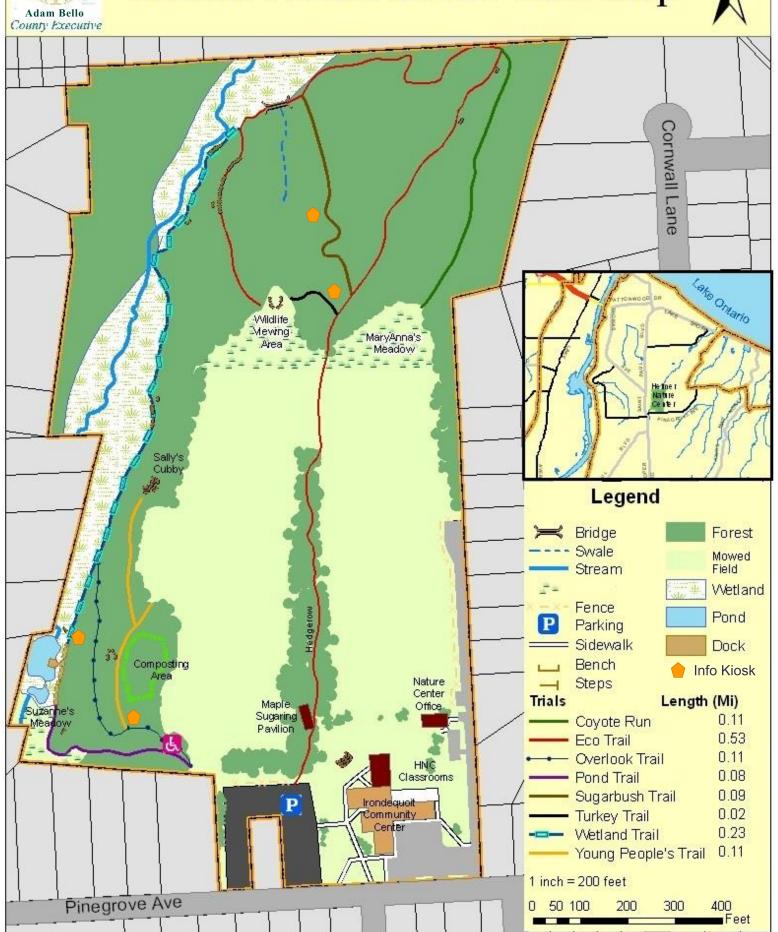


Helmer Nature Center Trail Map





HNC General Policies for Grounds

- In accordance with school district policy, **no dogs or other domestic pets** are allowed on the HNC property. This area is a wildlife sanctuary and domestic pets can cause undue stress for the natural inhabitants. In addition, some visitors are afraid of dogs and narrow trails make it difficult to pass by with room to spare.
- There is no picking or collecting at HNC. This includes leaves, seeds and detritus (natural litter). Many of the plants and animals in the nature center are protected by state endangered species laws and it is imperative that visitors pick nothing. There are rare exceptions for school groups, but individuals are requested to "take nothing but pictures, leave nothing but footprints." There is a fine for removing or harming protected wildflowers.
- Vehicles and running on the trails can cause significant damage by disrupting the trail surface
 and underlying plant roots. Therefore, we request that there be no running, bicycles or other
 vehicles on the trails. Exceptions include wheelchairs and small strollers when necessary.
- HNC is a very quiet, passive recreation area. Loud music in the wooded and parking areas can spoil walks for others who are enjoying the atmosphere.
- Although we have a pavilion, picnic tables and benches which serve as outdoor classroom spaces, these areas are not public picnic areas and no fire-building or cooking is allowed except as part of scheduled HNC programs.
- There are trails at the HNC which are wheelchair accessible and provide a comparable experience for visitors with special needs.
- All groups (schools, scouts, etc.) are required to have an HNC instructor. Individuals and families are welcomed and encouraged to walk the trails quietly from dawn to dusk.