

Kuehn Conservation Area

Located 5½ miles north of Earlham, the Kuehn Conservation Area is a popular gathering place for thousands of school age children, environmentalists and nature lovers.

In 1982, through a donation/purchase agreement with Gerald Kuehn, the original 300 acres were

acquired. Today the park consists of 610-acres, and is a popular site to camp, hike and fish for many Dallas County and Central Iowa residents. Enjoy canoeing the South Raccoon River or hunt in the designated areas.

Archaeological surveys were performed at the Kuehn Conservation Area. Prehistoric artifacts were found from Woodland and Great Oasis traditions. The data collected in a 1994 study suggests that there was a Great Oasis occupation site, described as a small farming hamlet.

Kuehn Prairie



There are many displays about wildlife at the Bear Creek Nature Center, as well as an

indoor classroom. The diversity of native and re-established prairie, upland forests and plant and animal life, allows for a variety of public environmental programs. Bird watching from the bird observation blind or while hiking, prairie hikes, geological and archaeological programs and aquatic programs are a few of the available educational opportunities.



The Bear Creek Nature Center may be reserved for educational programs and civic organization meetings at no charge. Primitive camping is allowed only in the designated

areas of the park. No motor vehicles are allowed to the camp sites, so visitors are encouraged to come prepared to hike to the camp sites. Campers are required to register at the Nature Center. There are modern restroom facilities but no showers.



Hours:

Nature Area
May 1 - Oct. 1
Daily
8am to 10pm

Bear Creek Nature Center
By appointment only



Take Earlham Exit 104 off I-80 until you get to a 4 way stop. Go west on Bear Creek Rd. When the road turns north it will be called Houston Trail. Follow Houston Trail 2 miles and it will dead end in the park. Nature Center will be on the right.



Dallas County Conservation Board
14581 K Avenue
Perry, Iowa 50220
Ph. (515) 465-3577
Fax (515) 465-3579

E-mail- conservation@co.dallas.ia.us
Web- www.conservation.co.dallas.ia.us