Camping available year-round

Pitch a tent
Sleep out under the stars or pitch a tent in one of the 32 campsites. Each campsite has a BBQ, picnic table, fire pit and drinking water.

Park overnight
Spend a few days and nights with us in one of the 21 RV campsites located along the southwestern rim of the park. Each site has a BBQ, fire pit, picnic table, drinking water and electrical outlets. A dump station is conveniently located near the maintenance office.

Bring a group
Group camp overs and special events are welcome. Reservations are required.

Take a swim
The lake is roped off for swimming along a 36,000 square foot sandy beach. Children should always be supervised by a responsible adult.

Pack a lunch
Shaded, grassy picnic areas adorn the lake’s southern shore. Picnic tables and barbecues are available on a first come basis. Picnic areas may be reserved for groups. Reservations are required. Picnic tables and barbecues are also available in our Day Use area year-round.

Rancho Seco Recreational Area
14960 Twin Cities Road
Herald, CA

For park information | 209-748-2318
For camp ground reservations Monday – Friday
8 a.m. – 5 p.m. | 1-800-416-6992 | smud.org/RanchoSeco

Online reservations:
rockymountainrec.com/lake-facilities/listing/rancho-seco-recreational-area

Park Hours:
Entrance gate opens at 7 a.m. daily.
November – March, no entry after 3:30 p.m.
April – October, no entry after 6 p.m.
Campers – No entry after 10 p.m.
Come out and play year-round

Launch a boat
The park’s 160-acre lake, fed by the Folsom South Canal, is maintained at a constant level year-round. You can launch an electric motor boat, rowboat or sailboat from either of the two boat ramps.

Wet a line
Cast a line from one of six fishing docks (handicapped access available). The freshwater lake sports bass, bluegill, redear sunfish and crappie. SMUD also stocks the lake with rainbow trout and hosts an annual spring trout derby. Those 16 years or older, must have a California fishing license.

Take a hike
The Howard Ranch Trail is a three and half-mile hiker’s delight. In the winter and spring, the draw are the vernal pools, while later in the year, carpets of wildflower provide a colorful view. Bring water, sunscreen and a hat on your walk. And because this is a working ranch, you’ll need to stick to the trail and leave your dog behind.

Set sail
The park’s warm-water lake is a windsurfer’s haven. The consistent wind direction and nonexistence of jet skiers and speedboats makes it ideally suited for novices.

Watch the birds & see the animals
The park is a winter refuge for ducks, geese, hawks, bald eagles, blue heron and migratory birds. Visit with emus at the Amanda Blake Memorial Wildlife Refuge. (Museum currently closed).