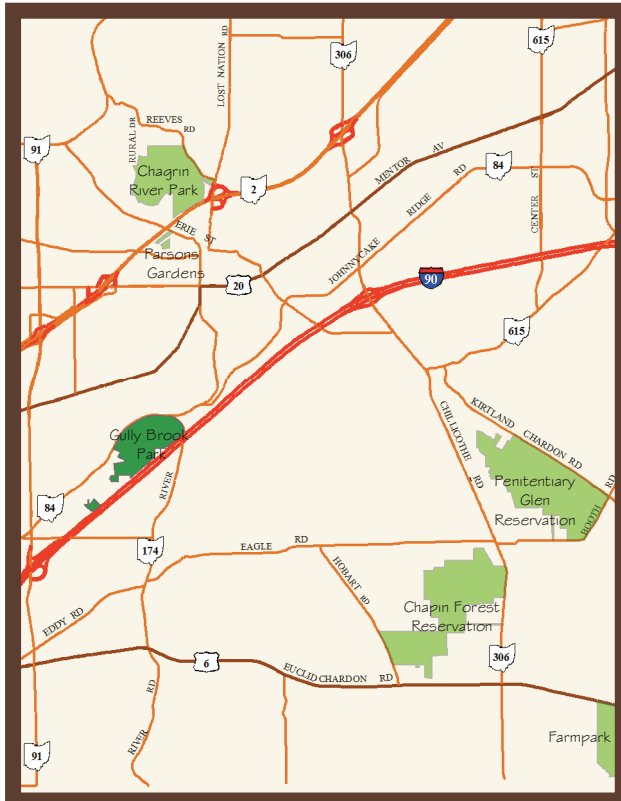


GULLY BROOK PARK

Entrance

2100 River Road
Willoughby Hills, Ohio 44094



Selection of Park Rules

Park rules help ensure the safety of park visitors and help protect natural resources:

- The park opens at sunrise and closes at sunset unless otherwise posted.
- Visitors are required to stay on designated trails.
- All pets must be leashed and under control. Clean up after your pet.
- A permit is required to collect or remove anything from the park.
- Alcohol is not permitted in the park.
- Fishing is permitted in Gully Brook with a valid Ohio fishing license. Catch and release is encouraged.
- Do not litter.

Please note: Naturalist-guided hikes may be presented throughout the year into limited or restricted areas with fragile vegetation and uneven terrain. For more information, visit lakemetroparks.com or call the Registration Department at 440-358-7275.

EMERGENCIES: Call 9-1-1

**Non-emergency ranger assistance:
440-354-3434**

For an extended list of park rules, check the park kiosk.
For a complete listing, please contact 440-358-7290 or visit lakemetroparks.com.

Trail Description

Lake Metroparks develops trails that provide public access to unique park features. The park system creates opportunities for the public to experience the natural environment of Lake County.



Gully Brook Valley Trail



Access: River Road parking lot trailhead
Permitted Uses: Hike, bike
Length: 1.36 miles
Surface: Compacted gravel

Enjoy the natural beauty and variety along this trail through wet woodland habitat. The trail begins brookside where the trees are young, evidence that this land was once farmed in the mid 1900s.

Most of Gully Brook is wet forest. It supports a diversity of trees, including these uncommon trees: swamp white oak, tulip, sweet gum, paw-paw, sweet birch and pumpkin ash trees as well as spicebush and buttonbush. A grove of white pines provides habitat for owls and other wildlife. The trail continues along the brook, through hemlocks and a hillside of beech maple forest.

In the past, Gully Brook was known for a great diversity of spring wildflowers. While small patches of native flowers exist throughout the park, the abundance of the past (trillium, bluebells and bluets) have been challenged by land use, wildlife and invasive plants.

Trail advisories, notes, cautions

As with any outdoor activity, there are inherent risks with hiking and biking. It is Lake Metroparks' intention to manage trails to minimize risks based on the challenges associated with the activities appropriate for that particular trail. We will work to communicate the various levels of physical challenges and natural conditions existing within the trail system.

About Gully Brook

Gully Brook Park protects this valley, stream, wetland and forest. Its unique natural features, ravines and wild places are intertwined with local history. For nearly 100 years, nature enthusiasts of all ages have sought inspiration and knowledge in the Gully Brook valley. Today, visitors can enjoy more than a mile of improved trails and the chance to reconnect with nature.

The construction of Interstate 90 during the late 1950s dramatically changed the character of Lake County. In the Gully Brook valley, family farms were divided, streams were diverted into culverts and wild plant and animal communities were changed. More than a mile of Gully Brook and its watershed are protected within this park, providing a refuge for a variety of plants and wildlife species.

For information call: 440-639-7275

Park Feature

TOP FOUR NATURAL THINGS TO LOOK FOR WHILE AT GULLY BROOK PARK



Great blue herons: These three-foot tall wading birds are often fishing in Gully Brook. They will eat fish, frogs and small mammals. Watch how they maneuver their long legs and wings through the forest landscape.



Red elm trees: These trees survive in standing water. Their trunks look like a tropical tree with a support or buttress to help them tolerate the extreme environment.



Sweet gum trees: Did you see some trees growing in straight lines? This tells us the land here was formerly used for agriculture. The sweet gum is not native to Northeast Ohio, but has good wildlife value in winter seed production.



Pileated woodpeckers: Have you seen a tree hole that looks more like a rectangle? These crow-sized woodpeckers make this unique shape when they are looking for beetle grubs in the trees.

PHOTOS BY JOHN POGACNIK



GULLY BROOK PARK



Legend

Parking	Stream
Restroom	Road
Picnic Shelter	Building
Playground	Pond
Fishing	Parking Lot
Primary Trail	Park Boundary
Connector Trail	

Trail Key

Gully Brook Valley Trail
1.36 miles, easy