



CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY SPRING GUIDE

Spring has officially arrived in New York City, bringing warmer weather, beautiful blooms, and lots of activity in Central Park. Whether you're looking to attend a free event, find the most colorful flowers, or enjoy a quiet stroll through nature, our Spring Guide has all you need to know about this season in the Park.

The mission of the Central Park Conservancy is to restore, manage, and enhance Central Park in partnership with the public.

**CENTRAL PARK
CONSERVANCY**
central to the park

IN THIS GUIDE

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WHERE TO FIND SPRING BLOOMS IN CENTRAL PARK



Each spring, Central Park's flowers bring bursts of color to New York City. If you're looking for this season's most photogenic landscapes, here are the Park's must-visit destinations.

1. CONSERVATORY GARDEN

Central Park's formal six-acre garden is divided into three smaller gardens, each with a distinct style: the northern, French-style garden; the center, Italianate garden; and the southern, English-style garden. The Garden features thousands of colorful blooms, including a popular tulip display that typically peaks the last week of April. Between April and May, look for the fragrant, colorful wisteria gracing the Garden's beautiful pergola.

LOCATION: East Side from 104th to 106th Street

2. NORTH MEADOW BUTTERFLY GARDENS

Look closely for four colorful butterfly gardens just northeast of the North Meadow. These gardens are full of flowers and shrubs that act as host plants and food sources for a variety of butterfly species. They are colorful, beautiful, and provide a wide variety of wonderful fragrances for visitors of all species to enjoy.

LOCATION: East Side between 102nd and 103rd Streets

3. RESERVOIR

If cherry trees are your favorite spring bloom, don't miss the landscapes surrounding the Reservoir. Japan gifted Central Park and Riverside Park with thousands of cherry trees in 1912. Nearly 200 Yoshino cherry trees were planted on the east side of the Reservoir, with a similar number of Kwanzan cherry trees planted on its west side. Peak bloom time varies each year and depends on the weather, but color typically appears between late March and late May.

LOCATION: 85th to 96th Street

4. SHAKESPEARE GARDEN

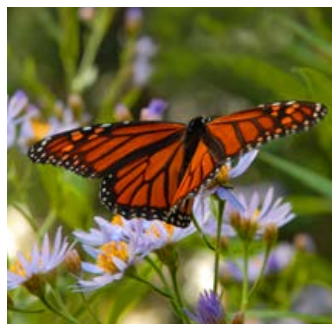
Shakespeare Garden is a four-acre landscape named for the famed English poet and playwright William Shakespeare. The Garden features a diverse array of plants, along with plaques featuring quotes that reference the flowers from Shakespeare's writings. Throughout April and May, you can expect to see daffodils, tulips, roses, fritillaries, and more.

LOCATION: West Side between 79th and 80th Streets

5. THE RAMBLE

Central Park co-designer Frederick Law Olmsted described the 36-acre Ramble as a "wild garden." Though the Ramble may not feature big-name spring blooms like tulips and cherry trees, you'll spot many colorful native plants throughout its 36 acres. The Ramble also contains several rustic bridges and benches, providing a stunning backdrop to your photos.

LOCATION: Mid-Park from 73rd to 79th Streets



North Meadow Butterfly Gardens

Join us in tracking spring blooms on social media!

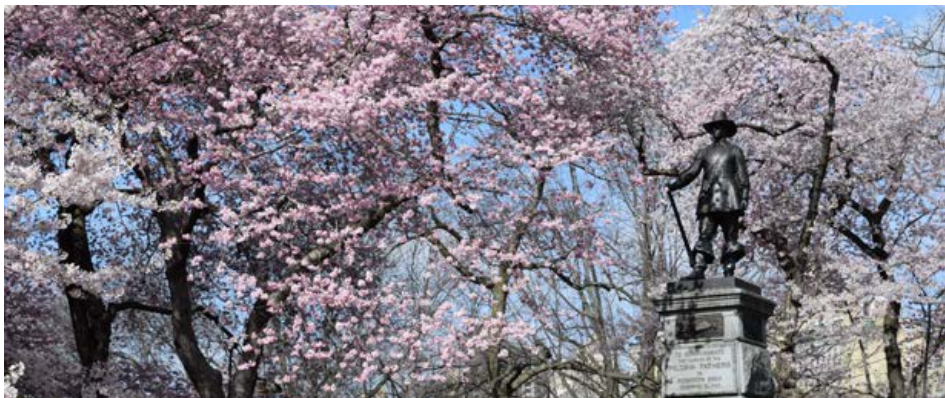
Share your favorite bloom sightings with us by tagging @centralparknyc and using the hashtag

#CentralParkBloomWatch.



WHERE TO FIND SPRING BLOOMS IN CENTRAL PARK

continued



Pilgrim Hill



Shakespeare Garden



Cherry Hill



Dene Slope

6. PILGRIM HILL

Pilgrim Hill gets its name from the bronze Pilgrim statue that stands at the top of its knoll. It's easily one of the most stunning spots for admiring the vibrant pinks and whites of Yoshino cherry trees. From here, take a short walk to Cherry Hill for even more cherry blossoms.

LOCATIONS: East Side at 72nd Street

7. CHERRY HILL

With views to the Ramble, Cherry Hill overlooks the Lake — and gets its name from the beautiful cherry blossoms that blanket this area with pinks and whites each spring. This landscape also offers a contemplative space perfect for picnicking, reading, and sunbathing.

LOCATIONS: Mid-Park at 72nd Street

8. OLMSTED FLOWER BED

While the foliage of the Mall's majestic American elms makes its return, the nearby Olmsted Flower Bed begins to burst with color! This flowerbed was created in 1972 to commemorate the 150th birthday of Frederick Law Olmsted. Even though the flowerbed is small compared with other spots on this list, it provides a dense variety of blooms.

LOCATION: Mid-Park at 66th Street

9. DENE SLOPE

In addition to a variety of grasses and wildflowers, the Dene Slope features a trail that leads to a rocky outcrop at the top of the hill with great Midtown skyline views. Look closely — mourning doves, monarch butterflies, hummingbirds, caterpillars, and other wildlife have been spotted here.

LOCATION: East Side from 65th to 67th Street

Explore Central Park's blooms

Visit our online Bloom Guide at centralparknyc.org/bloomguide for an insider's look at the Park's most popular blooms. Discover when and where to find flowers all year long, and become an expert on your favorite varieties.

FAMILY PROGRAMS



Discovery Walks for Families

Bring your family for a guided walk and discover why Central Park is a sanctuary for plants, animals, and humans alike. Learn about the architecture, landscapes, and ecosystems of the Park through hands-on exploration using Discovery Kits — rugged backpacks filled with kid-friendly binoculars, field guides, and hand lenses. Visit centralparknyc.org/discoverywalks for more information and to register.

THE NORTH WOODS | Free

Saturdays, March 23, 30 | 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Sundays, April 7, 28 & May 26 | 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Monday, April 22 | 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Meet at the Charles A. Dana Discovery Center (110th Street between Lenox and Fifth Avenues)

The North Woods is the largest of the Park's woodlands, offering a 40-acre forest retreat in the middle of New York City. Learn about the design of this serene landscape and how the plants and trees contribute to the health of an urban woodland community.

CONSERVATORY GARDEN | Free

Sundays, April 14 & May 5 & June 2 | 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Tuesday, April 23 | 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Meet at the Vanderbilt Gate at Conservatory Garden (Fifth Avenue and East 105th Street)

Discover the thousands of blooms in Conservatory Garden, the only formal garden in Central Park. Learn about its history and design, investigate the differences between various flowers, and see what it takes to maintain a healthy and beautiful landscape.

HARLEM MEER | Free

Sundays, April 21 & May 12 & June 9 | 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Thursday, April 25 | 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Meet at the Charles A. Dana Discovery Center (110th Street between Lenox and Fifth Avenues)

The rocky landscape surrounding the Harlem Meer has a storied history. Join our guides to learn more about how the area has changed over time, the plants and animals that live there today, and how the Conservancy cares for this complex ecosystem.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

continued



Discovery Kits

Borrow a Discovery Kit for a Central Park adventure! Discovery Kit backpacks are filled with kid-friendly binoculars, field guides, a hand lens, colored pencils, and sketch paper. Best for ages 6 to 10. Discovery Kits are available at the Charles A. Dana Discovery Center and Chess & Checkers House.

Visit centralparknyc.org/discoverykits for more information.



Discovery Journals

Discovery Journals, best for ages 6 to 10, help kids investigate the connections between the design, plants, wildlife, and people in the Park using trivia, puzzles, writing prompts, and more. Journals are available for the Mall and Bethesda Terrace, the North Woods, Conservatory Garden, Shakespeare Garden, and other popular areas of the Park.

Download your own at centralparknyc.org/discoveryjournals, or get them at any visitor center.

JOIN OUR DISCOVERY CLUB

Discovery Club Activity Card



Collect 5 punches to receive a free Discovery Notebook.

Collect 10 punches to receive a free Discovery Club bandana.



centralparknyc.org/discoveryclub

Connect your children to nature by exploring Central Park! Join our Discovery Club and enjoy a variety of engaging family programs designed to teach you about Central Park's design, history, and habitats. The more programs you enjoy, the richer your experiences in the Park will be.

Join the club by getting your activity card at one of our visitor centers, at an eligible program, or by visiting centralparknyc.org/discoveryclub. Earn a punch on your card each time you:

- Borrow a Discovery Kit
- Go on a free Discovery Walk for Families
- Complete a Discovery Journal
- Participate in our Family Volunteer Days
- Volunteer in the Park through Pitch In, Pick Up
- Take your family out for catch-and-release fishing

Collect 5 punches to receive a free Discovery Notebook. Young Central Park explorers can jot down findings and observations in this rugged notebook.

Collect 10 punches to receive a free Discovery Club bandana. Kids can wear it with pride as an official steward of Central Park!

Rewards are available at all visitor centers.

VISITOR CENTERS

Central Park contains five visitor centers — find the one nearest to you.



Chess & Checkers House

Charles A. Dana Discovery Center

Inside Central Park at 110th Street between Fifth and Lenox Avenues

Dairy Visitor Center & Gift Shop

Mid-Park between 64th and 65th Streets

Chess & Checkers House

Mid-Park at 64th Street

Columbus Circle Information Kiosk

West 59th Street at Central Park West

Belvedere Castle

Mid-Park at 79th Street

Note: Belvedere Castle is closed for restoration and will reopen in late spring 2019.

Visitor centers are open from
10:00 am – 5:00 pm.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

continued



Family Volunteer Days

Saturdays, April 6, 13, 20 & May 4, 11, 18 & June 1, 8, 15 | 10:00 am – 11:30 am

Spend quality time with your family while volunteering in Central Park. Projects include spreading mulch and raking leaves. Families only, maximum of three children per parent/guardian. Space is limited; advance registration required.

Visit centralparknyc.org/familyvolunteer for more information.

Youth Education and Service Programs are supported in part by The Barker Welfare Foundation; Doris Duke Charitable Foundation; Epstein Teicher Philanthropies; Abraham Perlman Foundation; The Pinkerton Foundation; and William E. Weiss Foundation, Inc./Daryl Brown Uber.



Pitch In, Pick Up

Volunteering to Pitch In, Pick Up is a great way to help keep Central Park clean and beautiful. After a brief orientation, you will be given a trash grabber, gloves, and garbage bag for litter. Individuals and families of five or fewer may participate on a drop-in basis at the Charles A. Dana Discovery Center, Chess & Checkers House, and North Meadow Recreation Center.

Visit centralparknyc.org/pitchinpickup for more information.



Catch-and-Release Fishing

The Harlem Meer is a thriving aquatic ecosystem that supports a wide variety of fish, waterfowl, turtles, plants and microorganisms. Stop by the Charles A. Dana Discovery Center to borrow fishing poles and bait for catch-and-release fishing at the Meer — we'll also provide instructions! Reservations are required for groups of five or more (30 people max).

Visit centralparknyc.org/fishing for more information.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS AND EVENTS



Official Central Park Tours

Get an insider's perspective on the history, design, and landscapes of Central Park on an official tour. Take one of our special seasonal tours below, or enjoy a year-round signature offering. Visit centralparknyc.org/tours to purchase tickets and see our full schedule of tours.



STATUES AND MONUMENTS TOUR | Tickets: \$15 (Members \$10)

Sundays, March 24 & April 21 & May 5 & June 2 | 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Wednesday, May 22 | 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Meet inside the Park at 72nd Street and Fifth Avenue

Over the last 160 years, more than 50 statues have been installed in Central Park. Learn more about the people and ideas that inspired them, and how these celebrated monuments reflect the diverse cultures of New York City.



SENECA VILLAGE TOUR | Tickets: \$15 (Members \$10)

Sunday, March 31 | 11:00 am – 12:15 pm

Sundays, April 14 & May 12 & June 9 | 2:00 pm – 3:15 pm

Meet inside the Park at 85th Street and Central Park West

Before Central Park was built, the area from West 82nd to West 89th Street was home to Seneca Village, the largest community of African-American property owners in New York. Learn about its history, the lives of its residents, and what new archaeological discoveries have revealed about this remarkable community.



THE RAMBLE TOUR | Tickets: \$15 (Members \$10) | Last tour of each month is free with registration

Wednesdays, April 3, 17 & May 29 | 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

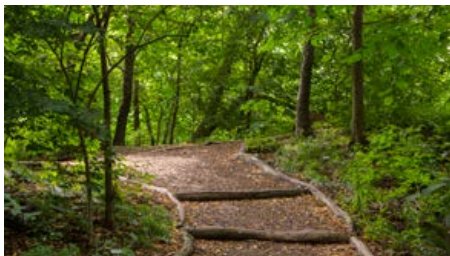
Tuesdays, May 7, 21 | 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Tuesday, June 4 | 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Saturday, June 15 | 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Meet at the Alexander von Humboldt statue (West 77th Street and Central Park West)

Step away from the City and take refuge in Central Park's serene Ramble, a 36-acre woodland featuring cascades and tree-covered pathways. Coined the "wild garden" by Park designer Frederick Law Olmsted, the Ramble offers visitors a tranquil spot to meander along winding paths and discover hidden forest gardens.



HALLETT NATURE SANCTUARY AND THE POND TOUR | Tickets: \$15 (Members \$10)

Last tour of each month is free with registration

Saturdays, April 6, 20 & May 4, 25 & June 8 | 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Meet at the Dairy Visitor Center & Gift Shop (Mid-Park between 64th and 65th Streets)

Discover one of Central Park's best kept secrets on this guided tour of the newly reopened Hallett Nature Sanctuary and its surrounding landscapes, home to many native plant species and wildlife.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

continued

Official Central Park Tours



SPRING BLOOMS: CONSERVATORY GARDEN TOUR | Tickets: \$15 (Members \$10)

Last Saturday of every month is free with registration

Saturdays, April 6, 13, 20, 27 & May 4, 11, 18, 25 & June 1, 8, 15 | 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Wednesdays, April 24 & May 8 & June 19 | 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Meet at the Vanderbilt Gate at Conservatory Garden (Fifth Avenue and East 105th Street)

Celebrate spring with a staff-led tour featuring thousands of colorful tulips, two picturesque allées of blooming crabapple trees, and a magnificent wrought-iron gate made in 1894. Conservatory Garden looks unlike anything else in Central Park — learn about its history, design, and blooms from the people who know it best.



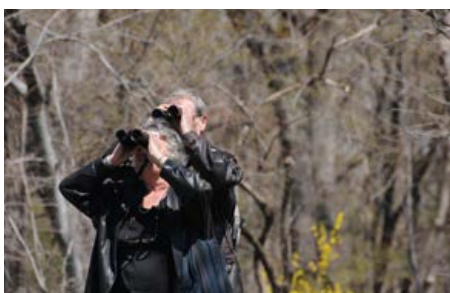
THE NORTH WOODS | Tickets: \$15 (Members \$10)

Last tour of each month is free with registration

Saturdays, April 13, 27 & May 11 & June 1 | 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Meet at the Charles A. Dana Discovery Center (110th Street between Lenox and Fifth Avenues)

Explore the dramatic cascades and winding paths of the North Woods. At 40 acres, it is the largest of the three woodlands in Central Park and was intended to give visitors a taste of the Adirondacks without leaving New York City.



BIRDING BASICS | Free

Located along the Atlantic Flyway, Central Park welcomes more than 270 bird species each year. Learn the basics of bird identification while exploring one of the Park's woodland landscapes. How many birds can you spot on this tour? Bring your own binoculars or borrow a pair from our tour guides.

THE NORTH WOODS

Fridays, April 26 & May 10 | 10:00 am – 11:30 am

Thursdays, May 2, 23 | 10:00 am – 11:30 am

Meet at the Charles A. Dana Discovery Center (110th Street between Lenox and Fifth Avenues)

Along with beautiful arches and peaceful waterfalls, the North Woods provides 40 acres of rare habitat in the middle of New York City.

THE RAMBLE

Mondays, April 29 & May 6 | 10:00 am – 11:30 am

Meet at the Loeb Boathouse Express Cafe (East Drive and 75th Street)

The Ramble is a vibrant woodland habitat and a tranquil spot to meander along winding paths. Explore its thriving wildlife habitat.

Don't forget!

Members receive discounted tickets on all Official Central Park Tours.

Join Today

PUBLIC PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

continued

Official Central Park Tours



CHERRY BLOSSOMS TOUR | Tickets: \$15 (Members \$10)

Sunday, April 7 | 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Saturday, April 13 | 10:00 am – 11:30 am

Thursday, April 18 | 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Meeting inside the Park at 90th Street and Fifth Avenue

Visit the hundreds of famous cherry trees that bloom around the Reservoir each spring. Learn about the history of this area, how these beloved trees came to Central Park, and what it takes to care for the variety of blooms throughout the Park.



MEMORIAL WALK TOUR | Free

Monday, May 27 | 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Meet at the Columbus Circle Information Kiosk (59th Street and Central Park West)

On Memorial Day, take a guided walk through time to see how generations of New Yorkers have used Central Park as a place to remember and honor our veterans. This tour takes visitors to Maine Monument, the Navy Walk and Terrace, and the Red Cross Flagpole, among others.

YOUTH PROGRAMS



Teen Volunteer Days

Saturdays, April 6, 13, 20 & May 4, 11, 18 & June 1, 8, 15 | 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Help to maintain and beautify the grounds through a variety of Park projects! High school students are invited to give back to their community and promote good stewardship by helping out with seasonal projects in Central Park. Ages 13 to 18 only. Advance registration is required.

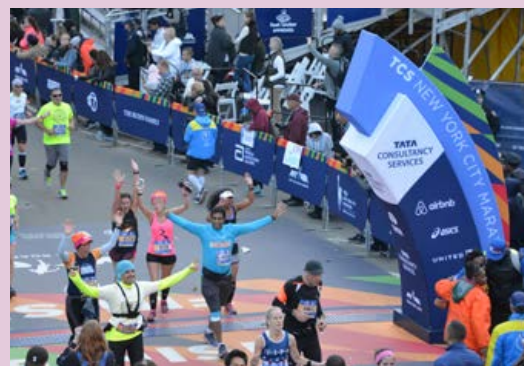
Visit centralparknyc.org/teenvolunteer for more information.

GUARANTEE YOUR SPOT IN THE 2019 TCS NEW YORK CITY MARATHON!

Runners, now is the time to make your miles matter and run for Central Park. Join Team Central Park and receive guaranteed entry into the 2019 TCS New York City Marathon, complimentary one-year membership, VIP seating at the New York Philharmonic's Central Park performance and other Park events, invitations to team clinics and meet-ups, tickets to marathon events, and more!

Spots are limited.

Sign up Today!



BENEFIT EVENTS

Join us for our exclusive benefit events and support the Conservancy's ongoing work to restore, manage, and enhance Central Park.



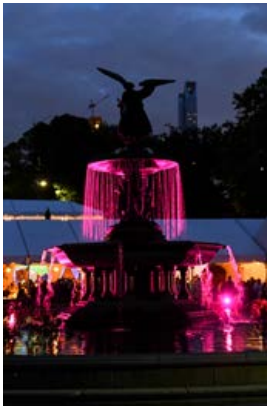
Playground Partners Annual Family Party

Generously supported by **NORDSTROM**

Wednesday, May 22 | 4:00 pm – 6:30 pm
Heckscher Playground
(Mid-Park from 61st to 63rd Street)

Bring the whole family for this celebration of Central Park's playgrounds, featuring magic, face painting, sports, a comedy act, chess games, a delicious buffet, and more!

Visit centralparknyc.org/playgroundparty to purchase tickets.



Taste of Summer

Presented by **MACQUARIE**

Wednesday, June 5 | 7:00 pm – 11:00 pm
Bethesda Terrace

This benefit event with culinary flair combines the chance to taste delectable dishes from the City's best restaurants with the unparalleled beauty of an evening at Bethesda Terrace. Taste of Summer features cuisine from top NYC restaurants, seasonal cocktails, music and dancing.

Visit centralparknyc.org/taste to purchase tickets.



Evening in the Garden

Wednesday, June 19 | 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Conservatory Garden
(East Side from 104th to 106th Street)

The Greensward Circle, Central Park Conservancy's network of young professionals, presents this annual summer benefit for young New Yorkers to enjoy great food, cocktails, and live music in the Park's six-acre formal garden.

Visit centralparknyc.org/evening to purchase tickets.

MEMBER PROGRAMS

Show your support for Central Park with a Conservancy membership. Our members help keep Central Park beautiful and blooming throughout the spring season. Benefits include reduced ticket prices, discounts in Central Park, and access to exclusive members-only events and programs. Visit centralparknyc.org/membership to join today.



DRAWING CLASS WITH JESSICA

DARYL WINER | Free for members

Saturday, April 6 | 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Charles A. Dana Discovery Center
(110th Street between Lenox and Fifth Avenues)

Hone your creative skills in this drawing class with an expert Central Park artist.



HOUND HIKES | Free for members

Bring your canine companion on a guided tour of Central Park's most beautiful landscapes.

ICONIC VIEWS OF CENTRAL PARK

Sunday, April 7 | 11:30 am – 1:00 pm
Dairy Visitor Center & Gift Shop (Mid-Park between 64th and 65th Streets)

ART OF THE PARK

Sunday, May 26 | 11:30 am – 1:00 pm
Dairy Visitor Center & Gift Shop (Mid-Park between 64th and 65th Streets)

Visit centralparknyc.org/mp to register and view our full schedule of member programs.

Not a member?

Join Today



CENTRAL PARK MAP

Hours

Central Park opens at 6:00 am and closes at 1:00 am, 365 days a year.

Visitor Centers and Facilities

i Start your trip at a visitor center.
Look for this icon on the map.

Charles A. Dana Discovery Center
110th Street between Fifth and
Lenox Avenues

Dairy Visitor Center & Gift Shop
Mid-Park at 65th Street

Chess & Checkers House
Mid-Park at 64th Street

Columbus Circle Information Kiosk
Central Park West at 59th Street

Belvedere Castle
Mid-Park at 79th Street

*Note: Belvedere Castle is closed for
restoration and will reopen in late
spring 2019.*

Points of Interest

W WEST

W 103 The Ravine / The Loch

W 101 The Pool

W 79 Shakespeare Garden

W 74 Bow Bridge

**W 72 Strawberry Fields /
Imagine Mosaic**

W 72 Cherry Hill

E EAST

E 107 Harlem Meer

E 105 Conservatory Garden
Open year-round, 8:00 am to dusk.

E 90 Reservoir
From 86th to 96th Street

E 81 Obelisk (Cleopatra's Needle)

E 75 Alice in Wonderland

E 74 Conservatory Water

**E 72 Bethesda Terrace /
Bethesda Fountain**

E 68 The Mall (Literary Walk)
From 66th to 72nd Street

E 67 Balto

E 62 Gapstow Bridge

Map Key

i Visitor Center

P Playground

K Information Kiosk

F Food / Closed in Winter

R Restrooms / Closed in Winter

W Wheelchair Accessible

P Park Drive
(shared by pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles)

T Transverse Road
(vehicles only)

P Pedestrian Path
(pedestrians only)

B Bridle Path
(no bicyclists)

• Emergency Call Box or Dial 911