

### Hiking and Biking

We have more than seven miles of trails ranging from easy to moderate, of which 3.6 miles are paved for multi-use, including jogging and biking. Our trail also provides access to the Cumberland Trail, Tennessee's first linear state park.

### Nearby Attractions

- Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area - 30 miles
- Museum of Appalachia, Clinton - 15 miles

### Nearby State Parks

- Justin P. Wilson Cumberland Trail State Park [www.cumberlandtrail.org](http://www.cumberlandtrail.org)
- Norris Dam State Park - 10 miles

### Camping

Cove Lake has a 100-site campground, all with water and 20, 30-amp electric hookups, picnic tables and fire ring. Five handicap sites are also available with 50-amp service. Campsites are available by reservation.



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### Directions

Cove Lake is located 30 miles northwest of Knoxville, on US Highway 25W. From I-75, take Exit 134; travel 1/2 mile on Veterans Memorial Highway and take the first left turn.



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The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation is committed to principles of equal opportunity, equal access and affirmative action. Contact the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation for more information. Hearing impaired callers may use the Tennessee Relay Service at 800-848-0298.

Hours of Operation  
8:00 AM to Sunset ET

Cove Lake State Park  
110 Cove Lake Lane  
Caryville, TN 37714  
423-566-9701

Tennessee State Parks  
William Snodgrass TN Tower  
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 2nd Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243  
888 867-2757

[www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com)

### Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers and Friends assist in protecting and preserving the cultural and natural resources of their favorite state park, giving of their time and talents to ensure their park's integrity for future generations to enjoy. To learn more about becoming a Friend or other volunteer opportunities in your area visit [www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com).



T E N N E S S E E  
State Parks

COVE LAKE  
STATE PARK  
TENNESSEE



[www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com)



**Cove Lake State Park**, with its 606-acres of land and 210-acre lake, is situated in a picturesque valley surrounded by the towering Cumberland Mountains. This park was established on the shores of Cove Lake, an arm of Norris Lake created by an auxiliary dam at Caryville. This bird watchers paradise provides ample opportunity for nature enthusiasts, while also providing a variety of recreational opportunities. Most all park facilities are ADA accessible, including two playgrounds.

**Historical Significance**

Ancient Native Americans prospered along Cove Creek from AD 1000 to 1200. The University of Tennessee excavated mounds and habitation sites associated with this culture in 1937. Earthen remnants of one mound are still visible at the end of Goose Island.

**Restaurant**

Rickard Ridge BBQ is open year-round. Serving delicious food with a view, the restaurant offers inside seating and outdoor seating on the deck. Please call 423-907-8202 or visit [rickardridgebbq.com](http://rickardridgebbq.com) for more information.



**Meeting Rooms**

The recreation building is popular for weddings, family reunions and other events. It has a full kitchen, central heat and air and accommodates up to 130 people. It may be reserved up to a year in advance.



**Planned Programs**

A seasonal interpretive ranger is available throughout the summer months, providing many planned activities including guided walks, hikes, bicycle tours, kayak tours, arts and crafts, recreational activities and campfires.



**Boating /Fishing**

Fishing is permitted on Cove Lake and along the bank. A valid Tennessee fishing license is required. Bass and bluegill are the best sporting fish, but good catches of crappie always tempt the angler. The park rents Jon boats year round. Guests may bring their own electric trolling motors for use on park Jon boats. Personal canoes and kayaks may be launched from the boat dock or kayak launch once a permit is obtained in the visitor center.

**Birding**

The lake serves as a magnet for migrating birds. There is an observation tower along the paved trail to aid in birdwatching. The Volunteer Loop Trail traverses a mature hardwood forest where many migratory birds can be seen in the spring and fall and many nesting birds can also be found.



**Picnic Shelters**

There are 112 picnic tables and grills available for individual park visitors. Six large picnic shelters with grills may be rented and can be reserved up to a year in advance. All pavilions are conveniently located to restrooms and playgrounds.



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