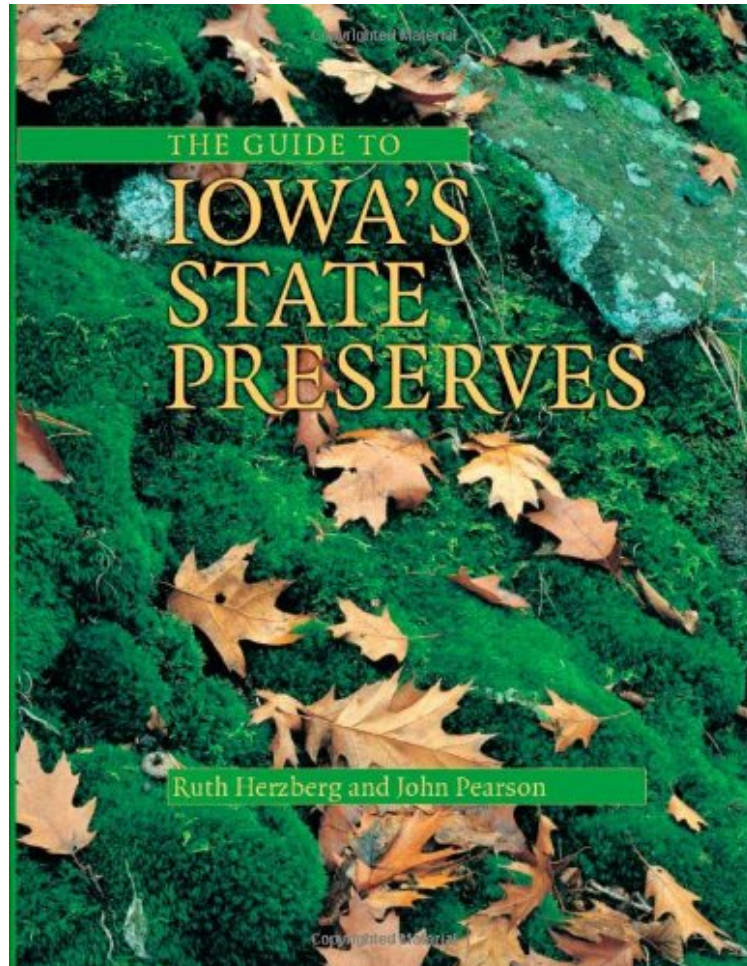


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The Guide to Iowa's State Preserves (Bur Oak Guide)

Ruth Herzberg, John A. Pearson

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Ruth Herzberg, John A. Pearson : The Guide to Iowa's State Preserves (Bur Oak Guide) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Guide to Iowa's State Preserves (Bur Oak Guide):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy M. StarkA+ guide0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good in determining neat places to explore.By Edwin M. CochranVery concise and informative on what to expect relative to hiking and what facilities are available. Some maps and photos are included.

The Iowa state preserves system was created in 1965; a decade later, thirty preserves had been dedicated, including six native prairies, a native White Pine stand, the state's only Sphagnum bog, a Balsam Fir stand, some of the oldest exposed rock outcrops in the world, an ancient fort, a fen, several Indian mound groups and a historical cemetery. This new guide to all ninety Iowa state preservesbiological, geological, archaeological, historical, and scenicdescribes the

state's most treasured prairies and forests, quartzite outcrops and ice caves, and Indian mounds and wetlands as well as such historic sites as Fort Atkinson and Montauk. Each entry includes two-color, progressively scaled maps giving the location of the preserve within the state, within its county, relative to a nearby town (with a recommended driving route), and on the local landscape (using USGS 7.5-minute topo maps). Also included are written directions (using 911 street names and signs); a description of the preserve's size, features, and history; a list of nearby or similar preserves, parks, natural areas, and other attractions; recommended readings; and contact information. (There are a few exceptions for privately owned or fragile preserves.) For travelers, a map in the introduction numbers all the preserves both geographically and alphabetically by name. Although the preserves system emphasizes preservation rather than recreation, some preserves do have formal trails; some allow hunting, horseback riding, and canoeing; a few have museums or nature centers. This comprehensive guide allows visitors to plan active and informative visits to sites that highlight Iowa's natural and cultural heritage.

More than just parks, Iowa's ninety state preserves guard our very heritage. Like Iowa itself, those preserves are diverse. We've given the state's highest protection to prairies, woodlands, and wetlands, along with cemeteries, Native American relics, a church, a stone quarry, ice caves, and fossils. Those sites, so well chronicled in *The Guide to Iowa's State Preserves*, will remind Iowans of their very special roots. Larry A. Stone