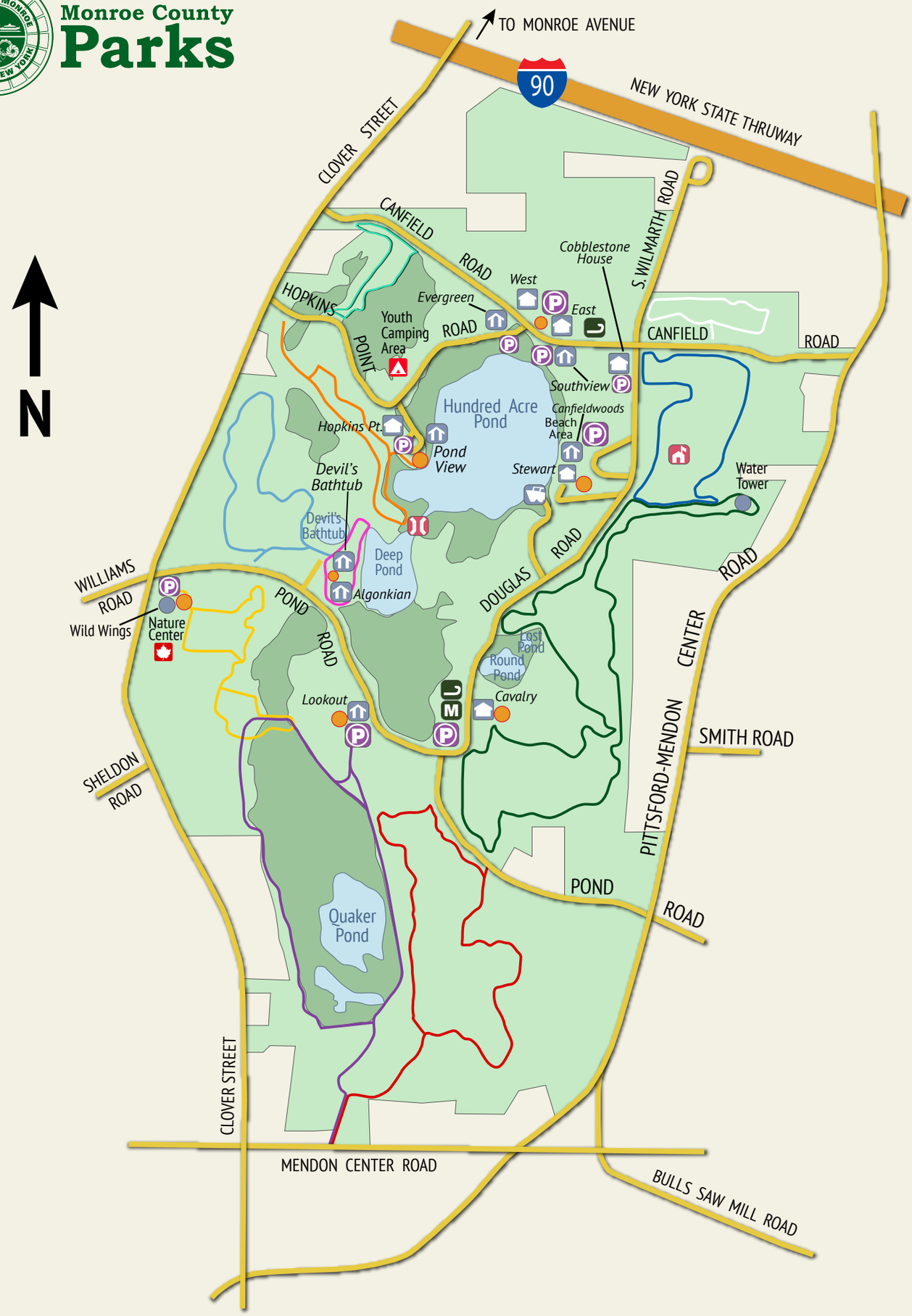
MENDON PONDS PARK

Park Staff: 585-509-2895

for more information:
monroecounty.gov/parks
585-753-PARK (7275)

Monroe County Parks



LEGEND

- Lodge
- Shelter
- Parking
- Restroom
- Park Office
- Boat Launch
- Youth Camping Area
- Point of Interest
- Wetlands
- Park
- Sledding Hill
- Sharon's Sensory Garden
- Multi-Use Field
- Walking Bridge

TRAILS*

- North Meadow, 1.8 mi.
- Southern Meadow, 3.0 mi.
- East Esker, 4.7 mi.
- Nature Trails, Birdsong & Swamp Trail, 2.0 mi.
- West Esker, 1.5 mi.
- Devil's Bathtub, .67 mi.
- Grasslands Trail, 2.0 mi.
- Fern Valley, 1.4 mi.
- Pine Woods, 1.0 mi.
- Quaker Pond Trail Loop, 2.7 mi.

* See Trail Map for more information

MENDON PONDS PARK

Park Staff: 585-509-2895

for more information:
monroecounty.gov/parks
585-753-PARK (7275)

PARK HOURS:

- Park Hours are from **6 am until 11 pm.**
- Park access and services vary seasonally, please contact 753- PARK (7275) for more details.

GENERAL PARK RULES:

- **Carry-in Carry-out rule:** which means you must take all your garbage with you for disposal after leaving the park.
- **All pets must be leashed and you are responsible for cleaning up after them.**

If you have rented a LODGE:

- Park Staff will unlock the lodge for you prior to your arrival time stated on your reservation confirmation.

If you have rented a SHELTER:

- Park Staff will stop by to check your permit.

Interested in renting a lodge or shelter?

- Try the online reservation system at *monroecounty.gov/parks*
  or
- Call **585-753-PARK (7275)**

TRAIL INFORMATION

NORTH MEADOW TRAIL

This is a moderate 1.8 mile trail over gently rolling terrain. The North end of this trail passes through meadows of staghorn sumac, dogwood, honeysuckle and forbs, such as Queen Anne's Lace, milkweed, and goldenrod. Keep your eye out for butterfly weed. The south end passes through woods of firs, spruce, pines, hickory, oak, cottonwood, and locust. No horseback riding when trail is snow covered.

SOUTHERN MEADOW TRAIL

This trail is an approximately 3 mile easy walk over gently rolling terrain. This trail includes a beautiful woodland walk of quaking aspen, oak, maple, pines and shagbark hickory trees. You will walk through large open meadows with wildflowers, butterflies, and songbirds in the summer. Look for hawks, turkey vultures, and bluebirds. Fox and American Woodcock have been spotted here.

EAST ESKER TRAIL

This is a challenging 4.7 mile trail with numerous hills. You will pass through woods of spruce, pine, black walnut, oak, quaking aspen, maple, shagbark hickory, sassafras and black cherry trees making this a great fall foliage hike. There are also fields with wildflowers; a variety of ferns and several observation points offer magnificient views to the South of hills miles away. During this hike you will be hiking kames and an esker, and pass a kettle hole pond, all glacial formations left by the Wisconsin Ice Sheet that left this area 11,000 years ago. No horseback riding when trail is snow covered.

NATURE TRAILS - BIRD SONG / SWAMP TRAIL

This is a moderately hilly, 2-mile trail. One of the highlights is the Nature Center with its gardens and interpretative displays related to geology, and native plants and animals. In winter chikadees will eat sunflower seeds out of your hand. The southern end of the trail passes through a swamp with a boardwalk. Look for wildflowers, bayberry, red maple trees, alders and a variety sedges and rushes. Take time to read the interpretative displays along the trail. You may decide to do a 3/4 mile hike called "the square" instead, which is an easy walk over gently rolling terrain. No pets, horses, or cross country skiing allowed.

WEST ESKER TRAIL

This is a 1.5 mile moderately hilly trail. Ash, maple, oak, and black cherry trees make this a great fall hike. Woodland wildflowers and a variety of ferns can be seen. Warbler migration in spring can be viewed in this area. Consider a side trip to Hopkins Point to view waterfowl on Hundred-Acre Pond, especially during migrations.

DEVIL'S BATHTUB

This trail is an easy 0.67 mile walk with one steep climb and stair and boardwalk sections. The highlights of this trail include several glacial formations: Devil's Bathtub, which is a kettle hole; an esker; and views of the kame hills across Deep Pond. Mendon Ponds Park was named to the National Registry of Natural Landmarks to recognize the value and quality of the glacial formations. Ferns and wildflowers in the various seasons line the trail. The sassafras, red maple, and oak trees make this a spectacular fall hike.

GRASSLANDS TRAIL

This is an easy 2 mile hike over gently rolling terrain. This trail passes through two fields that are part of the park's habitat restoration project to benefit the habitat for the Eastern Bluebird and grassland birds. This area provides great viewing for butterflies and wildflowers in summer. A border of sassafras trees and staghorn sumac make a beautiful fall backdrop. An observation point offers distant views of the Rochester skyline on a clear day.

FERN VALLEY TRAIL

This is a 1.4 mile easy walk over gently rolling terrain. The upland section is a beautiful woodland walk. The valley section is a hard-wood swamp with red maple trees and a variety of ferns for which the trail is named.

PINE WOODS TRAILS

This is an easy 1-mile walk through a pine woods over gently rolling terrain. This woods demonstrates succession as shrubs and trees such as maple, oak, and black cherry are now taking over a former "plantation style" stand of pines.

QUAKER POND TRAIL LOOP

This is a 2.7 mile easy trail over level terrain. Beavers have been active in this area for many years. As you cross the wooden footbridges over moving water, look around for evidence of felled trees, dams, lodges and even a beaver meadow. There are also three observation points offering great views of the pond and waterfowl viewing, especially during migrations. You will see wildflowers ferns sedges, rushes, and an interesting variety of shrubs. No pets or horses allowed.

Please be aware of seasonal changes in trail conditions and be prepared for natural conditions such as mosquitoes and poison ivy in some areas.