

Recreation on the water

Fishing, swimming and boating opportunities abound in Webster County.

John F. Kennedy Memorial Park, 1415 Nelson Ave., boasts 45-acre **Badger Lake** – which has opportunities for all three activities.

The same is true at Brushy Creek, 15 miles southeast of Fort Dodge, which has four boat ramps and a fishing pier.

Brushy Creek Lake has extensive fish habitat, eight fishing jetties and a handicapped-accessible pier.

Primary species stocked include wall-eye, large-mouth bass, small-mouth bass, muskie, red ear sunfish, crappie, channel catfish and bluegill.

Dolliver Memorial State Park, 10 miles south of Fort Dodge, is located on the **Des Moines River** and is a popular spot for boating and fishing. There is a modern boat ramp available for canoes and fishing boats.

Lizard Creek, which runs through the northwest part of Fort Dodge, is a popular destination for canoe paddlers who



appreciate the beautiful scenery along its route.

In his book, “Paddling Iowa,” author

Nate Hooegeven states that Lizard Creek is one of his favorite places to paddle in the state.

Let's play golf!

Willow Ridge, two miles northwest of Fort Dodge at 1788 Madison Ave., is open to the public, as is the restaurant and lounge. The nine-hole course features a clubhouse, rebuilt in 1990, atop a hill on the south side. This is a cart course with a distance of 3,161 yards.

Dayton Golf & Country Club, Highway 175 S., Dayton, has fully watered fairways, greens and tees with water hazards on three holes. The nine-hole, par-36 course has a USGA rating of 69.9 and a distance of 2,973 yards.

Deer Creek Golf Club is the new kid on the block. The nine-hole, par 36 public course is a decade old. Six miles north of Fort Dodge on U.S. Highway 169, the course is named for a creek that runs through it. Distance for the course is 3,106 yards with a USGA rating of 34.7. A 15-acre driving range, chipping green with sand trap and putting green are available.

Fort Dodge Country Club, along U.S. Highway 169 on the west edge of Fort Dodge, is one of the finest courses in northwest Iowa. The 18-hole private course has no water or out-of-bounds on the front nine hole, but both



on the back nine. It is a championship course that hosts many tournaments every year. Yardage is 5,260 for women, 6,214 for men's white tees and 6,465 for men's blue. The USGA

rating is 70.0 for women's and men's white; 70.5 for men's blue.

Prairie View Golf & Grill, is a nine-hole course on the southeast edge of Gowrie. It is a par-35 course with a distance of 3,064 yards. It is an easy course to walk, but carts are also available. The clubhouse has a restaurant that is open to the public.

Lakeside Municipal Golf Course is the only public 18-hole course in Fort Dodge. It has a long front nine, which is wide open. The back nine is short but troublesome with many trees and sharp dogleg holes that create problems for stray shots. There is a driving range. It is a par-72 course with 6,212 yards and a USGA rating of 69.5. Lakeside is located in Kennedy Park, north of Fort Dodge.

Sunkissed Meadows Golf Course is a short and scenic par-3 course, located along the Des Moines River. The public course is a good choice for beginners or anyone wanting to work on their irons and short game.

It is located on Meriwether Drive west of the Kenyon Road Bridge.