

PARK AND CAMPGROUND FACILITIES

- Free Use of County Park's*
- Picnic Areas & Hiking Trails
 - Cross-Country Skiing Trails

CAMPING FEES

TENT CAMPING AREA Rate: \$10.00 per site
PRIMITIVE CAMPING AREA Rate: \$9.00 per site
(Munson Point)
TRAILER CAMPING AREA* Rate: \$20.00 per site
For use of Trailer Sanitation Station, contact Resident
Park Caretaker at 507-439-6411
Registered campers: No fee Non-campers: \$7.00
CAMPING RESERVATIONS \$5.00 – call 507-439-6411
ALL ABOVE FEES ARE TAX INCLUSIVE

PICNIC SHELTER RESERVATIONS – Contact County
Park Coordinator Phone 507-233-6640

Lake Hanska County Park is open all year (Daily
8:00 AM-10:00 PM). The campground is open from
mid-May to late September. The campground
building contains flush toilets and hot showers.

The Park contains paved walkways leading to the
picnic shelters, along with other features making the
facility handicapped accessible.



Lake Hanska County Park Campground

CAMPGROUND POLICIES

1. A campsite may be occupied by:
 - A. A family using one shelter, and an additional shelter with prior approval of the Park Manager. A family consists of a father and/or mother accompanied by their children.
 - B. Any group of six or less using one shelter for sleep.
 - C. Campers under 18 must be accompanied by parent or legal guardian.
2. Registered campers are required to have all visitors out of the campground by 10:00 PM. Campers are encouraged to keep the number of visitors to a minimum, for campground safety reasons and in order to provide a pleasant camping experience to all registered campers.
3. Management reserves the right to require any camper or visitor to leave the campground upon violation of park (campground) rules.
4. Firewood is available for purchase through the Park Manager from 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM. Fee: Five (5) pieces for \$1.00.
5. No person shall use a public address system, amplifier or power equipment, or otherwise make noise of a volume tending reasonably to arouse alarm, anger, or resentment in other park users. Contact the Park Manager for permitted use of such equipment.
6. In the campground area, the hours between 10:00 PM and 8:00 AM are for outdoor solitude, and it shall be unlawful to make noise at a level above that of a quiet conversation.
7. Use of firearms, etc. is prohibited.
8. Trenching or digging in the campground is not allowed.
9. Pets must be leashed.
10. Don't litter. Place trash in containers.
11. Any misuse of intoxicating liquors will result in expulsion from the campground.
12. A person's possession and use of drugs shall be in accordance with state laws.
13. The campground has five (5) campsites for reservations. Call 507-439-6411.

*Amended by the Brown County Board of Commissioners on
August 15, 1995*

PARK ORDINANCE #1991-01, as posted, applies to all
park and campground users.

For further information, contact:

Resident Park Caretaker507-439-6411
Park Coordinator507-233-6640

BROWN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

LAKE HANSKA COUNTY PARK



Lake Hanska County Park is located on the
east shore of the largest lake in Brown County,
seventeen miles south of New Ulm. Historically,
humans lived on this site a long time ago. Archaeologists have studied the area and by the items found in their excavations determined that pre-historic hunting people occupied this place from about 500 B.C. to 1000 A.D. Then agricultural tribes lived here from that period to the time of contact with Europeans.

In the late 1850's, Norwegian immigrants moved into the area after the Dakota (or Sioux) Indians had moved to the reservations. The hills proved to be an ideal place for a fort, constructed of sod and logs, to help protect settlers in 1863, after the Uprising in 1862. Soldiers of the Ninth Minnesota Regiment were stationed here for many months. This spot is now called Fort Hill, which rises about 70 above the lake level.

Ole Synstebly purchased land here in 1879. He planted many of the unusual trees still growing in the park. There were few trees in the days of the fort as soldiers "can see twelve to fifteen miles in any direction." The land stayed in the Synstebly family until it formed the nucleus of the park.

Ole Synstebly opened the Fort Hanska Amusement Park below the fort site, near the shore of the lake, in about 1900. It was a popular recreational place for over 25 years.

A great many people combined their efforts to create this park, which was dedicated on Sunday, June 25, 1978.

A lake restoration project was completed in 2000 to improve fish and wildlife habitat, and recreational use of Lake Hanska. The lake dredging project removed 4,816,375 cubic yards of lake sediment from the lake area southwest and immediately northwest of the park, deepening most of this area to an average 12' water depth.

A channel constructed in 1988 connecting Lake Hanska and the basin adjacent to the campground allows boat access to the camping area. A variable crest dam was installed at the Lake Hanska outlet to allow controlled partial drawdowns of the lake level to promote emergent vegetation along the shoreline in the upper 1500 acres of the lake, which improves waterfowl habitat and water clarity.

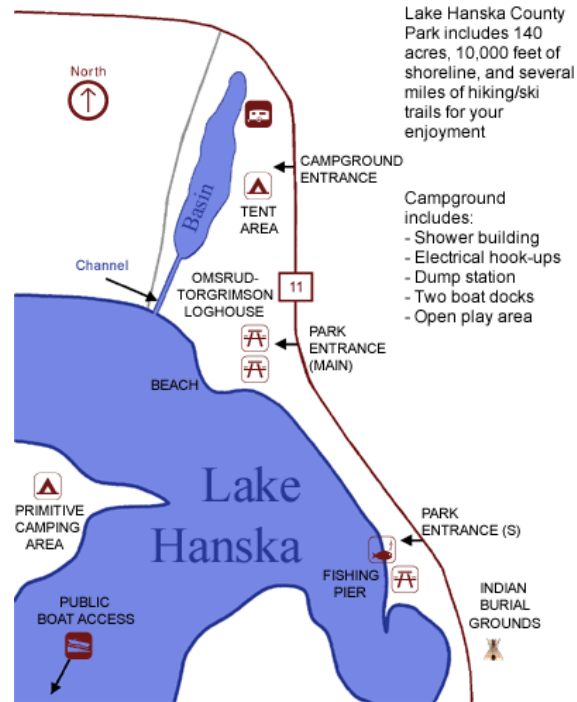
The Omsrud-Torgrimson log cabin was the first log cabin built in this area. The cabin was built around 1857 by the Omsrud/Thordson and Torgrimson families, immigrants from Valdres, Norway. The Thordson's occupied it until 1953. In 1986, Omsrud (Thordson) - Torgrimson descendants moved the cabin to this site. The cabin stands as a memorial to all Norwegian pioneers who were the first Europeans to permanently settle this part of Brown County.

Several kiosks throughout the park provide additional historic and present day information for park visitors.

For more information and pictures of the park go to:

www.co.brown.mn.us/parks

(Map and layout of Lake Hanska County Park)



(Additional Photos of the park)

