



Map Source: Iowa Department of Natural Resources, "Natural Resources Geographic Information Systems Library," accessed May 2015, <http://www.igsb.uiowa.edu/nrgislib/>.

Local Geography

Cedar Lake (2) dominates the local geography of Nashua, serving as a hub of community activity as well as a tourist attraction. The **Cedar River (26)** flows south from the lake, connecting Nashua to Plainfield. Residents are able to access the river from a **small boat launch (21)**, from which they go tubing down the river to the park in Plainfield.

Several of Nashua's parks, open spaces, and destinations border the lake. **Cedar View Park (11)** on the west side of the lake has a **campground (10)** with 43 campsites, which are fully occupied most of the summer by both visitors and local residents, as well as play equipment, two beaches, and a **boat ramp (9)**. **Cannon Park (17)** is located on a bluff and offers excellent views of the lake. The site of the former highway bridge has been transformed into **Veterans Park (22)**, a popular fishing spot. **Cedar Lake Park (6)** and **Lakeshore Park (5)** are north of Veterans Park on the east side of the lake. Lakeshore Park features an eight-tenths-mile **trail (3)** lined with wildflowers and providing another view of the lake. Just south of Lakeshore Park is another **boat ramp (4)**.

In addition to Cedar Lake, Nashua has several hubs of activity or "hearts" of the community. Despite its small size, the **Dairy Treat (16)** is a major destination because of its proximity to the lake. The **welcome center (12)** hosts community events such as weddings and is accessible from the lake. Newer businesses such as **Dollar General (13)** and **Taylor Physical Therapy (14)** are located near the welcome center rather than on Main Street. Residents also use the **country club (38)** located on the **golf course (37)** for events.

Nashua is home of the **Nashua-Plainfield School District (33)**, another popular venue for community activities. The **elementary school (32)** and the **high school (30)** are located on the Nashua campus, as well as the **Husky Wellness Center (31)**, which is open to both students and residents.

Two popular tourist attractions are located just east of Nashua. The **Old Bradford Pioneer Village and Museum (25)** has 13 buildings. The **Little Brown Church (24)** is a popular wedding location for residents and visitors. The **fairgrounds (23)** also attract many visitors, hosting a four-county fair every year that



Cedar Lake

features events such as chuck-wagon races. The **school ball diamonds (22)** are just north of the fairgrounds.

Nashua residents rely on several landmarks to navigate the community. The **water tower (15)** is an excellent way-finding device, because it is highly visible, even from the Avenue of the Saints. The **co-op (27)** is used for way-finding on the east side of town, and the **bus garage (35)** is a navigation point on the south end. Locals often reference "**The Diagonal**" (29), or Waverly St, when providing directions. The **Cedar River bridge (20)** is another prominent landmark. The historic **mill (18)** and the **dam and powerhouse (19)** are just west of the bridge. The powerhouse continues to be a source of revenue for the community. Nashua's **public library (28)**, a Carnegie library, has been serving the community since 1906.

With the exception of the **trailer park (34)** and **Schluter Addition (36)**, the main residential developments are located near or on Cedar Lake. The **Lakeshore Drive neighborhood (8)** is situated along the eastern shore of the lake and provides access to Lakeshore Park. The area known as **Cedar Hill (7)** includes the streets that border Cedar Lake Park. Two developments—**Harbor Ridge and Millrock Heights (1)**—are north of Nashua and overlook the lake.

Nashua

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