

A New Look for A New Century

As part of the relicensing process of the Shoshone Falls power plant, the Idaho Power Company signed an agreement with the city of Twin Falls to cost share over \$1 million of park improvements. Phase I was completed in the spring of 2001. Those improvements consisted of new decorative fencing along the canyon's edge, overlook rehabilitation, improvements of the road and parking lot, burying of power lines, and landscaping improvements. Phase II was completed in 2004 as part of the city's centennial. A trail was constructed from Shoshone Falls Park up to the top of the canyon rim. The trail follows the rim to the Evel Knievel jump site (look at the Points of Interest to learn about Evel Knievel.) Phase III was completed in the summer of 2008. Those improvements include an improved park entrance, enhanced parking lot at the admission booth, decorative fencing along the edges of the parking lot and information/interpretive kiosks near the main overlook.

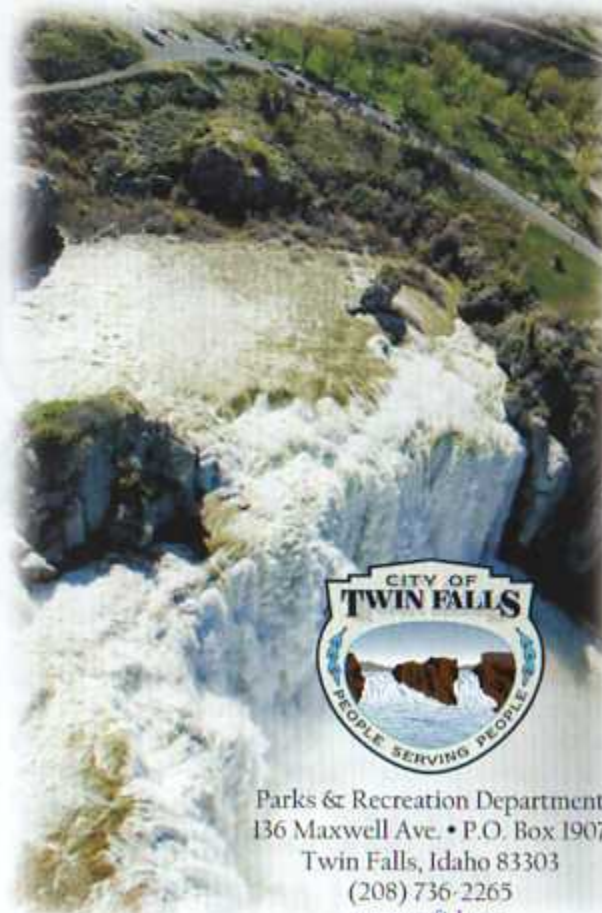
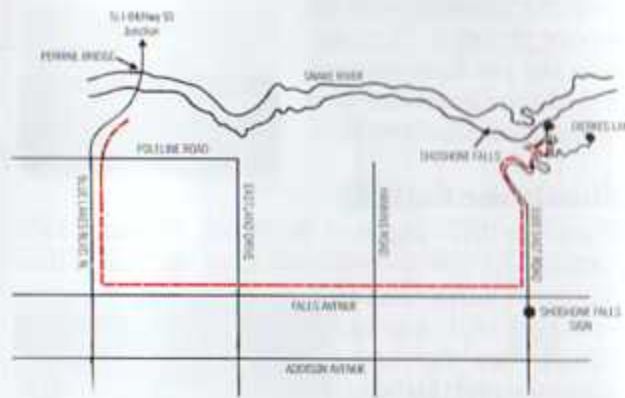
Shoshone Falls and Dierkes Lake are easy to find. From Blue Lakes Boulevard, follow either Falls Avenue East or Addison Avenue East 3 miles to 3300 East. Shoshone Falls is 1 1/2 mile north of Falls Avenue East and 2 1/2 miles north of Addison Avenue East, with signs pointing the way.

If you want to visit Shoshone Falls or Dierkes Lake, here is what you will encounter:

- Open daily year-round
- Hours: 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Cost: \$3 per car / \$20 per bus
- Annual permits are \$25 and are available at the admission booth, City Hall or the Twin Falls Parks & Recreation office
- Refreshments and souvenirs are for sale

Money generated from Shoshone Falls/Dierkes Lake admission fees is used to fund improvements to this diverse recreational area.

JUST MINUTES FROM TWIN FALLS



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SHOSHONE FALLS DIERKES LAKE PARK Twin Falls, Idaho



THE NIAGARA OF THE WEST



Parks and Trails Map Enclosed

History

As you drive the winding road into the Snake River Canyon northeast of Twin Falls, try to imagine the forces that could have created this geological marvel. Shoshone Falls and the fantastically eroded basalt cliffs surrounding it are relics of the Bonneville Flood, a catastrophic torrent that ripped through the canyon about 15,000 years ago.



Attracted by the roar, mid-19th century pioneers on the Oregon Trail would sometimes hike several miles out of their way to see the falls, which were named after Indians who lived in the region. A certain Mr. Wolgamoth obtained squatter's rights to the land at Shoshone Falls prior to 1883. In 1883, W.A. Clark of Butte, Montana; John A. Creighton, Charles H. Dewey, and E.L. Stone, all of Omaha, Nebraska bought the property from Mr. Wolgamoth and paid him in Valentine script.

They spent about \$50,000 in building roads, a ferry, and a two-story hotel in order to accommodate visitors. These early visitor amenities are long gone.

After the death of all but Mr. Clark, Mr. Frederick J. Adams bought out Mr. Clark's interest and acquired the balance from the different estates.

In 1932, Frederick J. Adams and Martha Stone Adams donated the Shoshone Falls park to the city of Twin Falls with the stipulation that the land be maintained as a public park for park purposes only and for the beneficial use and enjoyment of all people. The year after the Adams donated the land, the state of Idaho donated land on the west side of the park to the city of Twin Falls.

Thousands of people travel to Shoshone Falls each year to behold the sight many call "the Niagara of the West." In fact, Shoshone Falls tumbles 212 feet to the canyon floor - more than 50 feet further than the famous falls on the New York-Ontario border. The waterfall's terraced, thousand-foot span is truly one of Idaho's most magnificent sights.

Spring is the best season to visit Shoshone Falls. In years of heavy precipitation, the Snake River swells with snowmelt, creating an awesome display at the waterfall. Swirling mist, swooping birds, and rainbows rise from the sheets of water. Overlooks give visitors great vantage points for sightseeing and photography. Later in the year, Shoshone Falls' cliffs may be nearly dry, as most of the river's flow is diverted to produce hydroelectric power and irrigate Idaho's fertile farmlands. But even when water levels are low, there's always plenty to see and do at Shoshone Falls/Dierkes Lake Park.

Dierkes Lake

John Dierkes came to the United States from Germany in the early 20th century. He moved to Idaho in 1906 and began working for Idaho Power. One day while exploring the Shoshone Falls area, he came upon a blind canyon east of the cascade. He went on to homestead 160 acres on the site, only to see his orchards soon flooded by water from the recently developed local canal irrigation system. Ever the entrepreneur, Dierkes began charging 25 cents admission. He and his son Herb built a dock, concession stand and a pulley for kids to hoist themselves across the lake.



After John Dierkes' death in 1954, Herb Dierkes took on Fred Foss as a partner. Foss later bought out Herb Dierkes and, in 1969, he sold the land to the city of Twin Falls. Since then, Dierkes Lake has been improved and expanded to include enclosed swimming areas, a sandy beach, picnic shelters, restrooms, a playground, and trails back to the Hidden Lakes. Lifeguards are on duty in the summer. Boats without motors are allowed, and fishing is permitted.

Hidden Lakes & Canyons

East of the Dierkes Lake picnic area, a hard-packed trail climbs a gentle hill to the park's "hidden lakes." The trail now leads all the way to Dierkes Lake's eastern shore. Spurs off this easy trail provide access to the three unnamed back country lakes. Ringed by reeds, these lovely ponds provide shelter for birds, waterfowl, and animals - and the perfect place for visitors to spend some time reflecting.

Past the bridge and boat dock, several sets of stairs climb the canyon rim. From here, a primitive path crosses a high canyon plateau to sagebrush and lava to views of the Snake River to the north and Dierkes Lake to the south. The

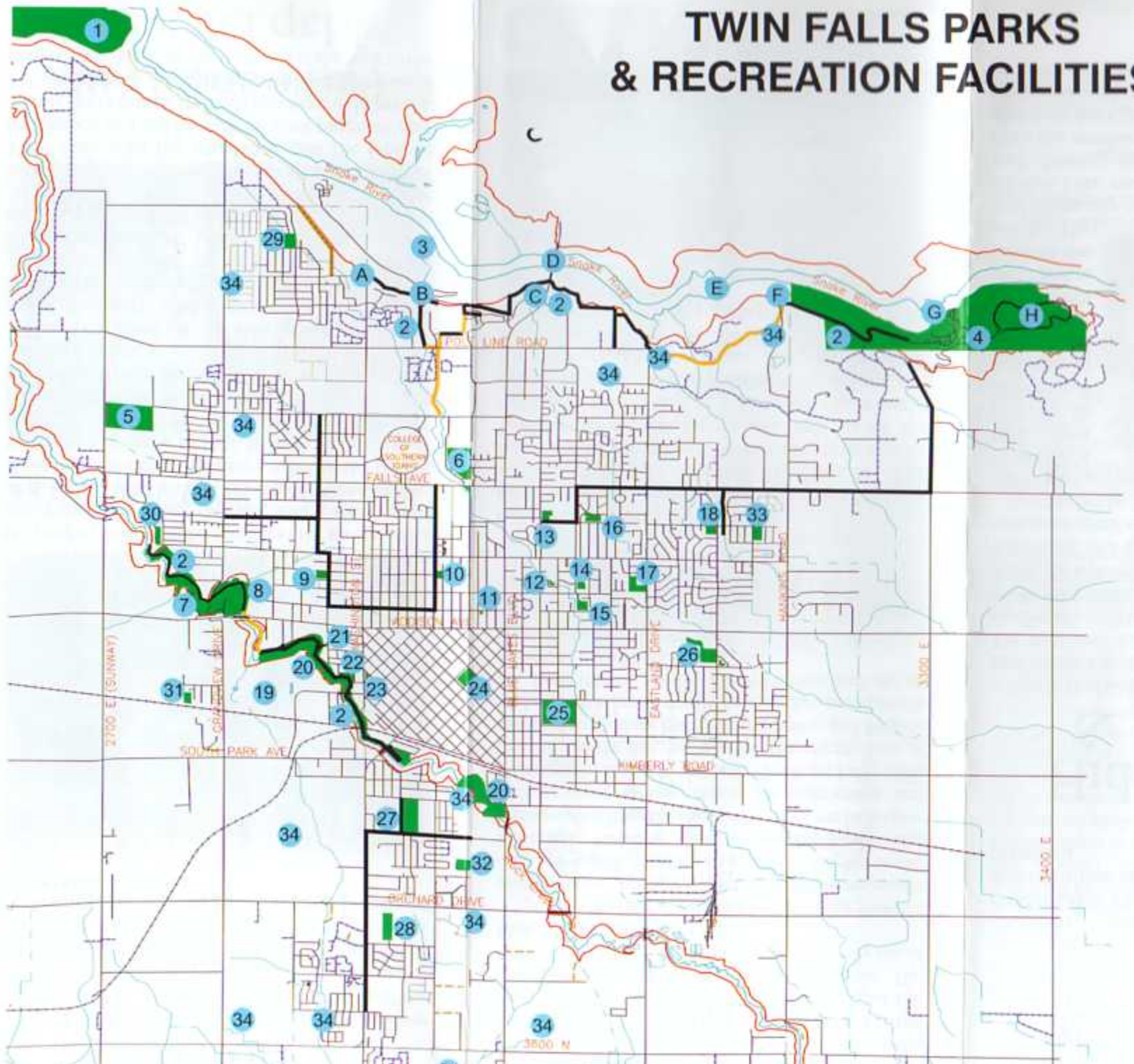


trail eventually winds around to the west side of Dierkes Lake near the existing archery range and rock-climbing areas; it can also be walked in reverse from the northwest side of the parking lot. Allow about an hour to savor the views along the loop. Visitors should take care to respect private property and walk safely near the canyon rim.

TWIN FALLS PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES



1. Auger Falls
2. Canyon Rim Trails
3. Centennial Park (County owned)
4. Shoshone Falls & Dierkes Lake
5. Sunway Soccer Complex
6. Frontier Field
7. Rock Creek Park (County owned)
8. Boyd Property (Co-owned/undeveloped)
9. Harry Barry Park
10. Harrison Park
11. Pierce St. Tennis Court
12. Willow Lane Park
13. Swimming Pool & Sawtooth Softball Fields
14. Sunrise Park
15. Teton Park
16. Cascade Park
17. Ascension Park
18. Jason's Woodland Hills Park
19. Twin Falls Golf Club
20. Rock Creek Canyon Parkway (City owned)
21. Blake St. Trailhead
22. Russet St. (Rock Creek Canyon Rim Property)
23. Drury Park
24. City Park
25. Harmon Park
26. Clyde Thomsen Park
27. Oregon Trail Youth Complex
28. Vista Bonita Park
29. Northern Ridge Park
30. Rock Creek Trails Estate Park
31. Fairway Estates Park
32. South Estates Park
33. Morning Sun Park
34. Future Parks



BIKE PATH/TRAIL SYSTEM

PROPOSED BIKE PATH TRAIL SYSTEM

Snake River Canyon Rim Trail Points of Interest

Federation Point **A**

End of Washington Street North, one of the trailheads along the trail system.

Perrine Falls **B**

There are two overlooks that cantilever out over the canyon's edge for great views of the falls and of the Perrine Bridge.

Buzz Langdon Visitor Center **C**

Located at the southwest end of the I.B. Perrine Bridge, the Visitor Center offers information for visitors, restroom facilities (seasonal), and souvenirs. Parking is available for large and small vehicles with easy access to the Canyon Rim Trail System and great viewing of BASE jumping from the I.B. Perrine Bridge. Open 8am to 5pm, March - April and 8am to 8pm May - October.



I.B. Perrine Bridge **D**

Completed in 1976, this bridge 1500' in length spans the Snake River Canyon at a maximum height of 486' above the canyon floor. The original bridge was built in 1927. This bridge is a popular destination spot for BASE (Building, Antenna, Span, Earth) jumpers throughout the year.



Pillar Falls **E**

You can view these falls from the overlook 3000' east of the Perrine Bridge or you could take a boat from Centennial Park up the Snake River to get an up close view.



Evel Kniesel Jump Site **F**

September 8, 1974 was the day that this world famous dare devil attempted to jump the Snake River Canyon in his sky cycle. The dirt ramp is the only remnant of that day. Remember - this site is located on private property; please stay off the private property. You may view the site from the west end of the Centennial Trail that starts at Shoshone Falls.



Shoshone Falls **G**

Known as the "Niagara of the West", Shoshone Falls tumbles 212 feet to the canyon floor, 50' higher than Niagara Falls. Late spring and early summer are the best seasons to visit this falls. Shoshone Falls has 218 acres of beauty to enjoy.



Dierkes Lake **H**

Over 190 acres awaits you and your family to take pleasure in. There are restrooms, shelters, playground equipment, and lifeguards during the summer months, picnic tables, and open grass areas to use. There is a 1.7-mile trail that loops around the complete lake. This trail is not paved nor ADA accessible. Alcohol beverages are prohibited at the park.

Rock Creek Canyon Trail Points of Interest

Rock Creek Canyon Parkway **20** (City owned - 208.736.2265)

From the Old Towne Bridge to the Daydream Ranch, 46.5 acres of natural habitat along the creek in the southern section of town. There are three access points for this 1.6 mile trail, below the Old Towne Bridge, the Blake Street trailhead entrance, and the Bracken Street entrance. Further upstream, the City has acquired another 27 acres in Rock Creek Canyon. This area is adjacent to the Blue Lake Blvd. crossing of Rock Creek on the west side. At this time, this area does not have any trails and access is not available.

Rock Creek Park **7** (County Owned - 208.734.9491)

This park has been developing since the early 70's. There are many covered shelters; playground equipment, restrooms, and a RV park at this 21-acre site. There are two entrances for this park; both of them are on the north side of Addison Avenue West, west of the St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.



Rules of the Trail

- Please stay on the trail
- Motorized vehicles are prohibited. (Except maintenance, patrol vehicles, or motorized wheelchairs)
- Pedestrians have the right of way at all times. Cyclist and in-line skaters must be aware of pedestrians.
- All dogs must be on a leash and dog owners are responsible for sanitary disposal of dog feces.
- The trail is for the enjoyment of this and future generations. Do not gather, pick, or disturb rocks, plants, and animals.
- Public restrooms along the trails are located at the Visitor's Center near the Perrine Bridge (open seasonal, porta-potties are placed in the off season), at Shoshone Falls (open seasonal, porta-potties are placed at the concession stand during the off season), at Dierkes Lake (open seasonal) and at the County's Rock Creek Park (open seasonal).

Please report violators by contacting the Twin Falls Parks & Recreation at 208.736.2265.

