

Welcome to Big Foot Beach State Park!

Big Foot Beach State Park encompasses 271 acres on the eastern shore of Geneva Lake in Walworth County.

Towering oaks reign over 40 acres of picnic area. There are grills throughout the picnic areas, or you may bring your own. Our picnic shelter may be rented for a fee or used on a first-come, first-served basis.

Playground equipment and volleyball and horseshoe courts also are available, and there's a swimming area along the lake's shoreline. No lifeguards are on duty at any time.

The park has more than 6 miles of hiking trails on a natural surface through forest and open meadow. A half-mile self-guided nature trail has interpretive signs describing native wildlife and their habitats.

The natural beauty of the park can be found in its panoramic view of Geneva Lake, peaceful picnic groves, and winding trails.

Fishing

Many people enjoy fishing along the pleasant banks of Ceylon Lagoon and the shores of Geneva Lake. The seven-acre lagoon offers an accessible pier, two bridges, and a partially mowed bank for fishing. The lagoon is stocked with trout in the spring and is subject to urban fishing regulations. Anyone 16 years of age or older must have a fishing license. Anyone fishing for trout also must buy a trout stamp. A limited amount of fishing equipment is available to check out at the office free of charge.

Camping

Our 100 campsites, many canopied by oak trees, are available May through October. Each site has a picnic table and fire ring. The campground has a shower building, vault toilets, and drinking fountains. Fourteen sites have electric pedestals. A dump station is available near the park's entrance station.

Camping fees are additional.

Reservations are strongly recommended from Memorial Day through Labor Day. For reservations call (888) WIPARKS ((888) 947-2757) or visit www.wiparks.net.

Please leave your firewood at home and buy aged firewood at the park.

Firewood is subject to current invasive species quarantine restrictions. You can buy firewood and ice at the camp host site and collect dead and down wood. It is **illegal** to cut standing live or dead wood.



Big Foot Beach State Park

...on the eastern shore of Geneva Lake, offers camping, fishing, a sand beach, playground, picnic areas, and more than 6 miles of hiking trails.

Alcoholic beverages are prohibited throughout the park.

Pets

Pets are not allowed in picnic areas other than the designated pet picnic area near the park entrance station. Pets also are prohibited on beaches and the playground area. Pets must be on a leash not longer than 8 feet and under control at all times. Never leave pets unattended.

Location

The main park entrance is at 1550 S. Lakeshore Dr., 2 miles south of downtown Lake Geneva.

From Milwaukee or Chicago:

- From Interstate Highway 94, exit onto State Highway 50 West.
- Go about 25 miles on Highway 50 to State Highway 120 South.
- Turn left on Highway 120 and go 4.3 miles. Turn right (north) onto South Lakeshore Drive
- Go about 1.5 miles on Lakeshore Drive. The park entrance is on your right.

The park's mailing address is:

Big Foot Beach State Park
1452 S. Wells St.
Lake Geneva, WI 53147
Phone (262) 248-2528

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History of Big Foot Beach

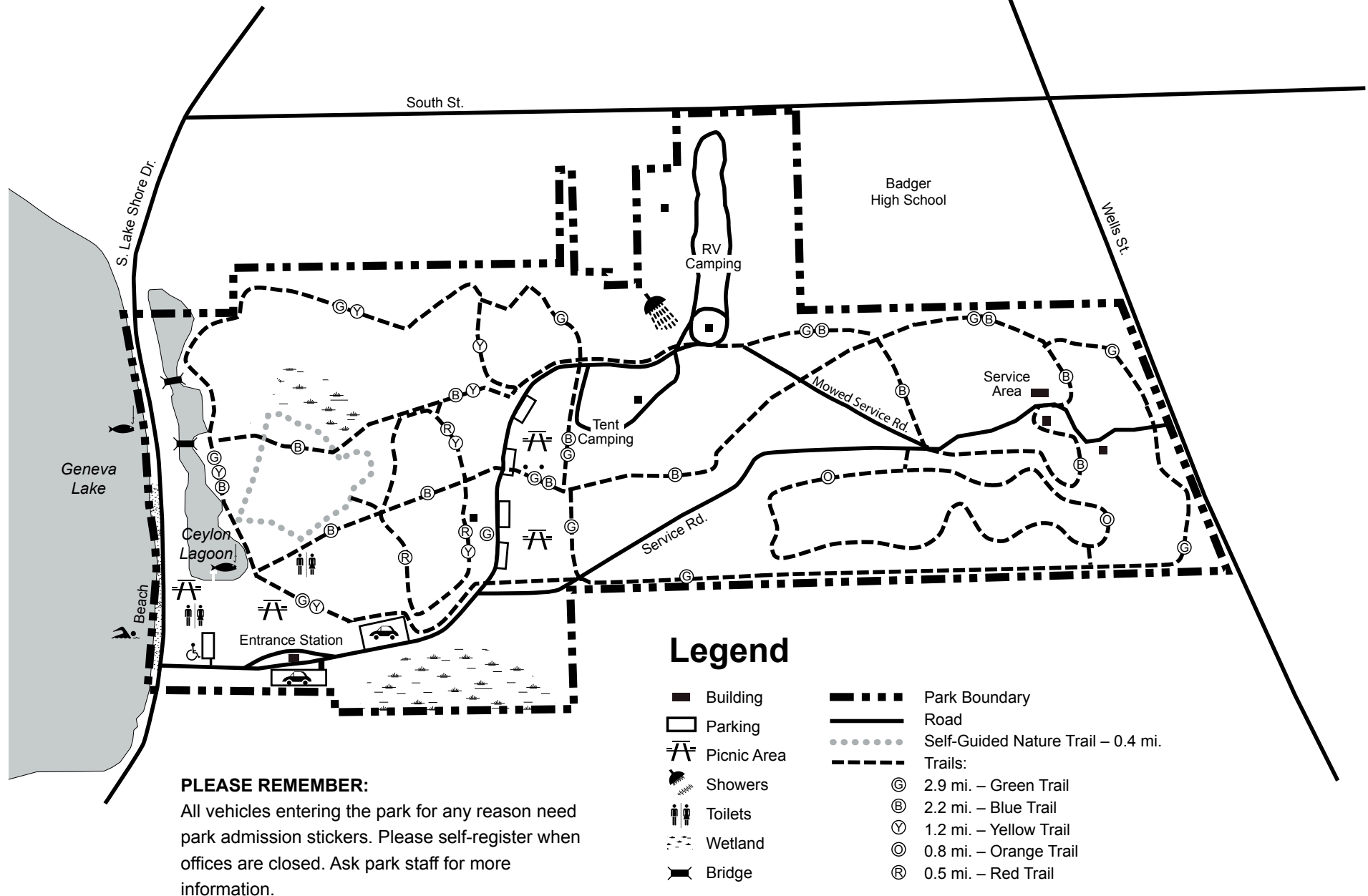
As the last glacier retreated from this area more than 10,000 years ago, it dumped huge volumes of sand, gravel and rocks hundreds of feet deep in an ancient river valley. During this process, a tremendous block of ice broke away from the glacier and became partially buried in the valley. As the ice block melted and the ground settled, it formed a basin which now contains Geneva Lake.

The namesake "Big Foot" is thought to have come from the early French fur trappers who referred to the clear, sparkling lake waters as "Big Foot Lake" in honor of a local Potawatomi chief. The park is unusual that it is entirely inside city limits.

Fees and charges

Each motor vehicle entering the park for any reason must have a valid Wisconsin State Park Admission Sticker. Daily and annual stickers are available at the park. The annual sticker is good in all Wisconsin parks and forests for the entire year. Residency is determined by the vehicle license plate. Please self-register when offices are closed.

Big Foot Beach State Park



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