

# GET OUT *and Play!*

The Tennessee, Ohio, Cumberland, and Mississippi Rivers (four of the eastern United States's most important waterways) all converge in western Kentucky. The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) manages 20 locks and dams along the 981 miles of the Ohio River and 10 dams and 4 locks on the Cumberland River, while the Tennessee Valley Authority manages nine dams along 652 miles of the Tennessee River. The largest tributary of the Ohio River; the Tennessee River is part of the nation's Inland Waterway System, along with the Mississippi, Missouri, Illinois and Arkansas rivers, as well as the Gulf Intercoastal Waterway and a host of smaller tributary rivers. In this water-abundant part of western Kentucky and Tennessee, Lake Barkley and Kentucky Lake are joined by a canal, creating a massive amount of recreational fun and opportunities. Here you'll find the Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area, boasting 170,000 acres of protected forest brimming with hiking, camping, and paddling galore. In addition, large amounts of land have been set aside as part of the five National Wildlife Refuges in this area, and an abundant amount of wildlife management areas managed by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. Another popular and smaller waterway is the Clarks River, a very good option for paddling activities. To the north is the Shawnee National Forest, another major center for land-based outdoor recreation activities.



Whether you are stepping into your boat, going for a hike, or gearing up for the hunt having a little back-pocket information is key. Here is some simple information about some of this area's best recreational opportunities—where to show up, how to get there and what to bring along. One of the most amazing things about the Tennessee River system and its tributaries is how easy it is for you to get to places to relax and recreate. As part of its mission of service, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) manages its public lands and waters to support recreation so that the Tennessee Valley remains one of the best places in the country to live, work and play.

## TVA'S DAMS

Kentucky Dam is 22 miles upstream from the confluence of the Tennessee River with the Ohio. The dam is the longest in the TVA system, and the reservoir—which stretches for 184 miles across Kentucky and Tennessee—is the largest in the eastern US.

Kentucky Lake is home to many varieties of fish, including largemouth and smallmouth bass, catfish, bluegill, sauger and crappie. Numerous marinas and launching ramps dot the coves of the Kentucky Lake shoreline.

Located on the shores of Kentucky Lake are the Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area, four state parks, the Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge, numerous public access areas and numerous state wildlife management areas. There are resorts and campsites, and areas for swimming and picnicking. Water skiing, sailing and windsurfing are popular here, as well as bicycling, horseback riding, hunting and fishing.

When paddling near a dam, please know: Water release schedules can change without notice due to unanticipated changes in weather conditions and power system requirements. The depth and swiftness of the river can change rapidly. Your safety depends on obeying all posted safety regulations and warnings. Information about the recreation releases can be found on [www.tva.gov/Environment/Recreation/Recreation-Release-Schedules](http://www.tva.gov/Environment/Recreation/Recreation-Release-Schedules). You can also check out information for Kentucky Dam at [www.tva.gov/Environment/Lake-Levels](http://www.tva.gov/Environment/Lake-Levels) or download TVA's Lake Info app. Or you can call (800) 238-2264 (toll-free) and select option 1 for observed levels and select 33 for Kentucky Dam on the Tennessee River or select 40 for Barkley Dam.

## TVA PUBLIC LANDS

The public lands entrusted to TVA for stewardship are available for hiking, birdwatching, camping, fishing, hunting and other informal recreational pursuits. Some important regulations to protect the resources and your safety should be followed. Camping in a primitive campsite on TVA lands is allowable up to 14 days. You should follow all state hunting seasons and regulations. In addition, motorized vehicles, cutting or removing vegetation, target shooting or removal of cultural artifacts are not allowed on TVA public lands. For more information visit [www.tva.com/undeveloped](http://www.tva.com/undeveloped), or call the TVA's Public Lands Information Center at (800) TVA-LAND (toll-free).

## NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS

Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge is a bottomland hardwood forest located in western Kentucky and lies along the Clarks River, which flows 40 miles through the refuge. The refuge currently consists of ~9,000 acres and is a seasonal home to over 200 different species of birds. It is known for its wetland habitat diversity and bottomland hardwood forest. Hunters and fishermen are required to obtain and sign a Refuge Annual Hunting Permit before arriving to hunt on the refuge.

Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1945 as a resting and feeding area for wintering waterfowl and other migratory birds. The refuge consists of 51,358 acres of water, forests, farmland, wetlands, and grasslands and is home to over 300 species of birds. There are three units: Duck River, Big Sandy, and Bussettown located on and around Kentucky Lake in Tennessee. Hunters and fishermen are required to obtain and sign a Refuge Annual Hunting Permit before arriving to hunt on the refuge and carry a valid state hunting license. The Refuge Annual Hunt Permit may be purchased only through Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) licensing agents, online at [www.gooutdoortennessee.com](http://www.gooutdoortennessee.com), or on the TWRA mobile app.

## National Recreation Area

**Lands** - Land Between the Lakes [www.landbetweenthe lakes.us/](http://www.landbetweenthe lakes.us/) is managed by the US Forest Service and spans 170,000 acres in both Tennessee and Kentucky. There are over 500 miles of trails and 200 miles of scenic roads, including the Woodlands Trace National Scenic Byway. The Canal Loop Trail is known as the most popular trail for mountain biking. It is a moderate-difficult, 11-mile single-track loop trail. You will also find over 20 trails for hiking. For a list of basic and developed campgrounds, please visit the Land Between the Lakes website, [www.landbetweenthe lakes.us/reservations](http://www.landbetweenthe lakes.us/reservations). Permits are required for basic camping, hunting, and horse day-riding.

## State Wildlife Management Agency Lands

- <https://app.fw.ky.gov/solar/>

**State Parks** - There are four Kentucky State Resort Parks in this region (Lake Barkley, Kentucky Dam Village, Kenlake, and Pennyriple Forest) and three Tennessee State Parks (Paris Landing, Nathan Bedford Forrest, and Johnsonville) within this region. Please visit <https://parks.ky.gov/> and <http://tnstateparks.com/> for detailed information.

**Historic Sites** - The Mississippi, Tennessee, Ohio and Cumberland Rivers were important rivers of the region during the US Civil War as a mode of transporting troops into the southern region. Several historic forts and battles occurred along these rivers and the National Park Service manages several units in the area, including Fort Donelson National Battlefield. For more information, please visit <https://www.nps.gov/fodo/index.htm>.

## BE A GOOD STEWARD

The Tennessee River is known for its clean water and pristine rural shorelines. Here's how you can help play a part in keeping the river beautiful:

- **Use established boat ramps.** Shorelines are fragile ecosystems; please restrict launching and landing to designated areas only.
- **Leave no trace behind.** No littering, pack it in, pack it out, for more info visit [www.int.org](http://www.int.org).
- **Look, don't touch.** Do not disturb any natural or cultural resources you may encounter.
- **Respect private property.** Do not trespass above the high water mark.
- **Be a happy camper.** Camp only in designated areas.
- **Don't play with fire.** No campfires unless otherwise designated.



## PARTNERS:



To purchase your Kentucky fishing and hunting license please visit [FW.KY.GOV](http://FW.KY.GOV)

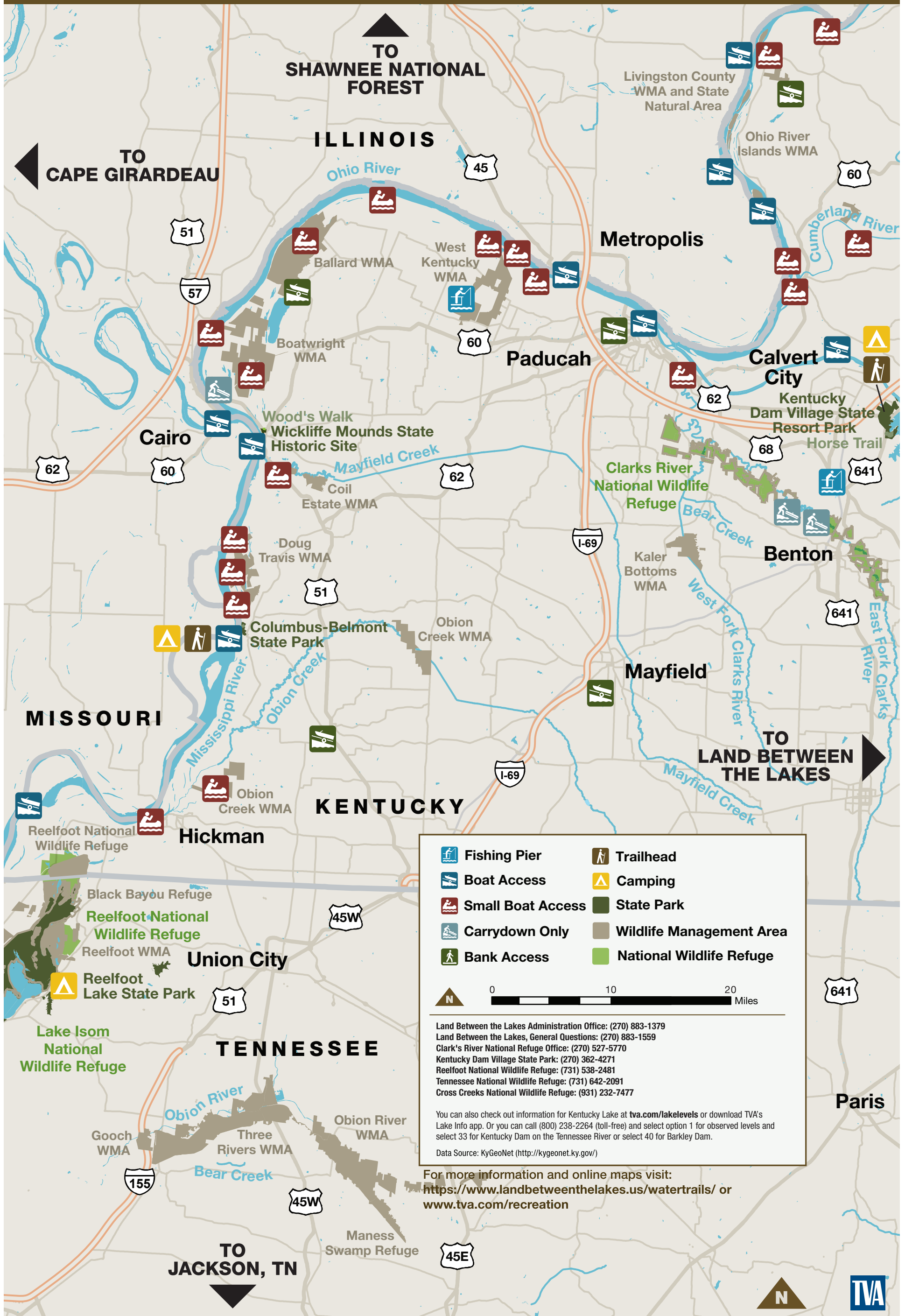


# #TVAfun

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# WESTERN KENTUCKY



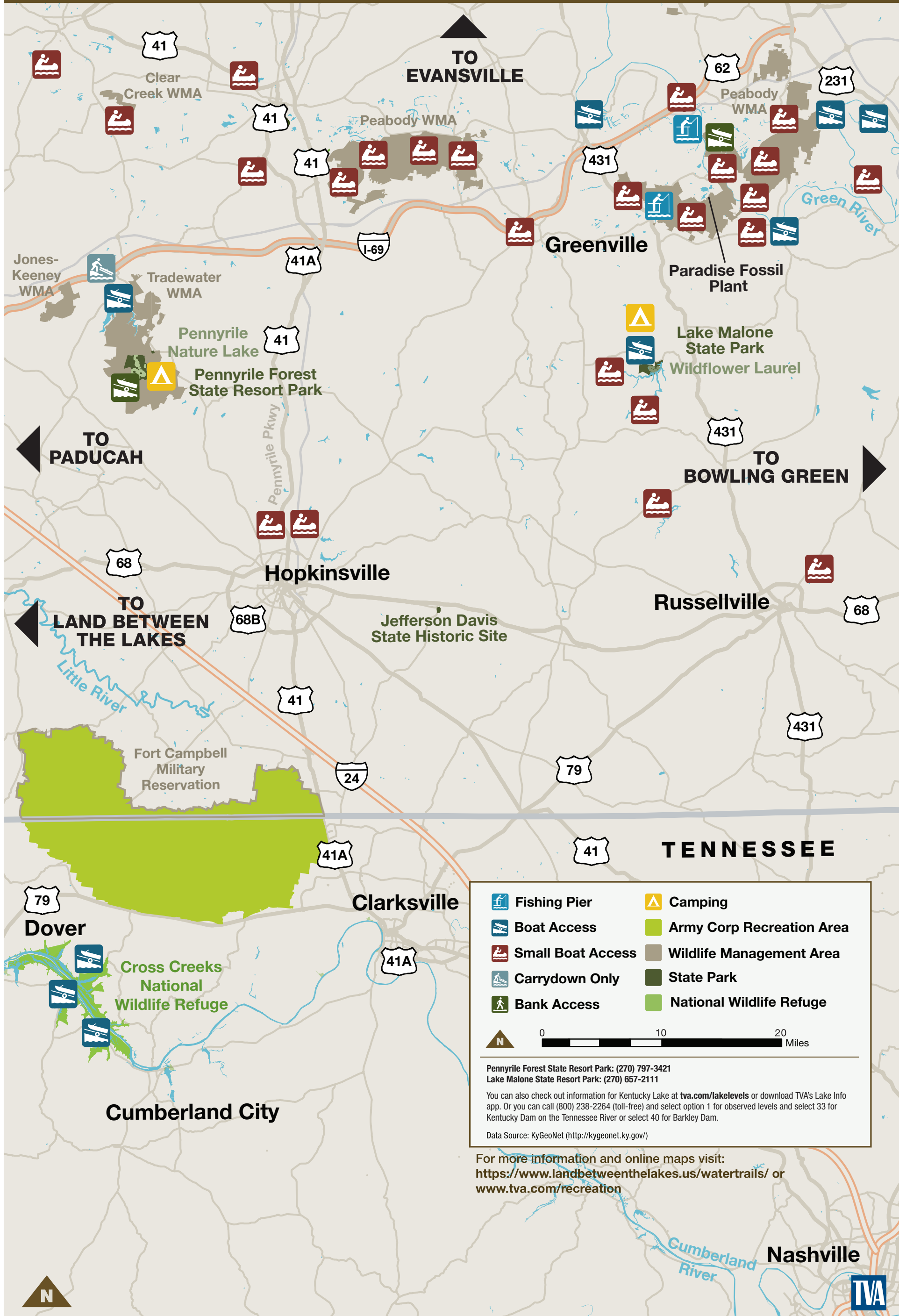
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# LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES REGION



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# HOPKINSVILLE, KENTUCKY



	Fishing Pier		Camping
	Boat Access		Army Corp Recreation Area
	Small Boat Access		Wildlife Management Area
	Carrydown Only		State Park
	Bank Access		National Wildlife Refuge

0 10 20 Miles

Pennyrile Forest State Resort Park: (270) 797-3421  
 Lake Malone State Resort Park: (270) 657-2111

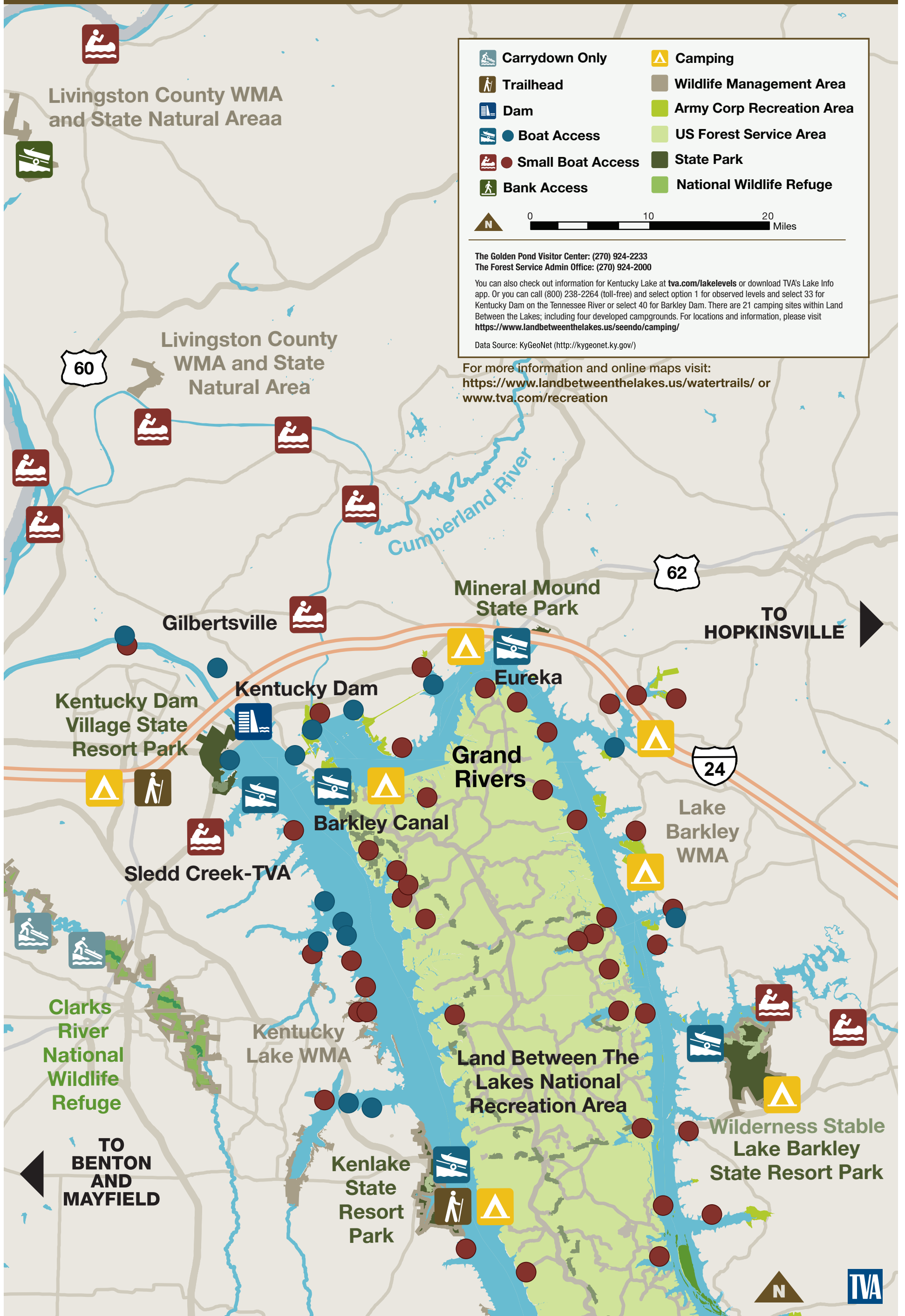
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Data Source: KyGeoNet (<http://kygeonet.ky.gov/>)

For more information and online maps visit:  
<https://www.landbetweenthe lakes.us/watertrails/> or  
[www.tva.com/recreation](http://www.tva.com/recreation)

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# LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES NORTH



Carrydown Only	Camping
Trailhead	Wildlife Management Area
Dam	Army Corp Recreation Area
Boat Access	US Forest Service Area
Small Boat Access	State Park
Bank Access	National Wildlife Refuge

0 10 20 Miles

The Golden Pond Visitor Center: (270) 924-2233  
 The Forest Service Admin Office: (270) 924-2000

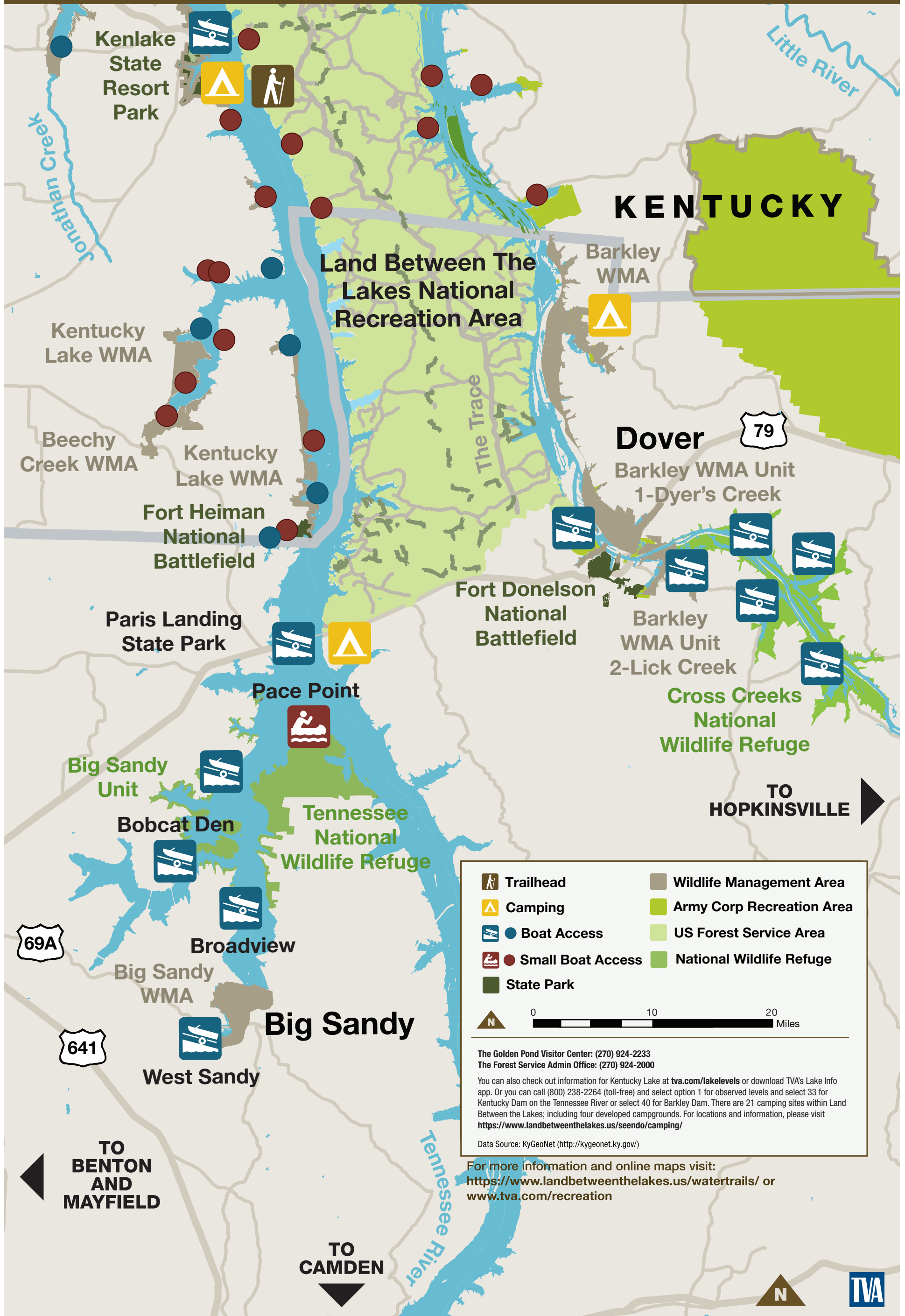
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# LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES SOUTH



Trailhead	Camping	Boat Access	Small Boat Access	State Park	Wildlife Management Area	Army Corp Recreation Area	US Forest Service Area	National Wildlife Refuge
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0 10 20 Miles

The Golden Pond Visitor Center: (270) 924-2233  
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