

Hidden Oaks Preserve



FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
WILL COUNTY

Bringing People and Nature Together

Directions to Preserve:

Hidden Oaks Preserve is located off of Schmidt Road, north of Boughton Road in Bolingbrook.

For information, please call 815-727-8700 or visit ReconnectWithNature.org.

Forest Preserve District of Will County

Hidden Oaks Preserve

This 33-acre preserve was acquired in early 2022 from the Bolingbrook Park District and serves as an access to local and regional trail systems. The property is immediately south of Whalon Lake preserve, and a bridge spanning the East Branch of the DuPage River connects the two sites. The preserve includes Hidden Oaks Nature Center, Hidden Lakes Trout Farm, and a 0.39-mile portion of the DuPage River Trail.

Hidden Oaks Nature Center

Hidden Oaks Nature Center offers nature programming, live reptiles, facility rentals and more. Visit the nature center for preserve information or to learn more about upcoming programs.

Hidden Lakes Trout Farm

Four lakes for shoreline fishing are available at the preserve's Hidden Lakes Trout Farm. A bait shop on-site sells bait, tackle and concessions. Statewide and District fishing regulations apply. For more information, visit www.dnr.illinois.gov and ReconnectWithNature.org.

DuPage River Trail

A bridge over the East Branch of the DuPage River links Hidden Oaks Preserve to the Forest Preserve's Whalon Lake. This connection also joins two segments of the DuPage River Trail, bringing together more than 4 miles of trail between the two sites.

The Forest Preserve District will make reasonable modifications to ensure that all people have an equal opportunity to enjoy District offerings. For more information, visit ReconnectWithNature.org/ADA.

Preserve and Trail Hours

Hours for Hidden Oaks Preserve are 8 a.m.-sunset.

Hours for Hidden Oaks Nature Center are
Wednesdays-Saturdays: 10 a.m.-4 p.m, Sundays: Noon-4 p.m.
Closed Mondays and Tuesdays.

Trail Hours - The following select preserves are open sunrise to sunset to provide better access to biking trails:

- Hickory Creek Preserve - Hickory Creek Junction, Mokena (Old Plank Road Trail)
- Lower Rock Run Preserve - I&M Canal Access, Joliet (I&M Canal State Trail & Rock Run Greenway Trail)
- Manhattan Road Access, Manhattan (Wauponsee Glacial Trail)
- Rock Run Preserve - Black Road Access, Joliet (Rock Run Greenway Trail)
- Rock Run Preserve - Paul V. Nichols Access, Joliet (Rock Run Greenway Trail)
- Sugar Creek Preserve, Joliet (Wauponsee Glacial Trail)
- Symerton Road Access, Symerton (Wauponsee Glacial Trail)

Information

Call 815-727-8700 weekdays to receive free informational brochures, such as the Map & Guide to the Forest Preserve.

Or visit ReconnectWithNature.org for more information. While there, sign up for one or both of the District's free monthly newsletters to stay updated on Forest Preserve news and activities.



Trail Etiquette

- Trail users must adhere to all federal and state laws.
- Travel at safe speeds, and proceed at a slower pace when the trails are in heavy use.
- Slower traffic should stay to the right of the trail. Bicyclists should pass on the left, politely announcing "Passing on the left."
- Do not block the trail. Use no more than half the trail width when in a group, and be sure to watch and listen for other trail users.
- Dogs are welcome on most trails but must be on leashes no longer than 10 feet in length. Owners must keep their dogs under control at all times. Dogs must not be allowed to disturb, harass or interfere with wildlife or visitors. Cleaning up dog waste is required by ordinance. Dogs are not allowed in preserve areas designated as Nature Preserves. These properties have a higher level of protection than forest preserves.
- No forest preserve trail is designed for motorized use. Assistive motorized devices are permitted on paved trails and paths.

In an Emergency, Call 9-1-1.

Please give the location and nature of the emergency.

In non-emergencies, call the Laraway Communications Center at 815-727-6191 to reach a Forest Preserve District Officer. Please add this phone number to your cell phone contacts.