

THE TRAIL

Welcome to the Hickory Ridge Hike & Ski Trail, a project of the Friends of Island Lake. You are among the first to hike this new trail and we hope you enjoy walking it as much as we enjoyed building it! By the spring of 2017, the trail will develop into an interpretive trail that will highlight the natural features and the human history of the park.

The trail begins at the west end of the Kent Lake Beach parking lot, next to the new Canoe Portage Rail and the restroom. It winds five miles through varied ecosystems, allowing the hiker a broad sampling of the natural diversity within the park.

There are many opportunities to create a shorter route if desired, as the trail intersects the parks paved path several times, and the hiker may choose to go around Trout Lake or pay it only a brief visit before dropping back into the woods.

This trail, while now open, remains under development and we would appreciate your feedback and ideas, especially related to potential interpretive displays or information.

Please contact Tony Pitts at trails@islandlakefriends.org

SAFETY

Your safety is important to us. Please know that as a hiking trail that passes through various natural systems, there are plenty of opportunities for trips and falls and other accidents. Your safety is of course your responsibility and we ask that you exercise caution.

Of special note is the fact that the entire trail, like all trails at Island Lake, passes through areas open to hunting for most of its length. While hunter/hiker conflict is rare at Island Lake, it is always a good idea to wear bright colors. It is possible that you may encounter hunters with rifles or bows. Please do not be alarmed, and also be mindful of their need for a quiet environment.

TRAIL DISTANCES

Full Trail	5.0
Without Trout Lake	4.4
Return after circling Trout Lake	2.7
Return upon reaching Trout Lake	2.0
Return upon reaching 1st paved trail	1.4



Hickory Ridge Hike & Ski Trail



The Hickory Ridge Hike & Ski Trail was created through partnership with the Crossroads Group of the Sierra Club and was made possible by the generous support of REI and its employees, as well as the hundreds of volunteer hours given by members of the Friends, the Crossroads Group, and REI employees, members, and customers.



Friends of Island Lake State Recreation Area, Brighton, MI
www.islandlakefriends.org

