



**SIERRA
CLUB**

IOWA CHAPTER

Retain Lake Macbride Motor Size Restrictions at 10 horsepower and speeds of no more than 5 miles per hour

Lake Macbride State Park is located west of Solon, between Cedar Rapids and Iowa City. An 812-acre lake is one of the features of the State Park. The lake was created by damming Mill and Jordan Creeks. A dam separates Lake Macbride from the Coralville Reservoir. The Coralville Reservoir, a lake larger than 5,200 acres, was created by damming the Iowa River.

Current regulations limit the motor size to 10 horsepower on Lake Macbride from the Friday before Memorial Day through Labor Day. At other times, the size of the motor is unrestricted but can be operated at no greater than 5 miles per hour. These restrictions minimize wakes on the lake.

The current motor size and speed restrictions make sense.

The horsepower and speed restrictions make Lake Macbride much safer for the beginning paddler or inexperienced paddler. Lake Macbride provides an excellent opportunity for children to learn paddling skills. Inexperienced paddlers, as well as those who are more experienced, face challenges keeping boats floating in high wakes. That is why Lake Macbride is a favorite of those who canoe, kayak and sailboat.

Several features of Lake Macbride uniquely support the lower horsepower motors and speeds including the sharp bends and narrow connecting spaces along the lake, the use of paddle boats on the lake and an exposed swimming beach.

Because Lake Macbride and the Coralville Reservoir are so close, boaters who want larger motors and faster speeds are able to use Coralville Reservoir.¹ There are no motor size restrictions on Coralville Lake. Those who want to recreate in a lake with slower speeds or who use less maneuverable boats can enjoy Lake Macbride.

In order to protect the safety of those who recreate on Lake Macbride, the Iowa Chapter supports retaining the motor size restrictions at 10 horsepower and speeds to no more than 5 miles per hour on Lake Macbride.



Lake Macbride is separated from Coralville Lake by a dam. The slower speed restrictions on Lake Macbride are favorable for people to canoe, kayak, and sailboat.

¹ Maps of Lake Macbride and Coralville Reservoir can be found at the Iowa Department of Natural Resources website at iowadnr.gov/Destinations/StateParksRecAreas/IowasStateParks/ParkDetails.aspx?ParkID=610119 and www.iowadnr.gov/Fishing/Wheretofish/LakesPondsReservoirs/LakeDetails.aspx?lakeCode=COR52