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- State Park Office
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www.ohiodnr.com
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Anderson Road **8**
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- Mercer Waterfowl Area
SR 703 South **6**
- State Boat Ramp
It's It Road **5**
- Montezuma Village Boat Ramp
SR 703 **4**
- State Park & Boat Ramp
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- East Bulkhead
East Bank Road, SR 364 **2**
- State Park w/Boat Ramp
Shelter Houses & Fishing Piers
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- The Outdoorsman 419-394-5769
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- Otterbein Senior Lifestyle
Community
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SR 364 **4**
- Rustic Haven Campground
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Schroeder Road..... **7**
- Klosterman's Cove
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Food Available
Fuel Available

**For Boaters Assistance
call the US Freshwater
Boaters Alliance
419-318-9139**

**State Park Office:
419-394-3611
State Camp Grounds:
419-394-2774**



This map is courtesy of the **Lake Improvement Association**, supporting the Grand Lake watershed area since 1947, with meetings held on the first Saturday of each month at the Celina Moose Lodge at 10:00 am.

Objective:
Lake Improvement Association members are united by the bonds of friendship, and strive for mutual understanding of all issues related to the lake; they endeavor to help resolve those issues to the satisfaction of the State of Ohio as owner of the lake, private enterprise around the lake and for the benefit of the public using the Grand Lake.

The public is always welcome to hike the paths at our Treatment Trains to view nature at its best. The public is always welcome to hike the paths at our Treatment Trains to view nature at its best. conducted during 2016. The Grand Lake St. Marys Restoration Commission was formed in January 2010 as a group of very dedicated individuals working together on solutions to the critical issues facing Grand Lake St. Marys. Since that time extraordinary progress has been made implementing a restoration master plan developed at that time. Aeration continues to be embraced by more and more homeowners and civic organizations in the backwaters; an aggressive dredging program continues to set annual records; six of the seven tributaries supplying water to the lake will have water cleansing Treatment Trains by the end of 2017 and a rough fish reduction pilot will be conducted during 2016.

Area Attractions
The Greater Grand Lake Region Visitors Center is located next to the park office. For more information on area attractions including the Armstrong Air & Space Museum, Fort Recovery, the Bicycle Museum of America and the Miami & Erie Canal. Stop by, check out the Greater Grand Lake Region Visitors Center or call 1-800-860-GRAND. The lake was connected to the canal by a three-mile feeder. Today a pile of rocks near the center of the lake marks the spot of the last producing well. Grand Lake St. Marys and other canal feeder lakes in the state were the first areas to be dedicated as Ohio State Parks in 1949.

Picnicking
Picnic areas with tables and grills are located in scenic areas around the lake. Some picnic shelters may be reserved. Contact the park office for reservation details. **St. Marys Fish Hatchery**, located on the lake's eastern shore off East Bank Road, is the only state hatchery that raises large-mouth bass. Other species, including saugey, walleye, channel catfish and pike are raised to stock northern lakes. Fishing is great year-round and anglers will enjoy excellent catches of crappie, bass and bluegill in the spring, as well as record catches of catfish. Boat vending machines are available at the park. Hunting is permitted in designated areas. There are 69 seasonal duck blinds available by a lottery administered by the ODNR Division of Wildlife. A valid Ohio hunting license and waterfowl stamp are required.

Fishing and Hunting
Boats, with no limits on horsepower, are permitted on the lake. Seven state-operated launch ramps provide access to the lake. Several private launch ramps also exist along the shoreline. Fuel, boat rentals and seasonal dock rentals are available. A 300' no wake zone has been established and is enforced around the lake's 52 miles of shoreline. The state wildlife refuge located on the southwest corner is off-limits to boats at all times. In addition to forests, pre-settlement Ohio contained large prairies and wetlands. The land which now lies beneath St. Marys reservoir was once a vast wet prairie. Today, the park contains varying habitats including woodlands, wetlands and prairies in addition to the surrounding crop lands. Grand Lake St. Marys lies along one of the country's major migration routes. Water birds using the lake as a resting stop include Canada geese, ducks, grebes, swans, geese, loons, herons, cormorants and ospreys. Many ducks, geese and heron also nest here. Bald eagles, magnificent birds long absent from the area, have again nested on the southwest corner of the lake at the wildlife refuge and many other areas around the lake. Animals of the park include fox, squirrel, mink, raccoon, beaver, coyote and white-tailed deer among others.

Nature of the Area
Although hard to imagine, at one time the Grand Lake St. Marys region was part of a vast forest wilderness that stretched from the Allegheny Mountains of Pennsylvania to the prairies of Illinois. Today in place of this forest are fields of corn, soybeans and wheat.

Highlights and facts of Grand Lake St. Marys

The lake is man-made and its original purpose was to supply water for the Miami - Erie Canal. A feeder canal ran from the bulkhead at the east end of the lake to the main canal that flowed from Cincinnati to Toledo. The area was surveyed in 1830 by a Mr. Mitchell and was resurveyed in 1837 by Messrs. Barney and Farrer. The estimated cost prior to construction was \$90,000. At completion, total construction costs were estimated to be \$600,000.

Work on the lake began in 1837. All of the digging was done by hand. The dirt was moved by wheelbarrows and specially-built one-horse-drawn dump carts. The west bank was made of logs and mud and was completed in 1843. Approximately 1700 German and Irish immigrants worked from sunrise to sunset. They were employed at 30 cents a day. Legend says that they also received a jigger of whiskey per day to fight off malaria.

The lake's watershed consists primarily of Coldwater Creek, Montezuma Creek and the Big and Little Chickasaw Creeks, which enter on the south side of the lake.

The lake originally covered 17,500 acres at an average depth of 10 feet. Due to the development of park areas on the east and west banks, the lake is now approximately 13,500 acres. The lake is approximately nine miles long and three miles wide, extending into both Auglaize and Mercer Counties.

Before construction of the lake, the area was known as "Beaver Prairie" and was forested with walnut, hickory, oak, beech and sycamore trees.

At one time the lake supported commercial fishing. In 1884 state law prohibited the taking of fish in inland waters by any method other than hook and line.

During the winter months ice was shipped from the lake to markets in New York, Cincinnati, St. Louis and Dayton.

Grand Lake St. Marys lays claim to the worlds first offshore oil wells. In 1915, the official name of Grand Lake St. Marys was adopted by the Ohio Legislature.

At one time the lake supported a number of resorts such as Mercelina Park, Harbor Point, Lakeland Beach, Sandy Beach, Scotties Beach, Northwood, Ballinger Park and Windy Point. Many of these areas remain today and have become year-round residential areas.

may be made by calling 1-866-644-6727 or online at www.ohiosateparks.org. scheduled programs, including movies, throughout the weekend. Cabin and campsite reservations dock the-ups. Cabins are available for daily or weekly rental. A seasonal naturalist holds permitted. The campground also offers a "campers only" swimming beach, boat launch and boat launch. Pets are allowed on leash. The campground contains 178 sites which include full service electric and primitive sites. Grand Lake St. Marys and other canal feeder lakes in the state were the first areas to be dedicated as Ohio State Parks in 1949.

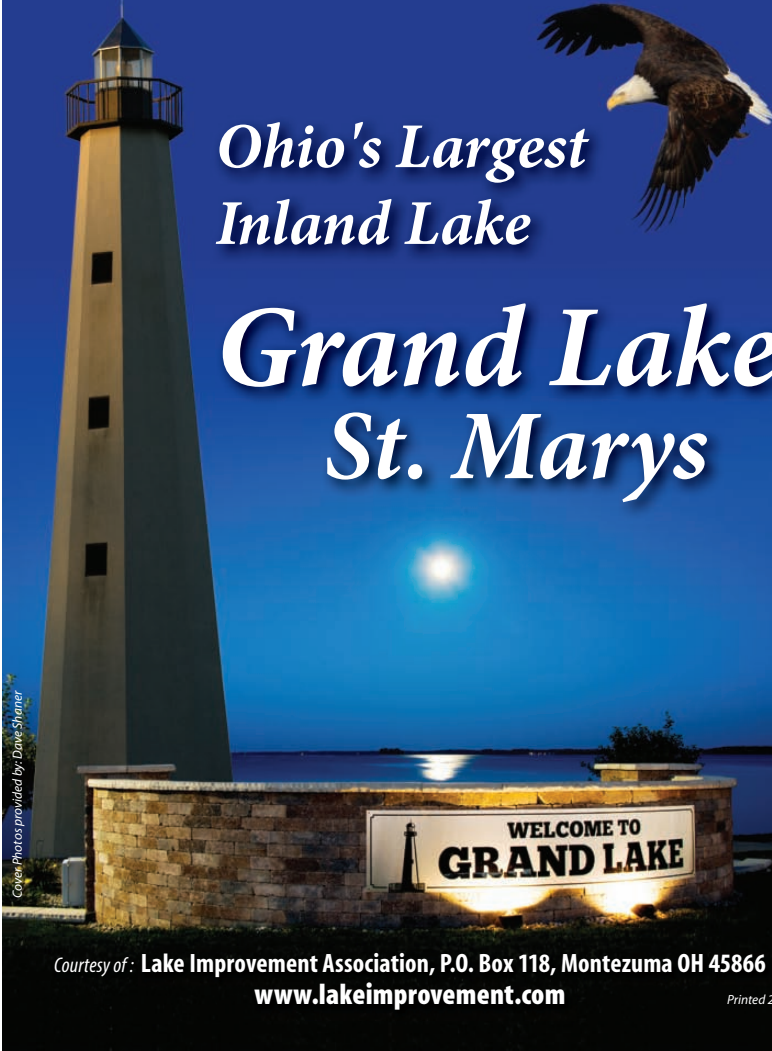
Camping
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History of the Area
The area in and around Grand Lake St. Marys State Park played an important part in the development of the Northwest Territory. The St. Marys River served as a vital link between the Great Lakes and the Ohio River. Because of this heavy water traffic, the renegades Simon and James Girty established a trading post, which eventually evolved into the town of St. Marys. men returned to make their homes in the area.

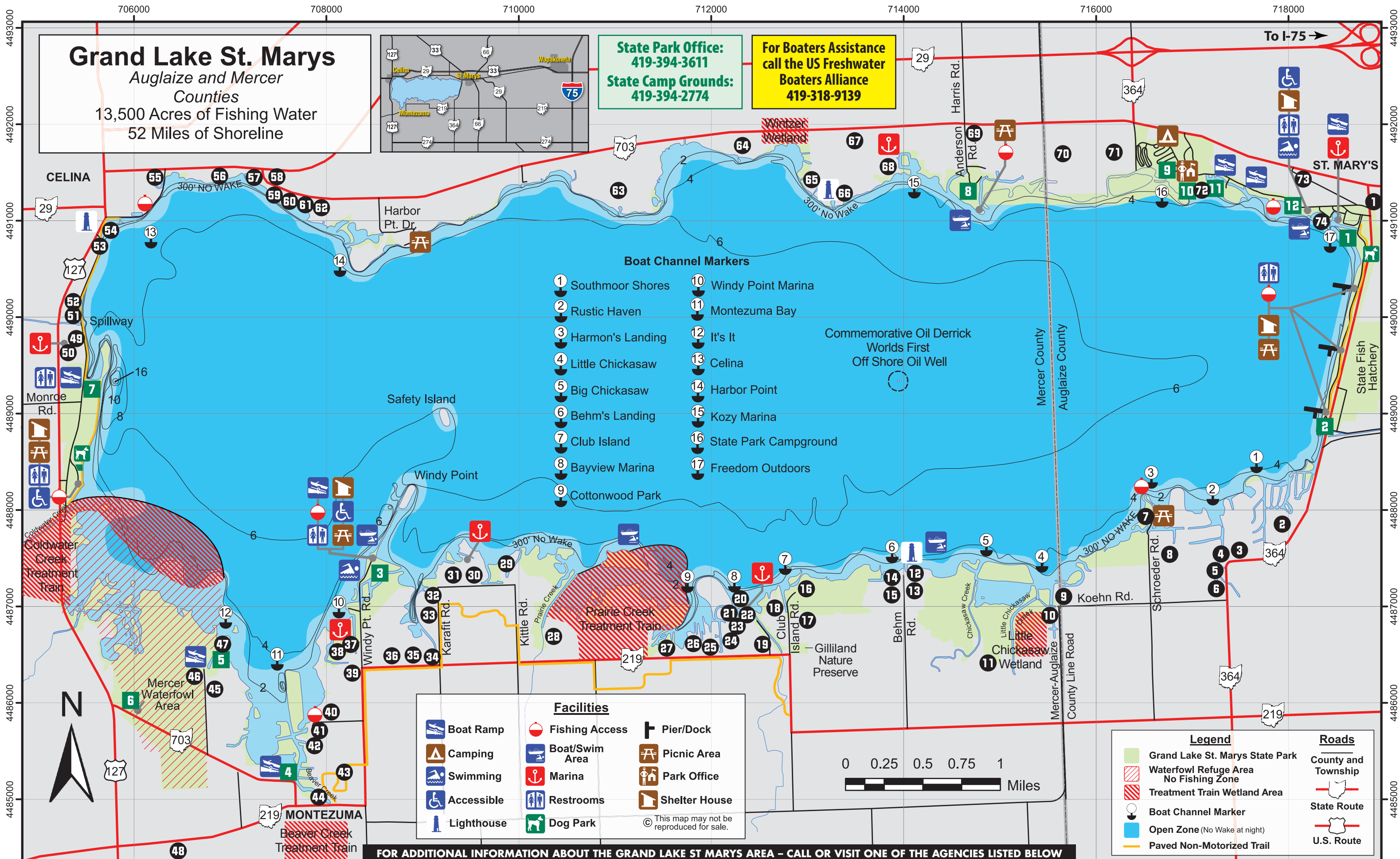
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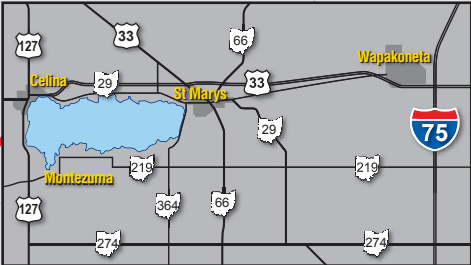
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Courtesy of: **Lake Improvement Association, P.O. Box 118, Montezuma OH 45866**
www.lakeimprovement.com
Printed 2016



Grand Lake St. Marys
 Auglaize and Mercer
 Counties
 13,500 Acres of Fishing Water
 52 Miles of Shoreline



State Park Office:
 419-394-3611
State Camp Grounds:
 419-394-2774

For Boaters Assistance
 call the US Freshwater
 Boaters Alliance
 419-318-9139

Boat Channel Markers

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Southmoor Shores | 10 Windy Point Marina |
| 2 Rustic Haven | 11 Montezuma Bay |
| 3 Harmon's Landing | 12 It's It |
| 4 Little Chickasaw | 13 Celina |
| 5 Big Chickasaw | 14 Harbor Point |
| 6 Behm's Landing | 15 Kozy Marina |
| 7 Club Island | 16 State Park Campground |
| 8 Bayview Marina | 17 Freedom Outdoors |
| 9 Cottonwood Park | |

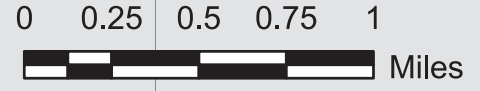
Facilities

Boat Ramp	Fishing Access	Pier/Dock
Camping	Boat/Swim Area	Picnic Area
Swimming	Marina	Park Office
Accessible	Restrooms	Shelter House
Lighthouse	Dog Park	

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Legend

Grand Lake St. Marys State Park	County and Township
Waterfowl Refuge Area No Fishing Zone	State Route
Treatment Train Wetland Area	U.S. Route
Boat Channel Marker	
Open Zone (No Wake at night)	
Paved Non-Motorized Trail	



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE GRAND LAKE ST MARYS AREA - CALL OR VISIT ONE OF THE AGENCIES LISTED BELOW

The Greater Grand Lake Region Visitors Center
 900 Edgewater Drive • St. Marys OH 45885
 419-394-1294 • 800-860-4726 • www.GreaterGrandLakeRegion.com

Celina-Mercer County Area Chamber of Commerce
 226 North Main Street • Celina, OH 45882
 419-586-2219 • www.celinamercer.com

St. Marys Area Chamber of Commerce
 301 East Spring Street • St. Marys, OH 45885
 419-394-4611 • www.stmaryschamber.org

Grand Lake St Marys State Park
 834 Edgewater Drive • St. Marys OH 45885
 419-394-3611 • www.ohiodnr.com