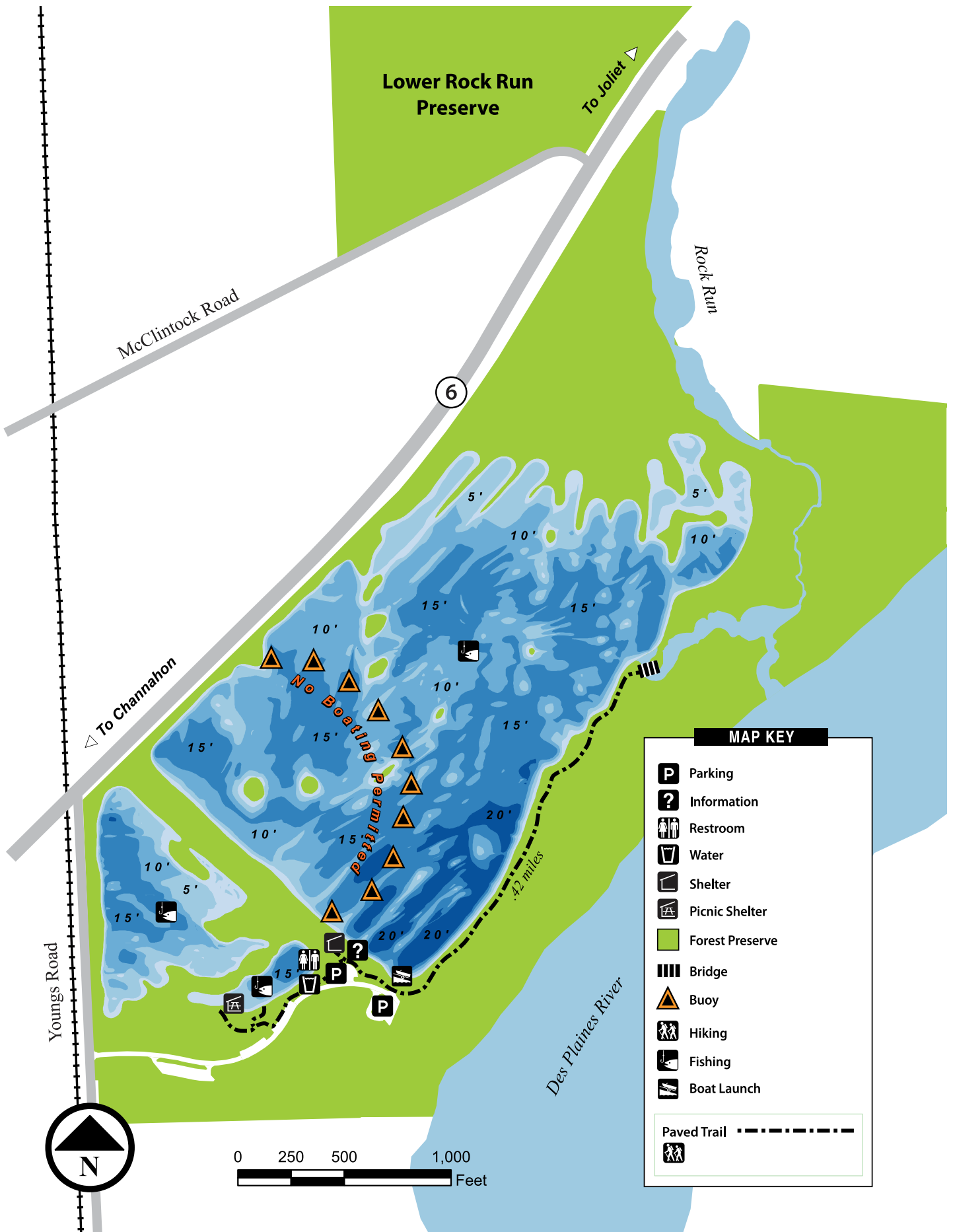


Rock Run Rookery Preserve



Directions to Preserve:

Rock Run Rookery Preserve is located just south of Route 6 on Youngs Road in Joliet.



For information, please call 815.727.8700 or visit ReconnectWithNature.org.

Forest Preserve District of Will County

Rock Run Rookery

Funded through a voter referendum and state grants, two abandoned quarries were acquired by the Forest Preserve District of Will County in 2002 to protect nesting islands of herons, egrets and cormorants and to improve the site for public use. In 2011 the 217-acre Rock Run Rookery Preserve opened to the public.

The preserve features two fishing lakes, the larger of which totals 80 acres. As part of the preserve development, the District provided parking for up to 15 boat trailers and a boat launch. Fishing boats, canoes and kayaks are welcome. Fishing boats cannot exceed 18 feet in length, and only electric trolling motors are permitted.

An existing channel connects the quarry lakes with the Des Plaines River. As part of the development, a scenic bridge was installed, spanning this channel and preventing fishing boats from passage between the river and lake.

Other features of the Rock Run Rookery include a rentable picnic pavilion with a capacity of 100, ample parking, scenic overviews of the preserve and a 0.3-mile asphalt trail.

Future plans include an extension of the trail to McClintock Road where the District plans to create an additional access area and dog park.

Preserve and Trail Hours

Hours for the Rookery are 6 a.m. to sunset, April through October and 8 a.m. to sunset, November through March.

Trail Hours - The following select preserves are open sunrise to sunset to provide access to biking trails:

- I&M Canal Access, Joliet (I&M Canal Trail)
- Hickory Creek Junction, Mokena (OPRT)
- Black Road Access, Joliet (Rock Run Trail)
- Paul V. Nichols Access, Joliet (Rock Run Trail)
- Sugar Creek Administration Center, Joliet (WGT)
- Manhattan Road Access, Manhattan (WGT)
- Symerton Road Access, Symerton (WGT)

Information

Call 815.727.8700 weekdays to receive free informational brochures, such as:

Map & Guide to the Forest Preserve

County map showing preserve locations and complete recreational information.

The Citizen

Quarterly newsletter detailing family programs and preserve happenings.

Or visit ReconnectWithNature.org for more information and to request brochures or other trail maps.

In an Emergency, Call 9-1-1.

Please give the location and nature of the emergency.

In non-emergencies, call the Will County Sheriff's dispatch at 815.727.6191 to reach a Forest Preserve District Officer.

Trail Etiquette

- Slower traffic should stay to the right of the trail. Bicyclists should pass on the left, politely announcing "Passing on the left."
- While in a group, leave room for others to pass.
- Dogs are welcome on most trails but must be leashed. Cleaning up dog waste is required by ordinance. Dogs are not allowed in preserves designated as Nature Preserves.
- No Forest Preserve trail is designed for motorized use. Assistive motorized devices permitted.