

Ouachita National Forest

Arkansas - Oklahoma

Shady Lake Recreation Area



Camping



Fishing



Hiking



Swimming

Southern National Forests

Revised: May, 2005

Facilities

- 5 camping loops
- 97 camping units
- Group camping unit
- Group picnic unit
- Playground
- Amphitheater
- Volleyball
- Horseshoes and ping pong
- Water hydrants, flush toilets and warm-water showers
- Swimming area and diving platform
- Boat and fishing dock
- Interpretive trail (0.5 mile)
- Hiking trail (3.2 miles) and mountain biking

For your comfort and convenience, each camping unit includes a table, tent/trailer pad, cooking grill/fire ring, lantern post, and parking spur. Loop E has facilities to accommodate groups of 30 to 150 people. This can be reserved by calling the Mena-Oden Ranger Station.

Travel trailers up to 32 feet in length can be accommodated. Camping loops emphasize privacy. Currently there are no water or electrical hookups except on two campsites in Loop A. One can be reserved by call the Mena-Oden Ranger Station.

For more information, contact:

Mena-Oden Ranger District
1603 Highway 71 North
Mena, AR 71953
(479) 394-2382

Ouachita National Forest
P.O. Box 1270
Hot Springs AR 71902
(501) 321-5202
TDD (501) 321-5307

For a Pleasant Trip

- Although hunting is permitted in most areas of the Ouachita National Forest, it is not allowed in recreational areas.
- All State hunting and fishing regulations, fees and seasons apply to national forest lands.
- Please read and follow the posted regulations and rules.
- Visitors are responsible for their fires. Build them in stoves, grills and fire rings only.
- Use only dead and down wood in or near the recreation area.
- Do not leave your camping gear unattended.
- All terrain vehicles and horses are not allowed in the recreation area.

Directions

From Hot Springs take Highway 70 west 32 miles to Glenwood. Continue on 70 through Glenwood 4 miles to Salem. Take Highway 84 (west) out of Salem through Lodi and Langley, to Athens. In Athens, take Highway 246 to Forest Service Road 38, turn right (north) and travel 3 miles to the entrance of Shady Lake Recreation Area.

From Texarkana, or Mena, take Highway 71 to Vandervoort, then take Highway 246 east to Forest Service Road 38, turn left and travel 3 miles north to the entrance to Shady Lake Recreation Area.

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P.O. Box 1270, Federal Building, Hot Springs, AR 71902

www.aokforests.com

501-321-5202 or TDD 501-321-5307 RA-02



Shady Lake Recreation Area

Ouachita National Forest



Come and Enjoy

Nestled in the forested splendor of the rugged Ouachita Mountains, this recreation area is located in the southern portion of the national forest. Visitors are invited to swim and fish in there refreshing cool steam, picnic in a secluded spot near the towering trees, camp in a secluded spot near the water's edge, hike the nature trail or experience the excitement of a canoe trip on the Little Missouri River

Features

The Lake offers fishing for catfish, bream, and largemouth bass. Boats may be used, but gasoline motors are prohibited. Small electric motors are permitted.

The 0.5 mile interpretive trail introduces basic facts about soil, rocks, and plants, describing the unique characteristics and various uses of 12 species of trees. Visitors who prefer a longer excursion will enjoy the 3.2-mile trail along the lakeshore

Open Schedule

These facilities are available during the recreation season on a first-come, first-served basis. The exception is the site in Loop C with full hookups and group camping units available through reservations made with the Mena-Oden Ranger Station. Visitors are welcome to stay in the campground as long as 14 consecutive days. Current fees are posted at the self-service pay stations, with instructions on how to pay. Closed December through February.

