 acres are also utilized for municipal water supply, recreation, and fish and wildlife conservation.

Tenkiller Ferry Lake offers a myriad of recreational opportunities. It has six Class "A" parks along with many other access points operated and maintained by the Corps of Engineers and two other large parks operated by the State of Oklahoma where visitors can find facilities to meet their camping, picnicking, and other recreational needs. Ten privately operated marinas on the lake offer visitors a variety of services on the water.

Compared to other lakes in the state of Oklahoma, Tenkiller Ferry Lake is unique in many ways. There are only six rivers and streams in Oklahoma that have been designated as scenic by the state. Two of those streams flow into the upper end of Tenkiller. They are the Illinois River and the Baron Fork Creek. There is much to see and do. Visitors to the Greater Tenkiller Area can take a float trip on the Upper Illinois River. On the main body of the lake, visitors can experience the best water clarity in the state. Each year, countless scuba enthusiasts journey to Tenkiller to dive in its deep, clear waters. Below the Tenkiller Dam, visitors

can fish for rainbow and brown trout in the oldest put and take trout stream in the state, established in 1965. Tenkiller truly does offer something for everyone to enjoy. The Corps of Engineers reminds its lake visitors to practice good water safety.

Tenkiller Ferry Lake has served the area very well over the last fifty years. The many benefits provided by the project are still being realized. It continues to be a work in progress. In 2006, the Corps of Engineers completed the construction of a new spillway structure and a new highway bridge to the east of the original spillway. These gates were built to update the structure and to assure that Tenkiller would have ample release capabilities to safely pass the projected probable maximum flood.

The Corps of Engineers strives to be a good steward and caretaker for Tenkiller Ferry Lake. Such a task can be a delicate balancing act trying to manage the needs of the resource with the needs of the resource users. It is the goal of the Corps to tend to it well so as to always maintain Tenkiller as a sparkling ribbon of pristine waters winding its way through the Cookson Hills for all to enjoy. Each year, many new visitors see Tenkiller for the first time. They must all be given the opportunity to see Tenkiller as the reporter envisioned it in 1947, as the Emerald Jewel in Oklahoma's Crown of Lakes.

Camping - Lake Tenkiller



Tenkiller-area is camper's paradise



Photo by Ron Day

Campsites around Lake Tenkiller are plentiful and accommodate RVs and tents.

With two state parks and a host of campgrounds that are privately

owned or managed by the U.S. Corps of Engineers, there is room

for everyone with a range of facilities from RV hookups to the most primitive settings.

The parks have boat ramps, bathrooms equipped with showers, picnic shelters and tables, drinking fountains, swimming areas, playgrounds and grills.

Group camping areas are plentiful, and packages may be arranged by calling any of the state parks or privately-owned businesses. Special programs also are available through Tenkiller State Park's Nature Center.

All lake swimming areas are protected from boats with buoy safety markers, and most camping grounds are patrolled 24 hours a day by the State Park Rangers, Oklahoma Scenic Rivers Commission Rangers and the Corps of Engineers.

There are several free public access areas along the Upper Illinois River. Campsites for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers parks and recreation areas can be reserved by calling 1-877-444-6777.

Individual campsites may be reserved 240 days in advance, while group facilities may be reserved 360 days in advance.

Reservations are not required but are recommended for holidays and peak season. For information on all privately-owned campsites, call the Greater Tenkiller Area Association at 1-888-867-4403.

Camping Facilities	Total Campsites	Operated by:																						
		Modern Campsites	Primitive Campsites	Lodging	Picnic Sites	Picnic Shelters	Playground	Swimming/Beach Area	Hiking Trail	Modern Rest Rooms	Chemical Toilets	Showers	Drinking Water	Dumping Station	Marina	Boat Launch Ramps	Bait/Tackle	Groceries/Supplies	Heated Fishing Dock	Floating Restaurant	Boutique/Shopping	Pontoon Rental	Ski Boat Rental	Wave Runner Rental
Barnacle Bills	43	•	•					•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•		
Burnt Cabin	24	•	•	•	•			•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•		•		
Caney Ridge			•													•		•				•		
Carter's Landing	31	•			•							•												
Cato Creek Landing	6	•	•																					
Cherokee Landing		•	•									•	•	•	•	•	•	•						
Chicken Creek		•	•	•	•							•	•	•	•	•	•	•						
Cookson Bend		•	•									•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	•	•
Damsite & Overlook	8	•										•												
Elk Creek Landing	43	•	•	•	•							•	•	•	•	•	•	•						•
Pettit Bay	98	•	•	•	•							•	•	•	•	•	•	•						
Sixshooter			•									•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•		
Sizemore Landing	32	•	•	•	•							•												
Snake Creek		•	•									•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	•	•
Standing Rock	10											•	•	•	•	•	•	•						
Strayhorn Landing	50	•	•	•	•							•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	•	•
Tenkiller State Park		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•						

Fishing Tenkiller and the Illinois River

Eastern Oklahoma is one of the most diverse fishing regions in America. Around Lake Tenkiller you'll find what you'd expect: prime largemouth bass fishing lakes, as well as some pleasant surprises, like trout fishing and exceptional smallmouth bass fishing in the Illinois River. Add catfish, white bass, striped bass, crappie and carp into the mix, and you get the picture. Lake Tenkiller is a gem. Its waters are remarkably clear, and its 130-mile shoreline is picturesque. Whether you're thinking about sinking new roots, or just passing through, it's worth checking out.

Far Right Photo by Dottie Sprague
 Photo to the Right by Caroly Ehlers
 Fishing from docks and the shore is the most popular way to fish Lake Tenkiller and the Illinois River. With 130 miles of shoreline, the lake offers many secluded coves and spots to spend the day watching your pole in the water.



Photo Below by Dottie Sprague
 Children can get into the action honing their fishing skills on the easy waters of Lake Tenkiller. Bass, crappie and carp in these waters draw families, as well as seasoned fishermen. The lake hosted the Bassmaster College Series National Championships last year, as well as a host of tournaments throughout the year:

Record Fish Caught in the Lower Illinois River		
Rainbow Trout	10lbs 4oz	7/3/66
American Eel	5lbs 7oz	6/3/95
Striped Bass	47lbs 8oz	6/10/96
Black Buffalo	7lbs 7oz	3/28/82
Redhorse River	8lbs 5oz	2/11/77





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Tahlequah Camera Club - GTAA Photo Contest

The Tahlequah Camera Club GTAA contest winner are:

Lake Tenkiller

First - Valerie Westedt "Miles and Miles of Lakeshore"

Second - Marjorie Benedict-Scovone "Tenkiller Snow"

Illinois River

First - Marguerite Day "Trout Fishing"

Second - Jean Bowman

"Summer on the Illinois River"

Events/Attraction

First - Carolyn Ehlers "Hunter's Home"

Second - Jerry Ehlers "Blacksmith"



Photo by Valerie Westedt



Photo by Marjorie Benedict-Scovone



Photo by Jerry Ehlers



Photo by Marguerite Day



Photo by Carolyn Ehlers



Photo by Jean Bowman

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Photo by Marguerite Day
The changing of the seasons is on display as the trees and surrounding woods change colors.



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Upper Illinois River

Illinois River offers fun and adventure

Ever since legislation designated the Illinois River as a scenic river, it has offered visitors an opportunity for fun, adventure and beauty.

The clear waters meander through the Ozark hills and provide visitors views of oak and elm and the occasional hickory and cedar.

The majority of the river is easy going, allowing its floaters to relax and enjoy the high bluffs, rocky islands and a medley of wildlife.

There are many outfitters along the river that provide canoes, kayaks or rafts. Many of them offer group discounts and lodging.

You also can bring your own kayak, canoe or raft and put in at any of the public access points. It is required that you have a User Fee Decal on your boat, which may be purchased at the Oklahoma Scenic Rivers Commission.

Canoeing, kayaking or rafting the Illinois River is not dangerous, but observe all of the safety precautions, wear lifejackets and make yourself aware of the flow and level of the river.

Fishermen enjoy largemouth and small-mouth bass, channel and flathead catfish, walleye and various sunfishes. There are more than 70 species, with a few seasonal varieties. There are a few classes available for fly-fishing, lure tying and guided fishing trips.



Top Photo by Jean Bowman

Photo to the Right by Jerry Ehlers
Rafting and Kayaking is a popular sport on the river.



Photo Below by Don Bowman
Fall mornings on the river are characterized by yellow trees and fog on the water.



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From Your Backyard To Lake Tenkiller

Things you do and things you use impact Lake Tenkiller water quality

- Test soil for the amount of phosphorus lawns and gardens really need.
- Maintain your home's septic system.
- Properly dispose of pet waste, unused medications and household chemicals.

Watershed Quiz

1. What is a watershed?
2. In what watershed is Tenkiller Lake?
3. What nutrient is the major pollutant for the Illinois River watershed?

- Watershed Quiz Answers
1. A watershed is the area that drains to a common waterway such as a stream or lake.
 2. Tenkiller Lake is in the Illinois River watershed of one million acres in Arkansas and Oklahoma.
 3. Phosphorus is the nutrient in the Illinois River watershed that promotes growth of potentially toxic algae.



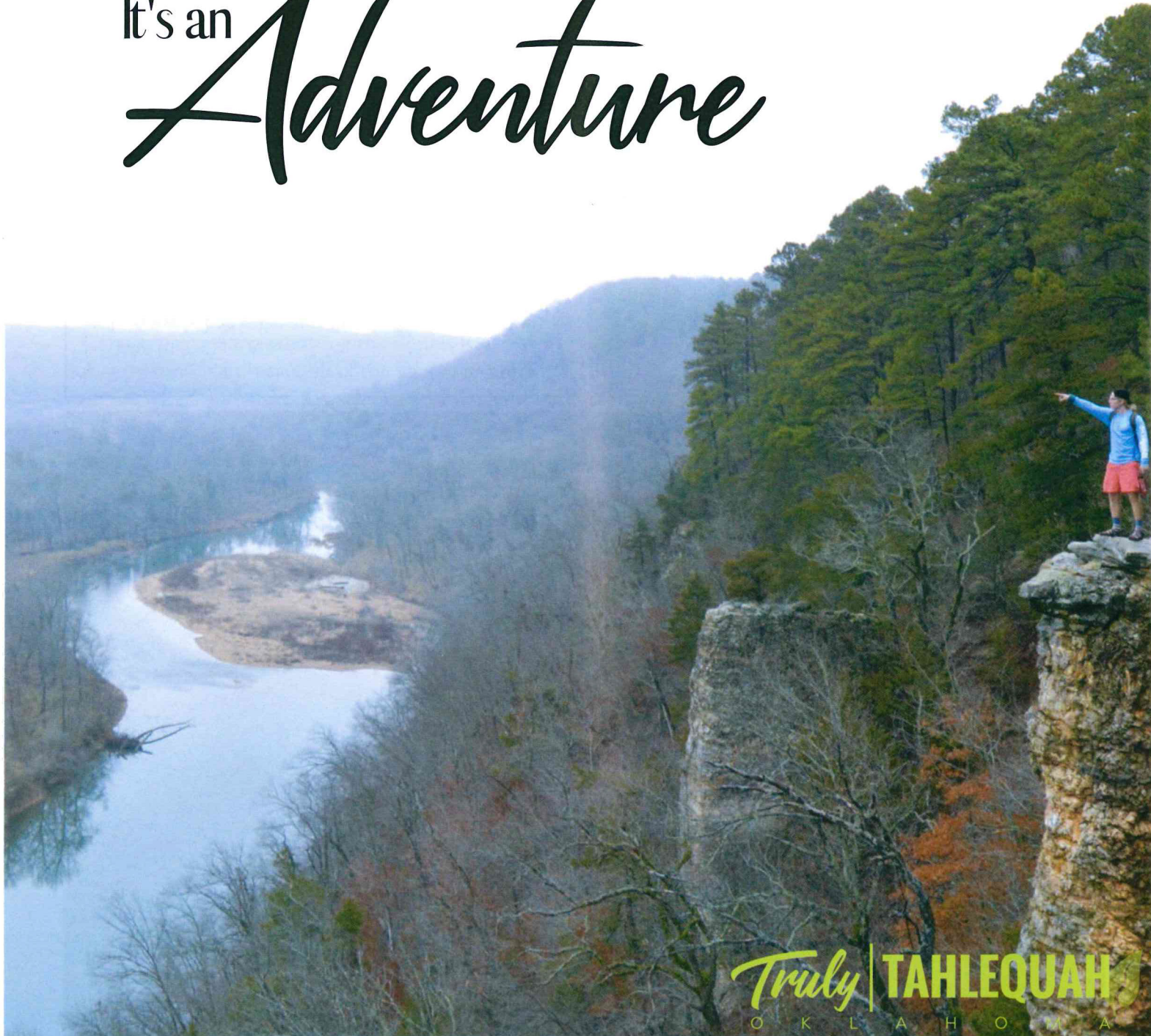
Photo by Marguerite Day

The Illinois River offers families the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors together with activities for all members of the family.

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Things to See and Do



Photo by Carolyn Ehlers

Re-enactors at Hunter's Home teach people of all ages about life in Tahlequah in the late 1800s. The home hosts events throughout the year, including Ag Days, Halloween Stories and a Christmas Open House.

The Thompson House

The Thompson House is one of nearly 20 properties in and around Tahlequah listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The house was built in 1882 by Johnson Thompson, and the two-story house's architectural

style is Queen Anne Carpenter Gothic with Eastlake style interior woodwork.

Cherokee Heritage Center

The Cherokee Heritage Center is constructed of native stone and concrete, and incorporates the three remaining pillars of the Cherokee National Female Seminary, and was the first institution of higher learning for women west of the Mississippi.

The museum is comprised of the permanent Trail of Tears Exhibit and rotating exhibits. The outdoor exhibits include Adams Corner Rural Village and Diligwa, the 1710 Cherokee Village.

Foliage Excursions

The roads in and around Tahlequah are ablaze



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with color in the spring and autumn. The Cherokee Hills National Byway, which runs through downtown Tahlequah, is an excellent starting point for whichever direction you decide to take. The Tahlequah Area Tourism Council is always happy to suggest driving routes.

John Ross Museum

The John Ross Museum highlights the life of John Ross, Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation for more than 38 years. It houses exhibits and interactive displays on the Trail of Tears, Civil War, the Cherokee Golden Age and the Cherokee Nation's passion for the education of its people. The museum is located adjacent to Ross Cemetery.

The Cherokee Arts Center

The Cherokee Arts Center offers artists a place to meet, share their knowledge and learn new techniques. The creative space can be used for a variety of artistic mediums such as metal smithing, pottery, loom weaving, painting, basket weaving and more. The retail gallery is available to Cherokee artists to have a venue to show and sell their work.

Spider Gallery

The Spider Gallery displays art by more than 50 Cherokee artists from eight area counties, as well as



Photo by Valerie Westedt

The car show at the Red Fern Festival brings enthusiasts from across Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas.



Photo by Carolyn Ehlers

The annual Red Fern Festival in April is an old-fashioned family-fun event featuring hound dog field trials, 1930s era children's games, a car show, concerts and much more.

Alabama, New Mexico and Texas. The works range from traditional pottery, jewelry and paintings to contemporary assemblage sculptures.

Northeastern State University Seminary Hall

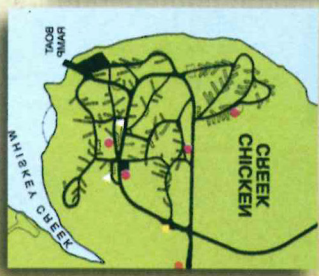
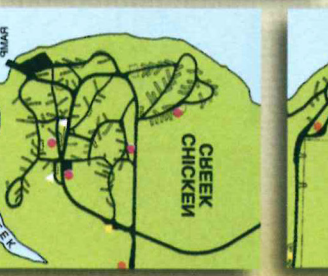
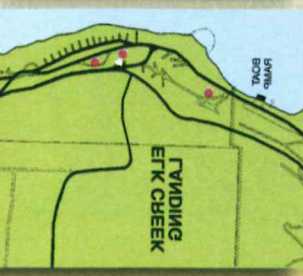
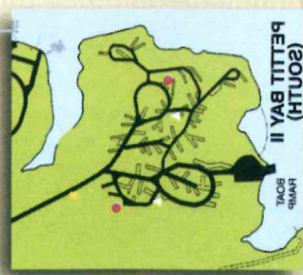
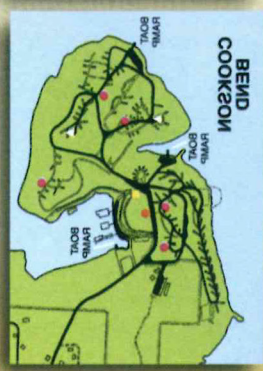
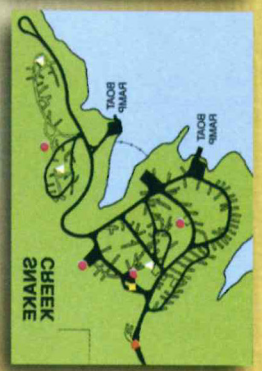
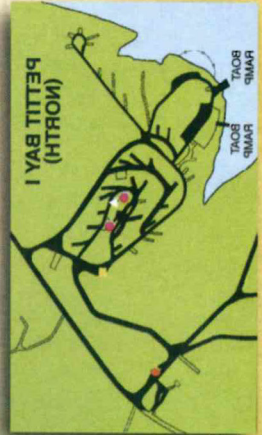
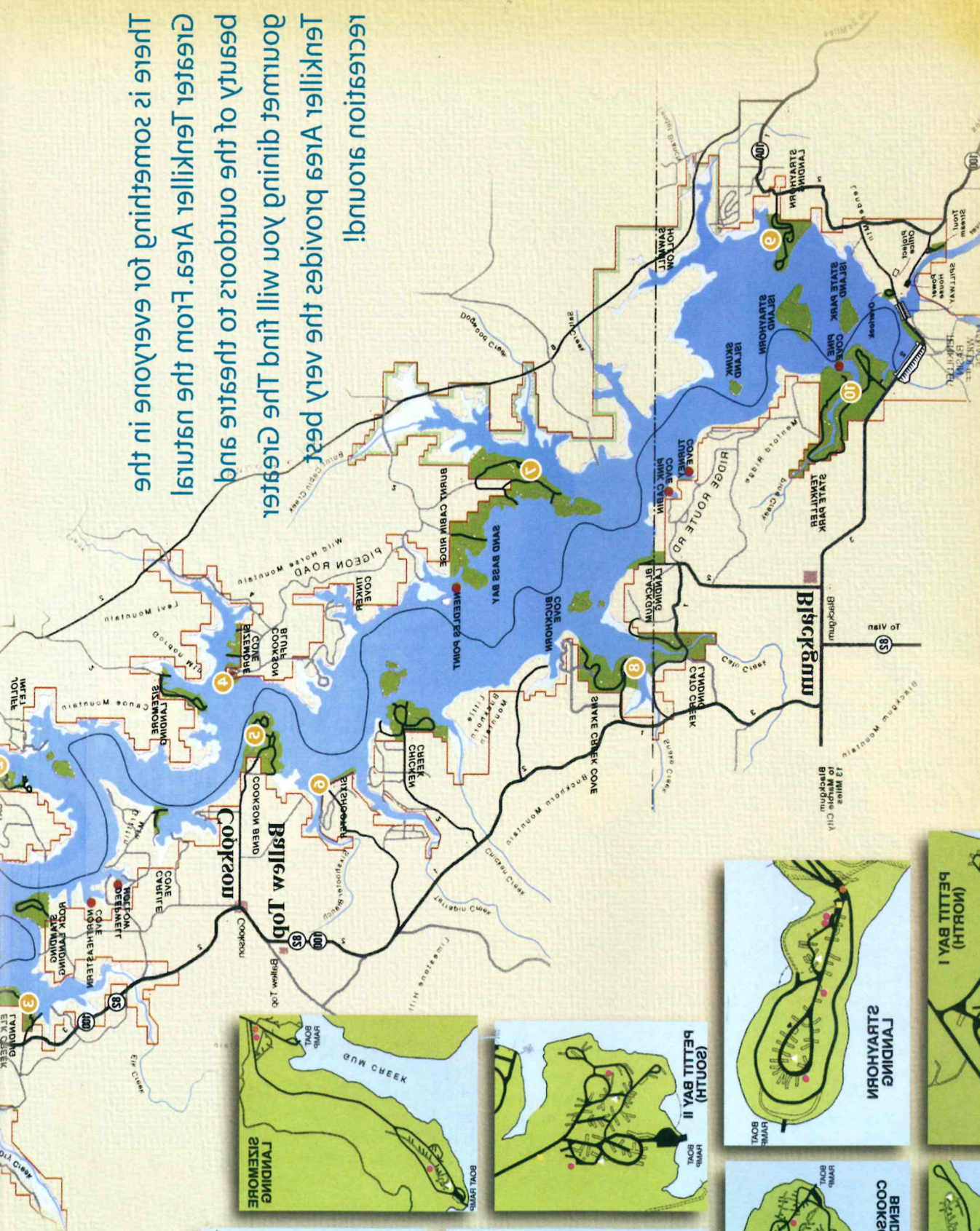
Rich in history and tradition, the university dates back to the founding of the original Cherokee National Female Seminary. After the original Seminary burned on Easter Sunday 1887, construction began on the new building. The majestic building continued as the female seminary until statehood. Now known as Seminary Hall, it is the centerpiece of NSU. In the lobby is a mural, which was commissioned as a WPA project, by the Kiowa Five.

The Hunter's Home

George Murrell built this home in the new Cherokee Nation about 1845, and it is the only remaining ante-bellum home in Oklahoma. The home contains original and period artifacts and furnishings. Several special events are held throughout the year, including ghost stories in October, the 1850s Lawn Social in May and the Victorian Holiday Open House.



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A man with a beard and sunglasses, wearing a plaid shirt and a vest, is kneeling on a rocky riverbank. He is smiling and holding a young girl in a red jacket. They are both looking at a camera that the man is holding. The background shows a river and dense green trees.

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Photo by William Roach

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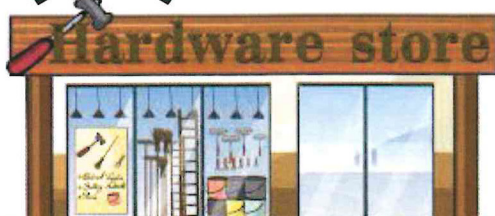
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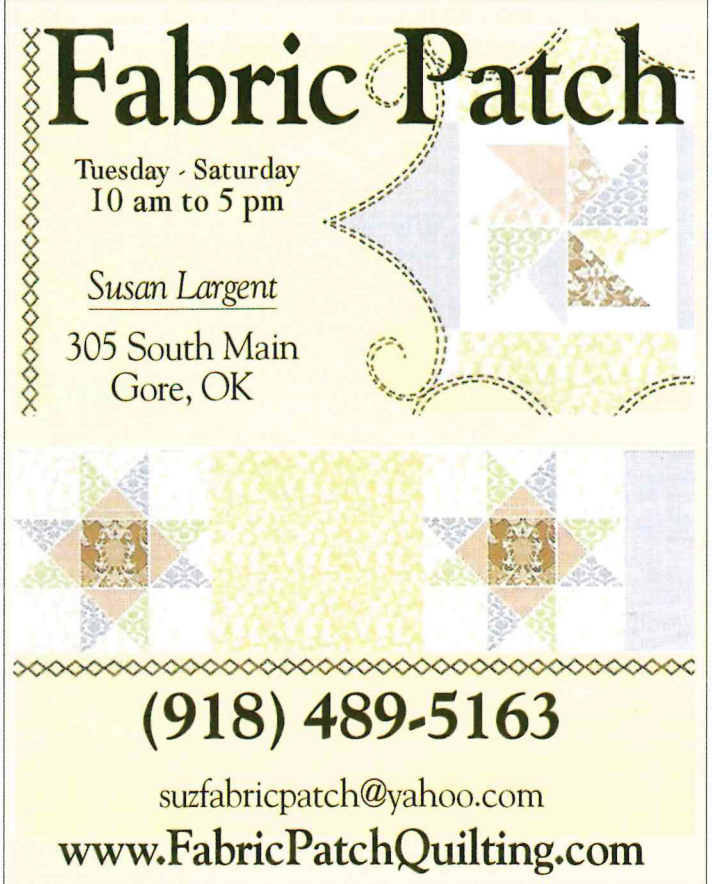
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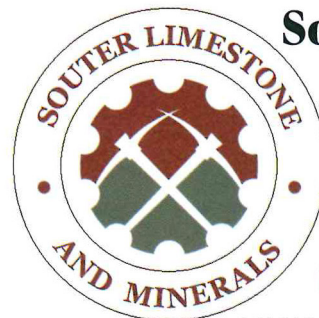
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Tenkiller Dam



Driving Directions to Tenkiller Dam

From Oklahoma City (west)

I-40 Exit 287 North through Gore - follow State Hwy. 100 - 12 miles to Dam

From Ft. Smith (east)

I-40 Exit 297 North through Vian - follow State Highway 82 - 9 miles to Highway 100 - Turn left - 4 miles to Dam

From Tulsa

Muskogee Turnpike Exit 55 (Lake Tenkiller Exit) - go East on US Highway 62 for 2 miles to Highway 10 - Take Highway 10 southeast - 10 miles to Highway 10A - Dam is about 5 miles.

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Gore Landing	•	•		•	•			•				•	•	
Gore Ray Fine Park	•	•			•	•								
Summers Landing	•	•			•			•				•	•	
Cherokee Courthouse														•

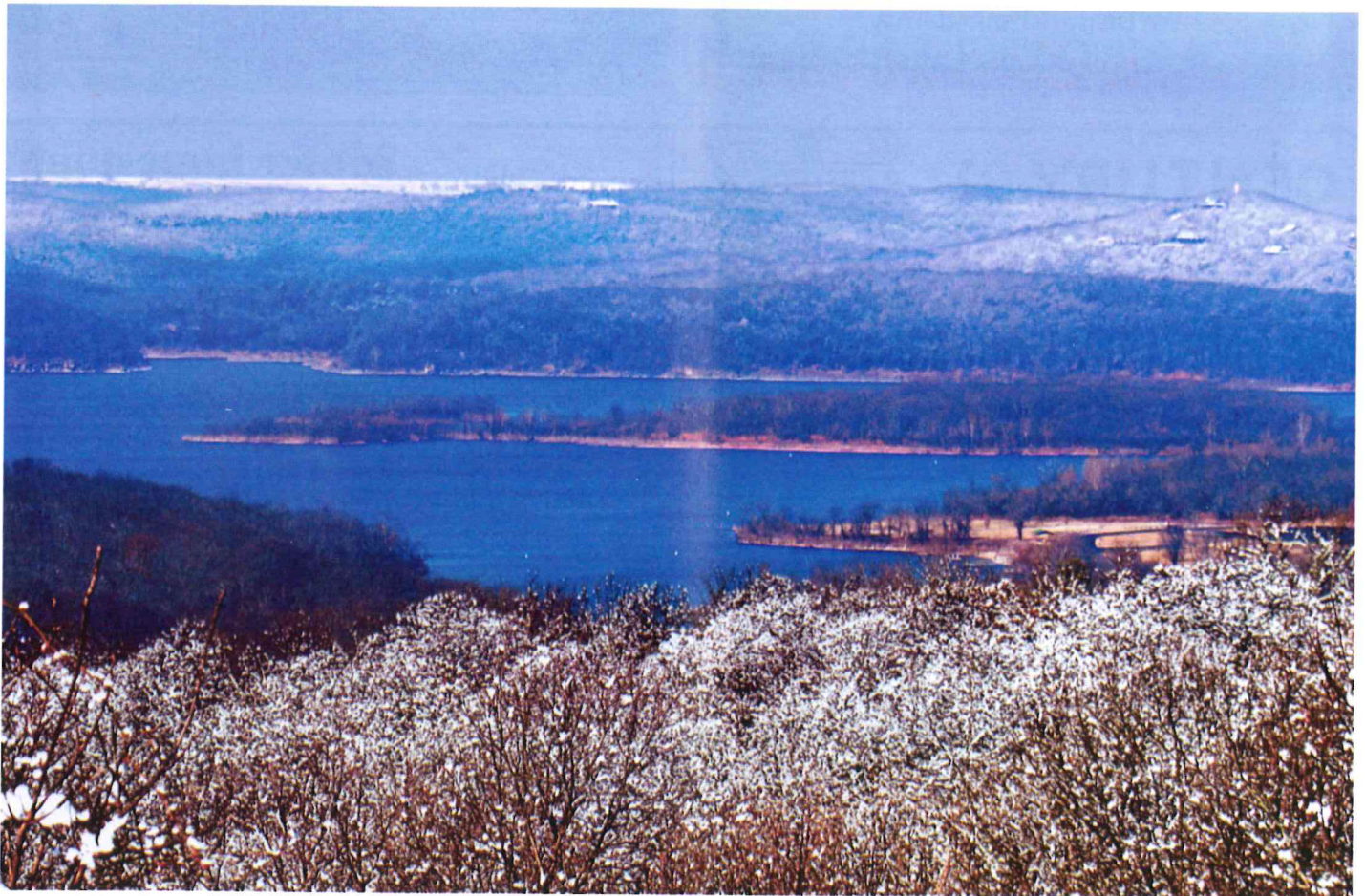


Photo by Marjorie Benedict-Scavone

The views at Lake Tenkiller show the beauty of the hillsides and the lake with winter views topping the list.

Nature, Hiking & Wildlife Parks offer views of Tenkiller's wildlife

Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge is located two miles south of Vian, and is the winter home for nearly 1 million migratory geese and the bald eagle.

Tenkiller State Park Nature Center is open seven days a week during summer. A short nature trail follows a rock bluff by the lake. Guided tours are available.

Standing Rock Nature Trail (about 1-1/4 miles) is made up of two loops, each with two segments of shorter trails —Big Pine and Three Sisters on the first

loop, and Big Cedar and Hi-Knob on the second.

The Buzzard Roost Trail at Cato Creek Landing (1-1/2 miles) winds along a circular path beside a creek.

The Overlook Nature Trail is located at the Tenkiller Dam Overlook. The first segment of the trail (1-1/4 miles) winds through the woods from the Overlook to Highway 10A (near the Methodist Boys Ranch).

The second segment of the trail continues on from Highway 10A and ends at Strayhorn Public Use Area.



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South of Lake Tenkiller Dam
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Lower Illinois River

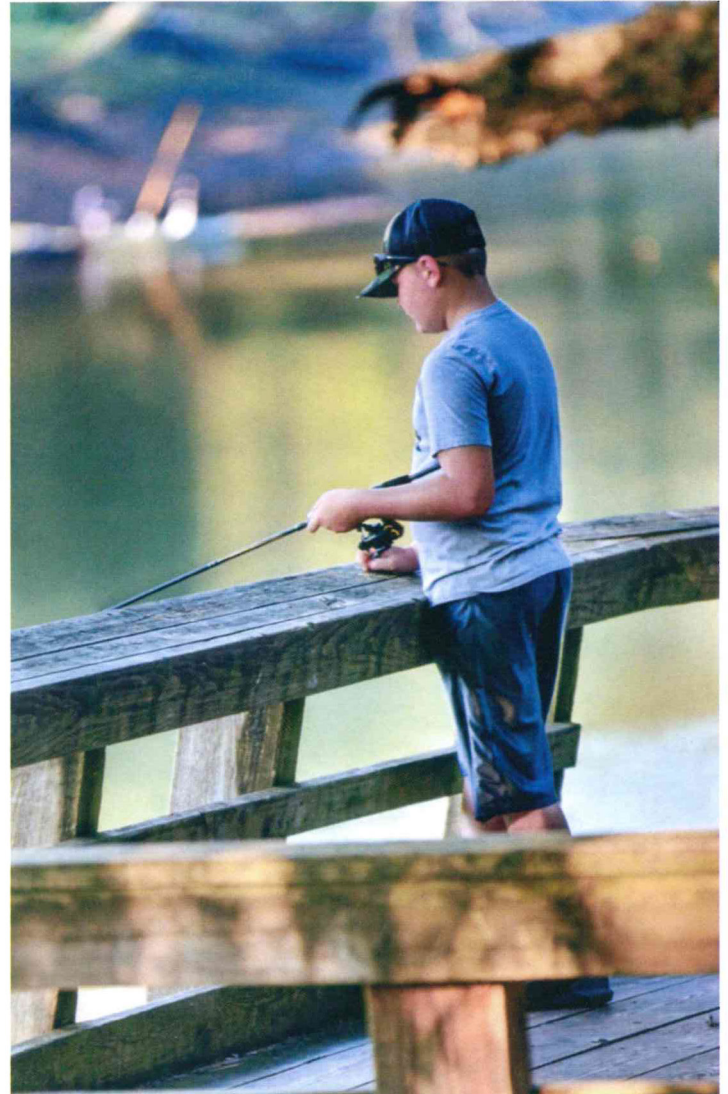
Year-round fishing and record catches make Gore 'Trout Capital of Oklahoma'

Year-round trout fishing and record breaking catches have given Gore the right to lay claim to the title of "Trout Capital of Oklahoma." To check out the Gore claim and enjoy the outdoors while experiencing some terrific fishing, MarVal Resort on the Lower Illinois River is the place.

MarVal Resort offers, in addition to the excellent trout fishing, tent camping, RV hookups, heated pool, nine-hole mini-golf course, volleyball court, game room, snack bar and a nature trail. Deluxe cabins also are available. MarVal has a clubhouse with a full kitchen that seats up to 100. Great for family reunions, groups and weddings.

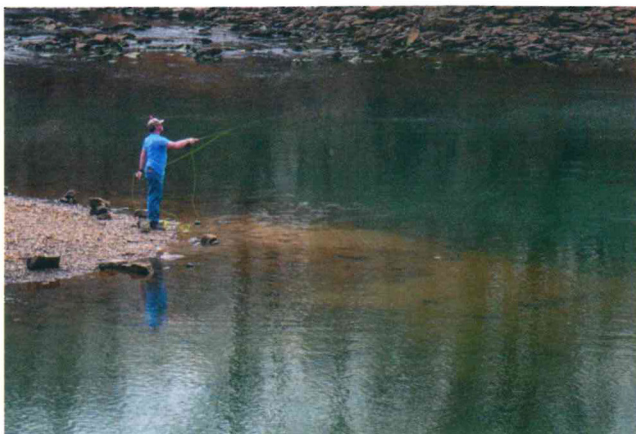
The 12-mile stretch of the Lower Illinois River is stocked with 100,000 rainbow trout annually at three sites — MarVal Resort, Tenkiller Power House and River Road Access Area. Trout tournaments are held three times a year at MarVal Resort and the river is heavily stocked with lunker-class trout for these events.

Water releases from Tenkiller Dam bring white bass on their spawning run in the spring and striped bass all year. The Lower Illinois River is known for striped bass with a 47-pound, 8-ounce record fish. Catfish can also be found in deep holes along the river.

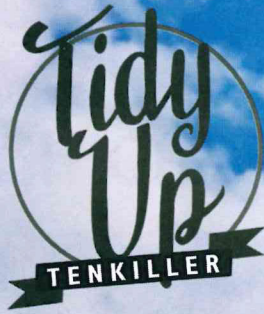


Top Photo by Jerry Ehlers
Trout, as well as bass, catfish and crappie can be found in the waters of Lake Tenkiller and the Lower Illinois River.

Bottom Left Photo by Marguerite Day
Bottom Right Photo by Carolyn Ehlers
Fishing is the No. 1 sport in the community of Gore, also called the Trout Capital of Oklahoma.

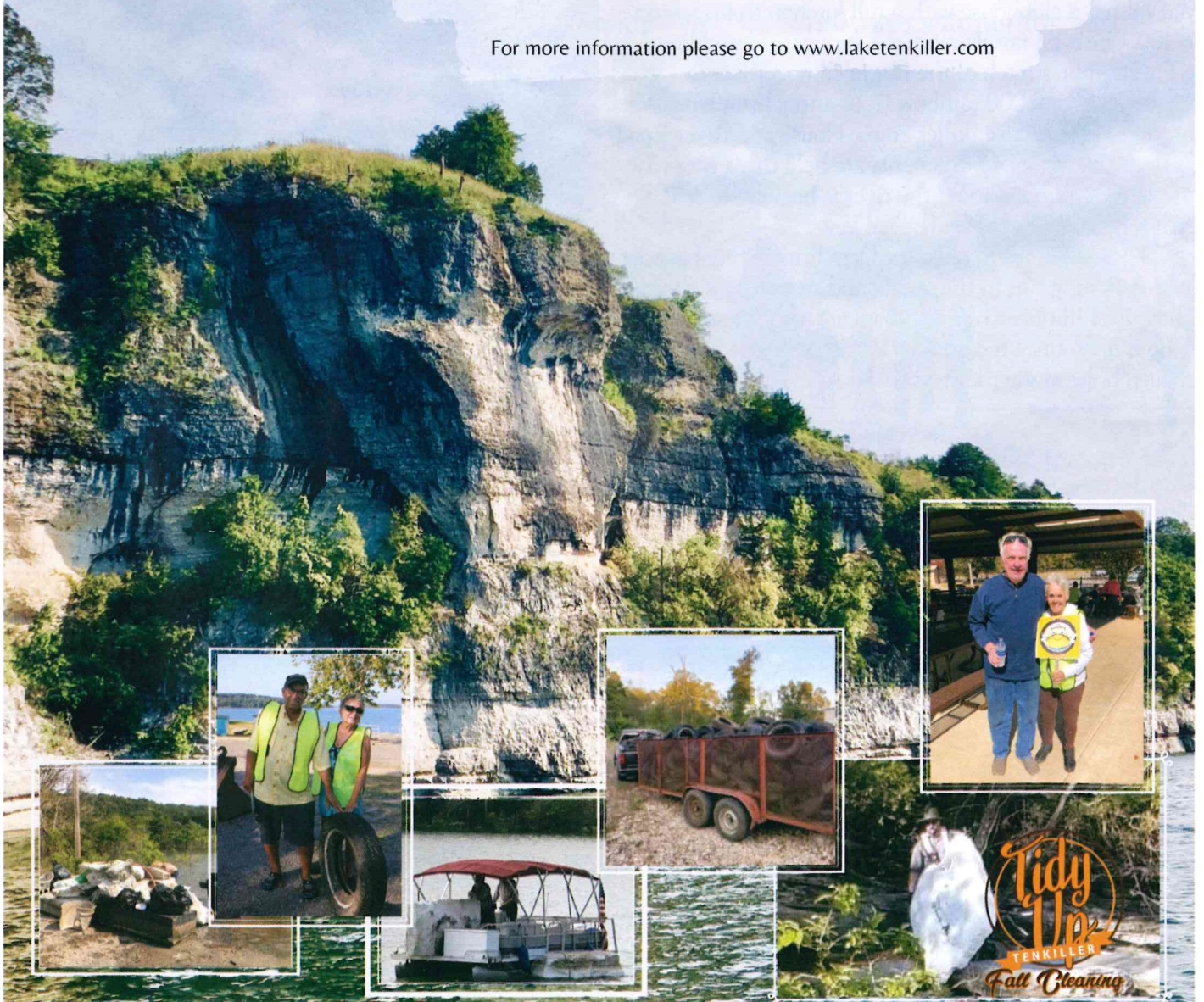


Events



The trash, along shorelines, is an accumulation of 67 years (1952 to 2019) of floating trash that landed on the shores of our beautiful lake. To the best of our knowledge, this has been the first year that there has been a concerted, organized, effort to remove this accumulation. The Greater Tenkiller Area Association, in partnership with many other area organizations and entities, is committed to having two annual cleanup events (spring & fall) until most of the trash is removed. What we are finding is a combination of littering and storm related damage. We applaud the volunteers that have removed more than 65,000 pounds of this trash already in 2019.

For more information please go to www.laketenkiller.com



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Events

Cookson Jubilee hits town June 13 brings food, arts, crafts and live music



The 45th Annual Cookson Jubilee will entertain the Lake Tenkiller area community Saturday June 13th from noon to 10 pm. The rebuilt stage will feature a wide selection of talented local artists. There will also be a unique variety of arts and crafts, excellent food and family fun. This will be a great day and night of a non-alcoholic memory making times.

Many volunteers and businesses are needed to make this event possible. Your help is greatly appreciated. The festival is held in the heart of Cookson OK. It is located on the Tenkiller Area Community Organization (501)(c)(3) grounds located next to the Tenkiller Airpark. The physical address is 32247 S. 540 Rd.

Multi- generations of families and friends have been gathering together in an enjoyable reunion type atmosphere for 45 years. Local artists that are interested in showcasing their talents are invited to contact TACO at tacocookson@gmail.com (Attention Lou) or face book: Taco Cookson Letters/donations may be sent to TACO PO Box 37 Cookson OK 74427-0037.

Businesses, families and individuals are appreciated and encouraged to join the TACO team. The TACO group is totally volunteers. Last year the grounds, outbuildings

and the stage were devastated by the tornado that ripped through the Lake Tenkiller area. Volunteers worked diligently for 6 months to prepare for the Cookson Jubilee. Businesses and individuals were very generous in their monetary contributions helping to recover and rebuild. The volunteers work toward the enrichment and the betterment for the Lake Tenkiller area residents.

Available to rent is a large fellowship hall with tables and chairs to host events of less than 175 people. Various activities are held throughout the year. They include weekly Zumba(R) and card playing days, monthly potluck dinners and meetings.

TACO also sponsors special events such as the Cookson Community Egg Hunt, community dinners, benefit sales, Veterans Dinner in November and in December a Christmas party for low income children. In Muskogee, Okla., the Jack C. Montgomery Veterans Center receives board games, puzzles, etc. and the patients at Christmas receive individual presents.

Annual membership dues are only \$12.50 for individuals, \$25 per family, \$35 per business or for lifetime \$200.

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Email/Park Office: GreenleafCabins@TravelOK.com



The lake cabins and other facilities were built in the 1930s by the WPA. The original buildings, constructed of native stone, remain a lasting and beautiful tribute to those who built it. Offering lots of activities for everyone, including wildlife, swimming, hiking, camping and fishing on Lake Greenleaf. Besides the cabins, we have RV hookups (some with 50 amp service), tent campsites, seasonal grill, miniature golf, a laundry center, kids fishing pond (for those 16 and under and physically disabled), swim beach, heating fishing dock, amphitheater, swimming pool, nature center, playground, hiking trails, volleyball and basketball courts, , community building, pavilion, enclosed shelter, Boat rentals also available. No jet skis or waverunners please.

Directions: From I-40, Exit 287 (Gore/Webbers Falls), follow SH100 to SH10, follow SH10 to park

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River provides chance to view wildlife

Webbers Falls

Webbers Falls Lock and Dam is located on the Arkansas River near the towns of Gore and Webbers Falls. An observation platform and visitors facilities are located at the Dam, and visitors may watch the lockage of barges and pleasure craft. On a bluff above the powerhouse is a scenic overlook you may view the lock and dam and a large area of the lake. Sportspeople will find recreation opportunities at Webbers Falls Lake. The predominate species of fish are catfish, white bass, black bass, crappie, bream, walleye, sauger, buffalo, carp and a rapidly growing population of striped bass. For more information, contact the Corps of Engineers, Webbers Falls Lock and Dam at (918) 487-5252.



© Ron Day

Photo by Ron Day

The parks are a prime location for viewing wildlife and waterfowl.

Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge

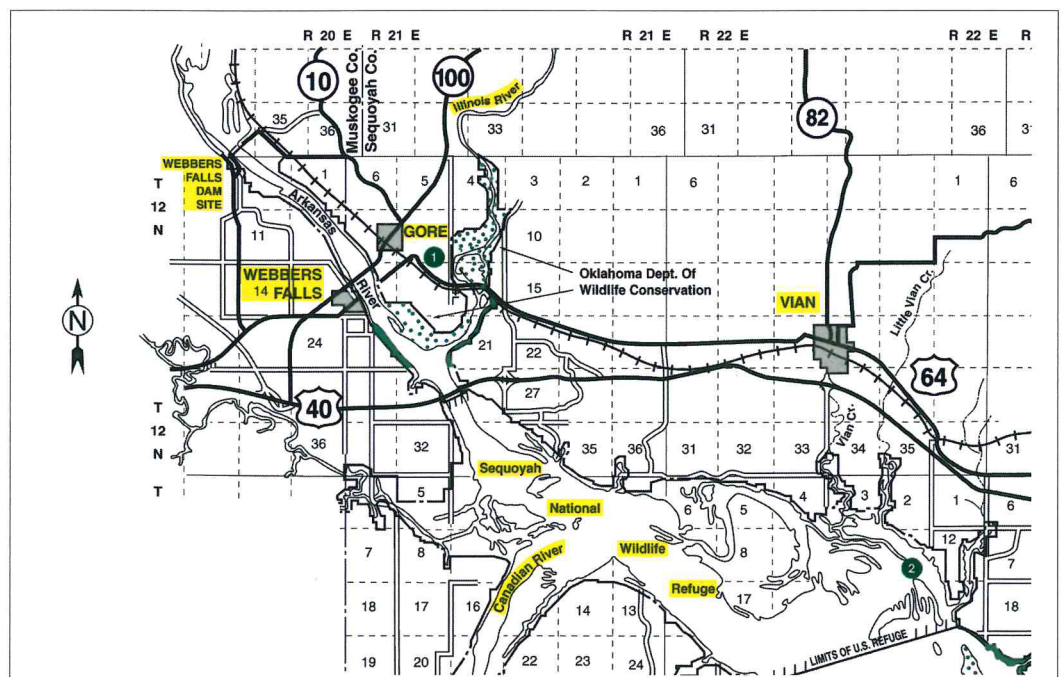
Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge is located on the Arkansas River between Gore and Vian. Nestled in the gently rolling foothills of the Ozark Mountains, Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge is home to wildlife as unique as the bald eagle and as elusive as the bobcat.

Fertile bottom lands at the confluence of the Arkansas and Canadian Rivers make this refuge a terrific wildlife viewing destination.

The refuge was established in 1970 to

provide habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds and to provide food and cover for resident wildlife.

For more information, contact Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge at (918) 773-5251.



Surrounding Communities



Cookson

The town took its name from Jack Cookson, who operated the local post office from his home before statehood. **Cookson** was on the shore of the Illinois River, near Cookson Bluff. One of the first buildings was the Ballew Brothers' Store. They supplied locals with everything from food to guns and tools.

Several of the structures from the town were moved to higher ground. Among these were the old store and several small cabins, which were relocated to their present location on Highway 82 in Cookson. The store is still a popular gathering place. Several structures from the old town could not be moved and were left behind at the bottom of the lake. They now are a popular underwater destinations for scuba divers.

Keys

The **Keys** community is located south of Tahlequah at the junction

of Oklahoma State Highway 82, which traverses the east side of the lake, and Indian Road, which traverses the west side. Because of its location as a gateway to both sides of Lake Tenkiller. Keys is a focal point for a variety of businesses, including convenience stores, banks, restaurants, hair/nail salons, real estate agencies, churches, a donut shop, boat repair shop, auto repair shop, hotel, agriculture and feed store and Jimmy Houston's Outdoor Store.

Vian

Vian began as a trading post in the mid 1800s and was established as a town in 1902. No one is sure where the name Vian came from, but one popular version is that the town was named after an early settler, George Vi. The second syllable, 'an' was added making it Vian, which in the Cherokee language means "garfish." Vian is located nine miles south of Lake Tenkiller on Oklahoma

State Highway 82 and just off Interstate-40.

For information, contact the Vian Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 687 (603 N. Thornton St.), Vian, OK 74962 or phone (918) 773-5446.

Sallisaw

Sallisaw, the county seat of Sequoyah County, is located at the southern edge of the famed Cookson Hills, and near the navigation channel of the Arkansas River. Its name is from the French "salaisiau" meaning "salt provision."

Native Americans, explorers, trappers and early settlers were familiar with the natural salt deposits found near area streams.

For more information, contact the Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 251 (301 E. Cherokee Ave.) Sallisaw, OK 74955. The phone number is (918) 775-2558.

Greater Tenkiller Area Association Member Directory

ATTORNEYS

L. Brad Allen
Sallisaw 918-775-6019

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Burnt Cabin Marina
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www.burntcabin.com

Chicken Creek Village
Cookson 918-457-5029

Cookson Bend Resort & Marina
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www.cooksonbend.com

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Cookson 918-457-5171
www.cooksonstoreandcabins.com

Cookson Village Cookson
918-457-5578
Facebook @CooksonVillage

Flintridge Grocery
Cookson 918-457-4151

Sixshooter Resort
Cookson 918-457-5152

Snake Creek Marina
Cookson 918-457-6055
www.snakecreekmarina.com

Strayhorn Marina
Gore 918-487-5178

BANKING & FINANCE

Armstrong Bank
www.armstrongbank.com
Gore 918-489-5950
Muskogee 918-680-6900
Park Hill 918-431-1200
Tahlequah 918-456-6191
Vian 918-773-5255

BancFirst Tahlequah
918-456-0541 www.bancfirst.com

Bank of Cherokee County
Hulbert 918-772-2572
www.bankofcherokeecounty.net

Bank of Commerce
Park Hill 918-458-1500
www.bc-ok.bank

First State Bank Tahlequah
918-456-6108
www.fsbtahlequah.com

Matt Chapman, Edward Jones
Tahlequah 918-431-0351
www.edwardjones.com

BOAT RENTALS

Barnacle Bills Marina
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www.barnaclebillsmarina.com

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www.cooksonbend.com

Pine Cove Marina & Yacht Club
Vian 918-489-5735
www.pinecovemarinaok.com

Sixshooter Marina
Cookson 918-457-5152

BOAT SALES & SERVICES

Hydro Hoist Marine Group
Claremore 918-341-6811
www.boatlift.com

Pine Cove Marina & Yacht Club
Vian 918-489-5735
www.pinecovemarinaok.com

Shoreline Boat and RV Repair
Tahlequah 918-249-0049
www.shorelineboatandriv.com

Snake Creek Marina
Cookson 918-457-5223
www.snakecreekmarina.com

BOAT STORAGE

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Circle R Boat & RV Storage
Vian 918-776-5029

Cookson Bend Resort & Marina
Cookson 918-457-5161
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Cookson Village Properties
Cookson 918-457-5578

D&L Boat Storage
Cookson 918-457-7979

Sizemore Landing Boat Storage
Park Hill 918-457-7979

Twitty's Boat & RV Storage
Oklahoma City 405-634-3780

CAMPING/CAMPGROUND

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Cherokee Landing State Park
Park Hill 918-457-5716

Greenleaf State Park
Braggs 918-487-5196

Marval Family Camping Resort
Gore 918-489-2295
www.marvalresort.com

Peyton's Place
Tahlequah 918-456-3847
www.peytonspplace.com

Tenkiller State Park Gore
918-489-5643

The following campgrounds are managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. 918-487-5252
www.swt.usace.army.mil

- Blackgum Landing
- Cato Creek
- Carter's Landing
- Chicken Creek
- Cookson Bend
- Elk Creek
- Horseshoe Bend
- Petit Bay I and II
- Snake Creek
- Standing Rock
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Keys Family Dentistry

Park Hill 918-458-5140

Vian Family Dental Clinic

Vian 918-773-6200

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War Eagle Resort

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Sallisaw 918-775-6246

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Tahlequah 918-456-2506
www.tahlequahlumbercompany.com

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Tahlequah Health Center
918-431-0202

OB/GYN 918-456-2496

Pediatrics 918-207-0773

Poison Control Center

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Sequoyah Memorial

Sallisaw 918-775-4483

Tahlequah City Hospital

Tahlequah 918-456-0641

Urgent Care

Tahlequah 918-453-1234

W.W. Hastings Hospital

Tahlequah 918-458-3100

INSURANCE

Farmer's Insurance

Sallisaw 918-775-6231

Farmer's Insurance Jennifer

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agents.farmers.com/ok/tahlequah/

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Southlake Insurance

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Sequoyah County Times

918-775-4433

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Vian Tenkiller News

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LAWN & GARDEN

Greenleaf Nursery Company

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Keys Lawn & Garden

Keys 918-456-3001

Sue's Recycling & Sanitation, LLC

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LIQUOR STORES

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www.cooksonstoreandcabins.com

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Five Oaks Manor

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www.fiveoaksatlaketenkiller.com

Forest View Cabins

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www.escapetoforestviewtenkiller.com

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www.nauticaladventurescuba.com

Pettit Bayside Resort

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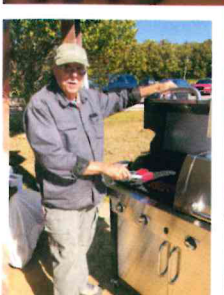
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Sixshooter Resort & Marina

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ORGANIZATIONS

Gore Chamber of Commerce

Gore 918-776-5394

Grand River Dam Authority

Vinita 918-256-5545 ext. 40619
www.grda.com

Greater Tenkiller Area Assoc.

Cookson 918-457-4403
www.laketenkiller.com

GRDA Scenic Rivers Operations

Tahlequah 918-456-3251

Save The Illinois River (STIR)

Tahlequah 918-284-9440
www.illinoisriver.org

Tahlequah Rotary Club

Tahlequah 918-458-0308

Tenkiller Area Community

Organization (T.A.C.O)
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Tenkiller Park Partners

Vian 918-489-5641

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kkirk@cctulsa.com

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Tenkiller Property.Com

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www.tenkillerproperty.com

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Organization (TACO)

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Barnacle Bill's Bar & Grill

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Big Daddy's Restaurant &

Catering

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www.bigdaddysrightonthedamhighway.com

Burnt Cabin Marina

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www.burntcabin.com

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www.cooksonstoreandcabins.com

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www.gambinospizza.com

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Smokin' Goat Roadhouse

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Gore Nursing Center

Gore 918-489-2299

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Five Oaks Manor

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www.fiveoaksatlaketenkiller.com

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Cookson Village

Cookson 918-457-5578
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Marval Family Resort

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Peaceful Meadow Park

Gore 918-489-5159
www.meadow-park.com

Pettit Bayside Resort

Park Hill 918-457-4611
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Sixshooter Resort

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- Carter's Landing
- Cookson Bend
- Elk Creek
- Snake Creek
- Standing Rock

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Stilwell 918-696-7733

Sequoyah Fuels

Gore 918-489-5511

Southlake Vet Clinic

Gore 918-489-2322

Sue's Recycling & Sanitation

Gore 918-773-4007

TAG AGENCIES**Gore Tag Agency**

Gore 918-489-5515

TOURIST INFORMATION**Cherokee Nation**

Tahlequah 918-453-5536
www.cherokee.org

Gore Chamber of Commerce

Gore 918-489-5536
www.gorechamber.net

Greater Tenkiller Area Association

Keys 918-457-4403

Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce

Sallisaw 918-775-2558
www.sallisawchamber.com

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email: posey@meadow-park.com

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RV Resort & Boat Storage

- Full Hookups, Concrete Sites, Heavily Wooded
- On-site Dry Boat Storage/Free Open Trailer/Boat Storage
- Seasonal or Year-Round Sites



- Minutes to Marina and Boat Launch
- On-site Manager, Controlled Access
- Luxury Sites with Individual Storage, Covered Patio, Stone Fire Pits

(918) 457-4600

33990 S. Burnt Cabin Road, Park Hill OK 74451

