Lake Access Rules for The Nature Conservancy’s Emiquon Preserve
The Emiquon Preserve is Private Property owned and managed by the Illinois Chapter of The Nature Conservancy

1. Any and all individuals using Thompson Lake at Emiquon Preserve must have a valid Liability Waiver on file with the Conservancy and must carry a valid Waiver Identification Card. No other public access is allowed on the Preserve without the Conservancy’s permission except for access to the Observatories and associated walking trail.*

2. Lake Access Liability Waivers are available daily from 8:30 am-4:30 pm at Dickson Mounds Museum, 10956 N. Dickson Mounds Rd, Lewistown, IL 61542. *

3. Organized Lake Access activities of more than 25 people require a separate Special Use Permit.

4. Hours are sunrise to sunset. No entry allowed sunset to sunrise. The Conservancy reserves the right to close the Lake to any or all visitors on certain days or times by posting.

5. Minors must be accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older, and their Liability Waiver and Waiver Identification Card must be signed by the minor’s parent, legal guardian, or adult designee of the parent or guardian. *

6. No Lake Access before 12:00 pm during waterfowl hunting season. In addition, Lake users should be aware hunting may occur on the Lake at other times as well.

7. Harvest of fish must be for personal use only and not for sale.

8. The use of Other Power Driven Mobility Devices (OPDMDs) (utility vehicles, ATVs, Segways, golf carts, etc.) on this property has been assessed in accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations. OPDMDs are prohibited.

9. Permitted Lake Access activities are limited to: boating, pole-and-line fishing (maximum of 2 poles per person), bow fishing for carps only, and fishing, skating, hiking and cross country skiing on ice.

10. The following are prohibited: bank fishing, gas motors (not even on the boat) including ice augers, live bait except worms, fish cleaning; alcohol, pets, camping, tournaments, littering, open fires, fireworks, digging, dumping, weapons, swimming, and wading.

11. Collecting and/or removing the following are prohibited: rocks, plants, fossils, plant materials, animals (other than legally taken fish) and artifacts.

12. These rules and regulations are subject to change without notice.

13. The public is allowed only on Thompson Lake. In some locations buoys or signs maybe used to mark NO ACCESS zones. Access is NOT PERMITTED in those zones.

14. All gear must be removed from the Lake each day.

15. All state licensing, watercraft registration and regulations apply.

16. Violations of laws or failing to abide by written rules or instructions from Conservancy staff or designees constitutes trespassing and may cause Lake Access privileges to be revoked and/or trespass charges.

17. Fish harvest limits are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Minimum length</th>
<th>Daily limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>18&quot;</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crappie</td>
<td>9&quot;</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Channel Catfish</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluegill (Lepomis species)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walleye/Sauger</td>
<td>14”</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Due to COVID and until further notice, the waiver requirement in rules 1,2 and 5 are temporarily suspended.

➢ For emergencies, it is approximately 6 miles to the nearest hospital-Mason District Hospital in Havana at (309) 543-4431 or call 911
➢ To contact the Illinois Department of Natural Resource Conservation Police call the Fulton County Sheriff at (309) 547-2277