

WENONAH



ENVIRONMENTAL
COMMISSION

TRAIL GUIDE

All Trails Foot Traffic Only
2019

www.wenonahenvironmentalcommission.org

HISTORY

① - WENONAH LAKE

This former millpond was created in 1762 by Abraham Dilks to power a gristmill on Break Back Run. This operation lasted through succeeding generations until the late 1890's. The pump house for the newly formed Wenonah Water Company was constructed on the site. Just before the First World War the company deeded the lake to the Borough of Wenonah. Since that time it has been the primary recreation area of our community run by the Wenonah Lake Association. Old timers still call this Warner's Lake, named after Joseph Warner who conducted an icehouse and creamery next to the lake.

② - HANISEY'S LANDING

This area was once the location of boat landings for area farmers to ship produce and lumber to the Philadelphia market. This activity started before the Revolutionary War and continued for over one hundred years. This also was the site of shipyards, along the banks of the Great Mantua Creek. Daniel Brown built a sash factory adjacent to the wharves in 1874, which in 1880 became the Duell, Perry and Company tomato cannery. This was a thriving industry of this period. The first bridge was built across the Mantua Creek in 1870 at a cost of \$1,850 and was replaced by an iron bridge in 1900. The present bridge was built in 1933.

③ - CLAY HILL R.R. TRESTLE SITE

In 1861 the West Jersey Railroad extended their line from Woodbury to Glassboro. The Mantua Creek was crossed at this point. The alignment of where the tracks ran can be seen in this area and at the Wenonah Lake north of the parking lot. In 1871 the railroad tracks were moved to their present location.

④ - THE GLEN

This wooded ravine, south of West Cedar Street, was the picnic area for the guests of the Wenonah Inn in the 1890's. It still retains its beauty with a stand of large trees, native foliage and a running brook. During the Revolutionary War there was a skirmish between the county militia and a British foraging party in this area. There is a combination of conservation and historic interest in this tract.

TRAIL MAP WEST SIDE

FRANK EGGERT TRAIL (1/2 MILE)

The Frank Eggert Trail traverses the pine-oak-hickory woods between the lake's eastern shore and the present-day railroad tracks. This trail is named for a founding member of the Wenonah Environmental Commission and a plaque in his honor can be viewed at the trailhead.

WENONAH LAKE TRAIL (1/4 MILE)

The Wenonah Lake Trail begins at the trail sign along the old West Jersey Railroad bed just north of the parking lot and follows the perimeter of the lake. It crosses several foot bridges and ends at the dam on Maple Street. It is a good trail for observing waterfowl, song birds, turtles and dragon flies on the lake and its shores.

DILKS' POND TRAIL (1000 FEET)

Starts at the intersection of West Buttonwood Street and North West Avenue and ends on North Jefferson Avenue, passing the north shore of spring fed Dilks' Pond.

BREAK BACK RUN TRAIL (1/2 MILE)

This trail starts at Maple Street, opposite Wenonah Lake, and follows the Break Back Run, a tributary of Mantua Creek. As you enter this trail, you will cross over several footbridges. One bridge spans the overflow of spring fed Dilks' Pond. A topography of numerous small stream valleys carved by spring fed streamlets feeding into Break Back Run make this Wenonah's most physically challenging trail. This trail ends at North Hayes Avenue, just north of West Mantua Avenue.

HANISEY'S LANDING TRAIL (570 FEET)

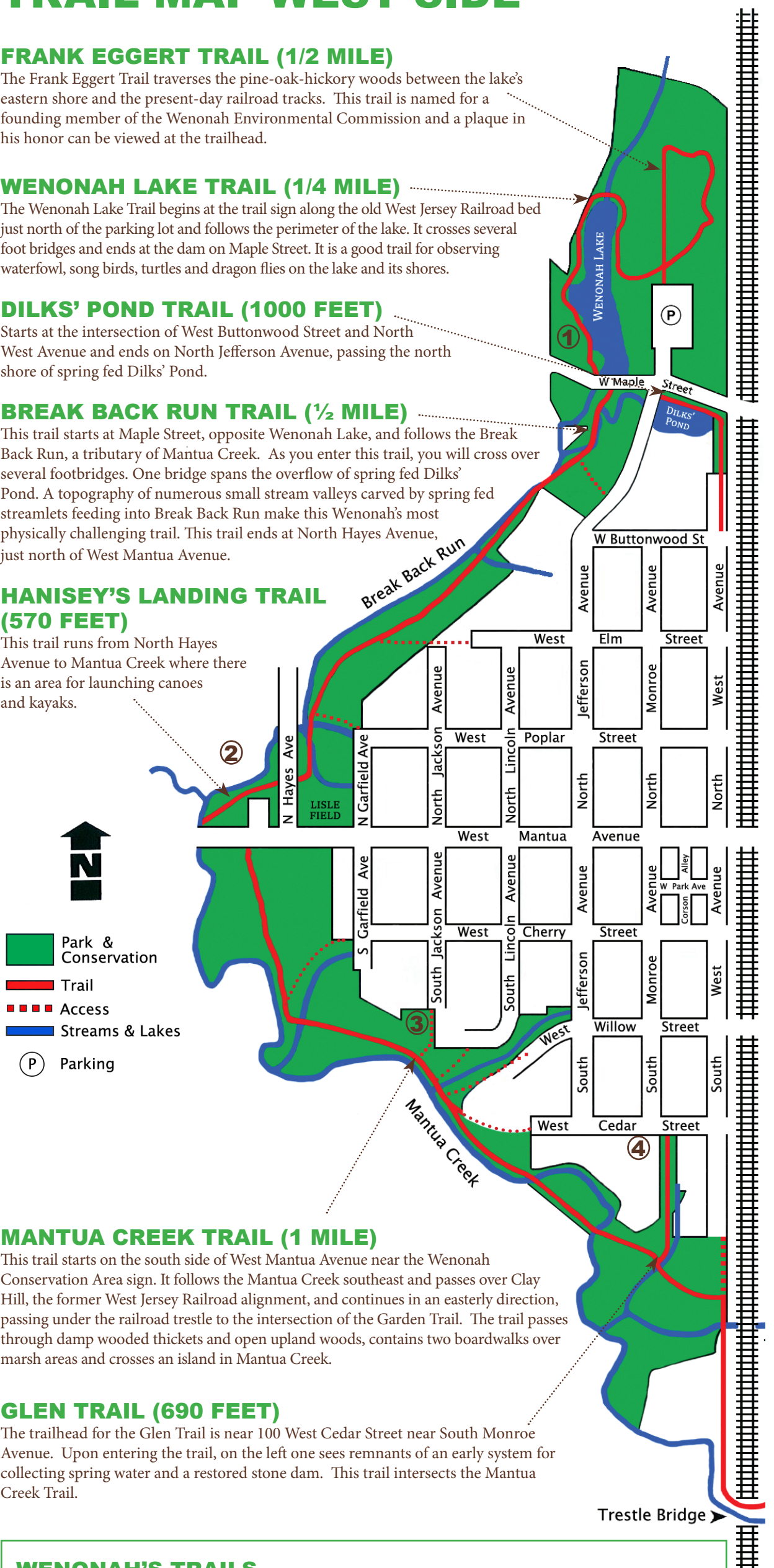
This trail runs from North Hayes Avenue to Mantua Creek where there is an area for launching canoes and kayaks.

MANTUA CREEK TRAIL (1 MILE)

This trail starts on the south side of West Mantua Avenue near the Wenonah Conservation Area sign. It follows the Mantua Creek southeast and passes over Clay Hill, the former West Jersey Railroad alignment, and continues in an easterly direction, passing under the railroad trestle to the intersection of the Garden Trail. The trail passes through damp wooded thickets and open upland woods, contains two boardwalks over marsh areas and crosses an island in Mantua Creek.

GLEN TRAIL (690 FEET)

The trailhead for the Glen Trail is near 100 West Cedar Street near South Monroe Avenue. Upon entering the trail, on the left one sees remnants of an early system for collecting spring water and a restored stone dam. This trail intersects the Mantua Creek Trail.



WENONAH'S TRAILS

With the support of the Frank Stewart Trust, Wenonah's past and present leaders have acquired large areas of land for the borough, to be used for conservation/recreation purposes only. As you walk these trails, observe the abundant and varied native flora and fauna. Deer, raccoon, opossum, fox, flying squirrel and beaver inhabit our woods. Birds such as Great Blue Heron, Belted Kingfisher, Red Tail Hawk, Vultures, and many species of song birds can be seen and heard here. These conservation areas are Wenonah's treasure. We hope you and your family enjoy the tranquility of walking these trails. Members of the Wenonah Environmental Commission, along with volunteers, continue to work on new trails, restore historical sites and maintain existing trails. This Trail Guide is our attempt to make you aware of and encourage you to explore and discover the wooded treasure of Wenonah. While walking the trails, please carry a bag to pick up any trash you see. Together, we can work to keep Wenonah beautiful. All trails are for foot traffic only.

NOTE: This map is not to be reproduced without permission from the Wenonah Environmental Commission.

TRAIL MAP EAST SIDE



- Park & Conservation
- Trail
- Access
- Streams & Lakes
- P Parking

HISTORY

⑤- COMEY'S LAKE-Camel's Back Run

Camel's Back Run was dammed up by the Wenonah Park Association in the 1890's creating a lake and picnic area for the new town of Wenonah. Maps of this period show the area as a park. Title passed to private ownership which lasted for sixty years until the Stewart Trust acquired it from the Langston estate. It was dedicated as a conservation area in the 1960's. Some of the largest oak and tulip poplar trees in the town are in this wooded area.

WENONAH SCHOOL TRAIL (1/4 MILE)

This trail starts at East Elm Street, continues between the school and railroad tracks, and ends at East Maple Street.

CAMEL'S BACK LOOP TRAIL (660 feet)

This short loop trail, accessed from East Elm Street, follows a section of Camel's Back Run and crosses the stream on an arched bridge near the remnants of the dam that once created Synnott's Pond here.

COMEY'S LAKE TRAIL (1/2 MILE)

There are two entrances: East Willow Street and a paved entry between 100-102 Lenape Trail. As you walk Comey's Lake Trail, you will see an area rich in historical interest. The Tea House, amphitheater and a remnant of the old bridge over Camel's Back Run, were all features of the Robert H. Comey Estate.

NOTE: A small portion of this trail passes over private property at the south end of the lake. Please respect this property.

GEORGE ELDRIDGE TRAIL (3/4 MILE)

Named for Wenonah naturalist and conservationist George Eldridge, this trail starts on East Pine Street east of South Princeton Avenue. Heading in a southerly direction, it crosses over the lower bridge of Monongahela Brook. It passes the junction with the Monongahela Brook Trail, continues to the junction with the Indian Trail, and passes the Monongahela Brook Loop Trail before crossing the Monongahela Brook on a raised boardwalk. From this point the trail continues to Comey's Lake, exiting at East Pine Street.

MONONGAHELA BROOK LOOP TRAIL (1/2 MILE)

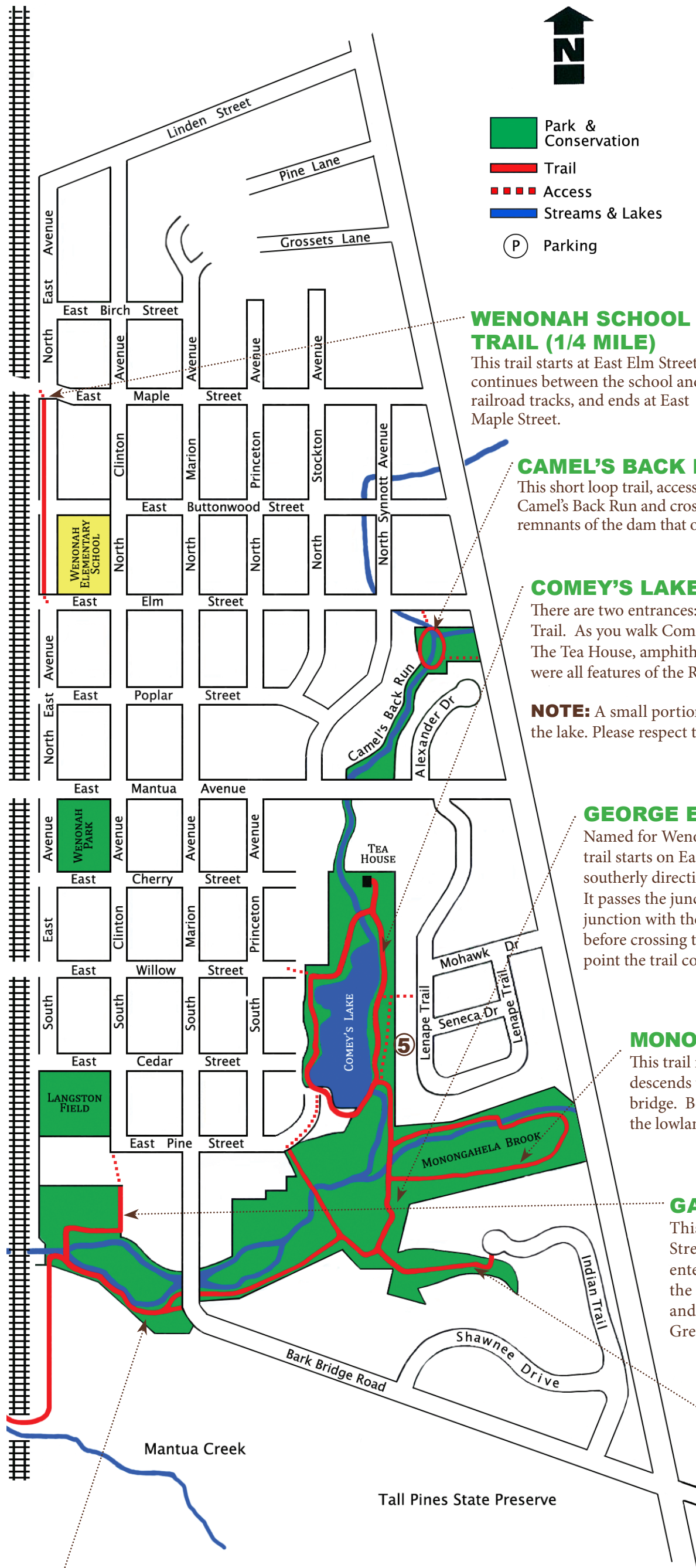
This trail runs through the woodlands high above the stream valley then descends to the stream and winds along its banks back to the upper bridge. Beaver activity and seasonal flooding may impact accessibility to the lowland portion of this loop.

GARDEN TRAIL (546 FEET)

This trail runs a short distance from the intersection of East Pine Street and South Clinton Avenue. Proceed down a paved lane and enter the conservation land. On the way to the connection with the Monongahela Brook Trail, you will pass a woodland garden and a circular stone pool built in 1913, a remnant of the Stephen Greene estate.

INDIAN TRAIL (800 FEET)

This trail runs alongside a deep ravine. The lower portion of the ravine follows a spring fed stream with lovely fern patches. The trail terminates at the Indian Trail cul-de-sac. Following the street of Indian Trail 1/3 mile to Bark Bridge Road leads to the entrance of Tall Pines State Preserve.



MONONGAHELA BROOK TRAIL (1/2 MILE)

The start of this trail is the footbridge over the Monongahela Brook linking the South Clinton Avenue Garden Trail with the Monongahela Brook Trail. This trail parallels the Monongahela Brook, crossing over an embankment and then a 100-foot long Bog Walk which traverses the site of the former Greene's Lake. The trail crosses over South Marion Avenue, runs through the woodlands high above the stream valley, descends to the stream, and ends at the junction with the Eldridge Trail. Sections of the Monongahela Brook Trail and the Eldridge Trail were originally part of a trail used by Native Americans that paralleled the Monongahela Brook.

