

EXPLORE YOUR MILLS COUNTY PARKS!

West Oak Forest

55877 195th St.
Pacific Junction, IA
(2 miles North of Hwy 34 on L31)



West Oak Forest is 308 acres located in the Loess Hills. It consists of forest, numerous hilltop prairie remnants, 7-acres of restored prairie, and well over 3 miles of hiking trails. The park is basically a rectangle that is 1 mile by 1/2 mile. The area is very steep with rough hills. On the highest bluff the elevation reaches 1,100 feet above sea level. Located on the lower south trail, you will find an interpretive panel with information about Iowa's Loess Hills and native prairie. Work is presently underway to restore part of the park to an Oak Savanna. West Oak Forest is inhabited by some threatened and endangered species of the Loess Hills. This park is rich in cultural history as well, once occupied by the Glenwood Culture; a pre-historic people whose earth-lodge sites and burial mounds have been documented within the park's boundaries.

This park is open to non-consumptive recreational use. It is illegal to remove, injure, destroy, or deface any natural or man-made structures or materials, including trees, flowers or wildlife except with written permission of the Mills County Conservation Board. Mushrooms, fruits and nuts can be harvested for personal use.

West Oak Forest is a great place for hiking, photography, bird watching, nature viewing, prairie enthusiasts, and nature lovers in general.

Please read over these basic rules for the park:

- **No motorized vehicles beyond the parking area**
- **No hunting or trapping**
- **No firearms**
- **No camping**
- **No open fires or fireworks**
- **Pets must remain on a leash at all times**