

Mill Creek Park

OVERVIEW

Mill Creek Park, the largest area of the MetroParks, encompasses more than 2,900 acres. Visitors can enjoy a wide range of activities and sites throughout these diverse lands. Take a leisurely walk through a magnificent formal gardens and visitor center, tour a historic grist mill, participate in classes and special events, view natural habitats with abundant wildlife, schedule a trolley tour, or just enjoy the many scenic vistas. Recreational opportunities include hiking, biking, boating, fishing, golfing, tennis, volleyball, picnicking, cross country skiing, sledding, and much more.

Mill Creek, the creek which flows through the Park, begins at a spring 17.5 miles south of Youngstown in Columbiana County and flows north, growing in capacity and supplying water to three lakes. The Park extends along the Mill Creek Valley from Western Reserve Road to the confluence of Mill Creek and the Mahoning River.

Trails

Mill Creek Park offers 20 miles of drives and 15 miles of foot trails. Below is a listing of hard-surfaced, barrier-free trails in Mill Creek Park. The MetroParks offers trails at many regional facilities as well as organized hikes and walks. Visit our website to view a complete list of hiking trails and programs.

EAST GOLF HIKE & BIKE TRAIL

The 1.5-mile East Golf Hike & Bike Trail is closed to motorized traffic and runs from Route 224 to Shields Road. This popular trail provides an asphalt surface for joggers, walkers, bikers, skaters, and cross country skiers in the winter. Parking lots are located at each end of the trail and a pedestrian bridge across Mill Creek connects the trail with Golf Course amenities and additional parking. Restrooms, a drinking fountain, and an information kiosk are located along the trail.

EAST COHASSET HIKE & BIKE TRAIL

This 1.5-mile asphalt surface drive is closed to motorized traffic and provides joggers, walkers, and bikers with a scenic route above Lake Cohasset.

ALBERT E. DAVIES WETLAND TRAIL

This .25-mile boardwalk leads visitors through the Newport Wetlands to an observation deck overlooking several deep water pools. Interpretive signs are located along this trail.

VIRGINIA J. AXTMANN NATURE TRAIL FOR ALL PEOPLE

Located adjacent to the Ford Nature Center, this barrier-free .25-mile asphalt trail winds through a forested area.

EAST NEWPORT HIKE & BIKE TRAIL

This one-way road is open to motorized traffic and has a 1.75-mile designated hike/bike lane. Views of Lake Newport, Newport Wetlands, and Daffodil Meadow will be enjoyed along this trail.

OLD MILL HIKE & BIKE TRAIL

This one-way road is open to motorized traffic and has a 2.5-mile designated hike/bike lane along Old Mill Dr. overlooking Mill Creek Gorge and connecting to Lanterman's Mill.

Water Features

LILY POND

Migrating waterfowl and resident goldfish have made this three-acre pond a popular site since 1896. The Lily Pond Circle Trail loops around the pond.

LAKE GLACIER

Boating and fishing are permitted in season on this 37-acre lake. Kayaks and pedal boats are available to rent at Glacier Boathouse. A passenger boat is available for individual rides and group reservations. A barrier-free fishing dock is located along West Glacier Drive. Access to Old Tree Trail and East Glacier Trail.

LAKE COHASSET

This 18-acre lake is known for its stately hemlocks and offers visitors a secluded area to view wildlife. Boating and fishing are not permitted. Access to West and East Cohasset Trails.

LAKE NEWPORT & WETLANDS

Lake Newport offers 50 acres of open water and 40 acres of wetlands. Boating and fishing are permitted in season. A boat launch is located on East Newport Drive. Kayaks and pedal boats are available to rent at Newport Boathouse. Access to hiking trails.

Located at the southern end of the lake, the Newport Wetlands provide habitat for a variety of plants and animals. Access to the Albert E. Davies Wetland Trail.

Facilities

FELLOWS RIVERSIDE GARDENS

Fellows Riverside Gardens is one of Ohio's finest public gardens and attracts more than 400,000 visitors a year. Located at the northern end of Mill Creek Park, this 12-acre display garden features a landscape of remarkable beauty with diverse and colorful plant displays, roses of all classes, seasonal displays of annuals, perennials, flowering bulbs, and scenic vistas. Fellows Riverside Gardens is more than a collection of plants — it is a collection of services offered to the public. Tours, gardening courses, and volunteer opportunities are available. The Gazebo and the Kidston Pavilion can be reserved for outdoor ceremonies.

D.D. AND VELMA DAVIS EDUCATION & VISITOR CENTER

This magnificent facility is located in Fellows Riverside Gardens and includes meeting and exhibit spaces, classrooms, a gallery, an auditorium, a horticultural library, a museum, an observation tower, the Garden Café and outdoor terrace, and Shop in the Gardens. Classes and tours are offered. Facilities are available for receptions, meetings, and events.

FORD NATURE CENTER

This historic stone home, donated in 1968 by the children of the late Judge John W. Ford, was opened to the public in 1972 as the headquarters for the MetroParks' nature education programs. Ford Nature Center houses exhibit rooms, a classroom, offices for naturalists and recreation staff, the Vickers Memorial Library, the Teachers' Resource Center, and a gift shop. The grounds include wildlife gardens and walking trails. Group tours and guided nature walks are offered. Access to the Virginia J. Axtmann Nature Trail For All People.

MILL CREEK GOLF COURSE

Designed by golf course architect Donald Ross, Mill Creek Golf Course opened in 1928 and features two 18-hole championship courses. Both courses are par 70 with four sets of tees, stretching from 5095 yards to 6511 yards. The Practice Range & Learning Center is a state of the art facility and features eight targeted greens at varying distances. High quality practice balls, synthetic mats and grass tees gives golfers valuable practice time. Golf lessons, clinics, and camps are available to golfers of all ages and skill levels. The historic Fieldhouse opened in 1929 and now houses a golf shop and grille room. The Golf Course is used for cross country skiing in the winter.

JAMES L. WICK, JR. RECREATION AREA

This 65-acre facility includes the Julianna Kurinka Children's Play Area, picnic areas, an 18-hole Par 3 Golf Course, softball and baseball diamonds, sports fields, tennis and sand volleyball courts, batting cages, a sledding hill with warming house, and Bresko Pavilion available seasonally to rent. Also located in this area is the Judge Leo P. Morley Performing Arts Pavilion, home to the MetroParks' summer concert series.

VOLNEY ROGERS FIELD

Mill Creek Park's first recreational site offers a playground, tennis and basketball courts, softball and baseball diamonds, football fields, and a shelter house.

WALTER H. SCHOLL RECREATION AREA

This facility offers a children's playground with spray pool, tennis and basketball courts, softball diamonds, picnic areas, and a picnic pavilion available seasonally to rent. Access to Cascade Ravine Trail.

Historic Sites

LANTERMAN'S MILL AND COVERED BRIDGE

One of Mahoning County's most recognized historic landmarks, Lanterman's Mill was built in 1845-46 by German Lanterman and Samuel Kimbrey. Restored in 1982-85 through a gift from the Ward and Florence Beecher Foundations, this community treasure operates today as it did in the 1800s, grinding corn, wheat, and buckwheat. Facilities include an observation deck, covered bridge, and gift shop. Lanterman's Mill is open seasonally.

Designed in the style of an earlier bridge from the 19th century, the Covered Bridge crosses Mill Creek just south of Lanterman's Mill. The nearby East Gorge Boardwalk and West Gorge Trail offer a dramatic peek into the area's geologic history.

OLD LOG CABIN

Originally located in the Bears Den area, the Old Log Cabin was built by Camden Cleveland around 1816. Moved to its present site around 1863, the cabin was remodeled for party use in 1934 and is available for rental.

PIONEER PAVILION AND MILL CREEK FURNACE

Pioneer Pavilion, one of the oldest structures in Youngstown, is a rare surviving example of early nineteenth-century industry. Constructed in 1821, this sandstone building served as a mill for carding and fulling wool. The building was later used as a storeroom for the nearby Mill Creek Furnace, then remodeled for party use in 1893. Pioneer Pavilion is available for rental.

The Mill Creek Furnace, constructed in the late 1820s or early 1830s, was the first blast furnace in Youngstown. The furnace went out of blast in the late 1840s. An archaeological dig was conducted through Youngstown State University in 2003 to reveal this historic structure.

VOLNEY ROGERS MONUMENT

Dedicated on October 12, 1920 to the memory of Mill Creek Park founder Volney Rogers, this 8-foot bronze statue was created by nationally renowned sculptor Frederick Habbard. Construction of the monument was funded by donations from Youngstown citizens and local schoolchildren. The inscription on the marble base reads, "This park was conceived in his heart and realized through his devotion."

Preservation Areas

HITCHCOCK WOODS

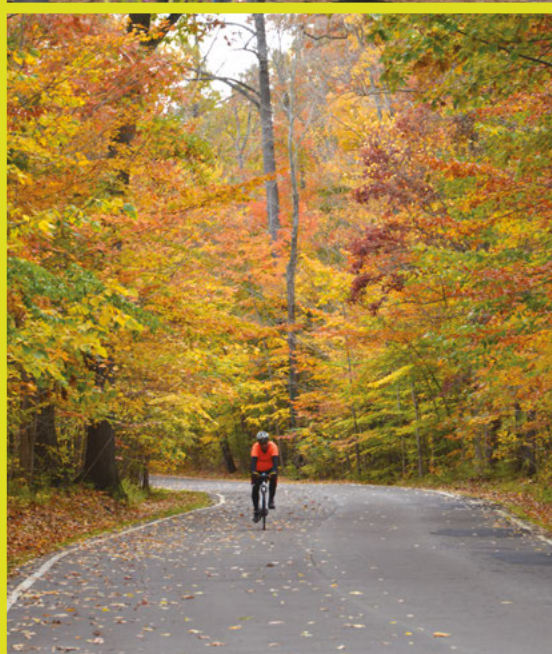
This property includes dense woods and extensive wetlands surrounding Mill Creek, providing habitat for wildlife within a suburban area. This vast woodland area is undeveloped except for primitive trails.

COLLIER PRESERVE

This 302-acre preserve acquired with Clean Ohio and WWRSP grant funds extends Mill Creek Park to Western Reserve Road and features a large, high quality wetland complex and a 50-acre wetland restoration area with nearly seven miles of trails.

MILL CREEK WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

This unique property was acquired with grant funds in 2005 and 2021 and consists of 482 acres of diverse wetland and upland habitats. It provides habitat for a vast array of wildlife and plant species, many of which are rare or threatened. Access to this facility is limited to MetroParks educational programs; however, an elevated observation platform is open to the public and provides visitors with panoramic views of the property.



Fellows Riverside Gardens

Cohasset Express Trolley

A winter hike

Ford Nature Center

Kayaking on Lake Newport

Children's Play Area at Wick Recreation Area

Autumn in Mill Creek Park

Kidston Pavilion in Fellows Riverside Gardens

Mill Creek Golf Course

Sled Hill at Wick Recreation Area

Covered Bridge

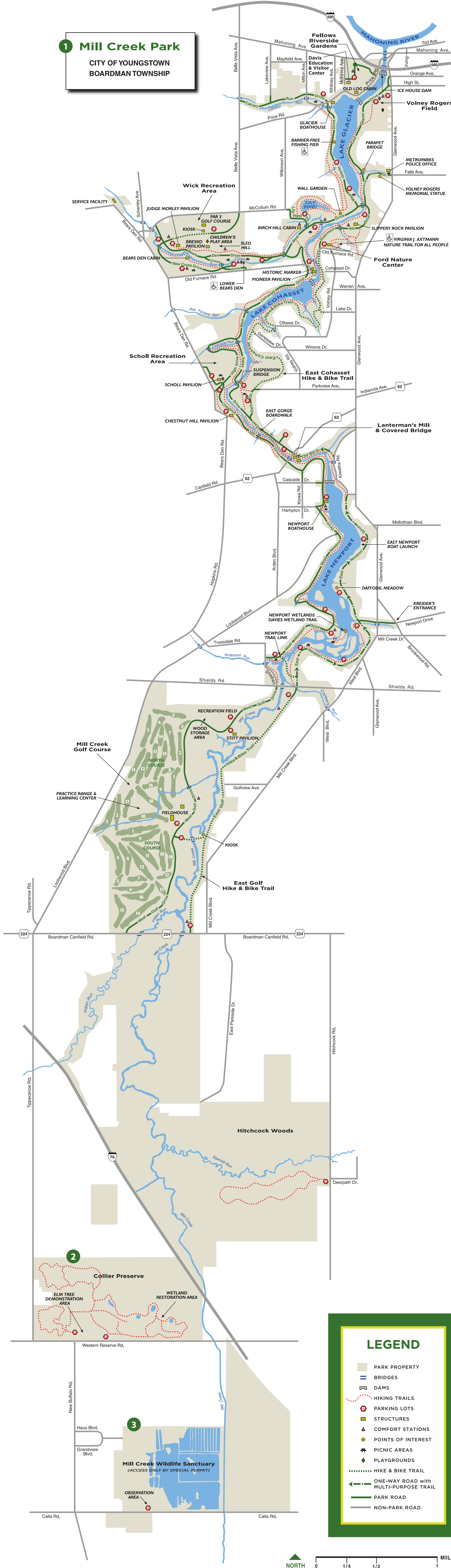
Volney Rogers Monument

Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary

Bird Watching & Wildlife Viewing

1 Mill Creek Park

CITY OF YOUNGSTOWN BOARDMAN TOWNSHIP



Other Points of Interest

SUSPENSION BRIDGE • PARAPET BRIDGE
WALL GARDEN • DAFFODIL MEADOW



NORTH 0 1/4 1/2 1 MILE

Mill Creek MetroParks

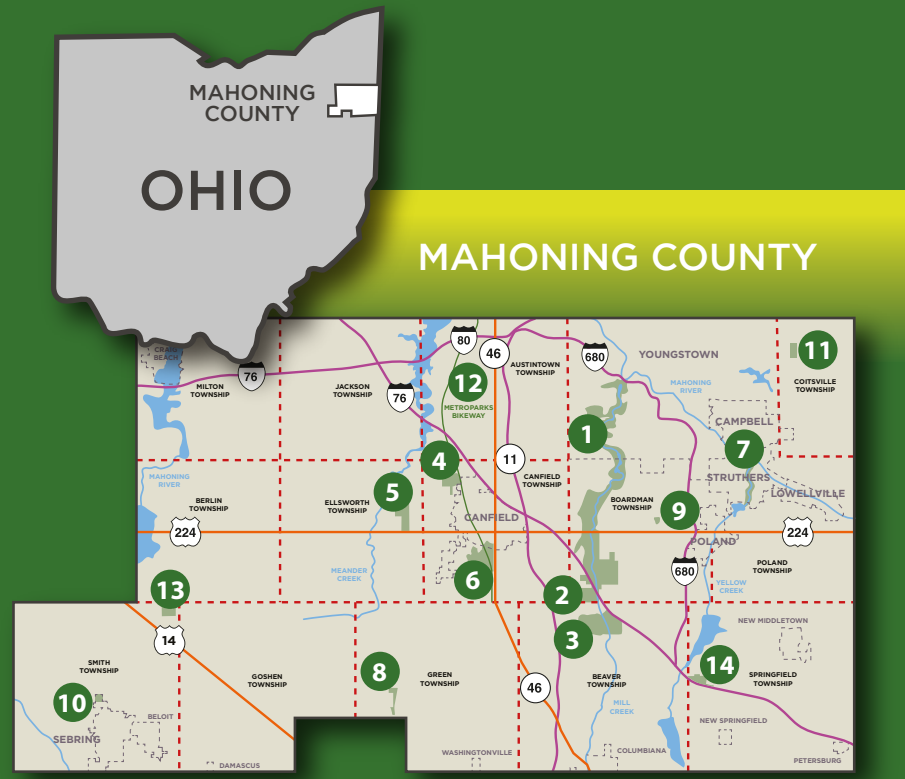
YOUR METROPARKS
Mill Creek Park was established in 1891 by Volney Rogers as the first park district in Ohio. In 2000, Volney Rogers was inducted posthumously into Ohio's Natural Resources Hall of Fame for his principal role in establishing Ohio's park districts.

Since converting to a metropolitan park district in 1989, Mill Creek MetroParks' mission has been to provide park, recreational, educational, and open space facilities of regional significance throughout Mahoning County.

Residents and visitors from across the nation and around the world can now enjoy more than 5,000 acres of public lands and facilities in nine townships and four cities. Mill Creek MetroParks offers endless ways to spend an afternoon, a day, or a lifetime exploring the secrets of nature and experiencing the rewards of healthy activities with family and friends.



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1. MILL CREEK PARK
2. COLLIER PRESERVE
3. MILL CREEK WILDLIFE SANCTUARY
4. SAWMILL CREEK PRESERVE
5. VICKERS NATURE PRESERVE
6. METROPARKS FARM/METROPARKS ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
7. YELLOW CREEK PARK
8. EGYPT SWAMP PRESERVE
9. CRANBERRY RUN HEADWATERS
10. SEBRING WOODS
11. MCGUFFEY WILDLIFE PRESERVE
12. METROPARKS BIKEWAY
13. HAWKINS MARSH
14. SPRINGFIELD FOREST

Regional Facilities

- 4 SAWMILL CREEK PRESERVE**
Acquired in 2002 through a grant from the Ohio EPA, this 154-acre forested preserve serves a critical function in the natural environment by filtering and trapping sediments from entering Sawmill Creek, a tributary to Meander Reservoir. This forested stream ecosystem also provides habitat for diverse species of wildlife. No public access.
- 5 VICKERS NATURE PRESERVE**
This 252-acre preserve, acquired in 1993, is located on Route 224 in Ellsworth Township. The property includes diverse habitats such as meadows, woods, wetlands, and ponds. Parking is available; provides facilities to enhance the experience of the equine enthusiast and nature explorer. Over seven miles of hiking and equestrian trails are open to the public.
- 6 METROPARKS FARM/METROPARKS ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**
This 405-acre working farm, located on Route 46 in Canfield Township, promotes agriculture through educational programming. Facilities include classrooms, farm animal barns, a children's playroom, a hands-on activity barn, and McMahon Hall, a multipurpose hall available for rental. Contact the MetroParks Farm for educational opportunities, farm tours, and facility hours. Mill Creek MetroParks Administrative Office is at this location. Access to MetroParks Bikeway Trailhead, Disc Golf Courses, fishing ponds, and trails.
- 7 YELLOW CREEK PARK**
This 76-acre gorge area of Yellow Creek is located in Struthers on Lowellville Road. The park offers trails, a playground, picnic facilities, and tennis, horseshoe and basketball courts. Yellow Creek Lodge is available for year-round rental; Captain John Struthers Pavilion is available seasonally. The historic site of the Hopewell Furnace, built in 1803, is accessible by trail when Yellow Creek levels are low.
- 8 EGYPT SWAMP PRESERVE**
Situating along the Middle Fork Little Beaver Creek in Green Township, this 57-acre preserve is comprised of wetlands, ponds, streams, and floodplains. Acquired with a Clean Ohio Conservation Fund grant in 2013 through a partnership with the Western Reserve Land Conservancy, this preservation area protects diverse flora and fauna and serves an important environmental role as a prominent riparian corridor.

- 9 CRANBERRY RUN HEADWATERS**
The term "headwaters" refers to the beginning or source of a stream or river. This preserve encompasses wetlands, streams, and floodplains critical to the health of the Cranberry Run sub-watershed.
- 10 SEBRING WOODS**
Established in 2010 with a grant through the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund, this 39-acre preserve consists primarily of floodplain forest, wooded wetlands interspersed with open marsh, and upland habitats. Fish Creek, a tributary to the Mahoning River, meanders through the property. Three plant species that had not been previously discovered in Mahoning County were discovered at this location in 2010. Hiking is permitted.
- 11 MCGUFFEY WILDLIFE PRESERVE**
Donated to the MetroParks in 1998 by the William Holmes McGuffey Historical Society, this 73-acre retreat is located on McGuffey Road in Coitsville Township. The Preserve is a National Historic Landmark. Parking is available; hiking is permitted.
- 12 METROPARKS BIKEWAY**
The MetroParks Bikeway runs from Western Reserve Road in Canfield Township to the Mahoning/Trumbull County Line in Austintown Township. This 11-mile paved trail is part of the Great Ohio Lake-to-River Greenway and offers a variety of scenery for joggers, walkers, bikers, and skaters. Parking is available at the MetroParks Farm, Mahoning Avenue Trailhead and Kirk Road Trailhead.
- 13 HAWKINS MARSH**
This 161-acre park was acquired in 2022 in partnership with West Creek Conservancy and a successful grant application to the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund. A variety of unique natural habitats can be found on the property including the critically important category three wetlands. Visitors can enjoy picnicking, hiking, and birdwatching while meandering through the young woodlands and along the picturesque flowing creek.
- 14 SPRINGFIELD FOREST PRESERVE**
This 88-acre property located in Springfield Township was acquired in 2021 through successful grant applications to the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund and partnership with Western Reserve Land Conservancy. Recreational activities include hiking along the scenic trail system and fishing on the pier with clear waters below.



McGuffey Wildlife Preserve

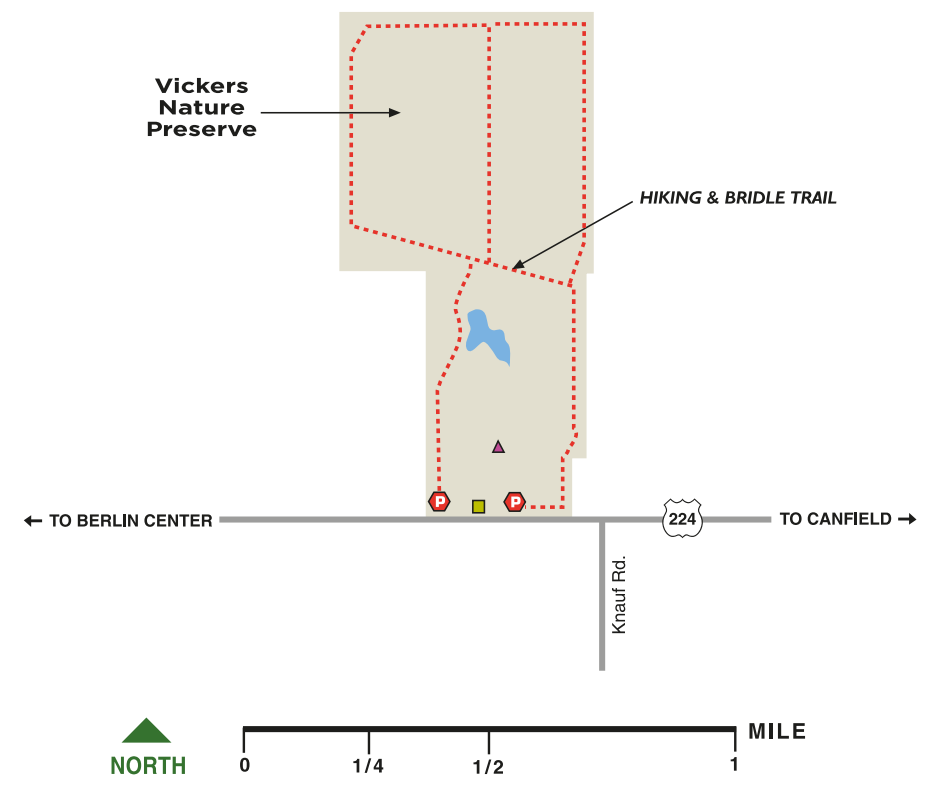


MetroParks Bikeway

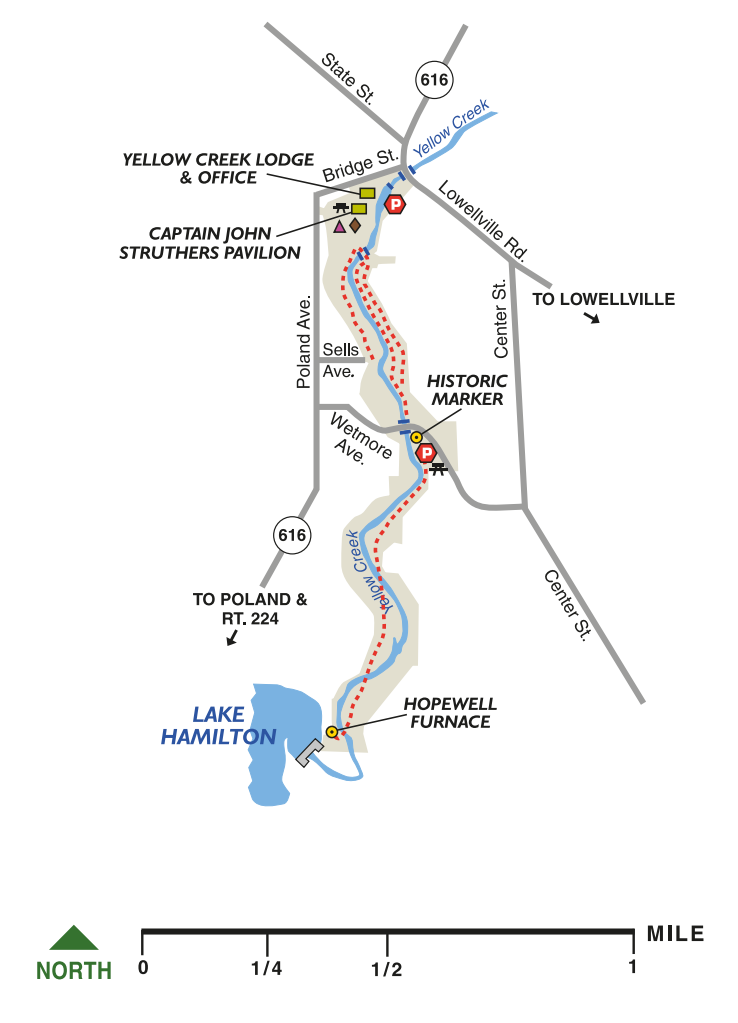


MetroParks Farm

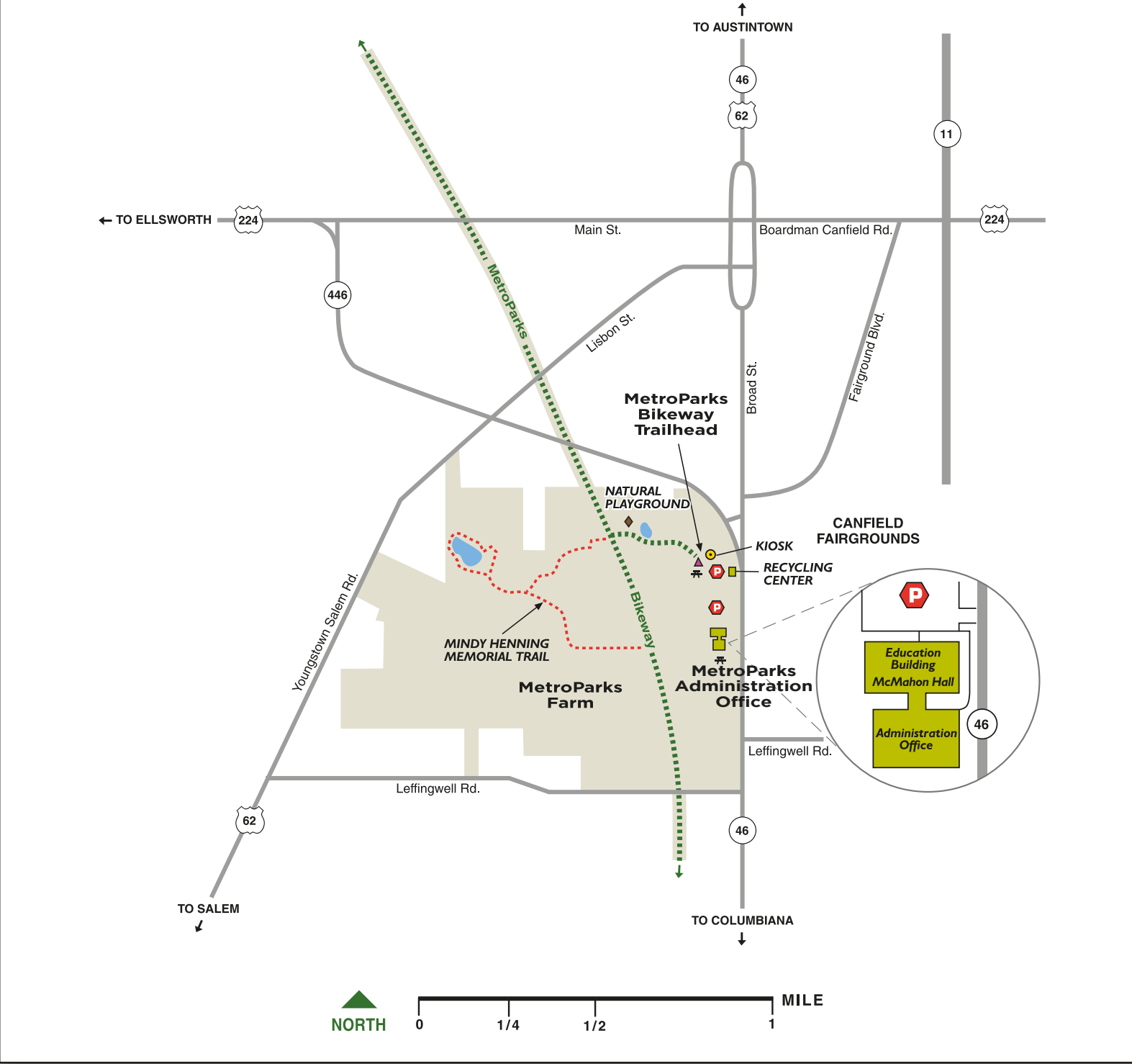
5 VICKERS NATURE PRESERVE ELLSWORTH TOWNSHIP



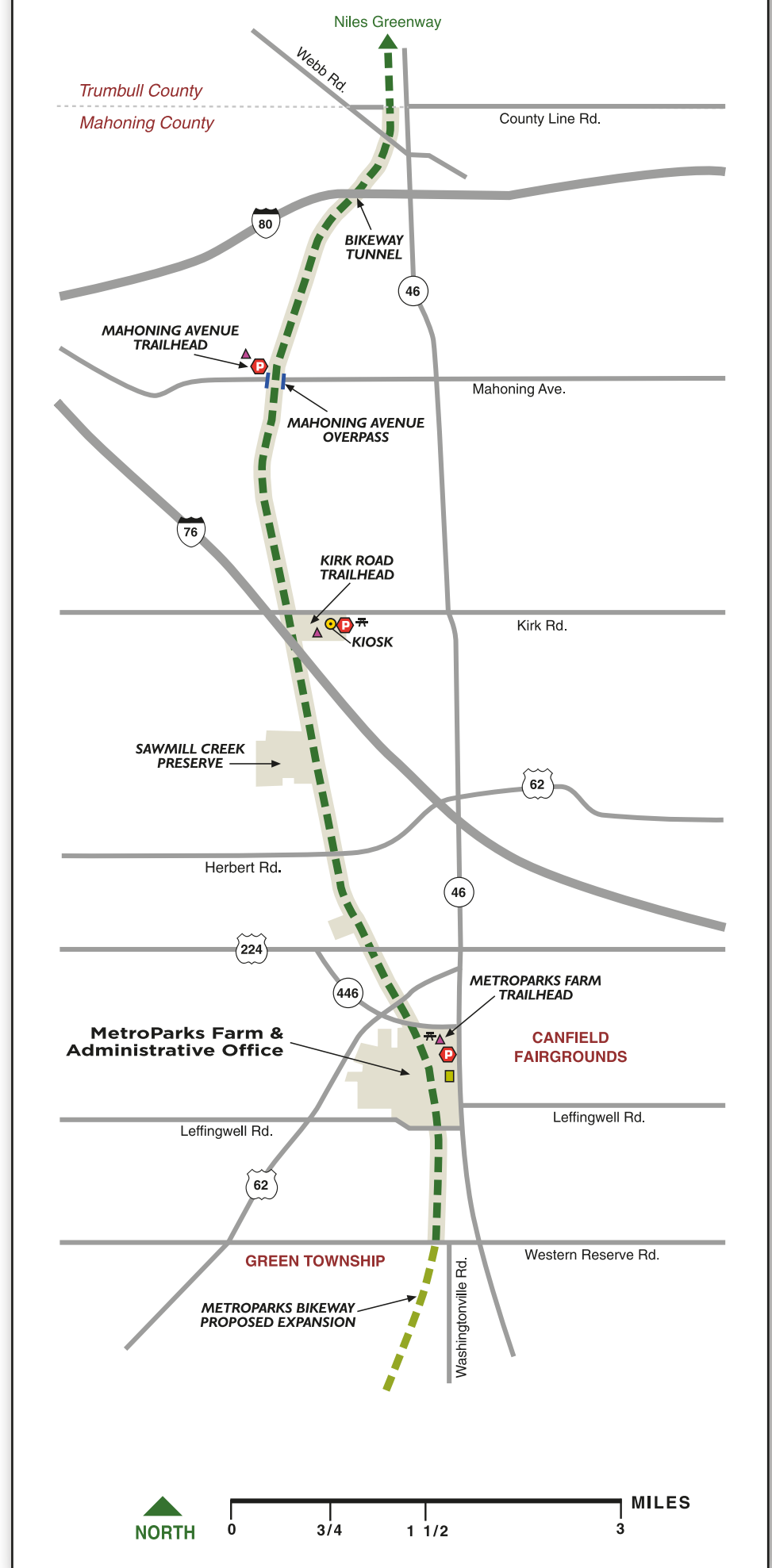
7 YELLOW CREEK PARK CITY OF STRUTHERS POLAND TOWNSHIP



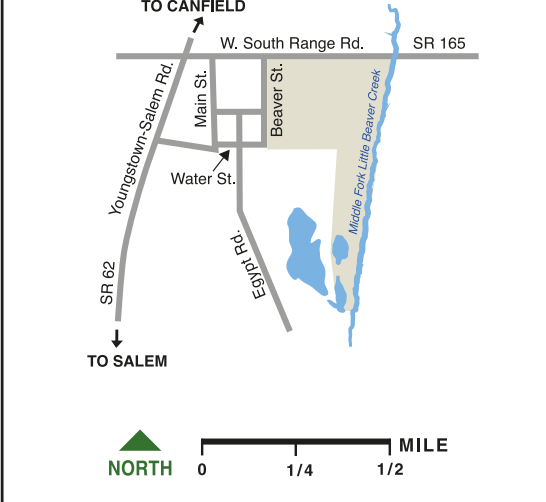
6 METROPARKS FARM METROPARKS ADMINISTRATION OFFICE CANFIELD TOWNSHIP



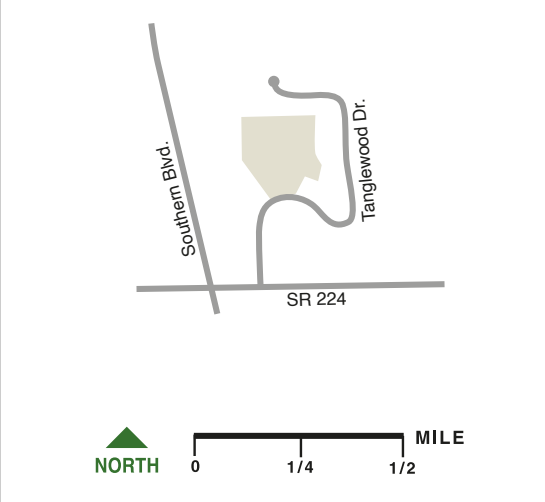
12 METROPARKS BIKEWAY AUSTINTOWN and CANFIELD TOWNSHIPS CITY OF CANFIELD



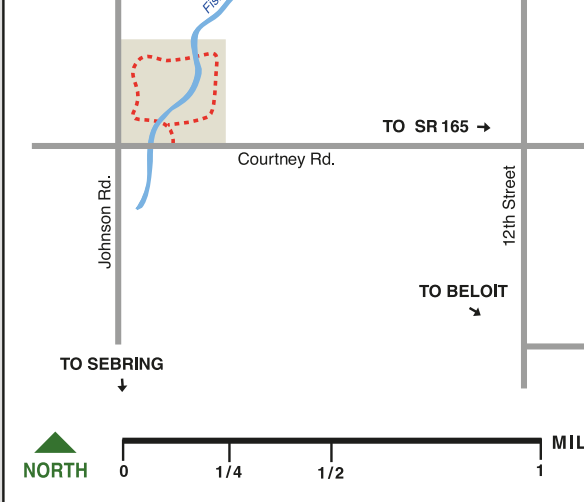
8 EGYPT SWAMP PRESERVE GREEN TOWNSHIP



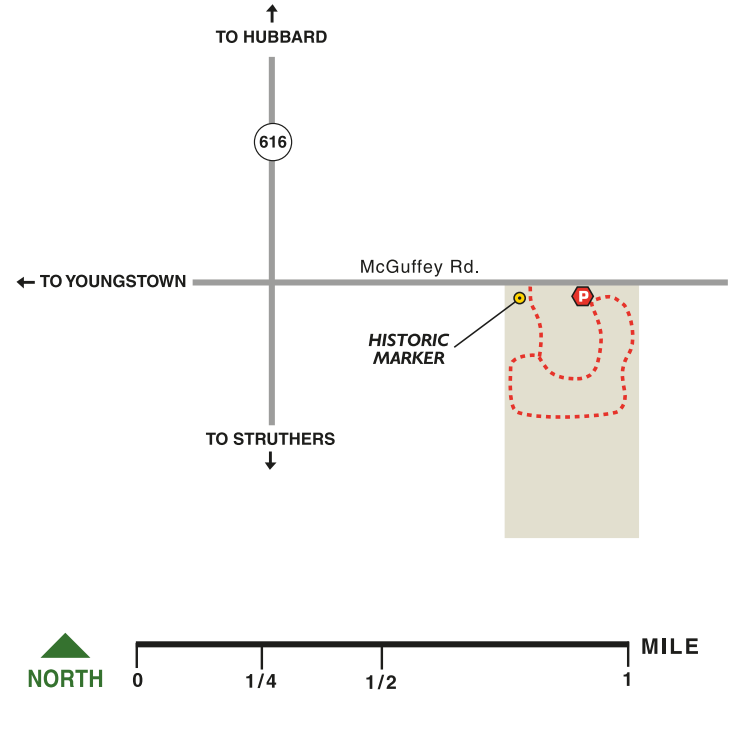
9 CRANBERRY RUN HEADWATERS BOARDMAN TOWNSHIP



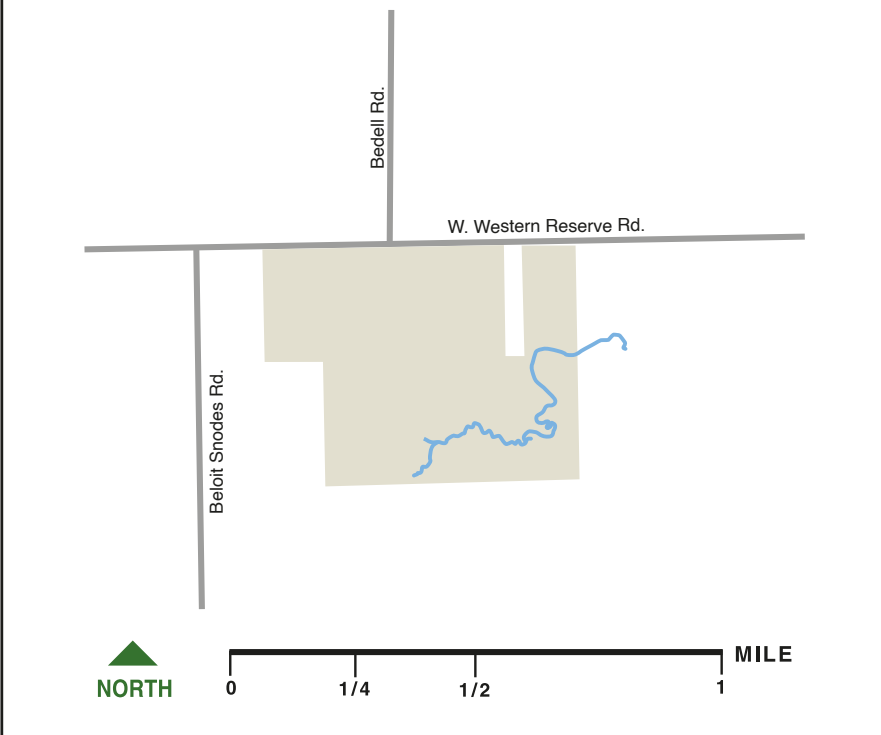
10 SEBRING WOODS VILLAGE OF SEBRING



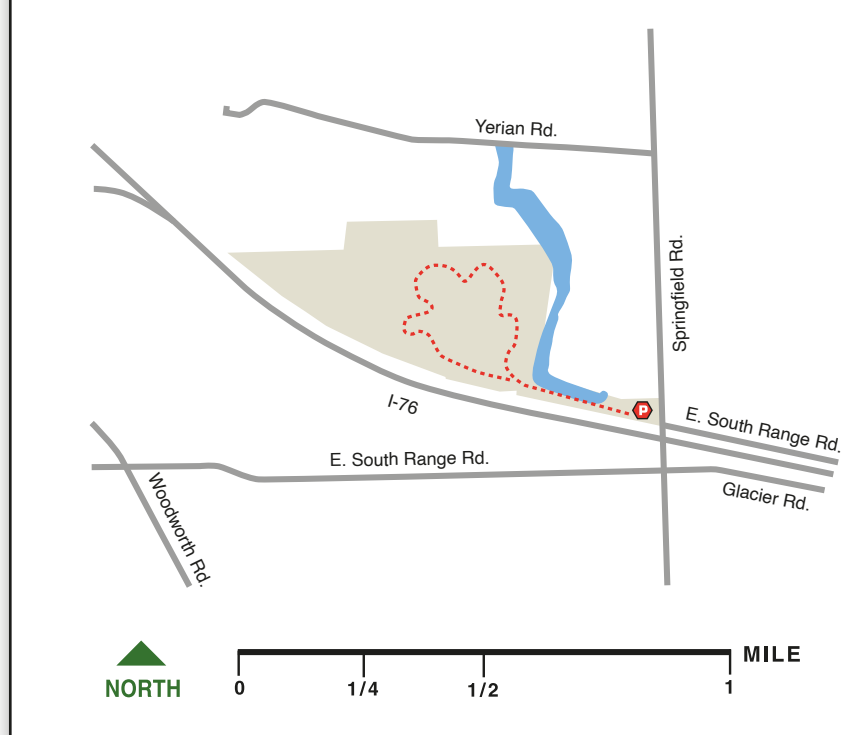
11 MCGUFFEY WILDLIFE PRESERVE COITSVILLE TOWNSHIP



13 HAWKINS MARSH SMITH TOWNSHIP



14 SPRINGFIELD FOREST SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP



LEGEND

- PARK PROPERTY
- BRIDGES
- DAMS
- HIKING TRAILS
- PARKING LOTS
- STRUCTURES
- COMFORT STATIONS
- POINTS OF INTEREST
- PICNIC AREAS
- PLAYGROUNDS
- HIKE & BIKE TRAILS
- NON-PARK ROADS

General Information

PARK HOURS
Park areas are open daily from dawn to dusk. For specific facility hours see [Contact Us](#).

VEHICLE REGULATIONS
Only automobiles and trucks with noncommercial plates are permitted in Mill Creek Park. Buses must obtain a permit from the MetroParks Police before entering the Park. The speed limit is 25 mph unless otherwise posted. Parking is permitted in designated areas only.

PICNIC FACILITIES
Picnic tables and grills are located throughout the MetroParks. Reservations are not required and there is no charge for their use. The Lower Bears Den Picnic Area provides barrier-free restrooms, picnic tables and grills, asphalt trails, and a playground.

BOATING AND FISHING
Boat rentals are available at the Glacier and Newport Boathouses from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. Fishing and private boating season is March through November. Fishing license required. Privately owned canoes, kayaks, and boats must comply with MetroParks regulations.

PETS
Pets on leashes are welcome on trails and drives. Pet owners must clean up and properly dispose of pet waste. Pets are not permitted in picnic, recreation, or garden areas.

QUESTIONS
For information about attractions, special events, facility rentals, volunteer opportunities, and donations, call the Administrative Office at 330.702.3000 or visit us online at millcreekmetroparks.org.



Rental Facilities

Facility	Capacity	Indoor Restrooms	Playground	Kitchen	Location
Seasonal/Open Air					
Bresko Pavilion	24	•	•	•	MCP
Scholl Pavilion	48	•	•	•	MCP
Stitt Pavilion	100	•	•	P	MCP
Chestnut Hill Pavilion	100	•	•	P	MCP
Slippery Rock Pavilion	150	•	•	P	MCP
Captain John Struthers Pavilion	96	•	•	•	YCP
Gazebo (weddings only)	100	•	•	•	FRG
Kidston Pavilion (weddings only)	100	•	•	•	FRG
Year Round/Enclosed					
Yellow Creek Lodge	72	•	•	•	YCP
Old Log Cabin	25	•	•	P	MCP
Bears Den Cabin	36	•	•	•	MCP
Birch Hill Cabin	48	•	•	•	MCP
Pioneer Pavilion	96	•	•	•	MCP
Classroom A - Farm	45	•	•	•	MPF
McMahon Hall	160	•	•	•	MPF
Radius Room	48	•	•	•	FRG
Garden Café	48	•	•	•	FRG
Rossi Auditorium	150	•	•	•	FRG
Rossi Auditorium (expanded)	250	•	•	•	FRG
Tyler Classroom	24	•	•	•	FRG
Kidston Classroom	32	•	•	•	FRG

P = Partial Kitchen
MCP = Mill Creek Park
FRG = Fellows Riverside Gardens
YCP = Yellow Creek Park
MPF = MetroParks Farm

Call the Administrative Office at 330.702.3000 for information about facility rentals, or to make reservations online visit us at millcreekmetroparks.org.

Contact Us

Administration Office 330.702.3000
8 am - 4:30 pm, Monday - Friday
MetroParks Police, Hours: 24/7 330.744.3848
Ford Nature Center 330.740.7107
10 am - 5 pm, Tuesday - Sunday; Closed Monday
Lantern's Mill (seasonal) 330.740.7115
10 am - 5 pm, Tuesday - Sunday; Closed Monday
Fellows Riverside Gardens 330.740.7116
Grounds: Dawn - Dusk
Davis Education & Visitor Center 330.740.7116
10 am - 5 pm, Tuesday - Sunday; Closed Monday
Golf Course (seasonal) 330.740.7112
Par 3 and Sled Hill (seasonal) 330.740.7114
Natural Areas & Preserves 330.702.3000
MetroParks Farm (seasonal) 330.533.7572
Yellow Creek Park Office 330.755.7275
Noon - 4 pm, Monday - Friday

METROPARKS ADMINISTRATION
7574 Columbiana-Canfield Rd.
Canfield, OH 44406-0596
Phone: 330.702.3000
Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 am - 4:30 pm

METROPARKS POLICE DEPARTMENT
810 Glenwood Ave.
Youngstown, OH 44502
Phone: 330.744.3848 Hours: 24/7



millcreekmetroparks.org



MILL CREEK METROPARKS

VISITOR GUIDE & MAPS

