

Riverbend Recreation Area AT A GLANCE

In 1976, Riverbend Recreation Area became the Hancock Park District's first park. What was once a Native American camp along the "big bend" of the Blanchard River is now a highly popular and multi-faceted 129-acre recreation area.

An extensive trail system offers five separate loop trails. The 1.94-mile Bridle Trail is available for hiking and horseback riding. It follows the park's perimeter. The 1.2-mile multi-use Loop Trail meanders through the meadow and along the shore of Giertz Lake as it links picnic shelters, playgrounds, and sand volleyball courts.

Seven picnic shelters and the Lakefront Activity Center are strategically placed throughout the park. They're available on a first come, first served basis, unless they've been reserved. The Lakefront Activity Center is located at the northern edge of Giertz Lake. It offers a scenic setting and a unique venue for social gatherings.

The campground contains eight tent campsites, each with a picnic table and campfire ring. Campers are expected to pay a fee and obtain a permit before unloading equipment, pitching a tent, and setting-up camp. The campground is located north of the Big Oaks Activity Area.

The 18-hole Disc Golf Course begins near Shelter 3 in the Big Oaks Activity Area. Fairways total 1.8 miles. Have fun and play it safe. The K-9 Field of Dreams Dog Park is an off-leash play area. It's separated into two sections, one for large dogs and one for small dogs. Be responsible and keep it clean.

Brugeman Lodge is a multi-purpose building with a 240-person seating capacity. It has a large assembly room and catering kitchen with microwaves, freezer, refrigerator, and sinks. This space can be reserved in-person at the Hancock Park District Administrative Office or online at www.HancockParks.com.



Riverbend Recreation Area's Shelter 4 and Giertz Lake provide scenic opportunities for social gatherings, picnics, or tranquil relaxation.



The Hancock Parks Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization that supports the Hancock Park District's programs, parks and recreational facilities. To learn more and to make a tax deductible donation, visit www.HancockParks.com or call 419-425-7275.



HPD Administrative Office
1424 East Main Cross Street
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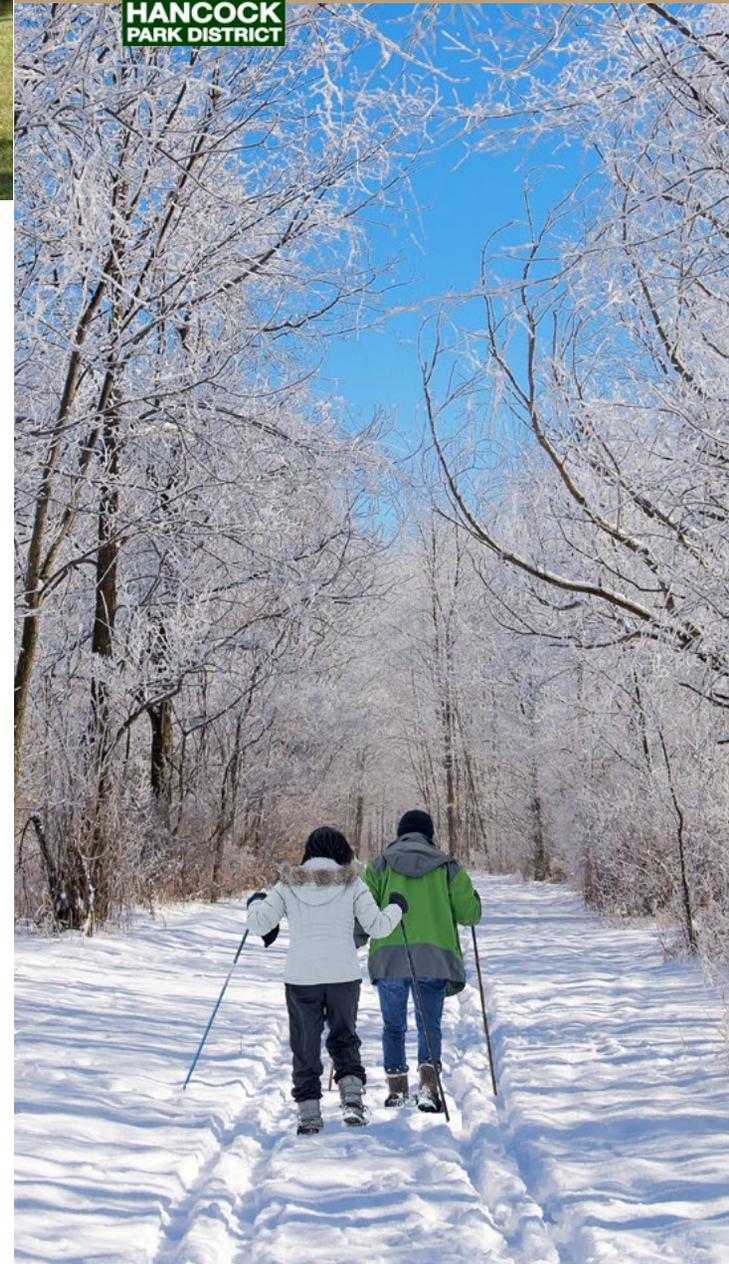
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Brugeman Lodge is one of a variety of facilities available to RRA visitors.

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16618 Township Road 208, Findlay

Riverbend Recreation Area is one of several destinations along the 52-mile Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway that showcases the Blanchard River, natural resources, and recreation. The park provides direct access to a section of the 20.13-mile Heritage Trail and the 37.6-mile Blanchard River Water Trail. A river access site is located just east of the covered bridge on Township Road 241. Findlay reservoirs are a short distance to the south with 1,000 acres of water and miles of shoreline for walking, jogging, boating, fishing, and enjoying beautiful sunsets.

Located in close proximity to Riverbend Recreation Area are Riverbend Conservation Area (visitation is by appointment only), Bright Conservation Area, and Lehman Conservation Area. Collectively, they form an impressive 220-acre outdoor complex along the banks of the Blanchard River. Quiet walkways are available for low-impact outdoor recreation activities, such as hiking, photography, and birdwatching.

In autumn, reservations are taken for tractor-drawn hayrides. Hayrides have a 25-person capacity and last one hour. Visitors often combine hayrides with other activities in the area. In winter, the Raccoon Run Winter Sports Center rents cross-country skis and snowshoes at Shelter 3 in the Big Oaks Activity Area when ground conditions are favorable, which typically requires a 4-inch snow base for effective trail grooming and quality trekking.

