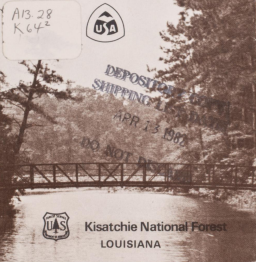




The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, is dedicated to the principle of multiple use management of the Nation's forest resources for sustained yields of wood, water, forage, wildlife, and recreation. Through forestry research, cooperation with the States and private forest owners, and management of the National Forests and National Grasslands, it strives - as directed by Congress - to provide increasingly greater service to a growing Nation.

## CANEY LAKES Recreation Area and - SUGAR CANE TRAIL



Kisatchie National Forest  
LOUISIANA



For Further Information Contact:

District Ranger  
P O Box 479  
Homer, Louisiana 71040

or

Forest Supervisor  
2500 Sheveport Hwy.  
Alexandria, Louisiana 71360

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service - Southern Region

## CANEY LAKES

Caney Lakes, totaling 391 acres, provide a setting in which you may enjoy your own special outdoor recreation interests. You might like to:

### ... Be a Camper

Caney Lakes provide 47 well-spaced lakefront and forested camping units. Each unit has a picnic table, fireplace, and tent pad. Parking spurs for trailers or motor campers range in length from 20 to 50 feet. Campsites have convenient access to drinking water, toilet facilities, and showers. Hiking trails connect all parts of the recreation area.



### ... Be a Swimmer

Two sandy beaches await swimmers on the lower lake. Lifeguards are on duty 7 days a week from June to September. Parking, showers, and toilet facilities are convenient to both beaches.

### ... Be a Boater

Caney Lakes provide two boat-launch sites, one on each lake, to accommodate a variety of water craft.

The upper lake offers a more peaceful boating experience since the only crafts allowed are canoes, sailboats, and those with electric trolling motors.

Motor boats and water skiing are permitted on the lower lake. Parking for vehicles and trailers is provided at both launch sites. Boaters are requested to adhere to the "Keep Right" rule when approaching, using, and departing from a boat-launch or boat-dock site.

### ... Be a Skier

The lower lake has a special beach for skiers, with convenient boat access for easy departures and returns. Located on the shore of a picnic area, the ski beach provides excellent opportunities for skiing without disturbing others. Drinking water, showers, and toilet facilities are nearby.

### ... Be a Fisherman

Spring and fall are the best seasons for bass, crappie, bluegill, sandbass, and catfish. You can fish either from the shore or from a boat - except within beach areas.

A fishing deck, designed especially for the handicapped, provides shelters, benches, and low handrails for wheelchair users. Parking and toilet facilities are nearby.

### ... Be a Picnicker

Four lakeside picnic areas, designated for day use only, include 73 table-and-fireplace units. Drinking water and toilet facilities are handy to all of these tree-shaded sites.

### ... Be a Hiker

The Sugar Cane National Recreation Trail, with its numerous connecting trails, affords hikers the chance to walk more than 7 miles along the lakeshore and through beautiful wooded areas.



The Caney Lakes area is a relatively new Forest Service development. Prior to government ownership, the land was used primarily for raising cotton and sugar cane. In 1954 the land was acquired and reforested by the Forest Service. It became part of the National Forest system in 1959. Today, this once barren land is forested with stands of pine and hardwood.

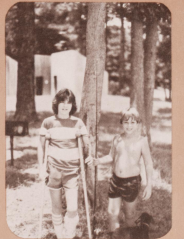
The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, invites you to visit and enjoy the Caney Lakes Recreation Area in the Kisatchie National Forest.

## POINTS TO REMEMBER

-To help preserve this pleasant atmosphere for recreation outings, your cooperation is needed. Leave all areas as you would like to find them. Please Don't Litter. Trash receptacles are convenient to all developed sites.

-Do not hang lanterns on trees. Steel lantern posts are provided at all campsites. Many trees are damaged each year from lantern heat which blisters the bark, allowing disease and insects to enter the tree causing decay and eventual death.

-Do not chop, carve, or drive nails into trees; doing so can seriously damage or kill them. Please be careful of the small trees and shrubs that provide beauty and privacy for campers.



-Vehicles and trailers must remain on roads and spurs.

-Caney Lakes is a U.S. Fee Area. The fee station, located on the entrance road, provides information on the various activities and their fees.

-Please read and follow the regulations for occupancy and use. Forest Service officials patrol the recreation sites to provide assistance to visitors.

-No sewer or electrical hookups are available at the campsites. Trailer tanks may be emptied at the central dumping station located near the fee station.



## SUGAR CANE TRAIL



Hikers on the Sugar Cane Trail walk among many species of trees, shrubs, and groundcovers native to Louisiana. Winding among tall trees, along lakeshores, and through deep shade, the trail offers a scenic and educational experience.

Prior to the 1930s, the Caney Lakes area was heavily farmed. Traces remain of old eroded ditches, swales, and an earthen terrace system built for irrigation and erosion control.

Today, the trail passes through both upland pine stands and bottomland hardwood forests. Under these canopies, a host of shrubs, mosses, lichens, ferns, and herbaceous plants provide a lush understory along the entire trail. Deer, fox, raccoon, skunk, squirrel, mice, rabbits, and beavers live here along with turkey, owls, waterfowl, and a multitude of songbirds.

The trail also offers points of historical interest dating back to the days of cotton fields and sugar cane. Portions of the trail follow old road beds that were used for agriculture and timber operations in the past.



Hiking conditions in Louisiana differ from those in many states. The topography is relatively flat and may range between very dry sand and very wet soil. The mild climate allows hiking year-round, but late fall, winter, and early spring are the most popular seasons. The summers are generally hot and humid, and hiking then can be a challenge.

Be aware that poisonous snakes, spiders, ticks, chiggers, mosquitoes, and poisonous plants do exist in the area, but they don't present major problems. However, consider carrying insect repellent with you or using it before you begin your hike to insure personal comfort.



Fire is always a danger in the forest. If you smoke, restrict your smoking to rest breaks where you can control your ashes. Carefully extinguish all smoking materials in bare soil before moving on.

Pack out all non-burnable refuse. Maintaining the quality of any outdoor recreation experience is the responsibility of everyone. Take only pictures, and leave only footprints.

The Sugar Cane Trail is a loop trail designated for foot traffic only. The first 0.8-mile segment connects the trailhead with the main trail. Drinking

water and toilet facilities are located near the trailhead and on the trail loop. Parking space at the trailhead can accommodate five vehicles. The trail is marked with gray diamond-shaped blazes, each being within the sight of the next. The 3-diamond blazes indicate a change in direction on the trail. Intersecting trails from camping loops and picnicking areas are identified as such.

Follow the trail markers closely; many old logging roads throughout the area tend to be confusing.

The trail is located in a fee-use area, but there is no charge for use of the trail.

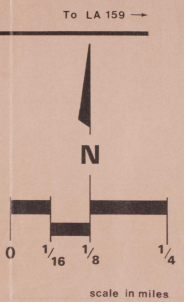
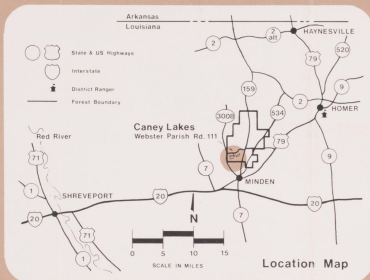
The Sugar Cane Trail, 7.6 miles in length, has been designated as a National Recreation Trail because of its outstanding scenic values. Regulations prohibit the use of horses and motor vehicles on this trail in order to assure a safer, more desirable hiking experience. Hikers may use nearby swimming, camping, and picnicking facilities, but must pay the standard fee to do so.

The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture invites you to hike and enjoy the Sugar Cane Trail in the Kisatchie National Forest.





# CANEY LAKES RECREATION AREA



**Legend**

	MOTOR BOATING/SKIING		FIRST AID
	BEACH		PHONE
	SKI BEACH		ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX
	FISHING		CONNECTING TRAIL
	HANDICAP FISHING DECK		BRIDGE
	TRAIL		PARKING
	SAILING/CANOEING		CAMPSITE
	PICNICKING		DAY USE AREA ONLY
	SHOWERS		SUGAR CANE NATIONAL RECREATION TRAIL
	TOILET FACILITIES		
	BOAT LAUNCH		
	TRAILER DUMP STATION		
	INFORMATION		

# SUGAR CANE TRAIL