

# TRAIL GUIDE

[geneseecountyparks.org](http://geneseecountyparks.org) | 800.648.PARK

Genesee County Parks & Recreation Commission  
5045 Stanley Rd. Flint, MI 48506

[geneseecountyparks.org](http://geneseecountyparks.org) | 800.648.PARK



**GENESEE COUNTY PARKS**  
Get away. Right away.

**GENESEE  
COUNTY  
PARKS** 



## STEP INTO ADVENTURE.

Genesee County Parks offers over 11,000 acres of adventure. From the shores of Mott Lake to the wooded mudflats near Kearsley Creek at For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum, we have miles of trails that will lead you to new discoveries. Whether you're looking to walk, run, hike, bike or enjoy the trails in some other way, Genesee County Parks has a terrain worth finding and the scenery worth exploring.

## GET OUT. GET ACTIVE.

Why walk? Because it's fun. And because it's good for you.

- As described by the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans published by the Surgeon General and the CDC, "adults should engage in at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity activity each week, and children and teenagers should engage in at least one hour of activity each day".
- Going on just three walks per week can help reduce the risk of heart disease, manage blood pressure, boost energy levels, lower stress, improve your quality of sleep and reduce anxiety as well as depression in turn making you stronger both physically and mentally.
- For children, regular exercise helps establish heart-healthy habits that last a lifetime and lessen the threat of obesity.
- For seniors, being active can help reduce chronic illnesses and diseases while you maintain a high quality of life and independence.
- Higher intensity physical activity like running and biking can increase the health benefits.
- Over half of all pets are overweight. A walk in the park with your dog can help them as well as you. Dogs are allowed in all Genesee County Parks except For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum, on our beaches, and in the buildings, train and boat at Crossroads Village. But remember, your furry four-legged friend must be kept on a leash no longer than 6 feet and please clean up after them so our parks stay clean and enjoyable for everyone.





## EXERCISE IN OUR OUTDOOR PLAYGROUND.

Running on a treadmill may be good for the body, but it doesn't do much for the spirit. Instead, breathe in the fresh air and feel the sunshine as you explore our parks in a whole new way. There are so many reasons to choose your Genesee County Parks.

- Safety – Park Rangers patrol all park locations 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Our trails are well maintained and no motorized vehicles are allowed on any trails.
- Variety – With multiple trail types, lengths and locations, you are sure to find the terrain and unique views you can enjoy for all levels of adventure and abilities.
- Location – There are Genesee County Parks in every corner of the county, and with numerous locations your start is just around the corner and close to home or work.
- Four Seasons of Fun – Your fitness goals don't have to end when the temperatures decline. Our parks are open year-round and provide areas for your favorite outdoor winter activities as well.
- Accessible – Many of our trails have been updated to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility standards.

## GET STARTED.

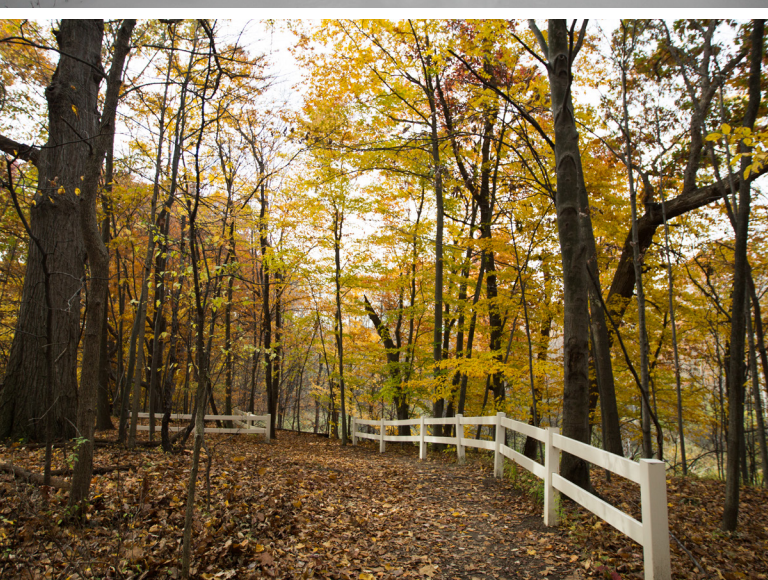
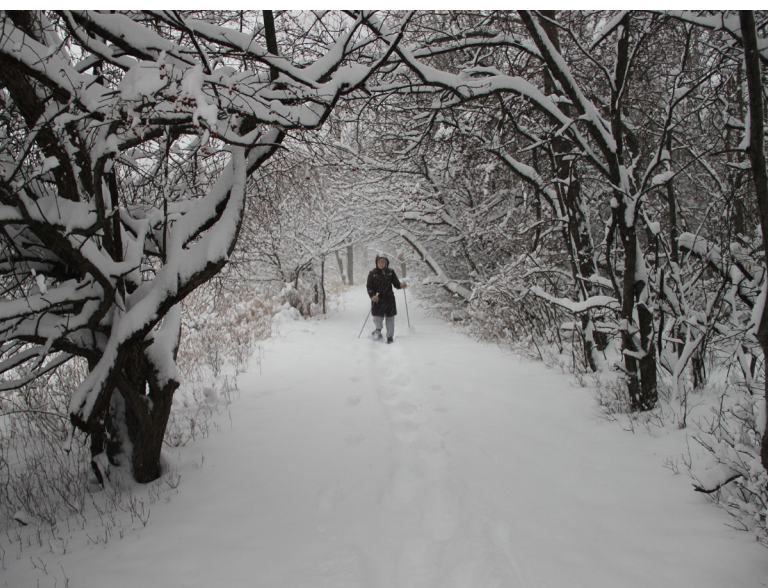
Spending time on the trails and in the parks can lead you to the best shape of your life, and when you're healthier you're happier. Some physical activity is better than no physical activity. We've compiled a group of our visitor's favorite trails in this guide to make getting started even easier. Take advantage of the measured trails marked on these maps, but don't hesitate to wander off the beaten path and enjoy the endless miles of more secluded hiking trails and un-measured trails in all of our parks. Find a complete map of park locations and amenities at [geneseecountyparks.org/explore](http://geneseecountyparks.org/explore).

## A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

Lace up a pair of comfy shoes, apply the sunscreen or dress in layers for the weather and grab some bug spray if you want to. Then escape your everyday routine with some quality time in nature. Our trailways are within walking distance of great local restaurants and attractions and even link to other major trail systems. Be sure to check out the paved, universally accessible trail from Lions Park to Bluebell Beach that is part of the Michigan Iron-Belle trail system and take the connection point to the Flint River Trail system to head downtown. Whether you choose an easy going paved path or a challenging hiking trail through the hills, you're sure to find the one that's right for you.







# YOUR KEY TO GENESEE COUNTY PARKS.

Use this key when exploring the trail maps on the following pages.  
View everything our parks have to offer online at [geneseecountyparks.org](http://geneseecountyparks.org).

## ATTRACTIONS

- BEACH
- BOAT LAUNCH
- CANOE/KAYAK LAUNCH
- BUTTERFLY AREA
- COMMUNITY GARDEN
- GARDEN
- PAVILION
- PICNIC AREA
- PLAYGROUND
- SCENIC

## ACTIVITIES

- WALKING
- HIKING
- BIKING
- BMX
- FISHING
- EQUESTRIAN
- CROSS COUNTRY SKI
- SLEDDING
- SNOWMOBILE
- SNOWSHOE

## SERVICES

- PARKING
- RESTROOM
- NO PETS
- ACCESSIBLE

Parks with this icon have varying levels of accessibility. Please visit our website at [geneseecountyparks.org](http://geneseecountyparks.org) for full details.

- NO CARS PAST THIS POINT
- PAVED PATH
- PAVED ROAD
- GRAVEL
- TRAIL
- BRIDGE
- SHADE KITE
- WATER PUMP
- MEASURED TRAILS





# BLUEGILL BOAT LAUNCH

2 1/2 mile trail

4045 E. Coldwater Road, Flint

Open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.  
Boat launch parking fees in effect April – Labor Day.

► Learn more about this park online at [geneseecountyparks.org/bluegill](http://geneseecountyparks.org/bluegill)



You can participate in these winter sports throughout this park when conditions allow. See park rules for full details.





# STEPPING STONE FALLS

1 1/4 mile trail

5161 Branch Road, Flint

Open May - Labor Day, Sunday - Thursday 8:00 am - 11:00 pm,  
Friday & Saturday 8:00 am - midnight.

Open Labor Day - December 1, 8:00 am - sunset.

Park closed December - April.

► Learn more about this park online at [geneseecountyparks.org/steppingstone](http://geneseecountyparks.org/steppingstone)



N Bray Rd



4/5 Mile To Stepping Stone Falls

## BLUEBELL BEACH

5/8 mile trail

5500 N. Bray Road, Flint

► Learn more about this park online at [geneseecountyparks.org/bluebell](http://geneseecountyparks.org/bluebell)

Free admission. Park open year round 8:00 am – sunset.  
Beach and Splash Pad open Memorial Day weekend – Labor Day,  
8:00 am – 8:00 pm.



You can participate in this winter sport throughout this park when conditions allow. See park rules for full details.



### 5K

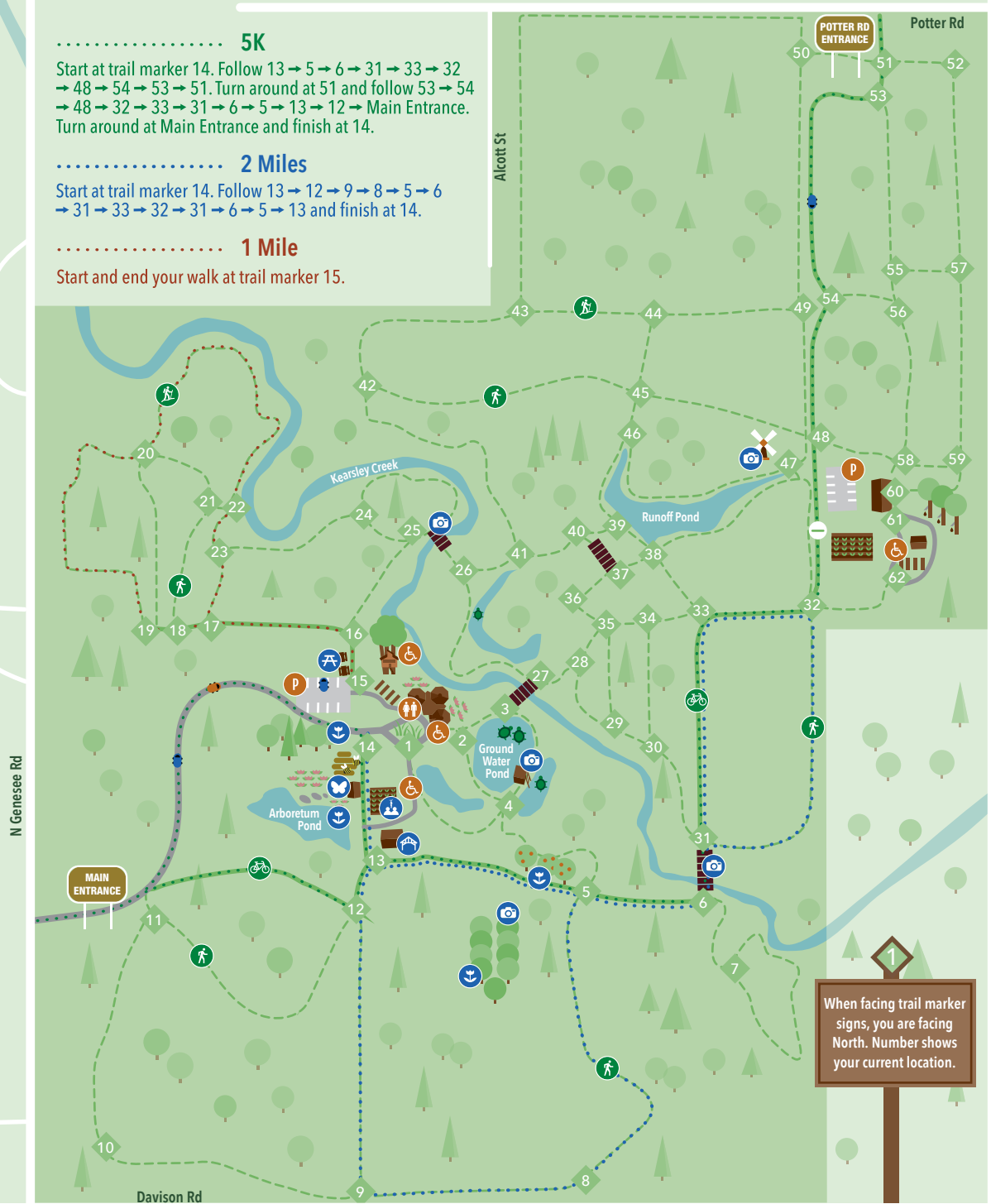
Start at trail marker 14. Follow 13 → 5 → 6 → 31 → 33 → 32 → 48 → 54 → 53 → 51. Turn around at 51 and follow 53 → 54 → 48 → 32 → 33 → 31 → 6 → 5 → 13 → 12 → Main Entrance. Turn around at Main Entrance and finish at 14.

### 2 Miles

Start at trail marker 14. Follow 13 → 12 → 9 → 8 → 5 → 6 → 31 → 33 → 32 → 31 → 6 → 5 → 13 and finish at 14.

### 1 Mile

Start and end your walk at trail marker 15.



# FOR-MAR NATURE PRESERVE & ARBORETUM

2142 N. Genesee Road, Burton

► Learn more about this park online at [genesecountyparks.org/formar](http://genesecountyparks.org/formar)

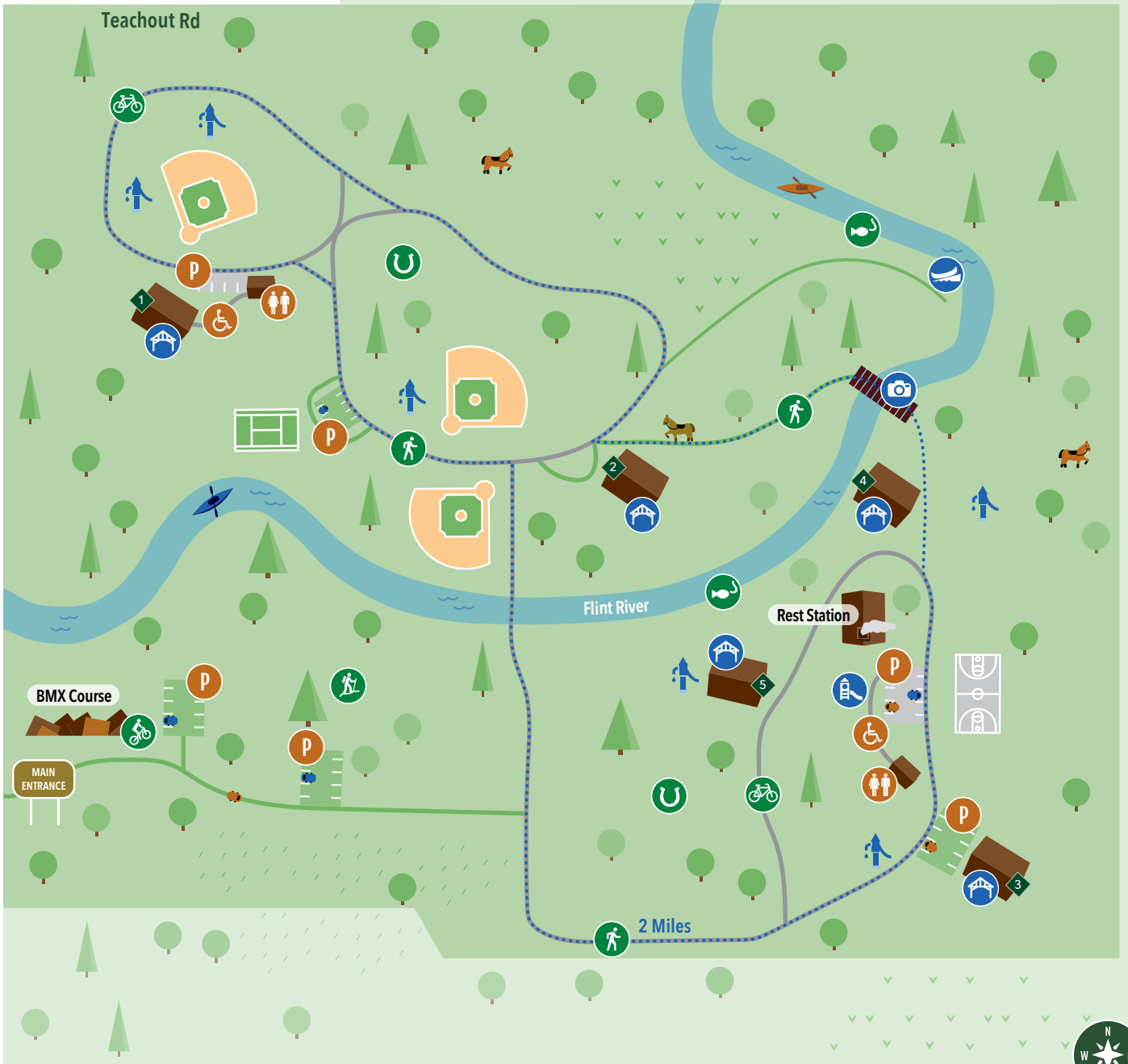
For more information, visit our website or call 810.789.8567 or 810.736.7100. Visitor's Center: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm daily. Park grounds: 8:00 am – sunset daily. For-Mar has a no pet policy.



You can participate in these winter sports on trails only when conditions allow. See park rules for full details.

N Irish Rd

Teachout Rd



Flint River

Rest Station

BMX Course

MAIN ENTRANCE

2 Miles

E Coldwater Rd



MAP NOT TO SCALE

# RICHFIELD COUNTY PARK

2 mile trail

6322 N. Irish Road, Davison

► Learn more about this park online at [geneseecountyparks.org/richfield](http://geneseecountyparks.org/richfield)

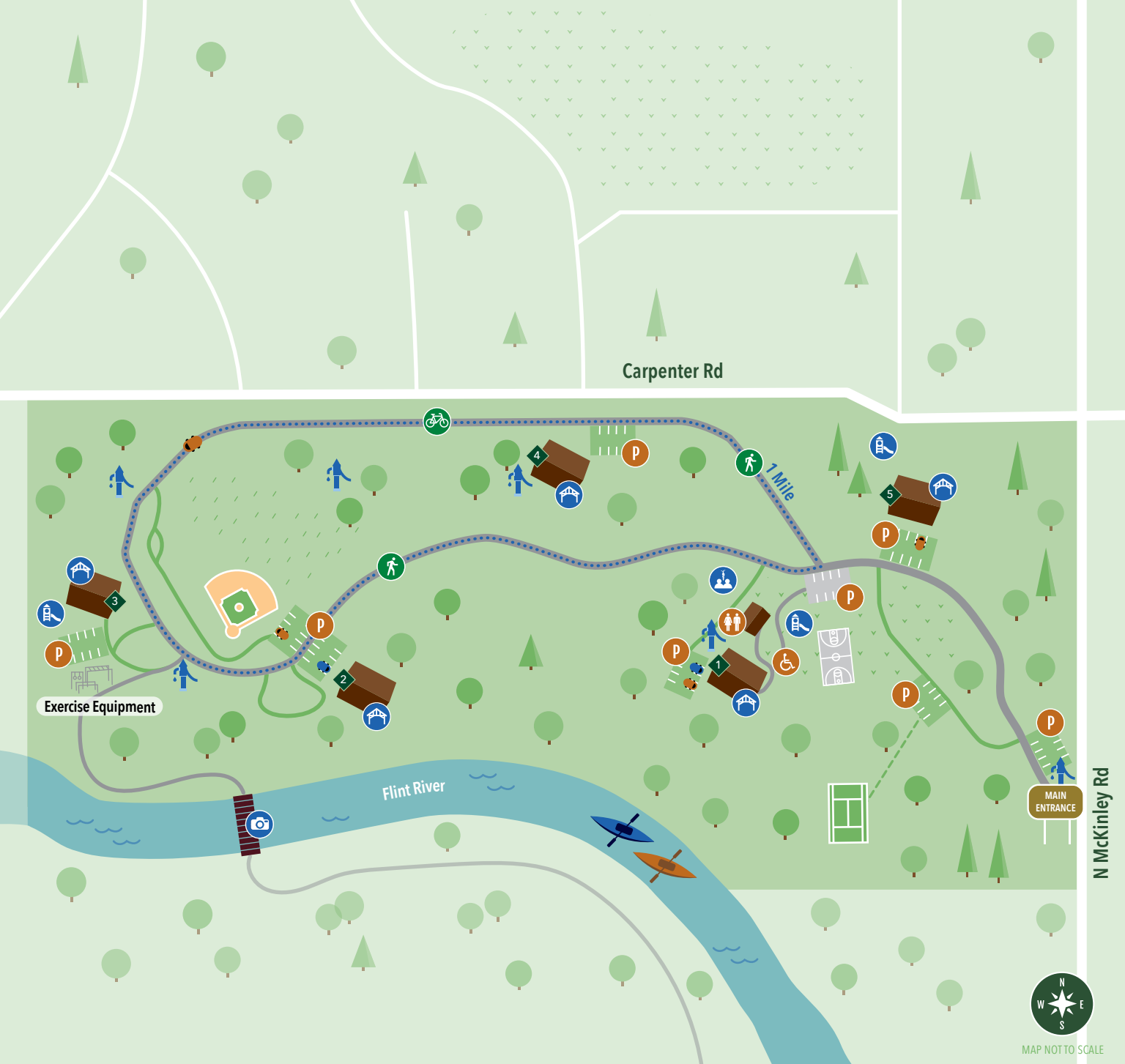
Open 8:00 am – sunset daily. Gate to north loop closed in winter.



You can participate in these winter sports throughout this park when conditions allow. See park rules for full details.

Open 24 hours in winter when conditions allow snowmobiling.





# FLUSHING COUNTY PARK

1 mile trail

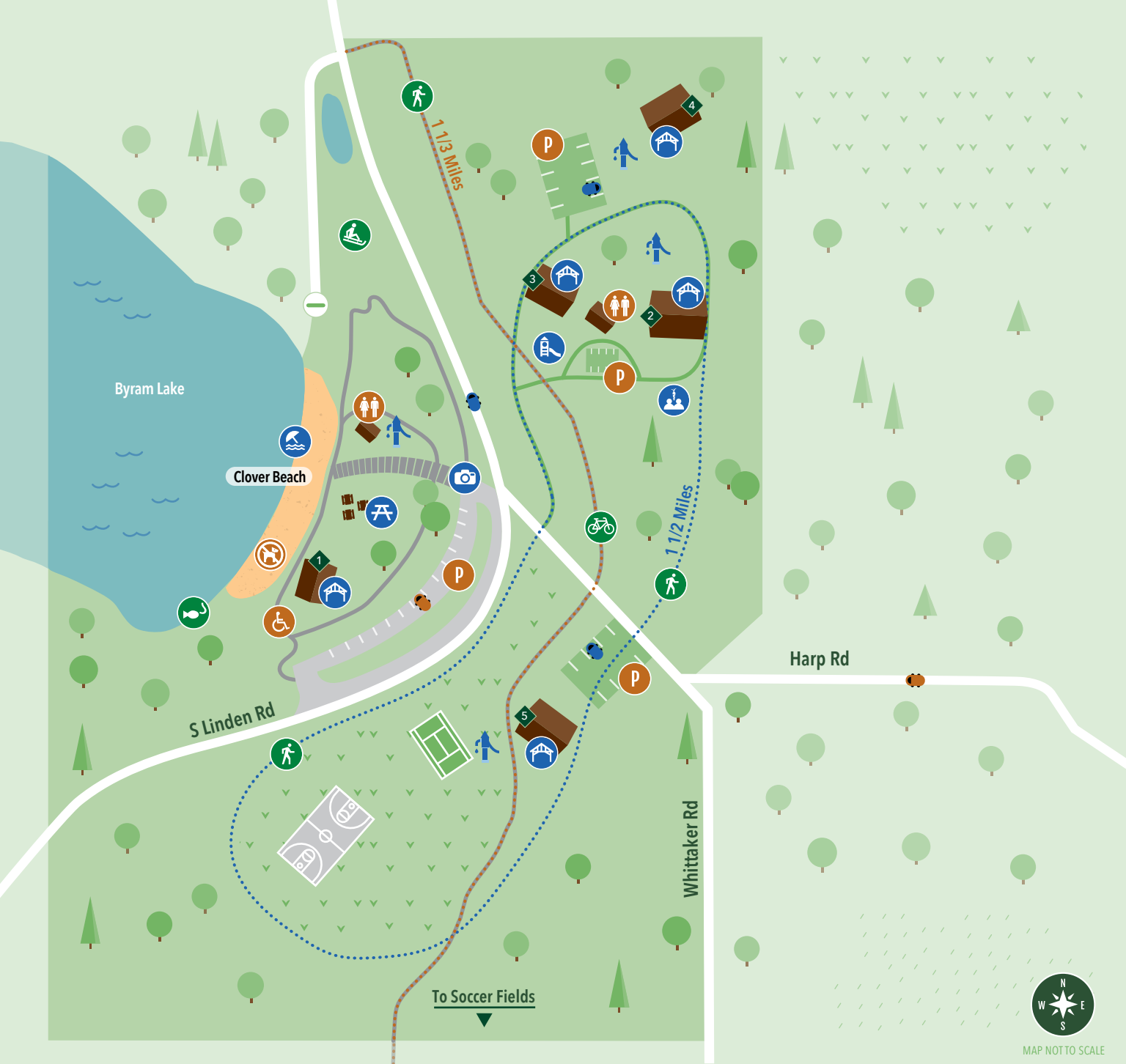
4417 N. McKinley Road, Flushing

► Learn more about this park online at [geneseecountyparks.org/flushing](http://geneseecountyparks.org/flushing)

Open 8:00 am – sunset daily. Gate closed to vehicle traffic at trail loop Monday all day and Tuesday – Friday 8:00 am – 10:00 am. Gate to loop closed to vehicle traffic in winter to allow winter activities.



You can participate in these winter sports throughout this park when conditions allow. See park rules for full details.



# LINDEN COUNTY PARK

2 trails

15349 S. Linden Road, Linden

► Learn more about this park online at [genesecountyparks.org/linden](http://genesecountyparks.org/linden)

Open 8:00 am – sunset daily.

Beach open Memorial Day weekend – Labor Day 8:00 am – 8:00 pm.



You can participate in these winter sports throughout this park when conditions allow. See park rules for full details.

Open 24 hours in winter when conditions allow snowmobiling.





# BUELL LAKE COUNTY PARK

1 mile trail

14098 N. Genesee Road, Clio

Open 8:00 am – sunset daily.

Open 24 hours in winter when conditions suit snowmobiling.

► Learn more about this park online at [genesecountyparks.org/buell](http://genesecountyparks.org/buell)



You can participate in these winter sports throughout this park when conditions allow. See park rules for full details.



## FLINT RIVER TRAIL

The Flint River Trail runs between the cross streets of Ballenger Highway and Sunset Drive and the North end of Bluegill Boat Launch with connections to other area trails and attractions.

► Learn more online at [geneseecountyparks.org/trails](http://geneseecountyparks.org/trails)

- FLINT RIVER TRAIL
- IRON BELLE TRAIL
- ..... PROPOSED TRAIL



## GEAR TO GET YOU STARTED.

For walkers or hikers, very little gear is needed for a safe journey. However, using the right gear makes your adventure more enjoyable.

The most essential item is the right pair of shoes or boots. When you're hiking or walking, boots or shoes should provide support and comfort for both your feet and ankles.

Next, consider the type of clothing you'll be wearing before hitting the trails. In warm weather, a base layer should keep you plenty warm. But if you're anticipating cooler temperatures, consider something insulated over your base layer – like a fleece jacket or a warm wool sweater. Also take into consideration the pants you're wearing. If it's hot outside, shorts are a good choice, but don't forget to apply bug spray. For colder weather, insulated pants should keep you nice and toasty.

Lastly, carrying a day pack that includes food, water and extra clothing is always a good idea. If you're sticking to trails that are easy, a bookbag-style backpack will do the trick. Other items you might consider carrying in your pack are maps, a compass, a multi-tool, a first aid kit and a flashlight.

## TAKE THE FIRST STEP.

If you want to learn more about all our parks have to offer, visit our website at [geneseecountyparks.org](http://geneseecountyparks.org). You'll find park amenities and downloadable maps, along with event and volunteer information. With over 11,000 acres, walking, running, biking or hiking on our trails is only the beginning of what you can do at Genesee County Parks.

Please call 810.736.7100, or 800.648.PARK, Monday through Friday, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, or email [parkswebteam@gcparks.org](mailto:parkswebteam@gcparks.org) for further questions on our trails.



Look for these icons labeled on our maps to find the best routes to take on your next adventure.

