

Summer Trails



Quarry Park and Nature Preserve



Stearns County Parks

1802 County Road 137

Waite Park, MN 56387

320-255-6172

parkinfo@stearnscountymn.gov

stearnscountymn.gov/238/Parks

Vehicle Parking Permit Required

Annual: \$25

Daily: \$ 5 (Labor Day – Memorial Day)

\$10 (Memorial Day - Labor Day)

Available at Quarry Park Pay Stations, Gatehouse, and Park Office. Annuals are also available Online.

Park Hours

8:00 AM – ½ Hour After Sunset



Only Have An Hour?

- View the historic Liberty Derrick located between Quarry 17 and Quarry 18.
- Rent a Free Self Guiding Bird Kit
- Take a quick swim in Quarry 2 or Quarry 11
- Try catching a fish in Quarry 18
- Find the overlook bridge between Quarry 13 and Quarry 14

For a Safe and Enjoyable Experience

Read and follow all posted signs and comply with parks and trail ordinances.

Prohibited: Alcohol, Marijuana, Speakers, Amplifiers, Climbing on Rock Piles

Environment: It is unlawful to harm wildlife, property, ruins or plants.

Pets must be on a leash. Please clean up after your pets. Horses are not allowed.

Firearm or bow and arrow shall not be discharged.

Snowmobiles are not allowed.

Motorized Vehicles are not allowed. Exceptions for authorized personnel and those in possession of a permit issued from the Parks Office.

Electric-assisted bicycles: Class 1, 2, & 3 E-bikes are allowed only if the bike is assisting you while you are pedaling. A scooter or similar device is prohibited.

Scan To Access All Parks Ordinances



History

Around the turn of the century a stone known as Saint Cloud Red Granite was quarried from the land which is now part of Quarry Park. Companies operating on the site during this period were: Holes Bros., Delano Granite, Melrose Granite Co., Empire Quarry Co., and C.L. Atwood. Saint Cloud Red Granite was used to construct the St. Paul Post Office (Landmark Center) and the James J. Hill House in St. Paul, both are on the National Register of Historic Places. Granite is the major building stone used in many of Minnesota's Capitol Buildings.

Quarrying operations ceased in the mid 1950's. Over the years the land gradually reverted to a more natural state. In 1992, Stearns County purchased the initial 220 acres from the Cold Spring Granite Company. On January 1, 1998, the park was opened to the public. By 2002, 323 additional acres had been acquired for the Scientific and Natural Area. It is currently 757 acres.



Park Features

Picnic Areas can be found throughout the park with picnic tables and grills.

Scenic Overlook Viewing Areas can be found throughout the park.

Hiking Trails wind through forests, wetlands, prairies and quarries.

Mountain Bike Trail includes three technical zones consisting of steep rock outcrops with sharp turns.

Fishing is allowed in designated quarries. Lake trout season and all Minnesota fishing regulations apply encouraging the catch and release program.

Swimming is only allowed in Quarry 2 and Quarry 11. NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY. Swim at your own risk. Children MUST be supervised.

SCUBA Diving is allowed in Quarry 1, 13, & 18. Permits are required and available online. Proof of SCUBA certification and photo ID are required to receive a permit.

Rock Climbing is allowed in designated areas. Permits are required and are available online.

Scientific and Natural Area (SNA) Trails are open for hiking. NO PETS OR BIKES ALLOWED.

