

← To Lewistown

Therkildsen Field Station at Emiquon  
University of Illinois Springfield

Illinois River Program Office  
The Nature Conservancy

Dickson Mounds Museum  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Emiquon Preserve  
The Nature Conservancy

Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Wetland Observatory

Lakeside Observatory

USFWS Office

County Highway 9

Thompson Lake

Flag Lake

Emiquon National Wildlife Refuge  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Spoon River

Illinois River

Havana



# Emiquon Preserve

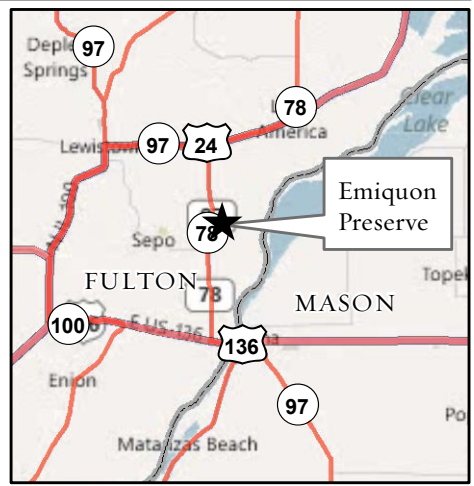
- Preserve Boundary
  - US Fish & Wildlife Service
  - IL Dept. of Natural Resources
  - Lakes & Rivers
  - Streams
  - Roads
  - Hiking Trails
  - Parking
- 0 0.5 1 Miles



From Chicago: Take I-55 south. Take exit 145 toward McLean. Turn right onto US-136. After crossing the Illinois River, merge right onto IL-97/IL-78.

From Peoria: Take IL-24 west. Turn left onto IL-78/IL-97 toward Havana.

From Springfield: Take IL-97 through Havana. After crossing the Illinois River, merge right onto IL-97/IL-78.



# The Emiquon Preserve



## Things to Do

- Hiking
- Observatories with spotting scopes
- Interpretive signage
- Boardwalks
- Fishing
- Waterfowl hunting
- Boating (paddles and electric motors only)
- Wildlife viewing (especially birds)

## Volunteer Opportunities

Please contact Jason Beverlin at [jbeverlin@tnc.org](mailto:jbeverlin@tnc.org) or 309-547-2730 for more information on volunteer opportunities at Emiquon.

## What to See: Plants

Emiquon is home to a wide variety of wetland plants including reeds, rushes, naiads and even American lotus. The restored prairie supports 100 species such as big bluestem, Indian grass, black-eyed Susan and prairie coreopsis. The Conservancy has planted more than 300,000 bottomland and upland trees on the site.

## What to See: Animals

Emiquon is home to hundreds of thousands of migratory and resident birds, including American bald eagles and white pelicans and numerous species of ducks, geese, herons, egrets and shore birds. Mammals include [river otters](#), muskrats, beavers, mink and short-tailed weasels. Grassland birds such as Henslow's and grasshopper sparrows, eastern bluebirds, orioles and migrating warblers can be seen in the prairie on the western side of the preserve. Reptiles such as prairie king and western ribbon snakes; snapping and softshell turtles; and plains leopard, northern cricket and green frogs can also be found.

## Plan Your Visit

Visitors have access to the lakeside observatories and trails; however a permit is required for lake access, i.e. for fishing and boating. Lake access permits are available at [Dickson Mounds Museum](#) during normal business hours. The lake is equipped with a canoe launch and concrete boat launch.

For school or larger tour groups, bus parking is available.

Bathrooms and picnic facilities are available at [Dickson Mounds Museum](#).

Please refer to [Emiquon Rules and Regulations](#)

## Directions

Parking lots are along the Illinois River Road National Scenic Byway (provide link) (IL-78/97)

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