Welcome to the Carlyle Lake Bike Trail!

Visit Us Online:
www.playandstaycarlyle.com or
www.mvs.usace.army.mil/carlyle/

Carlyle Lake is well-known as Illinois' largest in-land lake and for its camping, fishing, and boating.The City of Carlyle is well known for its restaurants, lodging, shopping, and services. But you may not know that Carlyle and the Lake are excellent destinations for your next bicycling adventure! We have miles of scenic, bikeable routes and trails appropriate for riders of all skill levels. Thank you for picking up our new brochure to learn more!

City of Carlyle Bike Routes
City of Carlyle routes include streets, sidewalks, and bike trails. Begin at the Carlyle Lake Visitor Center and travel north then west toward State Route 127/12th St. We highly recommend traveling south on 12th St. and then east on Fairfax St. where you will be able to survey restaurants and shops at which you can reward yourself with a post-bike meal or souvenir. Fairfax will also lead to the historic General Dean Suspension Bridge and to the banks of the Kaskaskia River and the Dam Spillway area. Along this route, you will enjoy tree-lined Fairfax and Clinton Streets and the beautiful, historic homes located there as well as the shopping and a fantastic view of Carlyle Lake atop the Dam.

US Army Corps of Engineers Bike Routes
Bikeable routes maintained by the US Army Corps of Engineers connect to City routes at Fairfax St. and the intersection of the Dam and Lake Roads. Starting atop the Lake Dam, travel east where you will enjoy what may be the best view of Carlyle Lake. Continue traveling east along the Saddle Dam Two Road where you will enjoy additional views of the Lake before the route takes you further east away from the Lake. From here, you will travel through South Shore State Park and along Saddle Dam Three Road. Keep your eyes peeled here for deer and migratory birds, including bald eagles (depending upon the season).Saddle Dam Three is a pleasant, flat route where you will travel above quaint farms and cropland until you reach the end at Boulder Road.This out-and-back route is approximately 16 miles.

Carlyle Lake Bike Route
If you are a skilled bicyclist and up to the challenge, you may consider traveling the 65-mile Carlyle Lake Bike Route, presented by the US Army Corps of Engineers, which travels all the way around Carlyle Lake. Although scenic and enjoyable, this route relies upon county and township roads without dedicated bike trails, signage, or other devises meant for bicyclists. You will encounter a variety of vehicular traffic and this route is not recommended for children or unskilled bicyclists. For more information on the Carlyle Lake Bike Route, contact the US Army Corps at (618) 594-2484, or visit them online at: www.mvs.usace.army.mil/Carlyle/.

Lodging & Camping
Lodging and overnight accommodations are available in Carlyle and at the Lake. We are home to two hotels and five campgrounds operated by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Mariner's Village:
Located across from the Carlyle Lake Visitor Center, 64 rooms and five cabins onsite. Close to restaurants and shopping. Across the road from Carlyle Lake, West Access Marina, and the Dam West Rec. Area. For reservations, Call 877.451.7666.

Carlyle Super 8 Motel:
42 rooms with high-speed Internet, breakfast and an outdoor pool. Located conveniently near the intersection of US Route 50 and State Route 127. Call 618.594.8888.

Campgrounds:
The US Army Corps of Engineers operates five campgrounds with over 400 campsites. Bike routes are easily accessible from campgrounds. Dam West, Dam East Spillway, and McNair campgrounds are close to Carlyle and the available amenities. For reservations, visit: www.recreation.gov or call 877.444.6777.

Bicycling surfaces in the City of Carlyle are made up of sidewalks, trails, and streets. City sidewalks and streets are designed primarily for pedestrians and vehicles, but bicyclists are permitted users of both. You may encounter vehicular and pedestrian traffic on streets and sidewalks. City streets are currently not signed for bicyclists. Some city streets are periodically surfaced for maintenance with loose rock which may make pavement surfaces slippery. Please supervise youth bicyclists.

Bicycling surfaces within the US Army Corps of Engineers and State of Illinois parks are made up of trails and roads that are permitted for bicyclists. You may encounter vehicular traffic (including trailers and campers) and pedestrian traffic on roads and trails. Some roads and trails are periodically surfaced for maintenance with loose rock which may make pavement surfaces slippery. Please supervise youth bicyclists.

ALWAYS WEAR AN APPROVED HELMET AND OBEY THE RULES OF THE ROAD!

CARLYLE LAKE
Bike Trail

Contact Information:
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