

Welcome to Minnetonka's Parks and Trails

Minnetonka's natural resources are its distinguishing feature, and the one feature of the city residents cherish most. From the headwaters of Minnehaha Creek to the many wetlands and forested areas, Minnetonka provides an oasis of natural beauty amid a major metropolitan area. More than 20 percent of the city's land area is wetlands and lakes, with more than 400 acres of maintained parkland in 50 parks; 33 miles of trails; and 1,000 acres of natural public open spaces.

Minnetonka Trail System

The trail system connects all of Minnetonka's cultural and commercial activity centers and many of those in adjoining communities. It also directly connects to several regional amenities including transit facilities, Bryant Lake Regional Park, and the Three Rivers Park District's combined 27-mile Lake Minnetonka and Minnesota River Bluffs LRT Trails (formerly the Southwest Regional LRT Trails). Nearby French Regional Park and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' Luce Line Trail are readily accessible via adjoining community trails.

Trails are located off road wherever possible and follow the city's three major creek corridors: Minnehaha, Nine Mile and Purgatory. The trails wind through many city parks and natural open space areas, providing access to wetlands, lakes, marshes and woodlands. Users of the trail system experience much of the natural environment characteristic of Minnetonka.



Throughout the height of the season, trails are patrolled regularly by Minnetonka Police Department personnel on bicycle and in special police vehicles. In addition, Three Rivers Park District rangers patrol the Three Rivers LRT Trails from April through November.

Trail Facilities

Restrooms and drinking fountains are available at each of the five community parks - Civic Center, Meadow and Purgatory (all year), and Lone Lake and Big Willow (seasonally).

Terrain and Traffic

Trails are usually eight feet wide and provide ample room for two-way traffic. Surfaces are either compacted crushed limestone or asphalt, depending on the area and terrain. At some uncontrolled intersections

with major roadways, the trail will cross the road via a pedestrian underpass or overpass to minimize conflicts with traffic. For your safety, yield to motor vehicles at intersections and obey all traffic signs and basic rules of the road.

Trail Maintenance

Much of the trail system is plowed during the winter months, making it usable throughout the year. Cross-country skiing and snowmobiling are not allowed.

For full details and updated park and trail regulations, visit www.eminnetonka.com or call Minnetonka Public Works at (952) 988-8400

Oopsy. Poopsy.

Dog poop. It's a serious health problem. Why? Because it contains disease-carrying bacteria that can make people sick and pollute our waters. And because there are more than 49,000 people in Minnetonka, many of them dog owners. Do the math. Then do this. Pick up after your pooch. Remind your neighbors to pick up after theirs. Good manners, great health policy. Your dog can't help it. But you can.

Ad text courtesy of the California State Water Resources Control Board.



Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA Challenge)

This information is provided to allow users to determine for themselves whether or not to use certain identified trail segments. Generally, the trail system meets the "easy" challenge level guidelines for trail grade, steepness or cross slope. The guidelines for "easy" are 0 to 5% sustained slope, with a maximum grade of up to 10% over 50 feet. The 11 segments listed below are identified on the trail system map.

1. Hilloway Park: Steep hill, south end of the park at Sylvan Road
2. Meadow Park-Westernesse/Cherrywood Neighborhood Access: Steep hill entering park off Cherrywood Drive
3. Stone Road, 0.2 mile west of Oakland Road: Two short, steep hills
4. I-494, north of Stone Road: Several long, sustained moderate-level slopes
5. Headwaters: Steep hill from Crosby Cove: trail transitions to 6' wide boardwalk
6. Jidana: Trail transitions to 6' wide boardwalk
7. Hwy. 7 Tunnel: Undersized tunnel, icy or wet conditions in winter and spring: two short but steep slopes immediately south and west of tunnel
8. Library, Excelsior Blvd. and Hwy. 101: Short, steep hill, east of library parking lot
9. Purgatory Park: Several steep hills within the park loop
10. Purgatory Park: Steep hill on segment from park loop south to Townline Road
11. Lone Lake Park: Several steep hills east and west of lake

Note: Some trails in neighborhood parks or elements of the supporting system of walkways on roads or on road trails may also provide greater challenge. Call the (952) 988-8400 information line for specific conditions.

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Minnetonka Parks

Recreational opportunities for youth and adults are available in Minnetonka's Park System year round, including programs and activities and non-programmed activities. These include picnicking, canoeing, fishing, skating, swimming and play equipment.

Individual amenities vary from park to park. Please check the Park Facilities Chart (flipside) for a complete list of amenities at each park. Handicap accessible play equipment is available at 16 parks.

Other Facilities:

- Memberships are available at the city-owned Williston Center, a fitness and exercise facility.
- The Lindbergh Center, a joint activity center built by the city of Minnetonka and the Hopkins School District, is used by the school district for after-school activities and sporting events and by Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Services on evenings and weekends.
- Three Rivers Park District operates the Glen Lake Golf and Practice Center, located at Townline Road and Glen Lake Boulevard.



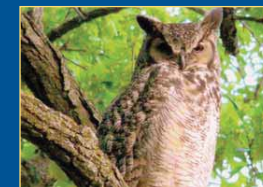
Trail Glossary

Inter-city connections are connections to developed trail systems in the cities of Deephaven, Eden Prairie, Hopkins, St. Louis Park, Plymouth, Shorewood and Wayzata. Trail users may also connect to the DNR's Luce Line Trail and Three Rivers Park District's Southwest Regional LRT Trail, Carver Park Reserve, Bryant Lake and French Regional Parks.

Neighborhood connections are short trail segments connecting residential neighborhoods to the main trail system.

On-Road Trails (Ped-Bike Lanes) are paved shoulders along busier streets where a solid white line separates pedestrians from vehicle traffic.

Off-Road Trails are either crushed trail rock or concrete/asphalt pavement paths adjacent to some roads.



Big Willow Park ★

Located between Minnetonka Boulevard and Cedar Lake Road, just west of the Minnetonka Public Works facility, Big Willow Park's 95 acres makes it the smallest of the city's five community parks. Big Willow's enticing features include views of Minnehaha Creek, expansive open spaces and extensive trails along with community athletic fields, a play area and a canoe launch.

Civic Center Park ★

Located in the center of the city, just north of Minnetonka City Hall, the Civic Center Park's 146 acres features a soccer field, play equipment, trails, canoe launch on Minnehaha Creek and an outdoor amphitheatre.

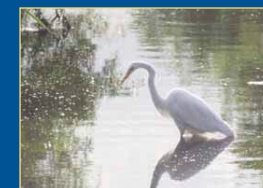
Meadow Park ★

Located in north central Minnetonka, Meadow Park is a large 110-acre community park, with the majority of the site dedicated to natural areas. Trails crisscross the park through the natural areas and wetlands. The park boasts many amenities, from a tot lot and play equipment to tennis and basketball courts and two all-season hockey rinks.



Lone Lake Park ★

Located in south east Minnetonka, Lone Lake Park is a large 146-acre community park, offering a large natural area along with community park features: soccer fields; tennis, horseshoe and basketball courts; tot play area; picnic shelter and open picnic areas; dock; and 1.7 miles of trails. This area was formerly used as a small ski area, so there are lots of great hills.



Purgatory Park ★

Located in the southwest corner of Minnetonka, Purgatory Park's 155 acres makes it the largest of the city's five community parks, with views of Purgatory Creek, expansive open spaces and extensive trails. A 1.2 mile trail loop that starts at the parking lot offers scenic views of the various ecological areas of the park, including wetlands, woodlands and prairies.

Regulations for City of Minnetonka Trails

- Maximum speed limit is 15 miles per hour. Bikers are encouraged to wear helmets.
- When overtaking fellow trail users, warn them with a bell, whistle or horn, and say "Passing on your left" or "Passing." Pass in a single-file line.
- Bikers must yield to pedestrians.
- You must pick up droppings from your dog. Plastic bags are provided in dispensers.
- Dogs must be on close leash.
- Obey all traffic signs and basic rules of the road.
- Stay on improved part of the trail. No stopping or loitering.
- Horses and motorized vehicles (except handicapped) are prohibited.
- Trails open at 5 a.m. and close at 10 p.m.

