



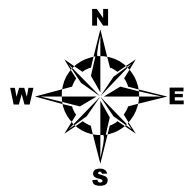
115 CEDAR STREET  
BATAVIA, NY 14020

# DEWITT RECREATION AREA

EST. 1996  
64 ACRES

- Pavilion
- Information Kiosk
- Playground
- Fishing Dock
- Boat Launch
- Observation Point
- Restroom
- Gate
- Parking Lot
- Lakeside Trail (.89 mi.)
- Wildflower Trail (.20 mi.)
- Goose Neck Trail (.07 mi.)
- Overlook Trail (.06 mi.)
- Blue Heron Point (.04 mi.)
- Sunfish Point (.02 mi.)
- SeaBees Point (.02 mi.)
- Walking Track (.25 mi.)
- Access Road (.06 mi.)
- Bridge
- Active Railroads
- Area Flooded at High Water
- Wetlands
- Park Boundaries
- Parcel Boundaries

0 100 200 Feet



Map created by the Genesee County  
Dept. of Planning - December 2010



## General Park Information

This is a County Park managed and maintained by the Genesee County Department of Parks, Recreation & Forestry. It is located in the City of Batavia.

**Contact Info:** Park Office/Reservations/Parks Supervisor – (585) 344-8508

**Picnic Reservations:** To make a reservation, a picnic permit is required. Complete and return with payment to 153 Cedar St., Batavia, NY 14020. If you have reserved a pavilion, bring your confirmation letter with you and present it to Park Staff upon arrival. For further information please call 585.344.8508 Mon. – Fri. (8:00 am – 4:00 pm) or visit the park website at [www.co.genesee.ny.us/dpt/parks/permits.html](http://www.co.genesee.ny.us/dpt/parks/permits.html).

**Hours and Rules:** Summer (May – Sept.) Park Hours: 9:00am – 9:00pm. Picnic reservations must begin clean-up one hour before closing as gates and cables will close promptly at 9:00 pm.

Winter (October – April) Park Hours: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. Parking is permitted in the South Parking Area only as the main gate is closed.

**All County Parks are Carry-In Carry-Out.** Please take all garbage with you and dispose of properly after you leave.

**NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES and NO PETS/ANIMALS PERMITTED IN PARK**

## Trail Information

**Walking Track – (.25 mi.)** This trail loop is located in the center of park. It is a paved 6' wide measured 1/3 mile trail created for the everyday user to enjoy a brisk walk or short jaunt during their lunch break. There are park benches located around the perimeter for resting or even for people watching. Many times you will see joggers, roller bladers, walkers, and small children on bikes cruising the trail just learning the ins and outs of pedaling.

**Lakeside Trail – (.89 mi.)** This trail takes you around the perimeter of the lake where great views are seen from various overlooks. You may witness Carp fish sunning along the edges, Baltimore Orioles, Blue & Green Heron, rabbits, ducks, geese, and various songbirds throughout the day. Along the trail, opportunities to visit the water's edge to view fish and wildlife become available through feeder trails.

## Special Features

**Boat Launch:** Installed in 2008, the launch consists of parking for 5 trailer vehicles, ramp and an accessible floating platform for tie ups. This project was completed with the assistance of the community & Eagle Scout.

**Fishing Pier:** Completed in 2000 as part of the initial development of the picnic areas, this features a 3 tiered platform with a T-shaped handicap accessible floating dock. You might catch Brown Trout, Large Mouth Bass, Perch, Sunfish, and or a Pike.

**6.0 Acre Wetland:** Located within the Black Creek Watershed and on the East side of the lake along the Lakeside trail. Many wetland species can be observed throughout the year including frogs, turtles, muskrats, geese, ducks, heron, and sometimes beaver. Visit [www.blackcreekwatershed.org](http://www.blackcreekwatershed.org) for more info.

## History

The Park's landform is a result of its original use as a gravel quarry by the New York Central Railroad. The quarry provided sand and gravel to the railroad during construction of the many rail lines built in Genesee County.

Prior to 1978, the area was used as a sand and gravel quarry by Genesee Leroy Stone Company, a subsidiary of B.R. DeWitt Inc. The site was then abandoned and became known as the sandwash, an attraction to local residents for recreational purposes. It wasn't until November 22, 1993 that B.R. DeWitt Inc. donated the land to Genesee County with the stipulation that it was to be used for family recreation, not for organized sporting events. From this point on, the sand wash became known as the **DeWitt Recreation Area**.

In 1996, the Batavia Area Jaycees made a commitment to the County and constructed the first pavilion measuring 30' x 60' (Pavilion #1). That same year, the County created a parking lot adjacent to the South entrance so the public could have access to the park and pavilion. In 1999, funding received through the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation allowed construction of an access road, parking areas, Pavilion #2 with restrooms, public electric, water and sewer, accessible fishing dock, and established the initial trail system. The Naval Sea Bees and a local company: Hansen provided site grading along the perimeter trail and waters edge. Various plantings were also done to help prevent soil erosion and begin to restore the park back to pre-mining conditions. In the summer of 2002, The Adolescent Vocational Exploration (A.V.E.) program through Genesee County Job Development raised over \$10,000, spearheading the installation of the current playground structure.

Today the Park features a 38 acre lake stocked yearly by the NYS DEC with brown trout, 3 picnic shelters, a playground, handicap accessible 3- tiered fishing platform with floating dock, boat launch for small boats and canoes, 1/4 mile paved walking trail, .89 mile trail around the perimeter, and naturalized areas for viewing wildlife. The Park is within the Black Creek Watershed that flows north through the Bergen Swamp and into the Genesee River. Future expansion includes additional picnic areas, parking, fishing platforms, play areas, outdoor skating rink, and naturalized plantings along the perimeter trail and NW sections of the park.

Due to the extreme slope along the pond edges and the variations in water levels throughout the year, it is not possible to have a swimming area that will meet N.Y. State regulations; however, there are a variety of other recreational opportunities in the park for all to enjoy.

**Please be aware of seasonal changes in trail conditions and be prepared for natural conditions such as mosquitoes and poison ivy in some areas.**

**Volunteer Opportunities:** In 2006, a group of dedicated volunteers at the Genesee County Park & Forest formed a group called the Association for Conservation of Recreational and Natural Spaces (ACORNS). The mission of ACORNS is to serve the public by fostering environmental education, recreational opportunities and responsible environmental stewardship at the Genesee County Parks. For more information regarding volunteer opportunities, please contact the Environmental Education Coordinator at (585) 344-1122 or visit [www.acorns.shutterfly.com](http://www.acorns.shutterfly.com)

## Fishing Rules & Regulations (Local Law No. 7, 2002)

- FISHING SEASON:** This program will be valid from April 1 – Nov. 30 each year. **NO ICE FISHING PERMITTED**
- Persons fishing at any county park or recreation area must possess a valid New York State Fishing License.
- HOURS:** Fishing permitted only during Park hours as posted.
- TAKE AND USE OF FISH:** Bait fish can not be caught and/or sold. **NO TRAPS ALLOWED**
- SPECIES AND SIZE REGULATIONS:**
  - In an effort to maintain our game fish population, only
    - 1 Trout
    - 2 Black Bass (Nothing under 14")
    - 1 Walleye/Yellow Pike (Nothing under 18")
  - All other amounts and size regulations are per the New York State Fishing Regulations Guide for the current year. Visit NYS DEC website at [www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/regulations.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/regulations.html)
- PROHIBITED PRACTICES:**
  - Cleaning of fish in the lake.
  - Use of gas powered motors.
  - Annoyance of other fisherman.
  - Disposal of bait in the water.
  - Trespass on the Department of Parks and Recreation equipment.
  - Loitering in parking areas and parking in other than designated areas.
  - Waders, boots, etc. are prohibited. Fishermen are to limit themselves to fishing from the shore, in designated areas, or from approved boats.
- BOATS:**
  - Canoes are allowed.
  - Boats to 14' in length, powered by oars, paddles, or electric motors.
  - All boats powered by gas and/or wind are prohibited.
  - No boats are to be left on park property.
  - No floats, tubes, rubber or homemade rafts allowed unless registered according to New York State Department of Motor Vehicles.
  - Boats must be launched in designated areas only.
  - Boaters must follow all New York State Navigation Laws.
  - No boat shall carry more than three (3) persons.
- Any exemption to policy must be requested in writing and approved by the Supervisor of Parks and Recreation on an individual case basis.

**VIOLATION OF ANY SANITARY REGULATIONS WILL LEAD TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION. THIS PROGRAM MAY BE CANCELED BY THE SUPERVISOR OF PARKS, RECREATION, & FORESTRY OR DESIGNEE AT ANY TIME.**

**Acknowledgements:** This map was made possible through the efforts of various Genesee County Departments (Parks, Planning, & IT), Soil & Water Cons. District and the ACORNS - parks volunteer organization.

Revised 12/10/10