



Piedmont Park Recreation Area

This is the largest campground area on Clearwater Lake. It also has the largest beach and picnic area.

Piedmont Park is the recreation area closest to the dam on the lake side. To reach it, take Route HH from Piedmont to the dam, then Lake Road 3 and follow signs.

This area is most popular with pleasure boaters, but when boat traffic is slow, fishermen use this

area too.

The rocky points extending into the lake from the dam attract baitfish and crayfish, which attract gamefish, which attract fishermen.

Some hardwood brush piles have been added inside the points, making it even easier for newcomers to figure out where to catch fish.

Night fishing is popular here too. People with pontoon boats drift with

lights over the side to attract bait fish. The bait fish in turn attract game fish, which fishermen on the pontoons catch as they drift along.

Sometimes the lake looks like Christmas in July at night, but with the aroma of barbecue in the air.

If you haven't been to Piedmont Park in a year or two, you may be surprised at the recent additions.

A new beach was added

in 2005, for one thing.

Additional launch ramps were added to the main boat ramp, plus more parking, making the process of launching go much faster on busy weekends.

And access to the boat ramps is different. A road goes directly to the boat ramp and marina instead of snaking through the campgrounds. . .

Which makes traffic in the camping areas much less than you may remember from the past.