

Jim Edgar Panther Creek  
State Fish & Wildlife Area

# Bicycle Trail



ILLINOIS



DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL  
RESOURCES



Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish & Wildlife Area, managed by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), comprises twenty-four square miles in west-central Illinois. As the IDNR's single largest area of land, Jim Edgar Panther Creek (formerly Site M), offers a wide range of activities for outdoor enthusiasts. These activities include fishing, hunting, hiking, picnicking, and camping, with an equestrian campground and trail as well.

Perhaps one of the best ways to experience Jim Edgar Panther Creek, however, is along the 9-mile bicycle route and trail. 4 miles of this are bicycle only, while the remainder of the route is along the scenic drive. Completed in August 1999, this paved (oil & chip) bicycle trail winds through some of the most scenic areas found in this state fish & wildlife area.

Although there are many potential access points to the bike trail, the best place to start is near parking area O-11. There is a pond and shelter at this point as well.

Places of interest along the trail include the view along Cox Creek and the bridge over Cox Creek (from parking areas O-11 to O-3), the Cox Creek Hill Prairie Natural Area (from parking areas O-1 to O-2), and a small wetland (near parking area O-1). Also just a short trip off the bicycle path (between Q-4 and Q-5) is Jake's Point overlook, which offers a remarkably breathtaking view.

The trail provides a variety of sights throughout the year, and visitors may cross-country ski the trail during the winter months. Visitors are reminded, however, to leave the trail the way it was found.

Also soon to come is a 15 mile mountain bike trail, which is presently under construction. Anticipated completion date is summer 2001.

For safety reasons, the trail is closed during shotgun deer season, which is the third Friday, Saturday, Sunday of November and the first Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of December.

For more information on Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish & Wildlife Area, see the Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish & Wildlife Area site brochure, also available through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, 524 S. Second St., Springfield, IL, 62701. Or contact Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish & Wildlife Area, 10149 County Highway 11, Chandlerville, IL, 62627, (217) 452-7741. <http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/landmgt/parks/>





# Jim Edgar Panther Creek

## Bicycle Trail Map

----- indicates bicycle route

