

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE WACONDA LAKE RECREATION AREA, KANSAS

LOCATION: Waconda Lake is located in Mitchell County in north-central Kansas. It is situated on the Solomon River, some sixty miles northwest of Salina. The lake was created in 1968 by the construction of Glen Elder Dam. The lake covers some twenty square miles, with roughly a hundred miles of shoreline. Crest elevation is 1,500 feet above sea level. Glen Elder State Park is located near the dam, just outside the community of Glen Elder. The lake is a popular fishing and summer recreation site. The surrounding countryside is flat to gently rolling.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:44	10:42	11:56	13:14	14:20	14:55	14:40	13:44	12:30	11:13	10:04	9:27
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:59	6:38	7:46	8:44	9:44	11:10	11:48	10:37	8:55	7:41	6:17	5:27
AREA OF BLUE SKY	47%	42%	42%	40%	41%	44%	58%	53%	53%	56%	49%	45%
LOW FOR MONTH	-11°	-6°	5°	21°	33°	45°	54°	51°	35°	21°	9°	-9°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	14°	18°	28°	39°	50°	60°	66°	64°	54°	41°	28°	19°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	37°	43°	54°	65°	74°	85°	92°	89°	80°	68°	52°	41°
HIGH FOR MONTH	65°	73°	83°	88°	92°	101°	106°	104°	99°	91°	76°	67°
FROSTY MORNINGS	98%	93%	70%	23%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	18%	71%	96%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	1%	4%	31%	62%	52%	22%	2%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	63%	60%	54%	50%	53%	52%	46%	48%	50%	50%	58%	63%
DRY DAYS	87%	86%	81%	73%	65%	70%	74%	74%	77%	81%	83%	90%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	94%	93%	90%	84%	78%	80%	84%	84%	84%	87%	90%	94%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.10	0.12	0.28	0.38	0.61	0.62	0.58	0.45	0.43	0.30	0.21	0.11
LIKELY SNOWFALL	4.1"	3.3"	1.9"	0.3"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.1"	1.3"	2.1"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	9%	7%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	3%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	1%	4%	15%	25%	32%	28%	27%	18%	7%	3%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	7%	8%	5%	4%	3%	2%	2%	3%	4%	4%	5%	8%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 68% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 58% in December, to a high of 80% in July. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to -13° on some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 108° on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be very close to actual ones. The area has a four-season, mid-latitude, continental climate. Its distance from any ocean leads to a lack of marine moderation, and both temperatures and precipitation vary widely from season to season and from year to year. The 121° annual temperature fluctuation is an example. In addition, both drought and floods are factors to be reckoned with. The best weather comes from the middle of May through late September.