

Bald Eagle - Benson Prairie

LOCATION: Bald Eagle - Benson Prairie is the northeast corner of Bald Eagle-Otter Lake Regional Park in White Bear Township. The east boundary is Hwy 61 and the north boundary is the County Line. Parking is along the Hwy 61 frontage road or in the boat launch parking lot. Access is by mowed trails. MAP#: 10

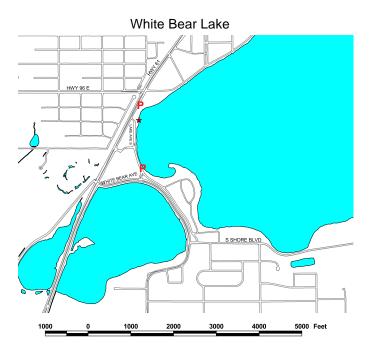
HABITAT: A recently restored prairie is the main feature of this park. The south side of the prairie is bounded by a large cattail marsh. An oak woods borders the prairie and forms the shoreline of Bald Eagle Lake.

REGULAR BIRDS: The site is currently a good site for Red-tailed Hawks. The grassland bird use will improve over the next couple of years.

CONTACT: Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department

2015 N. Van Dyke St. Maplewood, MN 55109

(651)748-2500



LOCATION: White Bear Lake site is located in the southwest corner of the lake. The two viewing areas are Veterans and Lions Parks. They are both on Lake St, which can be reached from Hwy 61 by driving east on White Bear Ave. MAP #: 11

HABITAT: The habitat of interest is the 2400-acre lake. The surrounding area is marinas and shopping centers

REGULAR BIRDS: This portion of White Bear get large rafts of Coots and scaup during migration. Other waterfowl are also seen. There is a Bald Eagle Nest on Manitou Island. Yellow-headed Blackbirds nest in the Cattails.

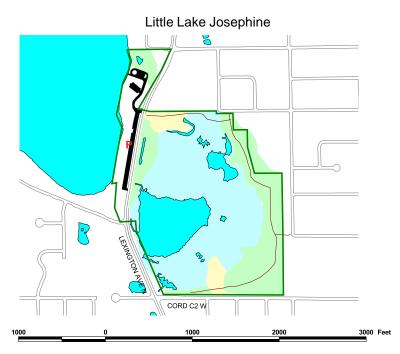
CONTACT: White Bear Lake City Hall

4701 Highway 61

White Bear Lake, MN 55110

(651) 429-8526

www.whitebearlake.org/PW/parks.htm



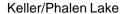
LOCATION: Little Lake Josephine is part of Lake Josephine County Park. It is located in north-central Roseville. The park is on Lexington Ave., just north of Co. Rd. C2., from Hwy 36 take Lexington Ave. exit and go 1.5 miles north. Parking is located in the main park. A turf/chipped trail goes around Little Josephine Marsh. MAP #: 12

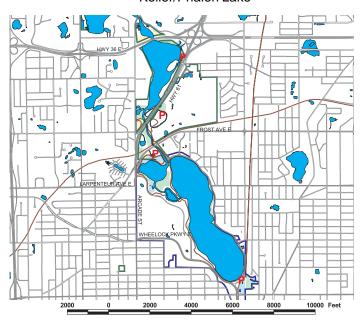
HABITAT: Little Josephine is a large cattail marsh with a shrub swamp on the north end. The east side on the property is an oak woods. A small prairie forms a peninsula into the south end of the marsh.

REGULAR BIRDS: An active osprey nest is located on the prairie peninsula. The open water portions are used by diving ducks during migration. Black-crowned Night-Herons and Green Herons regularly hunt along the outflow stream. The oak woods are good for migratory warblers.

CONTACT: Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department

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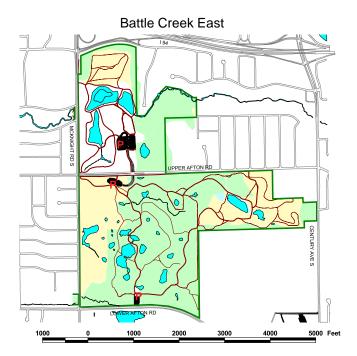
LOCATION: Keller/Phalen Lakes Regional Park straddles the Maplewood-St. Paul line along Hwy 61. The park can be reached from the southbound Hwy 61 exit off Hwy 36. Several parking areas are along Hwy 61. Other parking is found off of Frost Ave. and Wheelock Pkwy, which are further south along Hwy 61. the areas have connecting paved trails. The trail encircles Phalen Lake. MAP #: 15

HABITAT: The main habitat feature are the lakes. The majority of the upland is developed for picnic areas and golf courses. There are scattered oak woodlots and wetlands. The shoreline of Lake Phalen has been restored to native vegetation.

REGULAR BIRDS: There is an active Bald Eagle nest on the north end of Keller Lake. The lakes are good migratory waterfowl viewing areas, especially in the spring. Male Red-breasted Mergansers put on higenergy displays in early April or right after ice-out.

CONTACT: Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department

2015 N. Van Dyke St. Maplewood, MN 55109 (651) 748-2500



LOCATION: The eastern half of Battle Creek regional Park is located in Maplewood south of I-94. It is bounded by Century Ave. on the east, McKnight Ave. on the west, and Lower Afton Ave on the south. Parking is located on Upper Afton. From I-94 take McKnight Ave. south to Upper Afton Road. Go east on Upper Afton. The park has a good network of paved and turf trails. MAP #: 17

HABITAT: The majority of the park is oak woods. There is an open turf area near the pavilion. The east end has a restored prairie and wetlands. Several ponds are found on the north and south side of Upper Afton Road. Conifer plantations are scattered through out the property.

REGULAR BIRDS: The wooded areas have Cooper's Hawks, Ovenbirds and other nesting warblers

CONTACT: Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department

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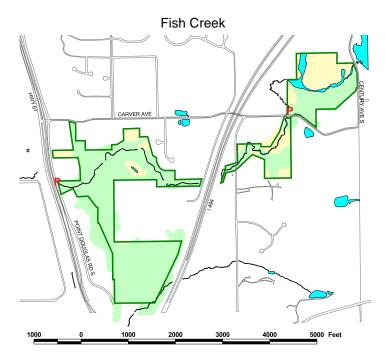
LOCATION: The western portion of Battle Creek Regional Park is located in St. Paul. It is bounded by Upper Afton on the north and Lower Afton on the South. Winthrop Street is the east boundary and Hwy 61 the west. Parking is located at the Battle Creek Recreation Center on Winthrop, along Battle Creek Road in the center of the park and on Pt. Douglas Rd. From Hwy 61 take Lower Afton Rd to the east. Turn north onto any of the three previously mentioned roads. A good series of turf and dirt trails cover this area. MAP #: 18

HABITAT: This half of the park is a mixture of woodland and restored prairies. The woodland are a mixture of oak woods, oak savannah, maple basswood, and mixed species. The prairies include a small native prairie and over 50 acres of planted prairie. There are extensive sandstone bluffs along the lower creek. There are several good vistas over looking the Mississippi River.

REGULAR BIRDS: The lower creek has a large Bank Swallow colony. Large flocks of Turkeys are found in the park. Red-tailed, Broadwing and Cooper's Hawks are residents in the park. American Redstarts, Mourning Warbler, Ovenbirds, and Eastern Towhees nest in the park.

CONTACT: Ramsey

Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department 2015 N. Van Dyke St. Maplewood, MN 55109 (651) 748-2500 www.co.ramsey.mn.us/parks



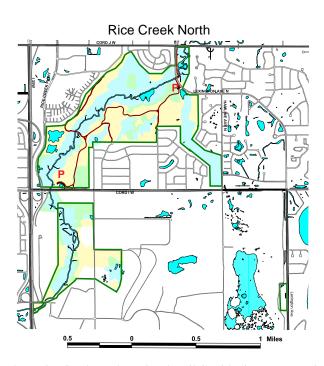
LOCATION: Fish Creek County Open Space is located in the extreme southeast corner of the county. The park has several sections and protects the Fish Creek corridor. The majority of the park is south of Carver Ave. and between I-494 and Highway 61. There are no official trails, but the site can be accessed from Pt. Douglas R, off of Carver Ave. Park where the creek goes under Pt. Douglas Rd. and follow the foot trails along the stream. MAP #: 19

HABITAT: Fish Creek is mainly oak woods, with some openings along the creek. Steep slopes dominate the area.

REGULAR BIRDS: The site is good for woodpeckers, including pileated. Wild Turkeys are common on the site. The oak woods are good for migratory and nesting warblers.

CONTACT: Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department

2015 N. Van Dyke St. Maplewood, MN 55109 (651) 748-2500



LOCATION: Rice Creek North Regional Trail Corridor is a 696-acre site in the northwest corner of the county. It can be accessed from a parking lot on Co. Rd. I, east of I-35W or from a parking lot on Lexington Ave, south of Co. Rd J. Paved trails connect the two parking lots.

The portion of the corridor south of Col. Rd. I is currently not accessible. Trails should be in place by 2010. MAP #: 1

HABITAT: The main features of the corridor are the Rice Creek floodplain, which is a mixture of grasses, native and invasive, and willow thickets. There is over 50 acres of sand prairie, 40 acres of which was restored in 2001. There are scattered stands of oaks, aspen and a pine plantation. Old fields and cattail marsh make up the remainder of the habitat.

REGULAR BIRDS: Herons, egrets, American Woodcock, Northern Roughwinged and Bank Swallows, Field and Savannah Sparrows, Eastern Towhee. Grassland birds are returning to the prairie areas.

CONTACT: Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department

2015 N. Van Dyke St. Maplewood, MN 55109 (651) 748-2500

AHATS/Marsden Lake Overlook

LOCATION: AHATS (Arden Hill Army Training Site) is located in the north half of the City of Arden Hills. AHATS is 1500 acres and is bounded by Hwy 96, Lexington Ave., and Co. Rd. I. The west side of the AHATS is bounded by the US Army TCAAP property.

AHATS is not open for the general public, but special hikes are scheduled by various organizations. The east side of the property can be viewed from the Wildlife Observation Area on Lexington Ave (red star). MAP#: 2

HABITAT: AHATS provides some of the largest contiguous wetlands, prairies, and woodlands in the county. The extensive prairies, both native and restored, cover over 300 acres. The site also includes the highest elevations in the county. The oak woods and savannahs are located in the center of the property. The Marsden marsh is over 275 acres.

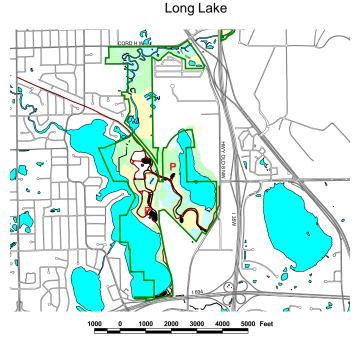
REGULAR BIRDS: Breeding birds include Sandhill Cranes, Common Loons, and Trumpeter Swans at Marsden Marsh. Bobolinks, Western and Eastern Meadowlarks, and Northern Harrier. Cooper's and Red-tailed Hawks use the woodlands. Rough-legged Hawk and Northern Shrike in winter.

CONTACT: Arden Hills Army Training Site

1245 W. Hwy 96 Arden Hills, MN 55112

(651) 634-5229

www.dma.state.mn.us/cpripley/Ops/AHATSSOP04.doc



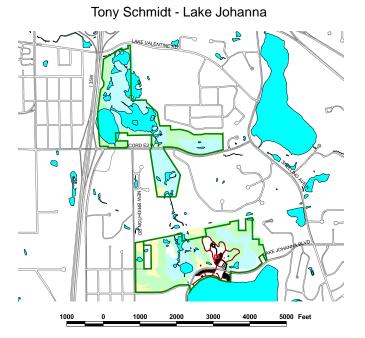
LOCATION: Long Lake Regional Park is 200-acre park located in the north end of New Brighton. The entrance of the park is off of Old Hwy 8. It can be reached by taking the Hwy 96 exit from I 35W and turning west. Follow the signs. The entrance road will take you through the park to the Lake. Parking is available in several areas. There is a series of paved trails and dirt foot paths. MAP #: 3

HABITAT: The park makes up the entire east shore of Long Lake and the west shore of Rush Lake. The shoreline, with the exception of the swimming beach, is undeveloped. There is a small prairie planted along the edge of Rush Lake. The uplands are a mixture of oak woods and old fields. The park is divided by two railroad lines.

REGULAR BIRDS: The shorelines are good for herons, Belted Kingfishers, Willow Flycatcher, Eastern Bluebird, and warblers in migration. Black Terns nest on Rush Lake. Both lakes are good for migratory waterfowl.

CONTACT: Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department

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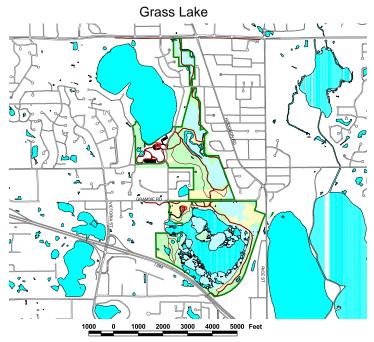
LOCATION: Tony Schmidt Regional Park is located on the north shore of Lake Johanna and extends up to I-694 in Arden Hills. The developed portion of the park is located on Lake Johanna Blvd. It can be reached by taking the Co. Rd. E exit from Snelling Ave (Hwy 52). Go west on Co. Rd. E. The road turns into Lake Johanna Blvd. Parking is available on both sides of the road. Paved trails are located north of the road. MAP #: 4

HABITAT: Lake Johanna provides shallow and deep water sites for waterfowl and waders. The wetlands south of the railroad tracks are shrub swamp, while the wetlands north of the railroad are open cattail marsh. The uplands around the picnic area are restored oak woods and oak sayanna.

REGULAR BIRDS: Lake Johanna is a good stopover site for migratory waterfowl and loons. The oak savanna is good for spring warblers. Sora and Virginia Rails are regular in the wetland.

CONTACT: Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department

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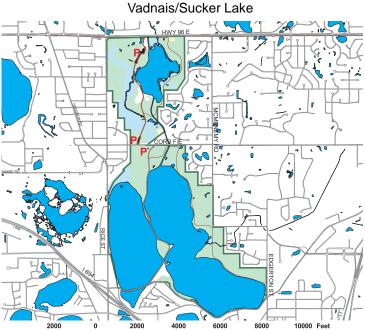
LOCATION: Grass Lake is part of Vadnais-Snail Lakes Regional Park in southern Shoreview. I-694 is the south boundary of the park. Access to turf and paved trails is from the parking area off of Gramsie Road. The parking lot can be reached by taking the Victoria St. exit from I-694 and going north to Gramsie Rd. Go east on Gramsie Rd. to the MacKubin Rd. intersection. Entrance is on your right. MAP #: 5

HABITAT: The main habitat is Grass Lake, which is a large deepwater cattail marsh with floating mats. Oak woodlands are found on the east and west sides of the lake. The north side of the site, along Gramsie Rd., is a mixture of shrub swamp and grasslands.

REGULAR BIRDS: Red-shouldered Hawks and Osprey nest at Grass Lake. Common Loons are often seen in the spring and summer. Marsh Wrens nest here, and many sparrows species stop over in migration.

CONTACT: Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department

2015 N. Van Dyke St. Maplewood, MN 55109 (651) 748-2500



LOCATION: Vadnais/Sucker Lake is the eastern half of Vadnais-Snail Lakes Regional Park. The park is on the eastern edge of Vadnais Heights. The lakes in the park are the reservoir for the St. Paul Regional Water Authority. The park and its mixture of paved and dirt trails can be reached from several parking areas off of Vadnais Lake

Blvd, Co. Rd. F and directly off Rice St, just south of Hwy 96. Take the Rice St. exit from I-694 and go north. The accesses are to the east of Rice St.

HABITAT: Vadnais and Sucker Lakes are both deep lakes and are two of the last lakes to freeze in the winter. The wetlands are composed of extensive tamarack and shrub swamps with a large fen in the north west quadrant. The forest habitat is mainly mature pine plantations with some areas of oak woods.

REGULAR BIRDS: Nesting Pine Warblersand Red-shouldered Hawks. A variety of marsh birds use the fen. Common Loons nest of West Vadnais Lakes. East Vadnais if one of the better fall migratory waterfowl lakes. The park is also good for migratory warblers and Redbreasted Nuthatch.

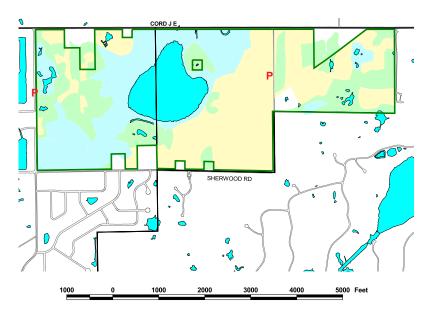
CONTACT: Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department

2015 N. Van Dyke St. Maplewood, MN 55109

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MAP#: 6

Poplar Lake



LOCATION: Poplar Lake County Park is located in the north central Ramsey County. It is half in Shoreview and half in White Bear Township. The north boundary is Co. Rd. J and the south boundary is Sherwood Rd. The park is located about midway between I-35 W and I-35E. There are not developed trails or parking in the park. There are a number of foot paths. It is best to park along Sherwood Road across from the County Compost site. MAP #: 7

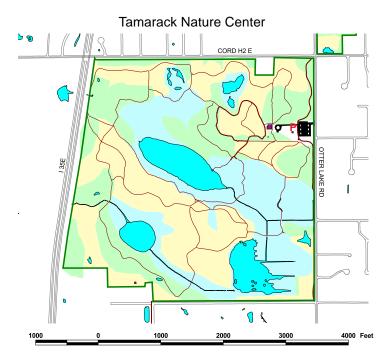
HABITAT: Poplar Lake is a mixture of wetlands, oldfields and woods. The west side of the park has some of the best oak-aspen woods in the county. The wetlands range from shrub swamp to wet meadow to cattails.

REGULAR BIRDS: Poplar lake has nesting Ospreys, Wild Turkeys, Red-tailed Hawks, Sedge Wrens, and Clay-colored Sparrows. Sandhill Cranes use the wetlands.

CONTACT: Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department

2015 N. Van Dyke St. Maplewood, MN 55109

(651) 748-2500



LOCATION: Tamarack Nature Center is located in White Bear Township. It is bounded by I-35E on the West, Otter Lake Rd. on the east, and Co. Rd. H2 on the north. The best way to reach the parking lot it to take the Hwy 96 exit from I –35E, east on Hwy 96 to Otter Lake Rd and north on Otter Lake Road to the Nature Center. There is a good series of turf trails and limited paved trails. MAP #: 8

HABITAT: Tamarack is a mixture of prairie, wetland and woodlands. Restored prairies cover almost 100 acres, with the largest being 70 acres. The wetlands are centered on the large shrub swamp in the center of the property. A restored wetland in the southeast corner of Tamarack has many large dead trees. The woodlands are a mixture of maple, basswood, and oak. Conifer plantings form dense plantations on the north and east edge.

REGULAR BIRDS: Waders, especially great egrets are found in the southeast marsh. The edges of the shrub swamp are good Woodcock habitat. Orioles use the trees just outside of the Center. Eastern Bluebirds are common in the park. Bobolinks nest in the prairie.

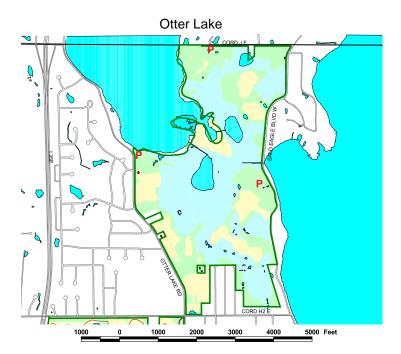
CONTACT: Tamarack Nature Center

Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department

5287 Otter Lake Rd

White Bear Townwhip, MN 55110

(651) 407-5350



LOCATION: Otter Lake is part of Bald Eagle-Otter Lakes Regional Park in northern White Bear Township. There are no official trails, but there are good foot paths throughout the uplands. The parking lot is at the boat launch off of Otter Lake Road. The east side of the park can be reached from West Bald Eagle Blvd. From I-35E, take the Co. Rd. J exit and go east to Otter Lake Rd. Go South on Otter Lake to the parking lot. MAP #: 9

HABITAT: The main habitat is a large wetland which is the flowage between Otter Lake and Bald Eagle Lake. The wetland grades from cattail to shrub with some open water pockets. The uplands are a mixture of oldfields and woodlands. The woodlands are a mixture of oak and basswood with a few scattered pine plantings.

The shoreline of Otter Lake within the park is undeveloped with wood emergent vegetation.

REGULAR BIRDS: A Bald Eagle nest is located in the park. Grebes, terns, Virginia Rail, Sora, Barred Owl and Marsh Wren are found in the park.

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