



Our Top 7 Trail Picks

1. Churchill Park

Staff Pick: Renae Frigo, Park District Naturalist

Nourish your need for nature as you wind your way through woodland, prairie, and wetland habitats. Churchill Park features both paved and woodchipped trails to enjoy. A map of the park is located in the kiosk near the picnic shelter. Located at 271 St. Charles Road.

2. Churchill Woods Forest Preserve

Staff Pick: Lisa Mertz, Ecological Restoration Technician

Take a footpath to the banks of the East Branch DuPage River or enjoy the 0.6-mile Regional Trail, which connects to the Great Western Trail. The two main entrances are on the south side of St. Charles Road 0.1 mile and 0.25 mile west of I-355. Operated by DuPage County Forest Preserve (dupageforest.org).

3. Hidden Lake Forest Preserve

Staff Pick: Dan Hopkins, Superintendent of Parks

The 390-acre Hidden Lake Forest Preserve in Downers Grove an ideal place to walk, picnic or just relax. It features two lakes and a river, trails, and fishing. The main entrance is on the east side of Route 53, 0.25 mile south of Butterfield Road. Hidden Lake is operated by the DuPage County Forest Preserve (dupageforest.org).

4. Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Staff Pick: Courtney O'Kray, Marketing Supervisor

Explore the trails hidden behind Willowbrook Wildlife Center, just over the bridge. The half-mile outer loop and a shorter inner loop wind through 40 acres of restored prairie, savanna, woodland and wetland habitats. Located at 525 S. Park Boulevard in Glen Ellyn.

5. Great Western Trail

Staff Pick: Jessica Marquez, Recreation Supervisor

This crushed limestone trail follows 12 miles of abandoned railway corridor through DuPage County, between Villa Park and West Chicago. A great spot for cyclist, joggers, and cross-country skiers. In 2015, an ADA-accessible connection to the trail was added within Ackerman Park (800 St. Charles Road, Glen Ellyn).

6. Illinois Prairie Path

Staff Pick: Dan Smith, Landscape Specialist

A well-known path but worth a mention! The Prairie Path can be accessed throughout Glen Ellyn, including at Prairie Path Park which now features an outdoor ping pong table, outdoor chess tables, a StoryWalk®, and a rain garden thanks in part to a \$10,000 grant from the Rotary Club of Glen Ellyn.

7. Lake Ellyn Park

Staff Pick: Andrew Albrecht, Marketing Assistant

Take a stroll around Lake Ellyn or explore the woodchipped pathways within the woodland restoration zone where the Park District is actively working to bring back native plants and protect the oak savanna. Some of the beautiful flowers you'll see blooming in the coming years include Jacob's ladder, wild geranium, wild columbine, and a mix of interesting grass-like sedges.

Located at 645 Lenox Road, Glen Ellyn.

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