Councilman Mark Cuthbertson presents

Town of Huntington

Trails Guide

Second Edition
2013

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Welcome!

Dear resident:
Welcome to the 2nd edition of the Town of Huntington Trails Guide. As you may already know, Huntington has a wonderful assortment of parks and preserves, many of which contain trails and other gems just waiting to be discovered and utilized. The Town Planning Department and the Huntington Greenway Trails Advisory Committee have compiled numerous maps, photographs, historical facts and information about the parks and preserves in which trails are located and some of the flora and fauna you may discover there.

The Trails Guide contains information detailing park locations, parking information, and the length, surface quality, type and difficulty of the trail, as well as park amenities and educational opportunities. There are hiking, walking and biking trails, handicapped accessible trails and horseback riding trails. There are short paved trails, extensive dirt paths through wooded areas, trails adjoining wetlands and along beaches and blue (water) trails for kayaking.

With the publication of the Town of Huntington Trails Guide, we are striving to promote public awareness of the many wonderful trails and resources within our parks and preserves. It is my hope that this guide will inspire you to take advantage of the fantastic recreational assets that quietly lie within many of our parks.
Happy trails to you!

Sincerely,

Mark Cuthbertson
Councilman

Huntington Greenway Trails Logo

In March 2010, Councilman Mark Cuthbertson and the Huntington Greenway Trail Citizens Advisory Committee sent an open invitation to all high school students to design a logo that would embody the numerous types of trails in our town. The Trails Committee unanimously chose the winning logo, the one that best represented the natural beauty, uses, and character of Huntington's trails.

Huntington Greenway Trails

Adam Feldman, a resident of East Northport and a Junior at Commack High School, is the designer of this new logo. His unique design embraces the concept of multi-use trails, depicting a sneaker footprint with a bicyclist, a wheelchair, a horseshoe, and a hiker embedded in the pattern of the shoe. This logo will be featured on the trail signage in the town, enabling all visitors to identify Huntington's trails.

Table of Contents

Trail Rules 3
Trail Tips 3
Habitat Types 4
Biodiversity 4

Northwest Quadrant

Caumsett State Park 7
Centerport Park and Beach 9
Coindre Hall 11
Cold Spring Harbor/ Trailview Parks/ Nassau Greenbelt Trail 13
Froehlich Farm Nature Preserve 15
Gardiner Farm Park 17
Grace Preserve/Grace Stroll Garden 19
Hawk Valley Preserve 21
Heckscher Park 23
Huntington Blue Trail 25
Blue Trail Points of Interest 27
Mill Pond Walk 29
NY 25/25A State Bike Route 31
Target Rock National Wildlife Refuge 33
Uplands Farm Sanctuary 35
Vanderbilt Museum 37
Village Green Park 39
West Neck Bike Route 41
West Rogues Wetlands 43

Northeast Quadrant

Betty Allen Nature Preserve 45
Cow Harbor Park/ Northport Village Park 47
Crab Meadow Beach 49
Fuchs Pond Preserve 51
Henry Ingraham Nature Preserve 53
Knolls Park 55
Makamah Nature Preserve 57
Manor Farm Park/ Berkeley Jackson County Park 59
Manor Plains Nature Park 61
Meadowlark Park 63
Northport Rail Trail 65
Phragmites Park 67
Savings Court Park 69
Sunshine Acres 71

Southwest Quadrant

Arboretum Park/ Anne Frank Memorial Garden 73
Butterfly Park 75
Dr. Jeffrey Wenig Memorial Park 77
Half Hollow Park 79
West Hills County Park 81
Mt. Misery Nature Preserve 83

Southeast Quadrant

DeForest Nature Park 85
Dix Hills Park-Woodland Trail 87
Dix Hills Park-Fitness Trail 89
Edgewood Oak Brush Plains Preserve 91
Otsego Park 93
Strathmore Park 95

Visit http://HuntingtonNY.gov to download another copy of this guide.

Trail Rules

- Stay on the trails.
- Observe trail rules and signs.
- Appreciate the natural resources and leave them in place.
- Pack it in, pack it out (and any litter you encounter).
- Respect others on the trail and be courteous of neighbors.
- Honor the land. Motorized vehicles are prohibited.
- Be aware of park hours. Most parks are open from dawn to dusk.
- Have fun, enjoy the trail, and visit often.
- Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not disturb, attract, feed, touch, or harass wildlife.

Please note that the trails in this guide are in Town, County, State, Federal or Nature Conservancy land. Rules for use vary. As an example, dogs are permitted on leash on many County and State trails, but are only permitted on specifically designated Town trails. It is a misdemeanor to operate a recreational vehicle (e.g. dirtbike, ATV, snowmobile) on Town property.

To report concerns in Town parks contact:
Department of Public Safety (24 hours dispatch – 631-351-3234)
Department of General Services (631-351-3365)
Department of Parks and Recreation (631-351-3094)

If you see an animal you suspect is hurt or needs help, please call the following number or visit the website for instructions on what to do.
Volunteers for Wildlife: 516-674-0982
www.volunteersforwildlife.org

Trail Tips

- Watch for and avoid poison ivy... Leaves of three, let it be!
- Wear long pants, socks and hats to protect against ticks, mosquitoes, and poison ivy.
- Always check for ticks after hiking.
- Shoes and socks provide better footing than flip flops or sandals.
- Remember the buddy system. Hike with a friend.
- Bring water to stay hydrated.

Habitat Types

Beaches:
Beach vegetation includes hardy, low plants such as Beach Plum, Rugosa Rose, Bayberry, and Beachgrass.

Saltwater Wetlands and Estuaries:
These areas are found along the harbors and bays. Plants include Salt Water Cordgrass, Salt Meadow Hay, Spikegrass, and Saltwort.

Freshwater Ponds and Marshes:
This habitat is found near the edge of freshwater ponds and streams. Plants include Sedges, Cattails, Rushes, Birches, Red Maples, and Willows.

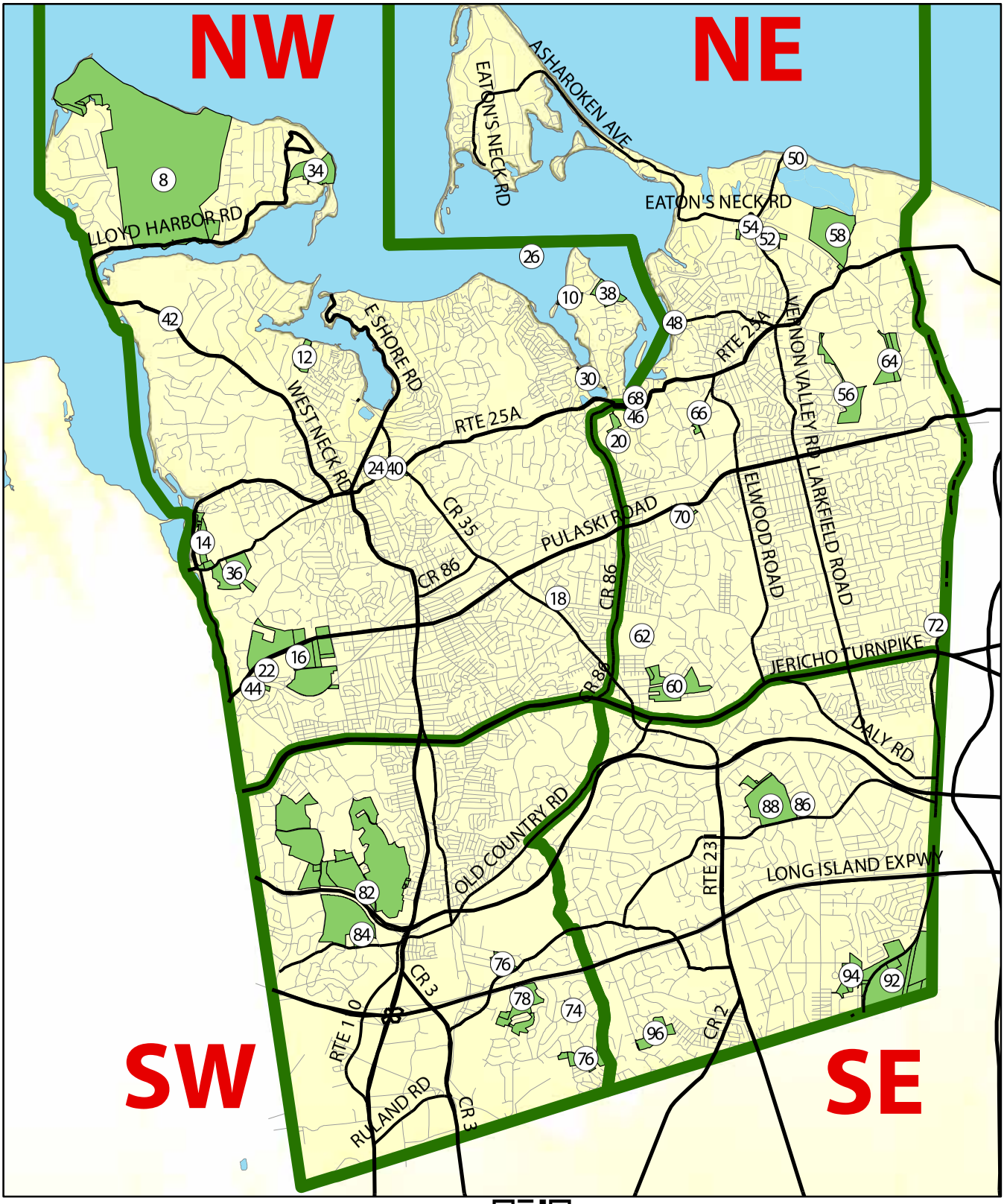
Upland Deciduous:
Black and Red oaks dominate dry sunny areas. Birches and mountain laurel are found in cool areas. Tulip, Butternut Hickory, Red Maple and White Ash are found in wet areas.

Pine Barrens:
These areas usually have well-drained, sandy soil. Periodic fires help to sustain the habitat. Plants include Pitch Pine, Blackjack Oak, Scrub Oak, with an understory of Blueberry and Bearberry.

Pioneer:
Areas with pioneer plants are those that have been previously disturbed by either natural or human activities. They have pioneer plants including Beardgrass, Goldenrod, Red Cedar, Black Cherry, Sumac, and Poison Ivy.

Biodiversity

If you are a keen observer who keeps records on plants and animals, the Town needs your help for a biological inventory of its parks. A survey form has been developed, including 245 plants and 418 animals likely to be found in the Town. The plant categories include ferns, floating plants, grasses, rushes, shrubs, trees, sedges and vines. The animal categories include amphibians, birds, butterflies, mammals and reptiles. Basic instructions and helpful links for identifying species are included with the form. If you have a digital camera or GPS unit, you can use them to help document the sites. Choose a park and call Christian Granelli in the Department of Planning and Environment at 631-351-3196 to participate.



Legend for all Maps in Guide

- Bicycle
- Walking
- Walking/ Horse
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Beach
- Foot Bridge
- Playground
- Tennis
- Parking
- Quadrants
- Bicycling
- Car-Top
- Riding
- Parking
- Picnic
- Playground
- Racks
- Ramp
- Restroom
- Scenic

Quick Response (QR) codes can be scanned with a bar code reader application to put the trailhead coordinates (in decimal degrees WGS 84) into a phone or GPS device.

N

0 2,250 4,500 9,000 Feet

1 inch = 9,000 feet

(10) Number indicates page number. Trail sites in guide are in aphabetical order by quadrant.

Caumsett State Park

Caumsett State Park is the largest park in the Town of Huntington. The land was acquired by British Settlers from the Matinecock in 1654. Marshall Field III, grandson to the famous department store owner, came to own the land, and built a mansion and several cottages which still exist within the park today. New York State acquired the park in 1961, and has continued to expand the park by acquiring additional acreage. Caumsett State Park is part of an Important Bird Area (IBA), which includes Cold Spring Harbor, Lloyd Neck, Huntington Bay, Eaton's Neck, Northport Bay, and Asharoken, as well as the adjacent offshore areas of Long Island Sound.

There is a three mile paved loop trail with fitness stations, as well as an extensive trails system for hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding. The trails traverse many habitats, including saltwater marshes, a freshwater pond, upland deciduous forest, and mowed and unmowed fields.

For a complete map of the trails, contact Caumsett State Park.

You May See:
American Black Duck, American Oystercatcher, American Redstart, American Robin, Baltimore Oriole , Bank Swallow, Barn Swallow, Bufflehead, Cedar Waxwing, Chimney Swift, Chipping Sparrow, Common Loon, Common Tern, Common Yellowthroat, Cooper's Hawk, Eastern Bluebird, Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Screech Owl, Great Blue Heron, Great Crested Flycatcher, Great Egret, Great Horned Owl, Indigo Bunting, Killdeer, Least Tern, Northern Flicker, Northern Harrier, Northern Mockingbird, Orchard Oriole, Osprey, Piping Plover, Red-breasted Merganser, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-Throated Loon, Red-winged Blackbird, Sanderling, Savannah Sparrow, Savannah Warbler, Snowy Egret, Song Sparrow, Tree Swallow, White-throated Sparrow, Yellow Warbler | Red Fox, White-tailed Deer | Diamondback Terrapin , Eastern Box Turtle

Educational Opportunities
Caumsett State Park has a guide available at the park for its paved three mile loop trail that highlights vegetation, wildlife, and historical aspects of the park.

Additional Information
The Caumsett Foundation: www.caumsettfoundation.org
New York State Parks: www.nysparks.com/parks

Park visitor says: I'll bet I've walked in Caumsett three hundred times, and I still see new and wonderful things, whether it be a new bit of trail I've never explored, a Diamond-Backed Terrapin turtle coming out of the marsh to lay her eggs, or a pair of Bald Eagles migrating over-head. What makes it all the more wonderful is that it's right here in Huntington.

Location: North side of Lloyd Harbor Rd in the Village of Lloyd Harbor

Terrain: Some hills | **Parking:** In Park | **Type:** Loop/Network
Surface: Paved, Ground | **Acreage:**1,413 | **Fee:** $8.00 | **Trailhead:** 40.917738, -73.472905

Centerport Park and Beach

Centerport Park and Beach is one of the town's prime spots for recreation and relaxation. The beach has a swimming area with lifeguards during the summer, a tennis court, a beach volleyball court, a bocce ball court, and kayak racks. There are additional areas on the beach for walking, fishing, exploring, or just relaxing. There is also a picnic pavilion and a small playground. The woodland park is sloped and occupies about 30 acres of land, dominated by oak forest and mountain laurel. The trail originates in the picnic area, and loops through this area. An adjacent parcel of land was acquired by the Town of Huntington in 1990 as a "subdivision set-aside" and is now designated as a preservation area.

You may see:
American Chestnut, Black Birch, Black Cherry, Black Walnut, Canada Mayflower, Chestnut Oak, Eastern Red Cedar, Flowering Dogwood, Lowbush Blueberry, Mapleleaf Viburnum, Mountain Laurel, Pink Lady's Slipper, Red Maple, Red Oak, White Oak, White Wood Aster, Witchhazel

American Oystercatcher, Black Crowned Night Heron, Black Skimmer, Black-capped Chickadee, Blue Jay, Bufflehead, Northern Flicker, Common Tern, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Hairy Woodpecker, Osprey, Red-tailed Hawk, Snowy Egret | Eastern Chipmunk | Eastern Box Turtle, Fowler's Toad , Garter Snake, Ribbon Snake

Location: On Little Neck Rd in Centerport
Terrain: Some hills | **Length:** 0.6 mi | **Parking:** Parking Lot | **Type:** Loop |
Surface: Ground | **Acreage:** 30 | **Fee:** $20/Day, $35 Season Pass (Town Residents*)
* provides access to all Town beaches | **Trailhead:** 40.905107, -73.376265

Coindre Hall

Coindre Hall is a 40 room French style Gold Coast mansion that overlooks open fields and Huntington Harbor. The mansion was constructed for pharmaceutical magnate George McKesson Brown in 1912 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1930 it was acquired by Brothers of the Sacred Heart to be a boarding school and summer retreat and was named in honor of Father Andre Coindre (the founder of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart). The school closed in 1971; Coindre Hall has been operated by Suffolk County Parks since 1973. The Town of Huntington holds many programs at Coindre Hall, including a summer marine nature camp for children. The trail at Coindre Hall offers a variety of habitats to observe. The trail follows the west side of the field down the hill, then meanders through a small wooded area, back into the field, and down to the boathouse though marshy wetlands. It then continues along the harbor and over to Gold Star Battalion Beach. Hikers can return to the mansion on the trail up the east side of the property and back into the fields by the mansion. Leashed dogs are allowed in portions of the Coindre Hall property, but they are only allowed in the parking area on the Gold Star Battalion Beach property.

You May See:
Black Crowned Night Heron, Cooper's Hawk, Eastern Kingbird, Great-horned Owl, Great Egret, Northern Cardinal, Northern Mockingbird, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-winged Black Bird
Eastern Cottontail, Virginia Opossum, Raccoon
Blue Crab, Flounder, Horseshoe Crab, Mud Crab, Shrimp, Snapping Turtle, Sea Stars

Additional Information: (631) 854-4410
http://suffolkcountyny.gov/parks/

Location: On Browns and West Shore Roads in Huntington

Terrain: Some hills | **Length:** 1.1 mi | **Parking:** Parking Lot | **Type:** Network | **Surface:** Ground | **Acreage:** 31 | **Trailhead:** 40.893617, -73.436872

Cold Spring Harbor/ Trailview Pks (Nassau Greenbelt Trail)

Cold Spring Harbor State Park is a 40 acre site with hilly terrain and scenic views of historic Cold Spring Harbor. The one mile trail within the state park is both challenging and beautiful, with steep hills, rare 3-foot diameter oak trees, and thickets of Mountain Laurel. The park is used for hiking and jogging and is ideal for observing Great Horned Owls, Red-tailed Hawks and the spring and summer migrations of songbirds. The park serves as the northern trailhead of the Nassau-Suffolk Greenbelt Trail, which extends through Stillwell Woods Preserve, Bethpage State Park and ends in Massapequa Preserve. The trail in this park is a component of the only National Recreational Trail in the Town of Huntington. While planned to be a part of the Bethpage State Parkway, the lands were dedicated as state parks in the late 1990s.

The adjoining Cold Spring Harbor Library has an environmental section and provides restrooms for hikers' use. For a longer hike, visit the Uplands Farm Sanctuary, as well (see page 36).

You May See: American Beech, Black Birch, Black Huckleberry, Black Oak, Canada Mayflower, Chestnut Oak, Flowering Dogwood, Goldenrod, Lowbush Blueberry, Mapleleaf Viburnum, Mock-Orange, Mockernut Hickory, Mountain Laurel, Red Maple, Red Oak, Sedge, Shadbush, Solomon's Seal, Spicebush, Tulip Tree, White Ash, White Oak

Baltimore Oriole, Common Grackle, Downy Woodpecker, Great Horned Owl, Northern Flicker, Northern Mockingbird, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-eyed Vireo, Red-tailed Hawk, Rufous-sided Towhee, Song Sparrow, Tufted Titmouse

Location: 25A in Cold Spring Harbor.

Terrain: Many steep hills | **Length:** 1 mi | **Parking:** Parking Lot | **Type:** Linear | **Surface:** Ground | **Acreage:** 44 | **Trailhead:** 40.867335, -73.461562

Froehlich Farm Nature Preserve

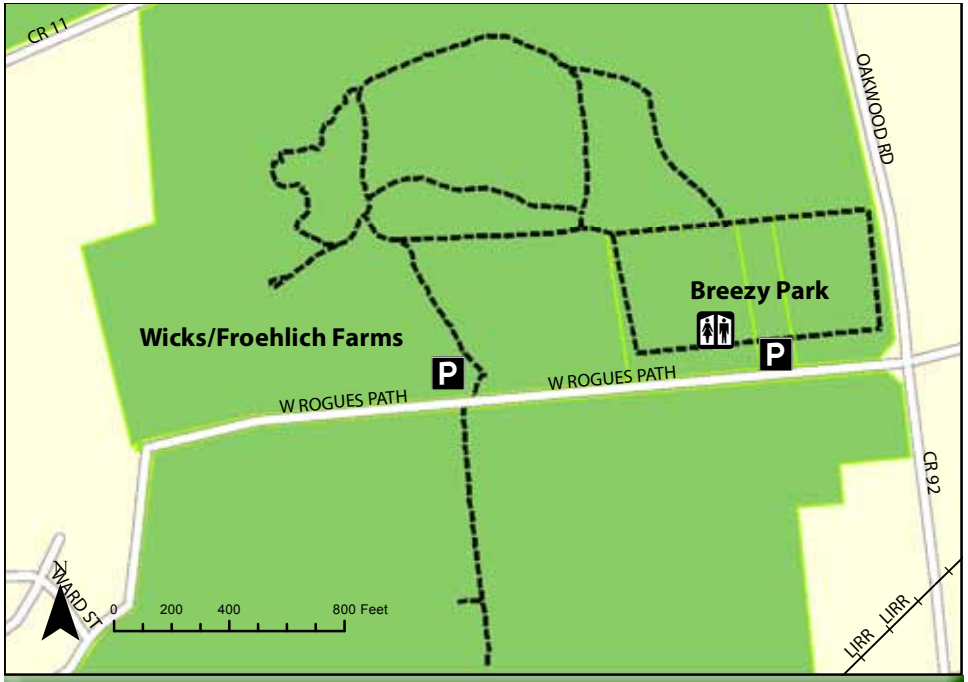
The Froehlich Farm Preserve encompasses portions of what were once the Froehlich and Wicks Farms. Settlers first used this 310-acre site as a timber resource and for farming in the late 17th century. Since the mid-19th century, a variety of monoculture crops have been grown here, including potatoes, corn, and cauliflower. The earth at the site is prime agricultural soil, classified as Haven loam. Today, the property is undergoing the second stage of ecological succession, leading to a dense tangle of red cedar, crab apple, and other natural vegetation. The Friends of Huntington Farmland (FOHF) are the County appointed stewards of the preserve and have created and maintain a 1.4 mile trail loop through the property. In keeping with the agricultural history of the land, FOHF established and cultivate an organic community garden, a grove of fruit trees, a butterfly garden, and an apiary (bee yard). 100% of the fruits and vegetables grown are donated to the needy. The trail takes hikers past the gardens and fruit trees. Leashed dogs are allowed in this county preserve.

The trailhead is unmarked, but can be found on the north side of West Rogues Path about 1,000 feet from Oakwood Road. Parking is in grass field. Restrooms are available at the Town's Breezy Park to the east. There is also a paved walking loop around the perimeter of Breezy Park.

You May See:
Bearberry, Black Oak, Blackjack Oak, Chestnut Oak, Flowering Dogwood, Huckleberry, Mountain Laurel, Pitch Pine, Post Oak, Red Cedar, Sassafras, Scarlet Oak, Sumac, White Birch, White Oak, Wild Strawberry | American Goldfinch, Canada Goose, American Crow, Ring-hacked Pheasant | Eastern Chipmunk, Eastern Cottontail, Eastern Gray Squirrel, American Woodchuck, White-tailed Deer

Additional Information:
Contact Friends of Huntington Farmlands: 631-470-4272

Location: On West Rogues Path, near Oakwood Road in Huntington.
Terrain: Flat | **Length:** 1.4 mi | **Parking:** Street | **Type:** Network |
Surface: Grass | **Acreage:** 310 | **Trailhead:** 40.841336, -73.435116



Gardiner Farm Park

This park was formerly known as Little Plains Park. This woodland park was once part of the greater Gardiner Farm. The Gardiner Farm dates back to 1750, when the land was first cleared and the farmhouse was built. The farmhouse still stands on the adjacent Gardiner Farm property, although a second story was added in the 1860s and the bay window was added in 1910. The house was owned and occupied by generation after generation of Gardiners until 2002, when the last of the Gardiner residents bequeathed the house to the Greenlawn-Centerport Historical Association. Today it is a museum complex with a small working farm, and the site is on the National Register of Historic Places. A fall pickle festival is held there annually.

The trail in Gardiner Farm Park meanders through a wooded area which is home to many Northern Flickers. The birds are easily identified by their bright yellow feather shafts. Eastern Kingbirds also nest here. At one end of the short looped trail, visitors will find a grassy area with a small playground and tennis courts. The adjacent Developmental Disabilities Institute also uses the park and trail for nature education.

Additional Information:
Greenlawn-Centerport Historical Association:
631-754-1180 http://gcha.info

You May See:
American Holly, Bayberry, Big Tooth Aspen, Black Cherry, Chestnut Oak, Eastern Redcedar, Flowering Dogwood, Mapleleaf Viburnum, Pignut Hickory, Queen Anne's Lace, Red Oak, Sassafras, Solomon's Seal, White Oak, Yew

American Robin, Black-capped Chickadee, Dark-eyed Junco, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Cardinal, White-throated Sparrow

Art Papayanopulos

Art Papayanopulos

Location: On Little Plains Rd, off Park Ave in Huntington.
Terrain: Flat | **Length:** 0.6 mi | **Parking:** Street | **Type:** Loop |
Surface: Ground | **Acreage:** 13 | **Trailhead:** 40.851211,-73.378976

Grace Preserve/ Grace Stroll Garden

The Edwin and Gertrude Grace Preserve was part of an early 20th Century estate called Laurel Lodge. The stroll garden's landscaping was designed in a Japanese approach to frame views along the garden paths. On these moss lined trails, there are many mature mountain laurels. While disease has damaged some of these plants, there is still a showy display in the late spring. Keep an eye out for mountain laurel sprouting up from old stumps in an attempt to recover from this disease. If you look carefully, you will find other new life forming from decomposing material, such as a pine sapling growing out of the roots of a dead tree.

In contrast to the Japanese styled landscape is the historic log cabin, built in 1918, which looks distinctly American. It features chestnut log construction, with a large fieldstone fireplace in the center. From the front porch there is a good view out toward Centerport Harbor. There is also a side porch enclosed with glass windows on three sides. The Town of Huntington has recently restored this cabin and plans to use it for educational purposes. Near the cabin, there are many yews, which birds have likely reseeded from plants included in the original landscape design.

To reach the trailhead, drive through the cobblestone walls that mark the estate entrance on Arbutus, pass the first driveway on the left and stay to the left at the next fork. Park next to the tennis court.

You May See: American Beech, Black Birch, Black Oak, Chestnut Oak, Lowbush Blueberry, Mapleleaf Viburnum, Mountain Laurel, Pink Lady's Slipper, Red Maple, Red Oak, Solomon's Seal, Spicebush, Spotted Wintergreen, Trailing Arbutus, Tulip Tree, White Ash, White Oak, Eastern White Pine | Cooper's Hawk, Great-horned Owl, Red-tailed Hawk | Red Fox | Eastern Box Turtle

Location: On Arbutus Rd, off Centerport Rd. in Huntington.

Terrain: Some Hills | **Length:** 0.3 mi | **Parking:** In park | **Type:** Loop | **Surface:** Ground | **Acreage:** 23 | **Trailhead**: 40.879031, -73.365562

Hawk Valley Preserve

Hawk Valley is part of the Cold Spring Harbor Watershed and is immediately north of the West Rogues Wetlands Preserve. The site is located within the West-Hills Melville Special Groundwater Protection Area. In sharp contrast to the stream corridor across the street in West Rogues Wetlands Preserve, Hawk Valley Preserve has steep woodlands that frame the valley running through the site. The high vantage point atop the slopes and the open ground along the LIRR line make this an ideal location for viewing circling raptors. The site adjoins 49 acres at White Post Farm, a property protected through Suffolk County's farmland preservation program. The Hawk Valley Preserve was an EOSPA acquisition, in partnership with Suffolk County under the Hamlet Parks Program.

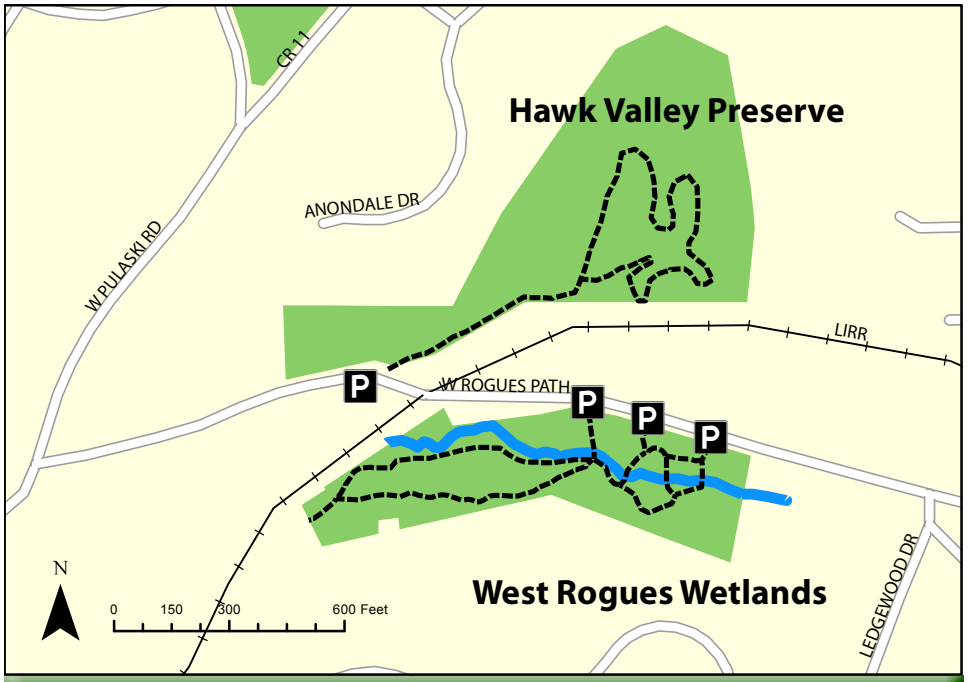
You May See: Bigtooth Aspen, Black Oak, Mountain Laurel, Pitch Pine, Pyrola, Red Maple, Red Oak, Sassafras, Spotted Wintergreen, White Oak

Fowler's Toad | Gray Catbird, Hairy Woodpecker | Eastern Chipmunk, Red Fox, White-tailed Deer

"A hidden gem without much travel"

Location: On West Rogues Path, off Woodbury Road in Cold Spring Harbor.

Terrain: Some hills | **Length:** 0.5 mi | **Parking:** Street | **Type:** Loop | **Surface:** Ground | **Acreage:** 10 | **Trailhead:** 40.838403, -73.448466



Heckscher Park

The stamped concrete pathway around the pond at Heckscher Park is undoubtedly the most heavily used trail in the Town of Huntington. Its level nature is ideal for both joggers and nature viewers, and is completely handicapped accessible. Although the park is located in the middle of Huntington Village, it is home to a large variety of plant and animal life, which can be observed along the trail. Heckscher Park was a private park founded in 1917 by the Heckscher Trust, and passed into Town ownership in 1954. The initial park construction included the cottage and cobblestone arches, and the Heckscher Museum followed three years later, in 1920. Heckscher Park is now home to Huntington's annual Fall Festival, Summer Arts Festival, and Spring Tulip Festival. Vegetation has been added to the pond edge in recent years to discourage Canada Geese. Please do not feed the waterfowl. Historic maps identify the pond as Crystal Lake.

You May See:
American Holly, Black Cherry, Cucumber Magnolia, Eastern Redbud, Eastern White Pine, Red Maple, Red Mulberry, Red Oak, Rugosa Rose, Serviceberry, Sweet Cherry, Sycamore Maple, Weeping Willow
American Crow, American Robin, Belted Kingfisher, Black-capped Chickadee, Black-crowned Night Heron, Bufflehead, Canada Goose, Canvasback Duck, Cedar Waxwing, Double-crested Cormorant, European Starling, Hooded Merganser, House Finch, House Sparrow, Lesser Scaup, Mallard, Mourning Dove, Mute Swan, Northern Cardinal, Northern Mockingbird, Northern Pintail Duck, Red-tailed Hawk, Wood Duck | Muskrat | Painted Turtle, Snapping Turtle

Educational Opportunities
Heckscher Park is popular for nature study, and has many opportunities to view the varied plants and wildlife around the park's pond.

Other Park Amenities and Activities
9-11 Memorial, Art Museum, Bocce Courts, Chapin Rainbow Stage, Gazebo, Model Boating, Playground, Playing Fields, Restrooms, Sculpture Garden, Tennis Courts

Location: On Madison St off New York Ave in Huntington.

Terrain: Flat | **Length:** 0.3 mi | **Parking:** Street | **Type:** Loop
Surface: Paved | **Acreage:** 18 | **Trailhead:** 40.876431, -73.420657

Huntington Blue Trail

Land-based trails are not the only trails in the Town of Huntington. When visiting any waterfront park, there will likely be kayakers paddling through Huntington's many harbors and inlets, following loosely defined "blue" trails. Water-trails also provide paths for sailboats, rowboats, canoes, and stand up paddle surfing. Many residents launch their boats from Huntington town beaches and public boat ramps. Some of the points where people can "car top" launch are: Asharoken Beach, Centerport Beach, Cold Spring Harbor Ramp, Hobart Beach, Mill Dam Ramp, and West Neck Beach.

These launch sites give paddlers easy access to unique surroundings and views of natural phenomena and historic structures. For example, kayakers who launch from Gold Star Battalion or Mill Dam Ramp can easily paddle past four historic sites: the Van Wyck-Lefferts Grist Mill, Coindre Hall, the Huntington Lighthouse and the ruins of the old Lloyd Harbor Lighthouse. Additionally there is a large osprey nest at the end of the harbor.

The list of recommended segments and the map provided in this guide can help paddlers plan their own trip.

Recommended Segments:

- Centerport Beach to Fleet's Cove Beach
- Asharoken Beach to Duck Island Harbor to Hobart Beach
- Billy Joel Park / Cold Spring Harbor to West Neck Beach
- Billy Joel Park to Inner Cold Spring Harbor
- Hobart Beach to Coast Guard Station
- Crab Meadow Beach to Geisslers Beach
- Crab Meadow Beach to Nissequogue River
- Gold Star Beach to Lloyd Harbor
- Centerport Beach to Northport Harbor around Bird Island
- Hobart Beach, past Sand City, around the Sallie Ruppert Nature Preserve, to the other side of Hobart Beach

Fee: A town beach parking permit is required to launch from town parks. Cost is $20/Day, $35 Season Pass for Town of Huntington residents.

You May See: American Crow, American Wigeon, Belted Kingfisher, Black Crowned Night Heron, Bufflehead, Canada Goose, Canvasback, Common Merganser, Common Tern, Double crested cormorant, European Wigeon, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Herring Gull, Hooded Merganser, Least Tern, Mallard, Mute Swan, Osprey, Pied-billed Grebe, Piping Plover, Red-breasted Merganser, Ring-billed Gull, Snowy Egret, Spotted Sandpiper | Diamondback Terrapin | White-tailed Deer

Additional Information:

- **Boat Racks:** Town residents can rent space in small boat racks at Centerport, Fleets Cove, Gold Star Battalion, and West Neck Beaches, giving them easy access to the water. The fee is $100 for the year, and the racks are available from Memorial Day until the end of October.
Town of Huntington Department of Maritime Services: 631-351-3192
- **Lighthouse Tours:** The Huntington Lighthouse Preservation Society offers tours of the lighthouse during the summer. 631-421-1985, huntingtonlighthouse.org
- **Harbor Tours:** The Nature Conservancy also offers historic tours of the harbor that include views of their Mill Cove Wildlife Sanctuary. 631-367-3225

Boating Safety:

- Children under 12 must wear a personal flotation device (PFD) on any boat less than 65 feet in length.
- All vessels must have a wearable PFD for every person on board.
- People of all ages aboard boats up to 21 feet must wear PFDs while underway between November 1 and May 1 each year.

Coast Guard Cove
Sand Pit
Caumsett State Park
1.7 mi
EATON'S NECK RD
ASHAROKEN AVE
Target Rock
Target Rock Federal Preserve
Duck Island Harbor
Crab Meadow Beach
To Nissequogue River
0.7 mi
Geisslers Beach
5 mi
Hobart Beach (a.k.a. Sand City)
2 mi
4.8 mi
Asharoken Beach
Sand City Ruins
Lloyd Harbor Lighthouse Ruins
LLOYD HARBOR RD
2.8 mi
Huntington Lighthouse
3.5 mi
WATERSIDE RD
RTE 25A
CR 106
Crescent Beach
Vanderbilt Museum
WEST NECK RD
West Neck Beach
Van Wyck-Lefferts Grist Mill
Fleets Cove Beach
0.4 mi
Centerport Park and Beach
Northport Village Park
Gold Star Battalion Beach
Coindre Hall
Bird Island
3 mi
VERNON VALLEY RD
RTE 25A
ELWOOD ROAD
RTE 25A
PARK AVENUE
Billy Joel Park
0.4 mi
BROADWAY
HARBOR RD
PULASKI ROAD
N
0 1,500 3,000 6,000 Feet
1 inch = 6,000 feet
Legend
TrailFeatures
Feature
Car-Top
Town Boat Racks
Boat Ramp
BlueTrail

Mill Pond Walk

This short on-road trail with sidewalks begins at the gazebo on the west side of Mill Pond and passes Grist Mill and Heron Parks. It then crosses east over Mill Dam Bridge, ending next to Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church. Heron Park is home to a twenty-two foot sculpture of a great blue heron, created by local artist Roberto Bessin. Mill Dam Bridge provides scenic views of the Mill Pond and Centerport Harbor. Walkers will likely find some people fishing on the bridge. The addition and improvement of Grist Mill and Heron Parks, and the recent renovation of the bridge have made this area one of the prettiest in Huntington, greatly increasing waterfront access to residents on foot. The two parks were created with the help of Town EOSPA funding, the Centerport Harbor Civic Association and The Laurel Group. Fishing from the bridge is a popular activity for young and old.

You May See: Black Skimmer, Bufflehead, Double Crested Cormorants, Great Black-backed Gull, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Herring Gull, Mallard, Mute Swan, Osprey, Ring-billed Gull, Snowy Egret

Location: Off 25A on Centershore Rd in Centerport.
Length: 0.4 mi | **Parking:** Parking Lot | **Type:** Linear |
Surface: Pavement | **Terrain:** Flat | **Trailhead:** 40.89238, -73.37446

NY 25/25A State Bike Route

The 25A State Bike Route starts at the Cold Spring Harbor LIRR Station, at the intersection of NY Route 108 and Woodbury Road. It can be used both to commute and to tour Huntington's scenic neighborhoods. It runs along many Town of Huntington parks and can be used to travel between them. Although this is designated as "NY 25A State Bike Route," the route through the Town of Huntington mostly stays along local roads and does not actually include Route 25A.

In Kings Park, the bike route continues on NY Route 25A. The four miles along Route 25A between Kings Park and the Smithtown Bull are along designated bike lanes in the shoulder area of NY Route 25A. The eastern end of 25A State Bike Route is at the intersection of NY Route 25 and NY Route 25A, approximately one mile west of downtown Smithtown. Here, it meets NY 25 State Bike Route which then continues on to Orient Point.

Bicycle Safety:
Always wear a helmet.
Obey all traffic signs and signals.
Ride with traffic.
Use hand signals.
Use lights at night and wear reflective clothing.
Do not wear earphones.
Use the appropriate lane.
Lock your bike once you reach your destination.

Bike Lockers:
Can be rented from LITM at Cold Spring Harbor, East Northport and Huntington Train Stations. Call 877-4COMMUTE for more information.

Terrain: Many Hills | **Length:** 10 mi (Town of Huntington), 85 mi (to Orient Point) | **Parking:** On Street | **Type:** Linear | **Surface:** Pavement | **Trailhead:** 40.836253, -73.452981

Location: Begins at the Cold Spring Harbor Railroad Station at the intersection of West Pulaski Road and Woodbury Road.

Additional Information: www.dot.ny.gov/modal/bike

Target Rock National Wildlife Refuge

During the Revolutionary War, British soldiers used the large rock located at the north end of Target Rock Federal Preserve's trail for target practice. The preserve's trail allows hikers to experience its geologic history. The park is located on the Harbor Hill Moraine, and its soils consist of Riverhead and Haven graded loams. The trail takes hikers down to the rocky beach, with great opportunities for viewing waterfowl. This includes a brackish pond where visitors can view the wildlife with minimal disturbance from behind a blind.

The property was formerly an estate owned by Ferdinand Eberstadt, a New York banker. It was donated to the United States Department of Interior in 1967. It is now managed as a component of the Long Island National Wildlife Refuge complex.

You May See:
Azalea, Eastern Red Ceder, Marsh Cordgrass, Rhododendron, Eastern White Pine | Bank Swallow, Belted Kingfisher, Brant, Bufflehead, Carolina Wren, Common Loon, Common Tern, Double-crested Cormorant, Eastern Screech Owl, Fox Sparrow, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Gray Catbird, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Great Horned Owl, Least Tern, Long-tailed Duck, Osprey, Piping Plover, Red-breasted Merganser, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-throated Loon, Ring-billed Gull, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Snowy Egret, Song Sparrow, Veery, Wood Thrush, Yellow Warbler | Eastern Cottontail, Eastern Gray Squirrel, Raccoon, Red Fox, White-tailed Deer

Other Park Amenities
Beach, Observation Deck, Restrooms, Wildlife Blind

Additional Information
www.fws.gov/northeast/longislandrefuges/

Educational Opportunities
Interpretive signs, a trail guide, and a kiosk point out the preserve's vegetation, wildlife, and historic points of interest.

Location: East side of Target Rock Rd in Lloyd's Neck
Terrain: Some hills | **Length:** 1.4 mi | **Parking:** In Park | **Type:** Loop | **Surface:** Ground, Bluestone | **Acreage:** 80 | **Fee:** $4.00 vehicle, $2.00 pedestrian/bicycle, $12.00 annual pass | **Trailhead:** 40.927156, -73.438097

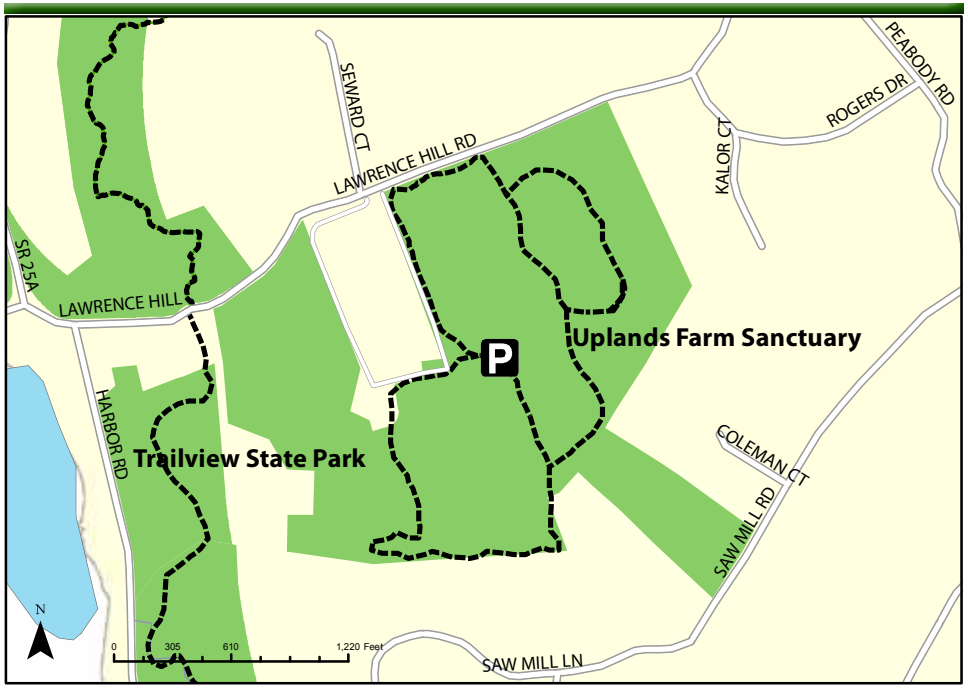
Uplands Farm Sanctuary

The double-trailed loop at The Nature Conservancy's Uplands Farm Sanctuary is ideal for family hikes. The grassy, marked trail takes hikers through deciduous forests and a meadow, providing opportunities to view an old dairy farm and Long Island's diverse wildlife, especially wildlife and birds. A kiosk at the sanctuary's trailhead contains information regarding the area's habitat, as well as a map directing hikers around the sanctuary, and to its connection with the Nassau-Suffolk Greenbelt Trail.

You May See:
Black Birch, Black Cherry, Butterfly Weed, Flowering Dogwood, Mountain Laurel, Red Maple, Tulip Tree, Eastern White Pine, Yellow Birch

American Goldfinch, American Kestrel, Blue-winged Warbler, Eastern Bluebird, Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Meadowlark, Eastern Phoebe, Gray Catbird, House Wren, Northern Mockingbird, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-winged Blackbird, Tree Swallow, White-throated Sparrow, Yellow Warbler

Additional Information:
www.nature.org



Location: South side of Lawrence Hill Rd, in Cold Spring Harbor
Terrain: Some hills | **Length:** 2.5 mi | **Parking:** In Park | **Type:** Loop
Surface: Ground | **Acreage:** 86 | **Trailhead:** 40.857582, -73.453214

Vanderbilt Museum

Rich in history and natural beauty, the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum is located on a 43-acre estate that was originally owned by William K. Vanderbilt, the son of the famous railroad tycoon Cornelius Vanderbilt. Vanderbilt was an avid collector of natural history specimens, ethnographic artifacts, and art. He left his vast collection of specimens and his beautiful Spanish-style mansion for the "education and enjoyment" of the public. Suffolk County acquired the property in 1947 and the Vanderbilt Museum opened in 1950. In 1970, the planetarium was built, the largest facility of its kind on Long Island. In 2011, a new state of the art projector was installed in the planetarium. The Museum's buildings are open to the public, and there are always volunteer guides on hand to provide visitors with fascinating facts and stories and to answer questions. Numerous pathways allow visitors to stroll the grounds, enjoy the beautiful water views, and imagine what life was like during Vanderbilt's occupation. Many of these pathways are wheelchair-accessible. In addition, the Vanderbilt offers a number of children's educational programs, including guided tours for visiting schools and summer programs in the sciences and arts.

Additional Information:
http://vanderbiltmuseum.org/
631-854-5555

Fee Information:
$7 Adult
$6 Senior/Student
$3 Child

Location: On Little Neck Rd, off 25A in Centerport.

Terrain: Some hills | **Length:** 1 mi | **Parking:** Parking Lot | **Type:** Network
Surface: Paved | **Acreage:** 43 | **Trailhead:** 40.904744, -73.368936

Village Green Park

Village Green Park is located at the intersection of Park Avenue and Main Street. It lies on both sides of Main Street, on the west side of Park Avenue. The area around this park is the oldest settled area in Huntington with many of the most historic houses in town, including the adjacent 300 year old Job Sammis house, also known as the Arsenal. A small stream running though the park formerly supplied water for grist mills near New York Avenue. The trail crosses over this stream three times with picturesque wooden bridges.

The Village Green was originally an open public space. In 1663, settlers began to keep their cattle penned there, and in the early 1700s, the green was used as a corral for stray animals. Up until the mid 1800s, the Green was also used as a parade ground for the Huntington Militia. During the British occupation, the English forces used the area as a camp and a supply depot. Currently, the Town Green remains open space in its original configuration.

The park contains a living Vietnam War memorial with a Kwanzan cherry tree representing each soldier from the Town of Huntington whose life was lost during the war. In addition, visitors can easily walk from the adjacent Heckscher Park to the Village Green Park by crossing Sabbath Day Path, on the western side of Heckscher Park. The park is also adjacent to the Flanagan Center, which contains the Cinema Arts Center and Senior Center.

You May See:
American Crow, American Robin, Canada Goose

Contact Town Historian at 631-351-3244 for further info.

Location: Intersection of 25A and Park Ave in Huntington.
Terrain: Flat | **Length:** 0.4 mi | **Parking:** Parking Lot | **Type:** Linear
Surface: Ground | **Acreage:** 9 | **Trailhead:** 40.875712, -73.418211

West Neck Bike Route

The on-road West Neck Bicycle Route is one of the most scenic and beautiful bikeways in the Town of Huntington and on Long Island. The starting point of the ride is the corner of Gerard Street and West Neck Road, in the heart of the Huntington Village, just one block north of 25A. The Gerard Street municipal parking lot is located at this intersection, and cyclists who choose to drive to the start of the route can park their cars here. From the starting point, cyclists ride north on West Neck Road, traveling through an area of Colonial and Victorian homes canopied by soaring oak trees. About a mile to the north, along this shaded route is the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn. Although the property is closed to the public, there are scenic views of the seminary from the roadway. The route passes by the Town's West Neck Beach and travels over a narrow causeway bounded by Cold Spring Harbor on the west and tidal wetlands of Lloyd Harbor to the east. To the far east, the Huntington Lighthouse (1912) can be seen, along with views of Huntington Bay and Eaton's Neck. As the path continues, cyclists pass by the Joseph Lloyd and Henry Lloyd historic houses, which date back to the 18th century. Just east is the entrance to Caumsett State Park, the largest park in the Town of Huntington. The park was originally the 1,500-acre estate of Marshall Field and is now one of the most popular sites in the town for hiking, biking, horseback riding, and cross-country skiing. Continuing on Lloyd Harbor Road, cyclists reach the end of the Lloyd Harbor bike trail at the entrance to Target Rock Federal Preserve. It is seven miles one-way from Gerard Street to Target Rock.

Location: On West Neck Rd in Huntington

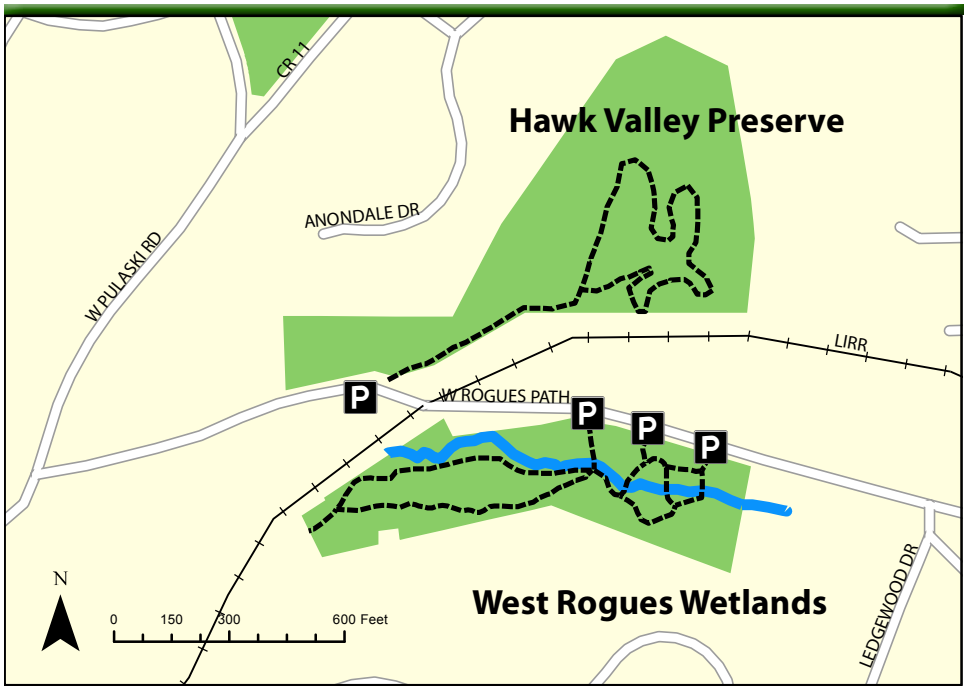
Terrain: Long hills | **Length:** 7.3 mi one way | **Parking:** Street | **Type:** Linear
Surface: Road | **Trailhead:** 40.870715, -73.430747

West Rogues Wetlands

The 7 acre West Rogues Wetlands is a linear parcel with a long street frontage, easily visible to motorists from West Rogues Path. The site drops steeply from the road into a small valley containing a picturesque stream, and then the land rises up into high morainal woodland to the south. The stream is a tributary to the Long Island Sound, and the wetlands here are state-regulated and are recognized as part of the Cold Spring Harbor Watershed. Most of the trail follows the stream, and stepping stones cross the water at a few points. The path was used in past decades as part of a footpath for people traveling to and from the harbor.

You May See: American Chestnut, Arrowood, Blackberry, Black Cherry, Black Walnut, Common Ragweed, Eastern Red Cedar, Hosta, Jewelweed, Mountain Laurel, Red Maple, Sassafras, Spicebush, Yew

American Robin, Black-capped Chickadee, Blue Jay, Cedar Waxwing, Common Grackle, Gray Catbird | Red Fox



Location: On West Rogues Path, off Woodbury Road in Cold Spring Harbor.
Terrain: Few hills | **Length:** 0.4 mi | **Parking:** Street | **Type:** Loop
Surface: Ground | **Acreage:** 7 |**Trailhead:** 40.837995, -73.446041

Northeast Quad

Betty Allen Nature Preserve

Twin Ponds South

The flat, well-maintained trail at Betty Allen Nature Preserve meanders around its central pond, giving hikers opportunities to view the water and its inhabitants, which include swans, ducks, and other waterfowl. The preserve was named for Betty Allen, an environmental activist who cofounded the Huntington Audubon Society. The pond was initially used by Native Americans and was formed by the damming of nearby streams. The Town of Huntington purchased the land in 1972 with a 50% matching grant through the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund.

In 2011 a new dam and fish ladder were installed to allow alewives to travel into the pond, providing them new habitat and spawning grounds, and providing people with new opportunities for fishing.

Park steward says: "It made me feel good early one morning when I went there and an older gentleman came with two young boys with their poles and creels. People might not realize that there is an opportunity for fishing".

Educational Opportunities

The short trail is excellent for school field trips, as it is dynamic in vegetation and wildlife. A 1975 trail guide also provides educational details pertaining to the preserve's environment. It leads visitors on the walkway and helps them to identify the preserve's plants and animals and understand the area's ecology.

Other Park Amenities

Various docks and overlooks for fishing, bird watching, and nature observation. The pond is stocked with brown and rainbow trout in the spring by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

You May See:

Canvasback, Green Heron, Hooded Merganser, Mallard, Mute Swan, Northern Pintail, Ovenbird, Red-winged Blackbird, Ring-necked Duck, Winter Wren, Wood Duck | American Bullfrog, Common Gray Tree Frog, Green Frog, Painted Turtle, Snapping Turtle | Bluegill Sunfish, Pumpkinseed sunfish, Largemouth Bass.

Location: South Side of Route 25A near Stony Hollow Rd in Centerport.

Terrain: Flat | **Length:** 0.3 mi | **Parking:** Across Street at Phragmites Park| **Type:** Loop
Surface: Ground, Plank | **Acreage:** 9 | **Trailhead:** 40.885193, -73.361930

Cow Harbor Park/ Northport Village Park

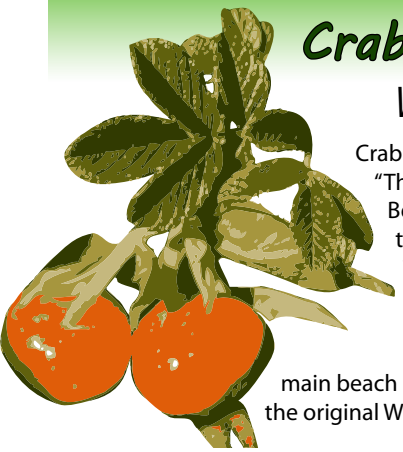
Northport Village Park is a waterfront park with accessible pathways, two playgrounds, and three gazebos. Only a few steps from Main Street in the heart of the village, Northport Village Park is an outstanding place to enjoy a picnic lunch, stroll along the water, or take the kids to the playground. There is a public dock for fishing and leashed dogs are allowed in many parts of the park as well. Visitors can travel to the park by foot, by car, or by boat. Boaters and kayakers can tie their boats up to village docks and have access to both the park and the historic village, with its wide variety of restaurants and shops. The village also hosts a number of events in the park including art and music festivals, a farmers market on summer Saturday mornings, and the lighting of the village Christmas tree. Perhaps this park is best known as the finish to the Great Cow Harbor 10K Race and the site of the weekend long celebrations that follow. The race is usually held on the 3rd Saturday in September, and Cow Harbor Day is the following day.

You May See:

American Crow, Canada Geese, Herring Gull, Mallard, Mourning Dove

Additional Information:
http://www.nrcrun.org
http://villageofnorthport.com

Location: Off of Woodbine Rd on Main St in Northport.
Length: 0.7 mi | **Parking:** Parking Lot | **Type:** Network
Surface: Pavement | **Terrain:** Flat | **Acreage:** 9 | **Trailhead:** 40.900510, -73.352691



Crab Meadow Beach

Walking Trail

Crab Meadow Beach was originally sold by the Matinecock in "The Eastern Purchase" in July of 1656. In 1917, Crab Meadow Beach was vested to the Board of Trustees of the Town of Huntington by Colonial grants of Nicoll, Dongan, and Fletcher. Title to these properties was then transferred to the Town as a result of condemnation proceedings in 1959. Crab Meadow is the most popular town swimming beach. It affords a clear view of Connecticut across the Long Island Sound. The main beach pavillion was rebuilt in 2009 to the same specifications as the original WPA project.

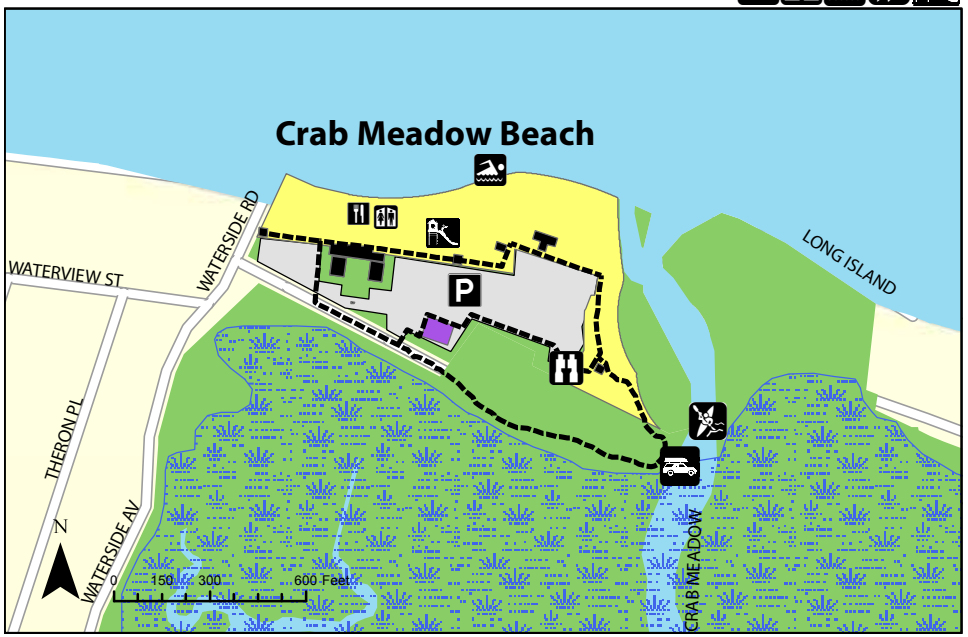
Boardwalk

While the boardwalk is a component of the overall walking circuit at Crab Meadow Beach, It is an entity unto itself, as many people simply prefer to traverse the pathway along the Long Island Sound frontage. The boardwalk is planked with recycled lumber and is handicapped-accessible from handicapped parking. It adjoins concrete walkways that wind along the picnic pavilion to an accessible nature observation gazebo, which allows visitors to catch a glimpse of the tidal channel and wetlands that surround the beach.

You May See:
Bayberry, Black Grass, Common Cattail, Narrow-leaved Cattail, Salt Marsh Grass, Smooth Cordgrass

Barn Swallow, Belted Kingfisher, Common Goldeneye, Common Loon, Common Yellowthroat, Connecticut Warbler, Eastern Meadowlark, Eastern Wood-Peewee, Flycatcher, Gray Catbird, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Herring Gull, Long-tailed Duck, Osprey, Piping Plover, Red-throated Loon, Red-winged Blackbird, White-winged Scoter | Diamondback Terrapin, Eastern Box Turtle | Marsh Fiddler Crab, Salt Marsh Snail

Other Park Amenities
Basketball Court, Kayak Launch, Picnic Area, Playground, La Casa Restaurant



Location: end of Waterside Rd off of 25A in Northport

Terrain: Flat | **Length:** .4 mi | **Parking:** In Park | **Type:** Walking Trail: Loop, Boardwalk: Linear | **Surface:** Paved, Plank, Sand | **Acreage:** 14
Fee: $20/Day, $35 Season Pass (Town Residents*) provides access to all Town beaches
Trailhead: 40.927796, -73.325672

Fuchs Pond Preserve

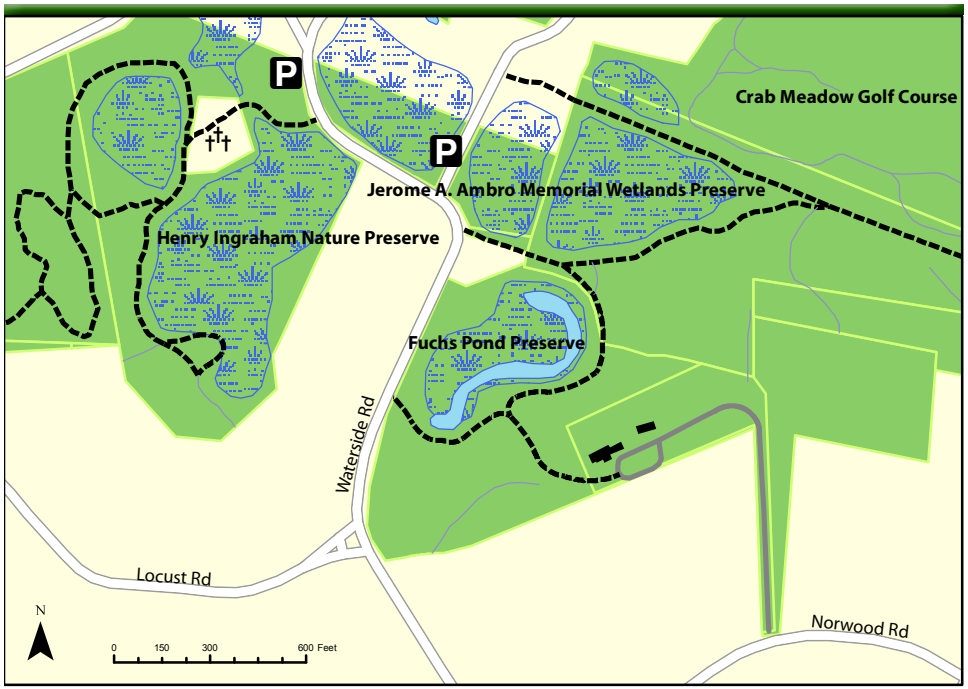
Fuchs Pond Preserve consists of a five-acre spring-fed freshwater pond, freshwater marsh, upland slope forest, and a high plateau area. Once known as Cranberry Hill, the site adjoins the Jerome Ambro Memorial Wetlands Preserve, which neighbors the Town's Crab Meadow Beach. From Fuchs Preserve, hikers can cross Waterside Avenue and walk along a sidewalk to the entrance to Henry Ingraham Nature Preserve. Visitors to Fuchs Preserve may also park in the new parking area at Henry Ingraham Preserve. The Town and County acquired the Fuchs Pond Preserve in 2003, using funding from the Huntington Environmental Open Space and Park Fund (EOSPA) and County Greenways-Open Space programs.

Educational Opportunities

Fuchs Pond Preserve has been widely utilized as an educational tool, especially by elementary school children, who often take nature study hikes. In 2013 Cornell Cooperative Extension registered 270 students for its Marine Stars Summer Program based at the site.

American Black Duck, American Goldfinch, Canada Goose, Chipping Sparrow, Eastern Screech Owl, Great Blue Heron, Great Horned Owl, Green Heron, Mourning Dove, Northern Cardinal, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-winged Blackbird, Ring-necked Pheasant, Song Sparrow, Tufted Titmouse, Wood Duck | Little Brown Bat, Masked Shrew, Meadow Vole, Muskrat, Red Fox, Short-tailed Shrew, Southern Flying Squirrel | Eastern Box Turtle, Painted Turtle, Snapping Turtle | Bullhead, Large Mouth Bass, Sunfish

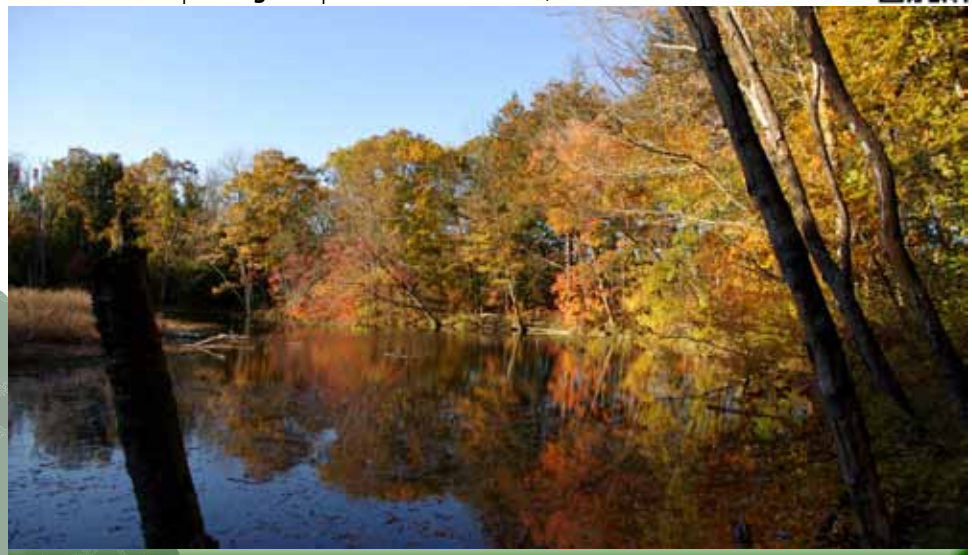
Park Steward's Interesting Experience: "Meeting students, now adults, still visiting park [and] seeing a rock split from seasons of ice and snow".



Location: East side of Waterside Rd, South of Seaside Court in Northport

Terrain: Few hills | **Length:** 0.5 mi | **Parking:** Street | **Type:** Linear

Surface: Ground | **Acreage:** 21 | **Trailhead:** 40.916356, -73.331996



Henry Ingraham Nature Preserve

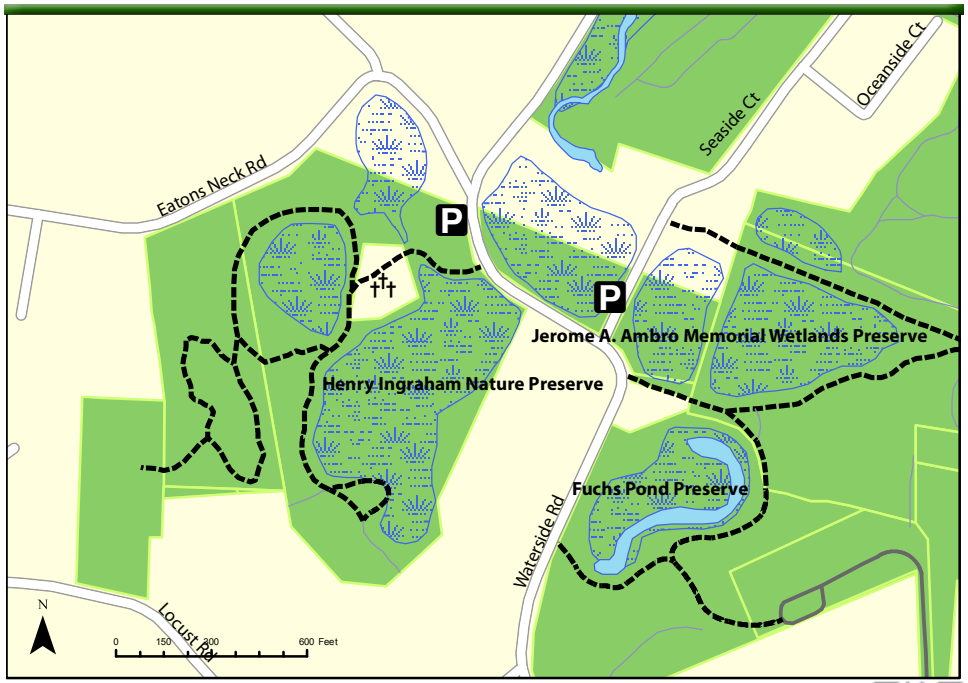
Visitors can easily take in the history of the Henry Ingraham Nature Preserve when they walk on the trail that winds up from Waterside Road and takes hikers through a cemetery with graves that date back before the Revolutionary War. In the past, the site's vegetation was cleared for farming. However, over time, an oak-tulip tree forest has progressively established what was once more open land. The preserve itself was protected in 1998 as a tripartite public-private venture with funding provided by the Town of Huntington, Suffolk County, and the Iroquois Gas Transmission System. The site is a component of the headwaters to the Town of Huntington's 300+ acre Jerome Ambro Memorial Wetlands Preserve. The new parking area on Waterside Road was an original requirement of the aquisition.

You May See:
American Beech, Black Birch, Black Tupelo, Black Walnut, Canada Mayflower, Eastern Red Cedar, Eastern White Pine, Hercules Club, Honey Locust, Mockernut Hickory, Pennsylvania Bittercress, Red Maple, Smooth Alder, Spotted Wintergreen, Water-Pepper, White Oak, Wood Strawberry

Blue Jay, House Wren, Northern Cardinal, Northern Flicker, Northern Waterthrush, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-tailed Hawk, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Song Sparrow, Tree Swallow, Wood Thrush, Northern Flicker | Cabbage White Butterfly | Star-nosed Mole, White-tailed Deer.

Educational Opportunities
With the nearby Fuchs and Ambro Preserves, visitors can experience nearly all of the natural habitat types in the Town of Huntington. Eagle Scout-built benches provide an opportunity to quietly sit and observe the preserve's natural resources.

Park steward says: "Pond, streams, wetlands, open field, Harbor Hill Moraine, history--tremendous diversity in this hidden jewel".



Location: West side of Waterside Ave, South of Eatons Neck Rd in Northport
Terrain: Hilly | **Length:** 0.5 mi | **Parking:** Street | **Type:** Loop
Surface: Ground | **Acreage:** 27 | **Trailhead:** 40.917310, -73.333655

Knolls Park

Knolls Park, part of the Veterans Parks Complex, was jointly acquired by the County and the Town in December 2000, through the Town EOSPA, County Greenways/Active Recreation, County Land Preservation Partnership and Drinking Water Protection Programs. Formerly a component of the Northport Veterans Administration Property, the land was proposed for a 61-lot housing development, but the Town and County acquisition made it available for active and passive use.

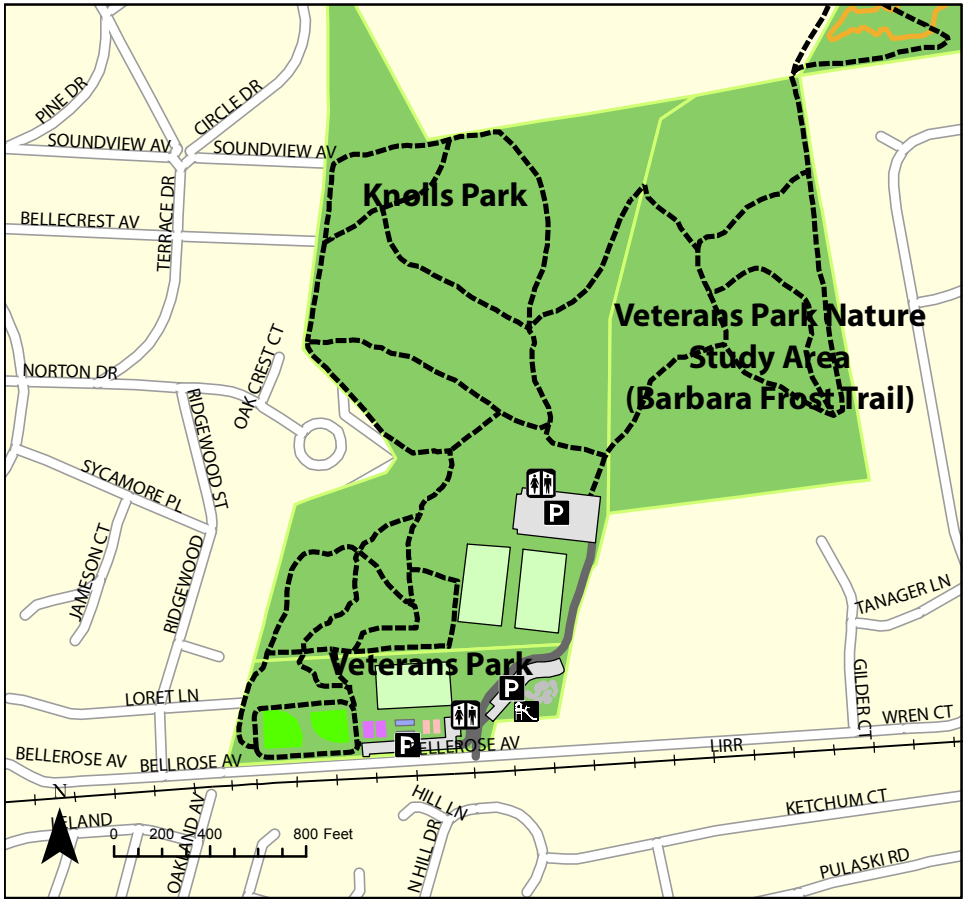
Knolls now has state of the art turf fields located in the southern most portion of the park, that are available for both competitive and casual recreational use. The rest of the site has trails that wind through the property and connect with neighboring Meadowlark Park, providing residents with over nine miles of hiking trails. Shorter trails are available in Knolls Park for those interested in leisurely walks.

The adjoining Town-owned Veterans Park was recently extended with a land dedication from the Northport-East Northport School District that now contains a new boundless playground and concrete skatepark. This beautifully designed skate park, equipped with rails, two deep bowls, ramps, tabletops, and stairs, would excite any skateboard enthusiast. Plenty of parking is available in this section giving residents access to both the recreational and passive parts of the park.

You May See: American Chestnut, Arrowood, Bitternut Hickory, Black Birch, Black Cherry, Black Walnut, Eastern Red Cedar, Flowering Dogwood, Goldenrod, Gray Birch, Lowbush Blueberry, Mountain Laurel, Pussy Willow, Queen Anne's Lace, Red Maple, River Birch, Sassafras, Spotted Wintergreen, Stiff Dogwood, Sweet Pepperbush, Tall Wormwood, Tulip Tree, Weeping Forsythia, White Oak

American Goldfinch, Baltimore Oriole, Brown Thrasher, Common Yellowthroat, Dark-eyed Junco, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Wood Pewee, Fish Crow, House Wren, Mourning Dove, Northern Mockingbird, Northern Mockingbird, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-eyed Vireo, Ring-necked Pheasant, Scarlet Tanager, Song Sparrow,Tufted Titmouse, Veery, Wood Thrush, Yellow-shafted Flicker

Eastern Chipmunk, Red Fox, Skunk, White-tailed Deer | Box Turtle, Milk Snake, Snapping Turtle



Location: On Bellerose Ave in East Northport
Terrain: Some hills | **Length:** 3.6 mi | **Parking:** Parking Lot | **Type:** Network
Surface: Ground | **Acreage:** 83 | **Trailhead:** 40.884905, -73.310229

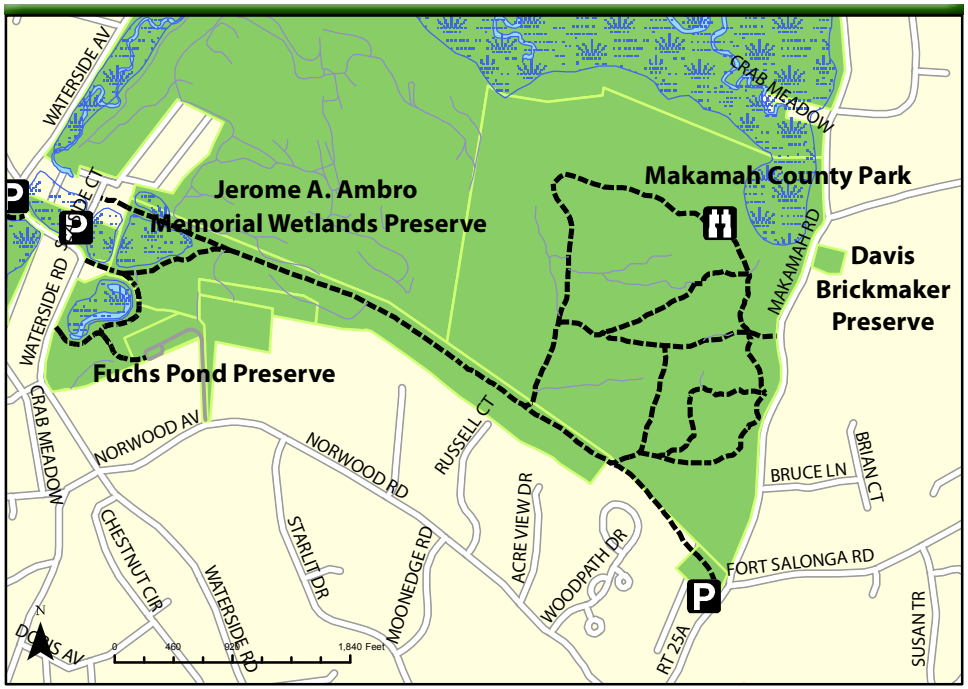
Makamah Nature Preserve

Originally called Crab Meadow Park East Watershed, the Makamah Nature Preserve was acquired by Suffolk County in 1973. It contains dry and wet woodlands, as well as marsh. A 1970 report prepared by the Town Conservation Advisory Council noted that 94 species of birds were recorded in and around the property and that the park is prime habitat for owls and woodpeckers. The report also noted the presence of 12 species of mammals, indicating an intricate and healthy network of predator-prey relationships. The park contains heavily wooded hills with one rising to 60 feet in its center and others rising to 100 feet.

The easterly portion of the park is a valley that drains the surrounding area. This valley includes a main stream that was once dammed to form two ponds and several feeder streams, some spring-fed. The property was once owned jointly with what is now the Town Crab Meadow Golf Course, just to the west of the preserve. An additional tract of land on NYS Route 25A was dedicated from the Wodaembarc subdivision, resulting in the trailhead parking area recently enhanced as a local Eagle Scout project. The original trail access is on Makamah Road, south of Breeze Hill Road. The preserve is available for hiking.

You May See:
American Beech, Arrowwood, Bayberry, Black Birch, Black Oak, Black Tupelo, Christmas Fern, Hickory, Huckleberry, Interrupted Fern, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Lady Fern, Mapleleaf Viburnum, Partridge Berry, Red Oak, Serviceberry, Skunk Cabbage, Spotted Wintergreen, Tulip Tree, White Oak

American Redstart, Common Yellowthroat, Eastern Towhee, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Eastern Phoebe, Field Sparrow, Fish Crow, Fox Sparrow, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Greater Yellowlegs, Great Horned Owl, Horned Grebe, Indigo Bunting, Junco, Long-tailed Duck, Osprey, Ovenbird, Redstart, Scarlet Tanager, Snowy Egret, White-winged Scoter, Wood Duck | Eastern Cottontail, Eastern Mole, White-footed Mouse, Woodchuck



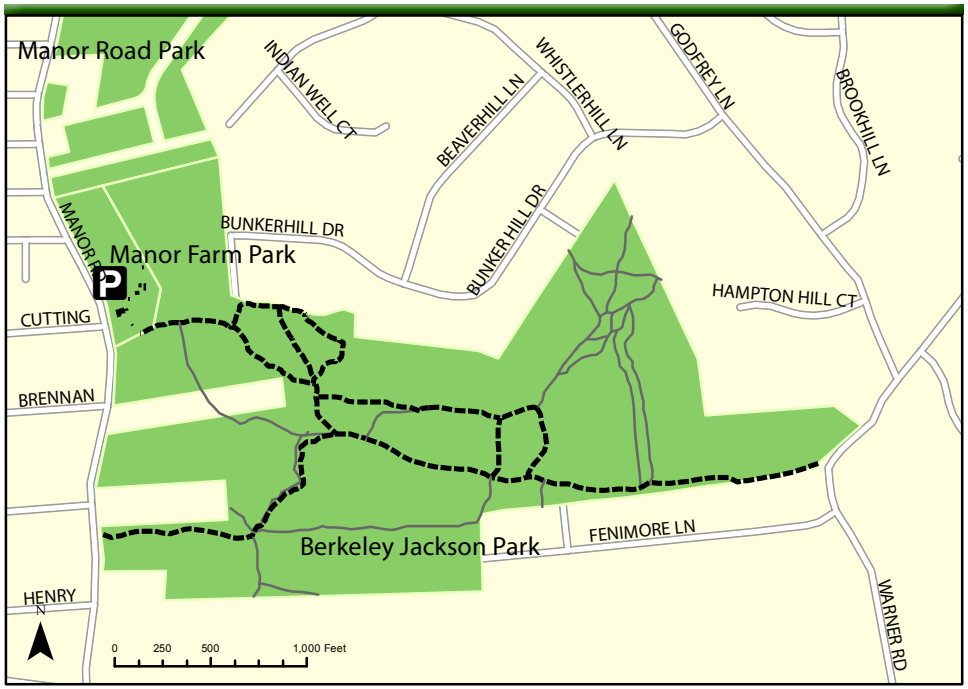
Location: North side of Route 25A and Makamah Rd in Northport
Terrain: Hilly | **Length:** 2.6 mi | **Parking:** In Park | **Type:** Network
Surface: Ground | **Acreage:**160 | **Trailhead:** 40.909095, -73.314277

Manor Farm Park/ Berkeley Jackson County Park

Manor Farm Park was the Town's first EOSPA acquisition, and was purchased to serve as a trailhead to link the adjoining 20-acre Town Manor Road Park and 100-acre County Berkeley Jackson Park. Prior to the purchase in 2000, Manor Farm was an animal farm, known by many in the area because of the array of exotic animals kept there. The Town restored the Manor Farm residence to a period circa 1860, using funds from the EOSPA Program. Starflower Experiences, Inc. provides environmental education programs that take full advantage of the adjoining trails. The western part of the County park contains the remnants of two former sand quarries and is hilly. Further east, the land flattens out and the soils retain more moisture.

Park steward says: A jewel in the heart of Huntington.

You May See:
Black Birch, Canada Mayflower, Chestnut Oak, Christmas Fern, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Mountain Laurel, Partridge Berry, Red Maple, Red Oak, Sassafras, Trailing Arbutus, White Oak, Wild Geranium, Wild Sarsaparilla, White Wood Aster | American Goldfinch, Baltimore Oriole, Barn Swallow, Chipping Sparrow, Downy Woodpecker, Great Horned Owl, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-tailed Hawk, Tree Swallow | Spicebush Swallowtail Butterfly | Eastern Chipmunk, Red Fox



Location: East Side of Manor Rd, North of Jericho Turnpike (25)
Terrain: Hilly | Length: 1.8 mi | **Parking:** In Park | **Type:** Network
Surface: Sand, Ground | **Acreage:** 130 | **Trailhead:** 40.839211, -73.358081

Manor Plains Nature Park

The Town purchased Manor Plains Nature Park in 1963 from the Perkowski family which had cultivated crops on the site for generations. This specific region of Greenlawn has a long farming history with the oldest known Native American agricultural fields documented on Long Island, extending back prior to the 1640s. Local lore holds that there was once a war camp which may have been used in association with a Secatogue village in the hills east of Manor Road. The Secatogue were part of the larger Montauk Confederacy, a Native American people who inhabited Long Island before English settlement. Manor Plains Nature Park is presently comprised of 12.1 acres. The site was developed into a nature education center in 1969 through the efforts of members of the Elwood community. The 7-foot deep man-made pond and its surrounding field area are ideal for wildlife and wildflower viewing.

You May See:
Bigtooth Aspen, Bog Goldenrod, Common Pipewort, Common Ragweed, Crab Apple, Eastern Cottonwood, Eastern Red Cedar, Heath Aster, Japanese Black Pine, Lady's Thumb, Quaking Aspen, Red Clover, Red Maple, Russian Olive, Wild Strawberry, Yellow Wood Sorrel | Common Yellowthroat, Downy Woodpecker, European Starling, Red-winged Blackbird, Ring-necked Pheasant | European Skipper Butterfly, Little Wood Satyr Butterfly | Eastern Painted Turtle, Snapping Turtle | Bluegill Sunfish, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkin-seed Sunfish | Dragonfly

Park steward says: "MPNP is truly a people's park. The park use was initiated by a student. The pond was built by scouts and plantings were done by students and community members. It's a great place to go for a peaceful walk."

Location: West side of Manor Rd in Huntington
Terrain: Flat| **Length:** .3 mi | **Parking:** In Park | **Type:** Loop
Surface: Ground | **Acreage:** 12 | **Trailhead:** 40.845420, -73.359285

Meadowlark Park

Meadowlark Park, a small section of the greater Veterans Park Complex, was the first town park to be dedicated as a multiuse trails site. It is home to one of the most challenging and fun-to-ride mountain bike trail on Long Island. The trail winds its way through 5 miles of some of the most varied terrain of the Harbor Hill Moraine. There are few flat or straight sections. The dense woodland is typical of the North Shore, but also includes a large grove of White Pine, and if you go off trail on the southern end, you will find an area reminiscent of the Pine Barrens. Given the relatively small size of the park, there are few sounds or sights of suburbia.

Since this trail requires advanced biking skills, you should be prepared to get off and walk at a moment's notice. The trail was constructed and is maintained by C.L.I.M.B. (Concerned Long Island Mountain Bicyclists). Go to www.climbonline.org to find when guided and beginner rides are offered. Less experienced bikers and families with young children may comfortably ride the utility corridor and the fire roads which meander through the Veteran's Park Complex.

Because Meadowlark Park is a multi-use park, please remember the following: bikes yield to everyone, and everyone yields to horses. The Meadowlark Bike Trail welcomes hikers and runners, but is too tight for horses. Equestrians may use the bridle trails.

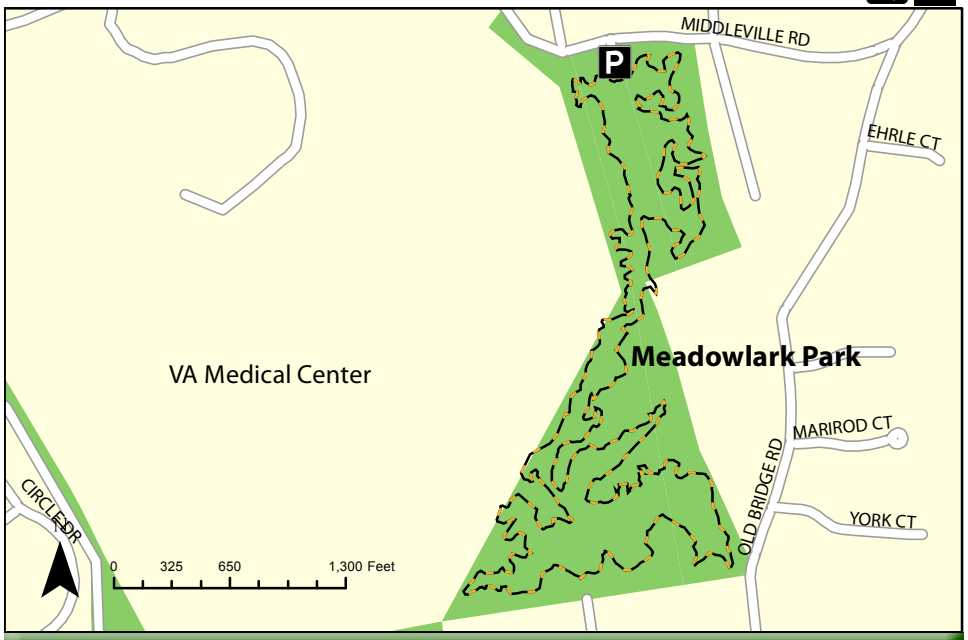
To enter the trail go through the metal barrier off Middleville Road, and make an immediate left. The trail is marked with blue blazes, and once you are on it, there is no chance of losing it.

Helmets and eye protection are required. Mountain biking is an inherently risky activity. Use the trails at your own risk.

You may see: Black Cherry, Black Locust, Eastern Red Cedar, Flowering Dogwood, Jewelweed, Mountain Laurel, Norway Spruce, Red Maple, Sassafras, Spotted Wintergreen, Tulip Tree, White Oak, Eastern White Pine

Barn Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, Blue Jay, Eastern Towhee, Mourning Dove, Northern Cardinal | Eastern Cottontail, Eastern Gray Squirrel, White-tailed Deer, Red Fox | Garter Snake

Location: On Middleville Rd, off 25A in Northport.
Terrain: Some hills | **Length:** Bike: 3.5mi | **Parking:** Parking Lot | **Type:** Loop
Surface: Ground | **Bicycle Difficulty:** Advanced | **Acreage:** 59
Trailhead: 40.897780, -73.303590

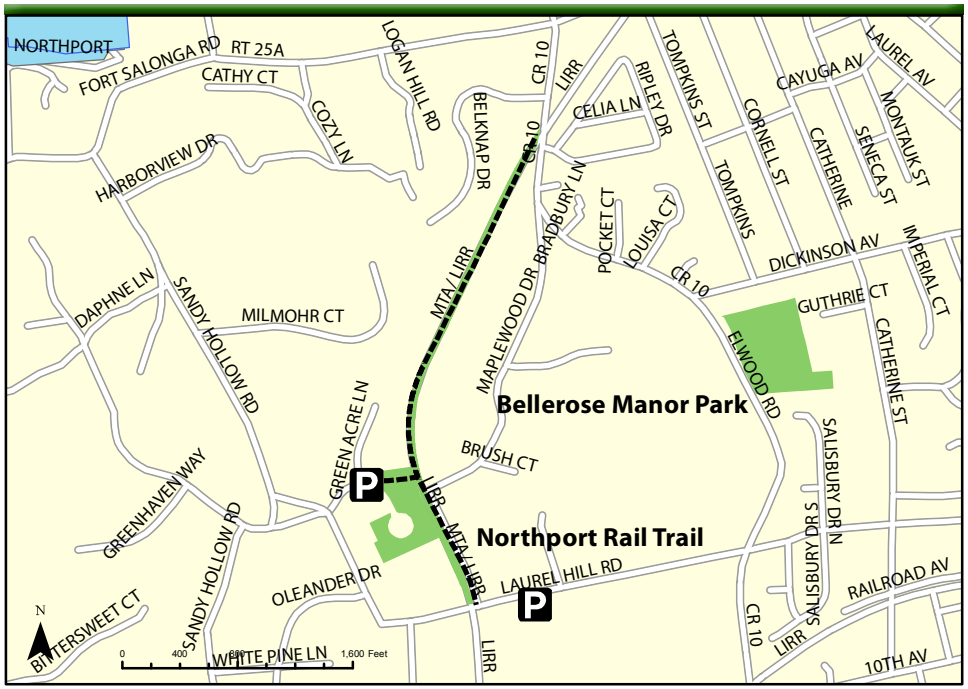


Northport Rail Trail

In the 1860s, a new railway was constructed to extend the trainlines from Syosset to Northport. While these trains were widely used by residents of the Northport area, this spur was abandoned as a result of geographic interference with further extension plans. Influenced by the Rails-to-Trails movement, the old railway was granted to the Town of Huntington by the Metropolitan Transit Authority by means of a 10 year license agreement for public trail purposes in 2008. The trailway lies in the rail corridor that leads from Laurel Hill Road to Elwood Road. The rail line used to run past the trailway, across Elwood Road to what is now the Riverhead Building Supply, making freight deliveries. To the north, a car wash lies on a segment of the rail line, as does the King Kullen Shopping Center. This former rail branch was once proposed to be used as a component of the defunct Babylon-Northport Expressway. In 2009 the New York State Department of Transportation donated an adjoining four-acre parcel to the Town with access from Orchard Court.

Other Trail Uses:
This trail is widely used by pedestrians, equestrians, and bicyclists.

You May See:
American Crow, American Robin, Blue Jay, Common Grackle, European Starling, House Sparrow



Location: North side of Laurel Hill Rd and Maplewood Dr in Northport
Terrain: Flat | **Length:** 0.5 mi | **Parking:** Street | **Type:** Linear
Surface: Ground | **Acreage:** 8 | **Trailhead:** 40.880070, -73.345638

Phragmites Park

Twin Ponds North

The land that is now Phragmites Park was created primarily by the deposition of dredge spoil, the result of Northport Harbor dredging by Suffolk County in the early 1960s. This is evidenced by the sandy pathways that traverse the site. The town has proposed a future restoration of the wetlands in a component of the site, which would create a tidal impoundment to provide greater habitat diversity, thereby providing a sanctuary for many more species of birds and fish. The site offers a sweeping view of Northport Harbor and Bird Island, which was also created from dredge spoil. The parking area at this park also provides access to Betty Allen Nature Preserve across Route 25A.

You May See:
Bayberry, Bigtooth Aspen, Black Cherry, Black Willow, European White Poplar, Field Pennycress, Gray Birch, Groundsel Bush, Horse Nettle, Prickly Pear Cactus, Quaking Aspen, White Mulberry

American Black Duck, American Goldfinch, American Wigeon, Black-crowned Night Heron, Bufflehead, Double-crested Cormorant, Eastern Towhee, Gray Catbird, Great Blue Heron, Greater Scaup, Herring Gull, Lesser Scaup, Mallard, Northern Cardinal, Red-winged Blackbird, Song Sparrow, Yellow Warbler

Location: North side Route 25A in Centerport
Terrain: Flat | **Length:** 0.6 mi | **Parking:** In park | **Type:** Linear
Surface: Ground | **Acreage:** 19 | **Trailhead:** 40.885869, -73.361962

Savings Court Park

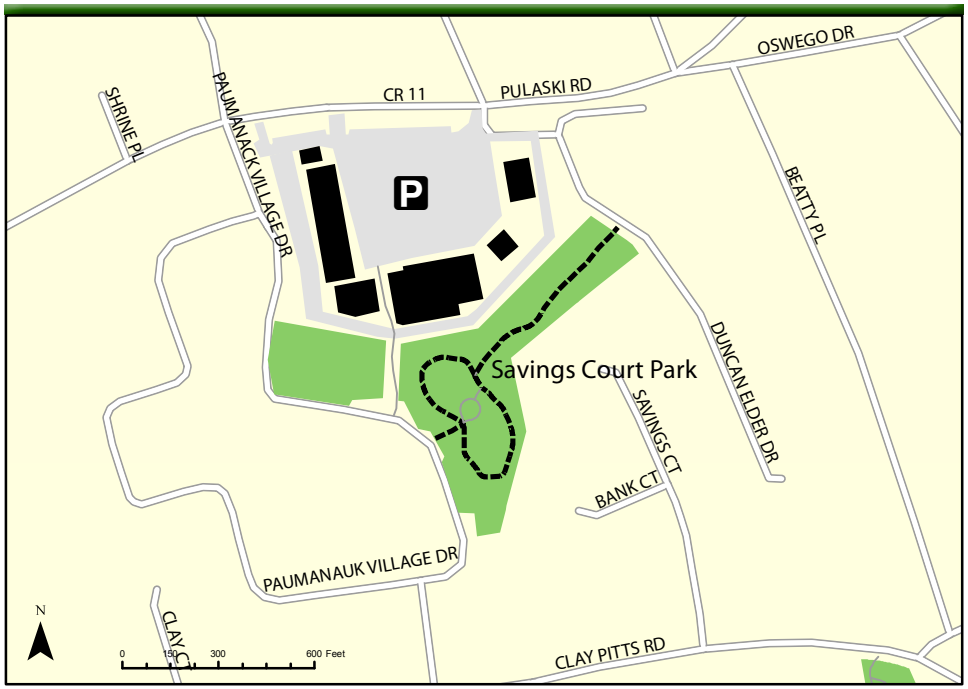
Fitness Trail

Savings Court Park was set aside as a result of the cluster plan for Paumanack Village, the Town's first senior housing development. The site can be accessed through the Waldbaum's shopping center or Paumanack Village. It is fully handicapped-accessible and contains a twelve-station cardio course, the Town's first fitness trail, and a gazebo. These enhancements were installed in 2000 with support from the Huntington Community Development Agency and Huntington EOSPA Park Improvement Program.

You May See:
Bayberry, Bigtooth Aspen, Black Cherry, Black Willow, European White Poplar, Field Pennycress, Gray Birch, Groundsel Bush, Horse Nettle, Quaking Aspen, White Mulberry

American Goldfinch, American Robin, Herring Gull, Mourning Dove, Northern Cardinal, Northern Mockingbird, Song Sparrow

Stations Include:
Isometric Squat, Leg Lift, Push-up, Pull-up, Sit-up



Location: Paumanack Village Dr, South of Pulaski Rd
Terrain: Flat | **Length:** 0.3 mi | **Parking:** Street | **Type:** Loop
Surface: Paved | **Acreage:** 7 |**Trailhead:** 40.865937, -73.349811

Sunshine Acres

Sunshine Acres was originally owned by the Baptist Union of Brooklyn and used as a camp for city children known as "Sunshine Acres Fresh Air Camp." Subsequently, the property was acquired by the Town of Huntington in the early 1960's and dedicated as a park for the surrounding residential community. Recently, the park has undergone renovations to improve its facilities and accessibility to the nearby community. Sunshine Acres now has a new playground, restroom, and baseball field, as well as brand new paved accessible trails that link the Dana and Burton Lane entrances to the main area of the park. The park has long been a popular spot for sleigh riding.

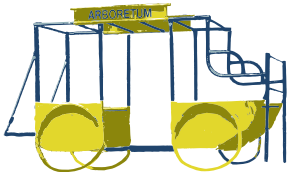
You May See:
Black Cherry, Eastern Redcedar, Flowering Dogwood, Red Oak, Sassafras, Shagbark Hickory, Sweetfern, White Birch, White Oak, Whorled Loostrife

American Robin, Blue Jay, Common Grackel, Gray Catbird, Northern Cardinal, Red-bellied Woodpecker, White-throated Sparrow | Eastern Gray Squirrel

Location: On Town Line Rd in Commack
Terrain: Flat | **Length:** 0.5 mi | **Parking:** Parking Lot | **Type:** Loop | **Surface:** Pavement
Acreage: 10 | **Trailhead:** 40.846588, -73.292290

Southwest Quad

Arboretum Park/ Anne Frank Memorial Garden



Arboretum Park is an active use park with four tennis courts, two handball courts, a playground, a baseball field, and two basketball courts. In June 2010 the Anne Frank Memorial Garden was unveiled in a small section of the park. The memorial commemorated the life of Anne Frank with a sculpture of a girls dress from the 1940s, quotes from her diary, and two Chestnut trees. While in hiding, Anne could see little of the outside world other than a chestnut tree, and that tree symbolized freedom for her. Other sculptural works in the memorial incorporate images of children's handprints, a demolished cement wall, and a colored glass and cement walkway. These images were included to symbolize other events in the holocaust, such as Kristallnacht, and to memorialize all the children who died in the genocide. Steve Dubner, who designed and constructed the memorial, was inspired by the drawings of local students made in response to a town-wide design contest. The project was funded by the Town's EOSPA program. The Arboretum Park trail meanders through the memorial garden, circles around the athletic fields and courts, and returns to the parking area.

You may see: American Linden, Chinese chestnut, European Beech, Hickory, Japanese Maple, Red Oak, Sycamore, Weeping Willow, White Oak

American Robin, Northern Cardinal, Red-winged Blackbird

Location: On Wilmington Dr off Bagatelle Rd in Melville
Terrain: Flat | **Length:** 0.6 mi | **Parking:** Parking Lot | **Type:** Loop
Surface: Ground | **Acreage:** 13 **Trailhead:** 40.781175, -73.375373

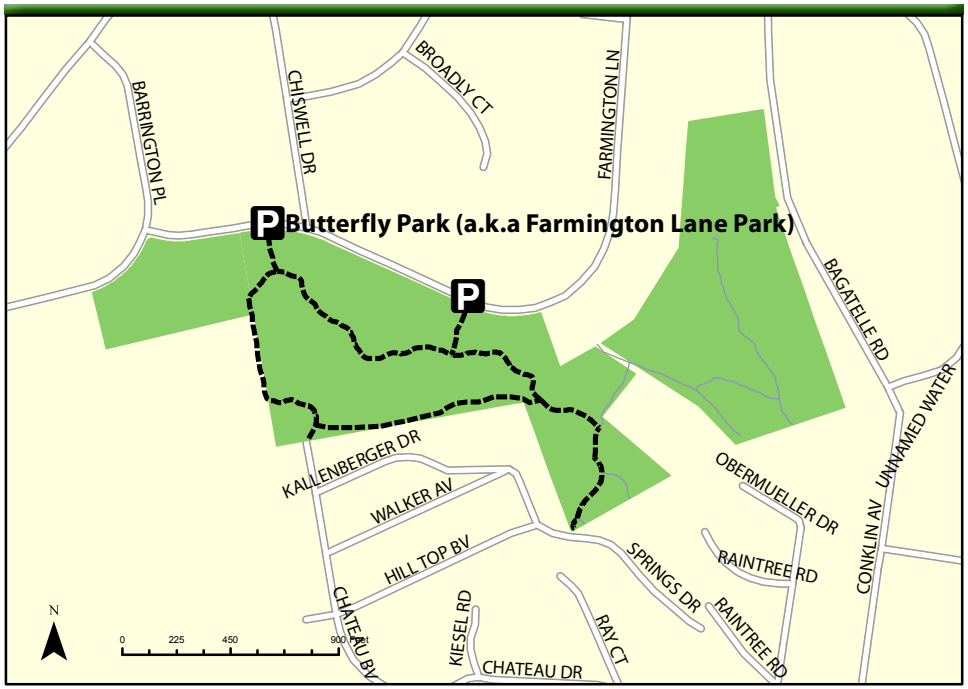
Butterfly Park

While Butterfly Park is often used for nature walks, perhaps its most pertinent feature is its geological history. The park is located on the mid-island Manhasset plateau of the Ronkonkoma Moraine and is an ideal example of the effects of melting glaciers. Glacial deposits, along with stream-caused erosion, helped to shape the park's hilly terrain. While its eastern trail is sandy and well-drained, Butterfly Park's western trail contains a greater amount of silt and organic matter. It contains a segment of the original Vanderbilt Motor Parkway. The Town of Huntington acquired the park as a result of several subdivisions from 1966 to 1973. The Town Board dedicated the site as a park-preserve in 1980, thus affording it further protection.

Park steward says:
"In springtime when conditions are right, there's a tremendous amount of Lady's Slippers to be viewed from the trails."

You May See:
American Chestnut, Catbrier, Club Moss, Flowering Dogwood, Gray Birch, Hawk Weeds, Huckleberry, Lichens, Mushrooms, Mustard, Poplar, Red Oak, Sassafras, White Oak

American Robin, Carolina Wren, Downy Woodpecker, Gray Catbird, Northern Cardinal, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Tufted Titmouse | Eastern Chipmunk, Eastern Cottontail, Eastern Gray Squirrel, Raccoon, Virginia Opossum



Location: Farmington Ln, south of the LIE, west of Bagatelle Rd in Melville

Terrain: Some hills | **Length:** 0.8 mi | **Parking:** Street | **Type:** Loop
Surface: Ground | **Acreage:** 38 | **Trailhead:** 40.773463, -73.374613

Dr. Jeffrey Wenig Memorial Park

Formerly called Roundtree Park, this site was dedicated to the Town of Huntington in separate parcels as the result of subdivision modifications. This passive parkland was rededicated in memory of Dr. Jeffrey Wenig, a former Town of Huntington Director of Environmental Protection from 1973-1980, as well as a renowned toxicologist, inventor, and developer of pharmaceutical products. Twice during Dr. Wenig's tenure as director, the Town of Huntington was the recipient of "Beautify America" awards as the nation's leading suburban community.

The parkland consists of rolling hills that are a higher elevation than much of Long Island due to their location on the southern edge of the Ronkonkama Moraine, a remnant of past glacial advances. The forests are mostly oak and lowbush blueberry which thrive on the park's sandy soils. Tracts of pitch pine run throughout the park along the north facing slopes of the hills. The trail, which traverses only the northern section of the park, starts on Roundtree Dr., winds through the ridges and valleys and ends at a piece of Half Hollow Hills School district property which continues to Wilmington Dr.

You May See:
American Chestnut, Bearberry, Black Cherry, Broad Dock, Flowering Dogwood, Hay-Scented Fern, Lowbush Blueberry, Moccasin Flower, Pitch Pine, Red Oak, White Pine, Wild Indigo

American Crow, American Robin, Blue Jay, Common Grackle , Dark-eyed Junco, Downy Woodpecker, Mourning Dove, Northern Cardinal, Northern Flicker | Juvenal's Duskywing Butterfly

Location: Round Tree Dr, South of the LIE in Melville

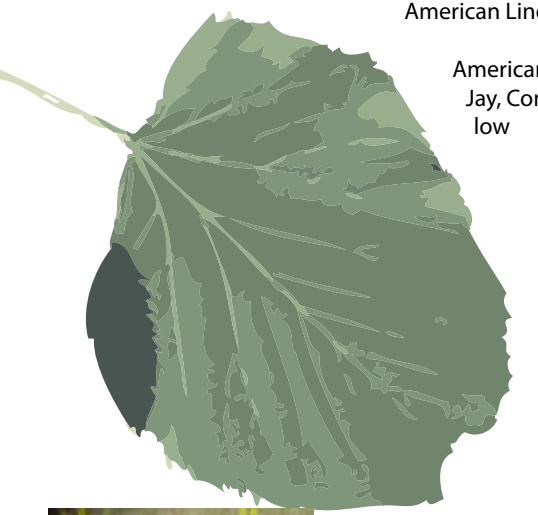
Terrain: Hilly | **Length:** 1 mi | **Parking:** Street | **Type:** Network
Surface: Ground, Sandy | **Acreage**: 94 | **Trailhead:** 40.785393, -73.384814

Half Hollow Park

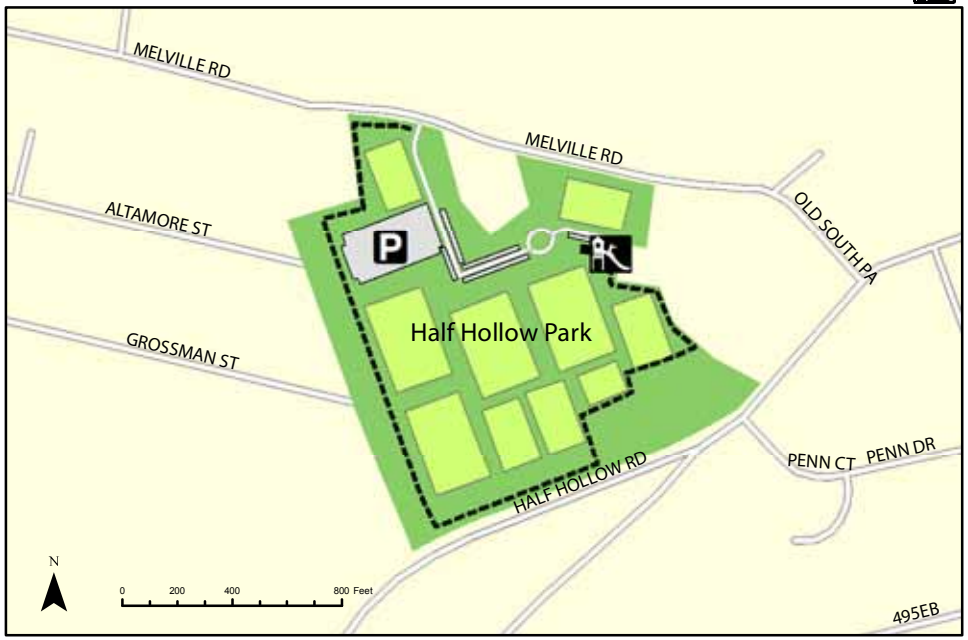
The 31-acre Half Hollow Park was deeded to the Town in 2005 as a condition of rezoning for The Greens at Half Hollow. It was formerly a component of the New York State-owned Long Island Developmental Center property. Unlike most dedications that accompany requests for land use changes, this property was planned for active recreational use. The site has been developed primarily as a soccer park with ten fields, two of which are mini practice fields. A new playground and two bocce courts were installed in 2009, offering plenty of activities for a variety of ages. The one-mile trail is a simple open perimeter pathway that follows the park's boundary. The site lies within the West Hills-Melville Special Groundwater Protection Area, and helps recharge the underlying aquifer, the source of Long Island's drinking water.

You May See:
American Linden, Japanese Zelkova, Red Maple

American Crow, American Robin, Barn Swallow, Blue Jay, Common Grackle, European Starling, Tree Swallow



Other Park Amenities
Bocce Courts, Concession Building/Restrooms, Playground, Soccer Fields



Location: Old South Path and Half Hollow Rd in Melville

Terrain: Flat | **Length:** 1.0 mi | **Parking:** In Park | **Type:** Loop
Surface: Wood chips | **Acreage:** 34 | **Trailhead:** 40.790114, -73.394650

West Hills County Park

West Hills County Park is located on the Ronkonkoma Moraine, which has steep slopes with thin soils over sand and rocks. There are many miles of beautiful, hilly hiking and bridle trails. However, bikes are not permitted in this park. The 800+ acre park is separated into sections, divided by Sweet Hollow Road, High Hold Drive, and the Northern State Parkway.

The Walt Whitman Trail, in the eastern section of the park, leads hikers up to Jayne's Hill, the highest natural point on Long Island (400.9 feet), which was named after the prominent pioneer family. A stone marker identifies the hill.

Much of the western section was once "Highhold," the estate of Henry Stimson. Stimson served in five presidential administrations between 1911 and 1945, including serving as Secretary of War during World War II. It was on this property that Stimson famously hosted the "Highhold Games," which included grand fox hunts, and Teddy Roosevelt would hike all the way from Sagamore Hill for visits with the Stimsons. After Mrs. Stimson died, the property was sold to the New York City Boy Scouts, which used it as a camp for many years. Scouts and other groups continue to camp in West Hills Park today. The campground is only open to organized youth groups.

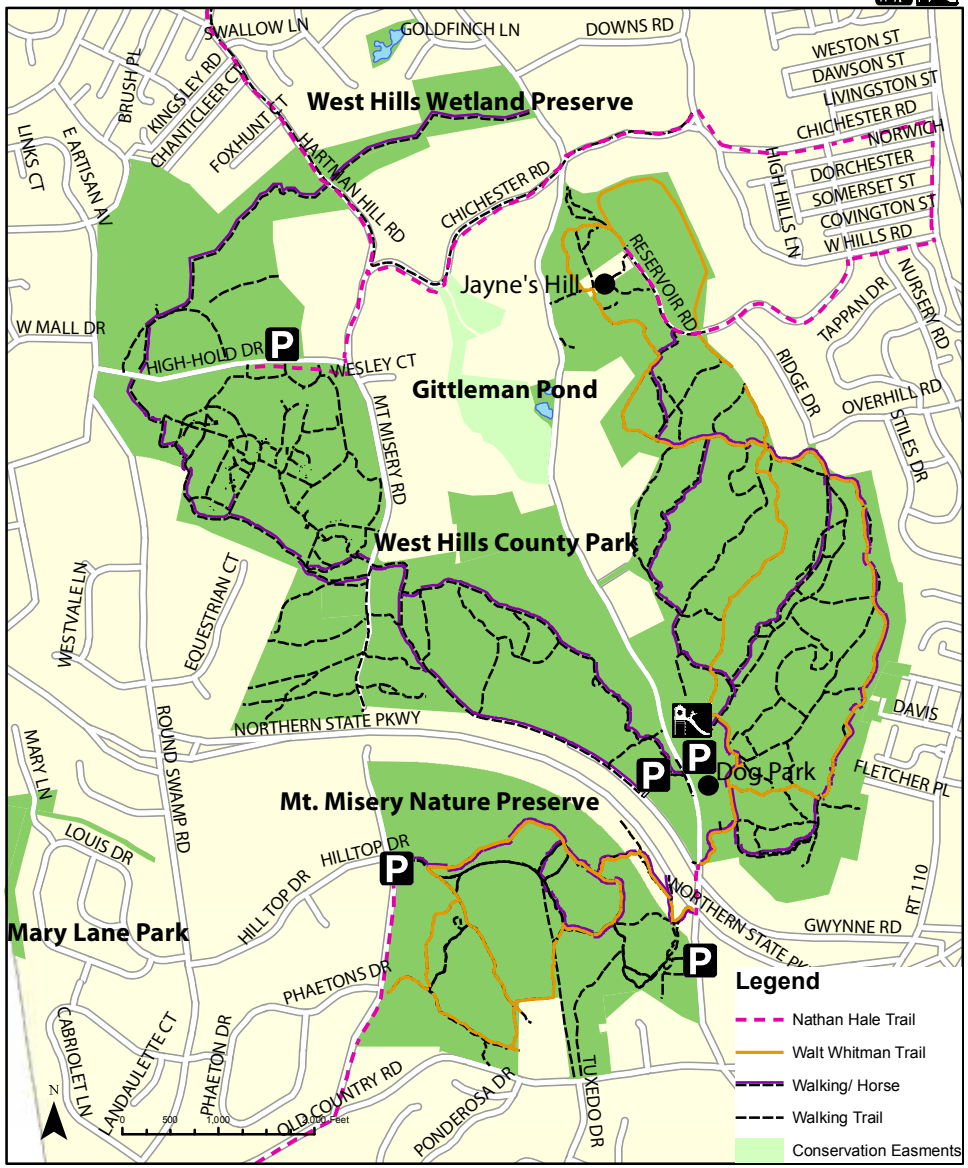
The park offers many amenities. The stables in the park offer riding lessons and trail rides. There is a playground, a picnic area with charcoal grills, and a dog run.

You May See:
American Chestnut, Black Birch, Black Oak, Bracken Fern, Huckleberry, Mapleleaf Viburnum, Mountain Laurel, Pignut Hickory, Red Oak, Sassafras, Staghorn Sumac, Witch-Hazel.

American Robin, Baltimore Oriole, Black-capped Chickadee, Carolina Wren, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Screech Owl, Eastern Towhee, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Great Horned Owl, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Cardinal, Northern Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-eyed Vireo,Red-tailed Hawk, Song Sparrow, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Wood Thrush

Other Park Amenities
Dog Park, Playground, Scout Campground, Stables, Sweet Hollow Hall

Park patron says: "Going to the high point, just after the leaves fall, you can see Orient Point or Connecticut".



Location: Sweet Hollow Rd, South of Jericho Tpke in Huntington.

Terrain: Hilly | **Parking:** In Park | **Type:** Network
Surface: Ground | **Acreage:** 854 | **Trailhead:** 40.801458, -73.420707

West Hills South:

Mt. Misery Nature Preserve

The Mount Misery Nature Preserve is the much quieter and less visited portion of West Hills County Park, and is located on the south side of the Northern State Parkway. The main trail entrance is on Sweet Hollow Road, 500 feet south of the Northern State Parkway overpass. The trails in the preserve are steep and beautiful. Some trails pass through forests with canopies of Oak trees and an under story of low bush blueberry and huckleberry, while others traverse thick stands of pine trees. One can walk here all morning without seeing another person.

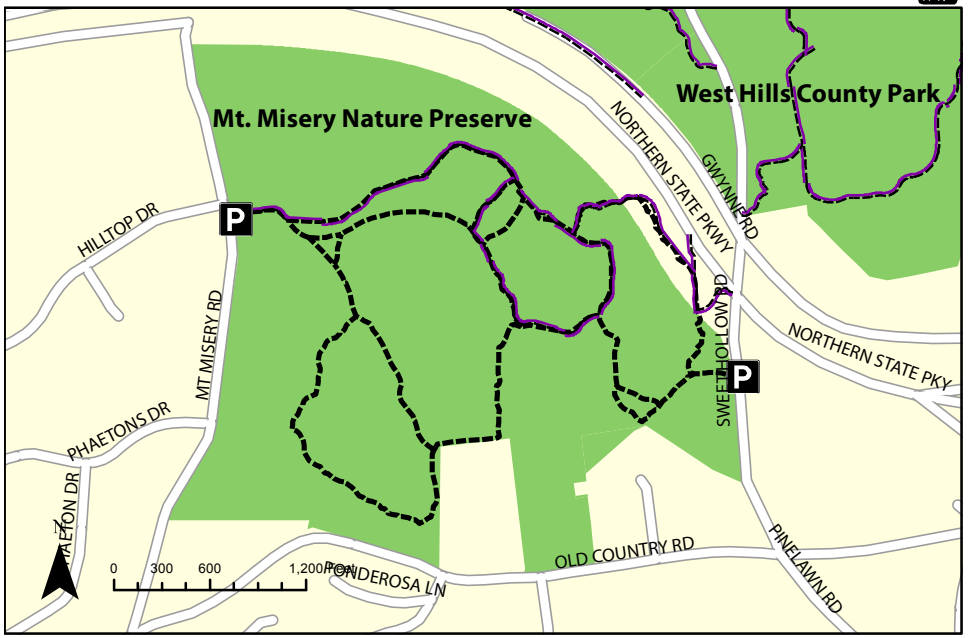
Unlike most of Long Island, this land was not suitable for farming and has been relatively uninhabited. However, the surrounding area did contain a small rural population. In 1829, the local residents formed and built the Sweet Hollow Presbyterian Church, which is directly adjacent to the park property, and can be seen from some of the trails. The oldest part of this building was originally located down the road, at the northwest corner of Sweet Hollow Rd and Old Country Road; it was moved to its current location in the 1970s.

There are countless local legends about ghosts and spirits haunting the woods of Mt. Misery, dating back to Native Americans and the first settlers, with stories and visions of fantastic creatures and strange lights in the skies over these woods. The most famous of these fantastic ghost tales is that of Hatchet Mary, a young woman who is said to have murdered her family with a hatchet and then to have taken her own life. According to the legend, following the gruesome murders, her house sank into the ground, leaving nothing but the chimney. Hatchet Mary's ghost is said to still haunt these woods today.

You May See:
American Chestnut, Black Cherry, Black Locust, Bracken Fern, Canada Mayflower, Mountain Laurel, New York Fern, Pink Lady's Slipper, Princess Pine, Red Cedar, Red Maple, Red Oak, Sassafras, Tulip Tree, Eastern White Pine, White Wood Aster, Wild Grape, Wild Sarsaparilla

American Robin, Black-capped Chickadee, Blue Jay, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Towhee, Northern Cardinal, Red-tailed Hawk | Eastern Chipmunk, Eastern Gray Squirrel,

Additional Information
Ghosts of Long Island,
by Kerriann Flanagan Brosky



Location: On Sweet Hollow and Mt. Misery Rds in Melville.

Terrain: Many hills | **Length:** 3.3 mi | **Parking:** Street | **Type:** Network
Surface: Ground, Sandy Bridle Paths | **Acreage:** 175 | **Trailhead:** 40.796077, -73.421463

Southeast Quad

DeForest Nature Park

Deforest Nature Park is a small but wonderful suburban oasis, with a quiet pond and diverse wetland vegetation. The trailhead is located on Buttonwood Drive, near the intersection with DeForest Road, and the trail loops around the small pond. There are several benches along the trail, allowing visitors to spend time observing the flora and fauna surrounding them. The Town of Huntington acquired the park in 1967 as the result of two subdivision set-asides.

You May See:
Black Birch, Black Walnut, Catbrier, Cattail, Crested Fern, Eastern Hemlock, Lady Fern, Pignut Hickory, Sassafras, Sensitive Fern, Sugar Maple, Water Dock, White Oak, White Wood Aster

American Crow, Blue Jay, Belted Kingfisher, Song Sparrow

Mouse, Raccoon, Eastern Gray Squirrel

Location: on the Northeast Corner of Buttonwood Dr near DeForest Rd in Dix Hills
Terrain: Flat | **Length:** 0.2 mi | **Parking:** Street | **Type:** Linear
Surface: Ground | **Acreage:** 11 | **Trailhead:** 40.816561, -73.323406

Dix Hills Park-

Woodland Trail

The hilly woodland trail at Dix Hills park has a history unknown to many of its users. The Town obtained the original park acreage from the Havemeyer family as a result of a 1962 townwide public park referendum. Robert J. Flynn Memorial Drive, the park's main roadway, is dedicated in honor of the former Town Supervisor who lead the expansion of Huntington's park program at that time. More property was added to the park in 1982. This land was a component of the former Kalbfleisch Field Research Station of the American Museum of Natural History, where scientists studied and published information on the area's flora and fauna. The trail, which loops around the park's borders, allows visitors to forget their suburban surroundings and enjoy the Town's history and wildlife.

You May See:
American Chestnut, Black Birch, Eastern White Pine, Lowbush Blueberry, Mountain Laurel, Pignut Hickory, Pitch Pine, Red Maple, Red Oak, Scarlet Oak, White Oak

American Crow, American Robin, Black-capped Chickadee, Blue Jay, Common Grackle, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Tufted Titmouse, Wood Thrush | Eastern Chipmunk, Eastern Cottontail, Eastern Gray Squirrel, Eastern Mole, Masked Shrew, Meadow Vole, Muskrat, Virginia Opossum | American Bullfrog, Eastern Box Turtle, Spring Peeper

Other Park Amenities
Adventure Camp, Fitness Trail, Golf Course and Driving Range, Ice Rink, Picnic Area, Playground, Swimming Pool

Educational Opportunities
Part of the woodland trail contains signs identifying and explaining the trail's common trees.

Location: north side Vanderbilt Parkway, East of Deer Park Ave in Dix Hills
Terrain: Hilly | **Length:** 1.9 mi | **Parking:** In Park | **Type:** Loop
Surface: Ground, Wood chips | **Acreage:** 160 | **Trailhead:** 40.816369, -73.327671

Dix Hills Park-

Fitness Trail

Also see Dix Hills Park- Woodland Trail. The Dix Hills fitness trail was installed in 2001 and was funded through the Huntington Environmental Open Space and Park Fund (EOSPA). It consists of 20 stations with equipment and guidance for specific exercise activities that stretch between the entrance parking area and the ice rink. The trail is located on the lawn along the east side of the park's main roadway, Robert J.Flynn Memorial Drive.

Stations Include
Balance Beam, Beam Jump and Beam Run, Chin-Up Bar, Isometric Squat, Leg Lift, Leg Stretch, Push-Up Bar, Sit-Up Platform, Steps

Park steward says: "The trails are great, a good workout in a quiet special place".

Location: on the North side of Vanderbilt Parkway, East of Deer Park Ave in Dix Hills
Terrain: Few hills | **Length:** 0.25 mi | **Parking:** In Park | **Type:** Linear
Surface: Lawn between stations, safety surface under equipment | **Acreage:** 160
Trailhead: 40.816369, -73.327880

Edgewood Oak Brush Plains Preserve

Edgewood Oak Brush Plains Preserve is located at the juncture of the towns of Huntington, Babylon, and Islip. Only a portion of the site is in Huntington. The site was once a psychiatric hospital and is located next to Pilgrim State Hospital. After Edgewood Hospital's closing, community members advocated for the preservation of the land. In 1987, the area was dedicated as a state nature and historic preserve, and the buildings were demolished. The preserve is now classified as the largest remnant of pitch pine-scrub oak barrens on Long Island, and the second largest in the State. While a majority of the preserve exists on the east side of Commack Road, a small section adjoins Otsego Park on the west side.

You May See:
Bigtooth Aspen, Pitch Pine, Scrub Oak, Sweetfern, Wild Indigo

American Goldfinch, American Redstart, American Woodcock, Common Yellowthroat, Eastern Bluebird, Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Towhee, Field Sparrow, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Gray Catbird, Great-horned Owl, Northern Cardinal, Orchard Oriole, Pine Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Red-eyed Vireo, Red-tailed Hawk, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Whip-poor-will, Yellow-billed Cuckoo | Checker Spot Butterfly | Garter Snake

Additional Information
Friends of Edgewood:
www.edgewoodpreserve.wordpress.com
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation:
www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7815.html

Park steward says: "A unique window into the past, offering views of how much of central Long Island looked more than 100 years ago, and home to a rich variety of native species".

Location: on Commack Rd, south of the Long Island Expressway
Terrain: Flat | **Length:** 5.5 mi | **Parking:** In park | **Type:** Loop | **Surface:** Ground, Paved
Acreage: 843 | **Fee:** Free with NYSDEC permit | **Trailhead:** 40.776387, -73.310100

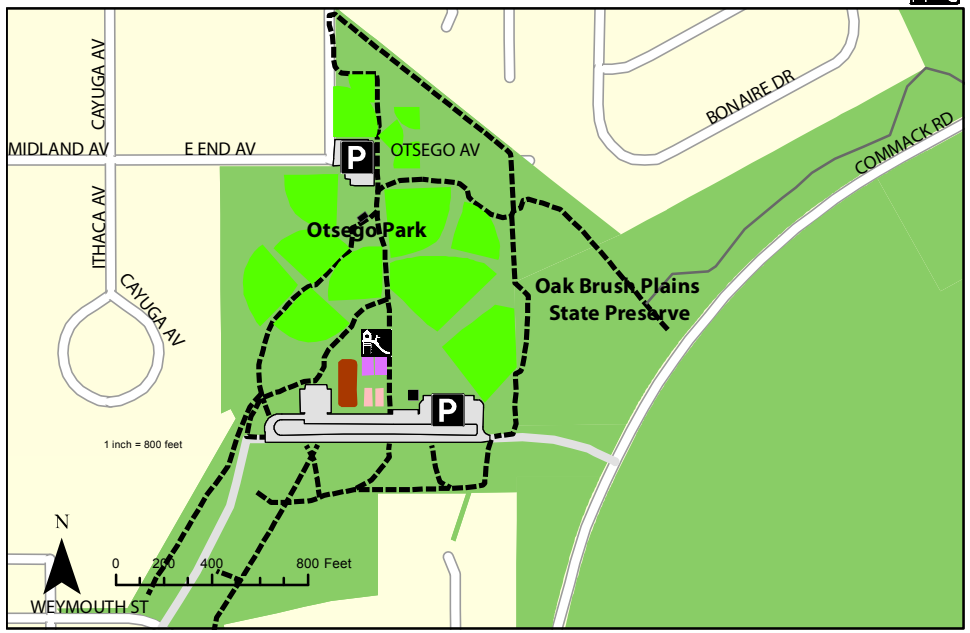
Otsego Park

Otsego Park is predominantly developed as a recreational site, containing four little league baseball fields, a tee-ball field, a softball field, a lighted regulation baseball field, two tennis courts, two basketball courts, a roller hockey rink, and a playground. However, this park also has a natural wooded area that serves as a buffer, separating neighboring homes from the active park. Within this natural area, visitors will find a number of short trails that wind through the edges of the park. Along these trails are pine trees, scrub oak, sweetfern, huckleberry, and blueberry bushes. There are also views of the adjacent Oak Brush Plains State Preserve, one of the few pine barren forests in the Town of Huntington. Otsego Park was created from an assemblage of properties dedicated as a result of several actions, including a subdivision set-aside, abandoned roadway segments, a transfer of density flow rights, and a land transfer from the State of New York.

You May See:
Bracken Fern, Chestnut Oak, Huckleberry, Lowbush Blueberry, Pink Lady's Slipper, Pitch Pine, Red Oak, Scrub Oak, Spotted Wintergreen, Sweetfern, White Oak

American Robin, Black-capped Chickadee, Dark-eyed Junco, Eastern Kingbird, European Starling, Mourning Dove, Northern Cardinal, Northern Flicker, Northern Mockingbird, Song Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow

Eastern Gray Squirrel, Eastern Cottontail, Raccoon



Location: On Commack Rd in Commack

Terrain: Flat | **Length:** 1 mi | **Parking:** | **Type:** Network
Surface: Ground and pavement| **Acreage:** 58 | **Trailhead:** 40.786517, -73.312827

Strathmore Park

Strathmore Park consists of 49 acres of woodland set aside as a result of a cluster subdivision. This park has interesting terrain including many hills, some with steep drop offs and valleys. In these areas you will see many kinds of ferns including large masses of Christmas Fern, which you can identify by its boot shaped leaves. You may also see large amounts of spicebush and other water loving plants in the valleys. Towards the west, the park becomes drier and has a much thinner understory. You can access the park from either Thorngrove Lane or park on Dooley Court and enter on Burrs Lane.

Ilegal ATV use has impacted some trails in this park. Recreational vehicles are strictly prohibited in Town parks with violations charged as misdemeanors.

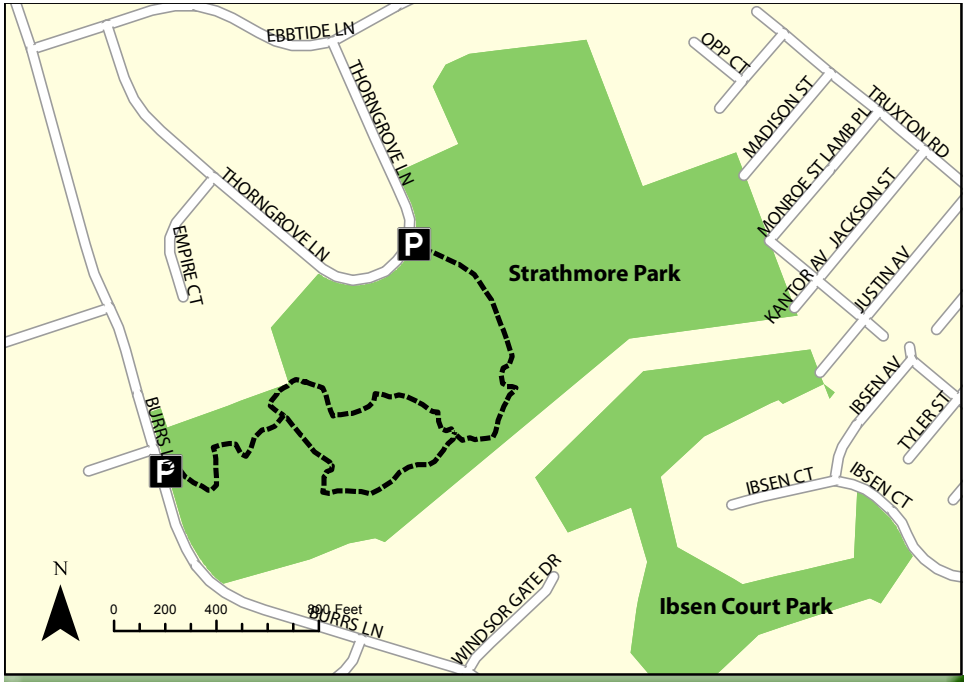
You May See:

American Holly, Black Birch, Black Cherry, Black Locust, Black Oak, Black Walnut, Canada Mayflower, Chestnut Oak, Eastern White Pine, Jewelweed, Lady Fern, Leyland Cypress, Mountain Laurel, Mulberry, Pignut Hickory, Pyrola, Raspberry, Red Maple, Red Oak, Sassafras, Skunk Cabbage, Spicebush, Spotted Wintergreen, White Oak, Witch Hazel, Yew

Black-capped Chickadee, Blue Jay, Brown Thrasher, Common Grackle, Gray Catbird, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Eastern Chipmunk, Eastern Gray Squirrel

Location: On Thorngrove Lane off Burrs Lane in Dix Hills
Terrain: Some hills | **Length:** 1 mi | **Parking:** Street | **Type:** Loop
Surface: Ground | **Acreage:** 53 | **Trailhead:** 40.778208, -73.358804



Featured Organizations

While the trails in this guide provide an opportunity for independent exploration, a number of local organizations provide group excursions for your enjoyment.

CLIMB - Mountain Bicycling

Concerned Long Island Mountain Bicyclists (CLIMB) is a non-profit advocacy organization that is committed to the development and safety of mountain bicycling. CLIMB constructs and maintains mountain bicycling trails throughout Long Island. Learn more about CLIMB at www.climbonline.org, where you can find detailed maps and extensive information about CLIMB maintained trails and the organization.

Long Island Greenbelt Trail Conference - Hiking

The Long Island Greenbelt Trail Conference (LIGTC) is a non-profit organization that has created over 200 miles of hiking trails and leads over 200 free guided hikes each year. Learn more about LIGTC at www.ligreenbelt.org, where you can find information about their trails and guided tours throughout Long Island.

Nassau-Suffolk Horseman's Association - Equestrian Trails

The Nassau-Suffolk Horseman's Association (NSHA) is a non-profit organization committed to promoting humane equestrian practices and representing the concerns of riders on Long Island. They are also dedicated to maintaining the environment and open space for the advancement of horse-related activities on Long Island. To learn more about NSHA go to www.nshaonline.org.

New York State DOT Long Island Bikeways and Trailways Guide

Recently, the New York State DOT created a biking and hiking guide to Long Island. The guide features a number of trails in Huntington, including the Walt Whitman hiking trail around West Hills County Park, the route 25A bicycle trail, Caumsett State Park, and other state trails throughout the town. For more information about state bikeways and trailways go to http://www.dot.ny.gov/bicycle.

Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society

The Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society is the local chapter of National Audubon Society serving all of Huntington and parts of Oyster Bay. They work to protect birds and wildlife and their habitats through education, public advocacy and conservation. Visit their website, http://www.huntingtonaudubon.org, to learn more about the organization and find upcoming programs including volunteer and field trip opportunities.

Huntington Conservation Board

The Huntington Conservation Board is a Town Board-appointed volunteer advisory organization. The Conservation Board reviews and provides comments to the Town Board, Planning Board, Board of Trustees, and Zoning Board of Appeals on applications for land use change that have potential to affect Open Space Index-mapped property. The Conservation Board reviews Marine Conservation Law applications. In addition to its advisory review functions, the Conservation Board serves as a vital conduit for conveying environmental information on key topic areas (land use and review, marine and freshwater resources, parks, solid waste, and legislation) to Town leaders. The Conservation Board coordinates the successful Park Stewardship Program with over 220 volunteer stewards appointed to date.

Become a Park Steward!

If you live near a park or visit one periodically, you may be a perfect candidate for the Town of Huntington Park Stewardship Program. Park Stewards are a vital Town Board-appointed volunteer force of concerned citizens serve as the "eyes, ears, and mouths" of our parks. Their input helps the Town monitor its park inventory and keep up with needed maintenance tasks.

The Conservation Board hosts park steward meetings twice a year, in the spring and fall, to offer guest presentations, an opportunity to raise questions and concerns with Town staff, and to enable the sharing of information and ideas. Stewards fill out and submit park inspection forms at least twice a year. The Conservation Board routes the information submitted to the appropriate department for response. Please call Joy Squires, Chair (351-3398) for a program brochure or for further information.

Nominate a Project for EOSPA Funding

You can make a difference. If you have a suggestion to share, let the Town know. Nominations are reviewed on a continuous basis for acquisition of open space, park improvements, neighborhood enhancements, and green energy projects in the Town of Huntington. To submit a nomination, complete the form found in the Department of Planning and Environment section on the Town website or contact the Environmental Open Space and Park Improvement (EOSPA) Committee (351-3398) or Open Space Coordinator (351-3196).

E - Represents a park funded by EOSPA

Huntington Greenway Trails

The Huntington Greenway Trails Advisory Committee is comprised of volunteers that represent major trail users groups and interests, particularly hikers, runners, bicyclists, equestrians, and conservationists. Their charge is defined in Section 159-17 of the Town Code, and they support trail identification, mapping, planning and programming. The Committee serves in an advisory role to facilitate appreciation of the parkland assemblage in the Town of Huntington by providing greater opportunities for recreational use and access.

The Huntington Greenway Trails Citizens Advisory Committee meets with and assists town departmental staff in mapping trails (courses, distances, features, difficulty), marking trails, defining trail uses/designations, leading hikes, monitoring trails for maintenance purposes, and creating a trails plan and Town Trails Map. Their first Huntington Trails Guide was published in 2009 and featured 22 trails at 20 park sites in the Town of Huntington. It was drafted with the assistance of summer interns and became the honored recipient of the New York Association of Conservation Commissions' Education Award at the 2009 Conference on the Environment.

Credits

Designed by David Kaufman,
Elana Israel and Zachary Bergson

Department of Planning and Environment, Town of Huntington

Supported by the Huntington Greenway Trails Citizens Advisory Committee

Chairperson: Laura McKellar, Huntington Conservation Board
Barbara Haerter: Environmental Open Space (EOSPA) Committee
Bill Fleming: Northport Runners Club
Bruce Howe: Concerned Long Island Mountain Bicyclists (CLIMB)
Denis Byrne: Long Island Motor Parkway Trail Association
Laurie Farber: Starflower Experiences, Inc.
Lynn Geisler: Huntington Trails Association
Marvin Glassmann: Nassau-Suffolk Horsemen's Association
Simone DaRos: Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society

Huntington Greenway Trails

And by the Department of Planning and Environment, GIS, Citizen Services and the Huntington Conservation Board

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Notes