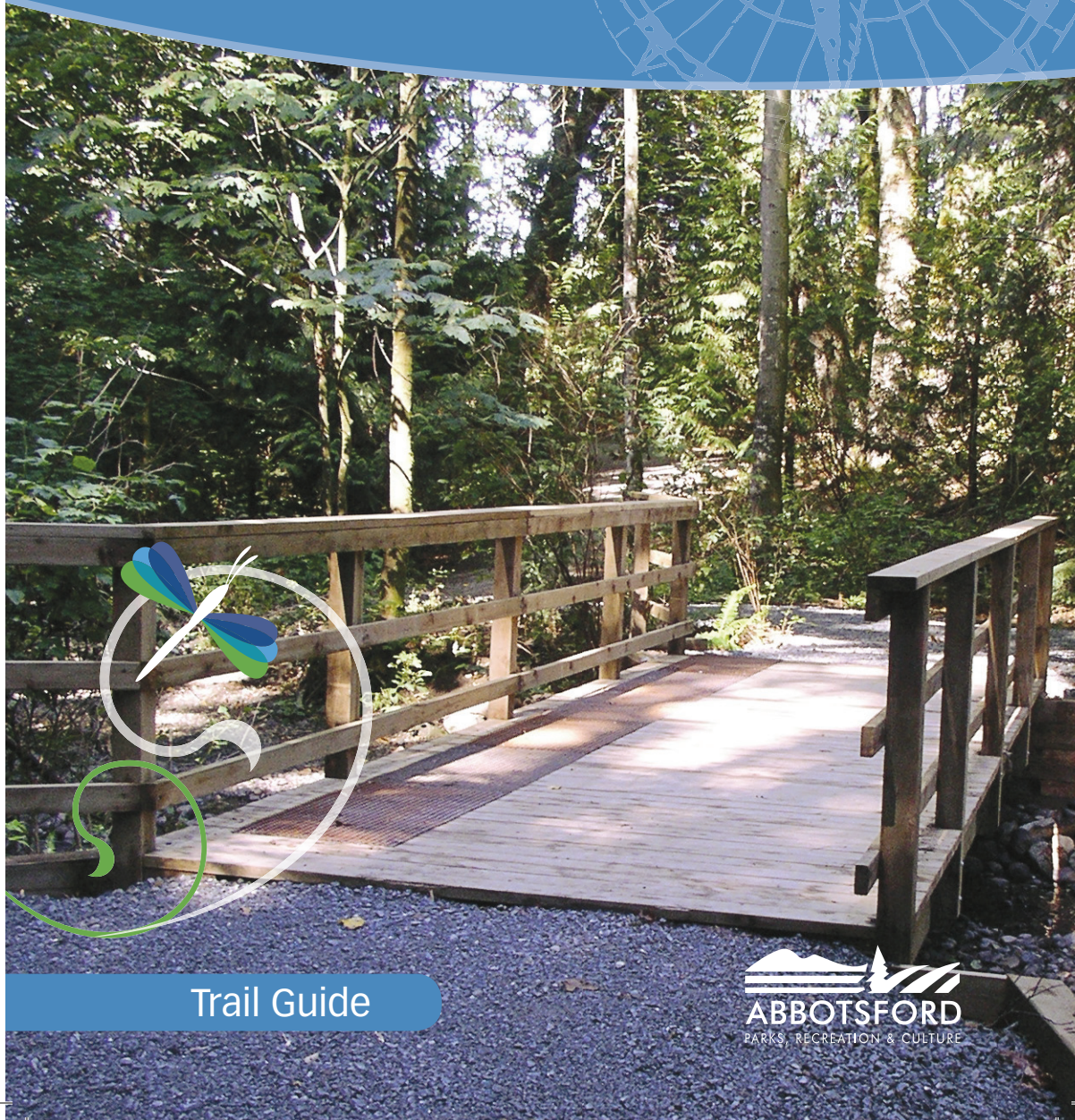


Discover

Abbotsford's Trails



Trail Guide


ABBOTSFORD
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE

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Discovery Trail

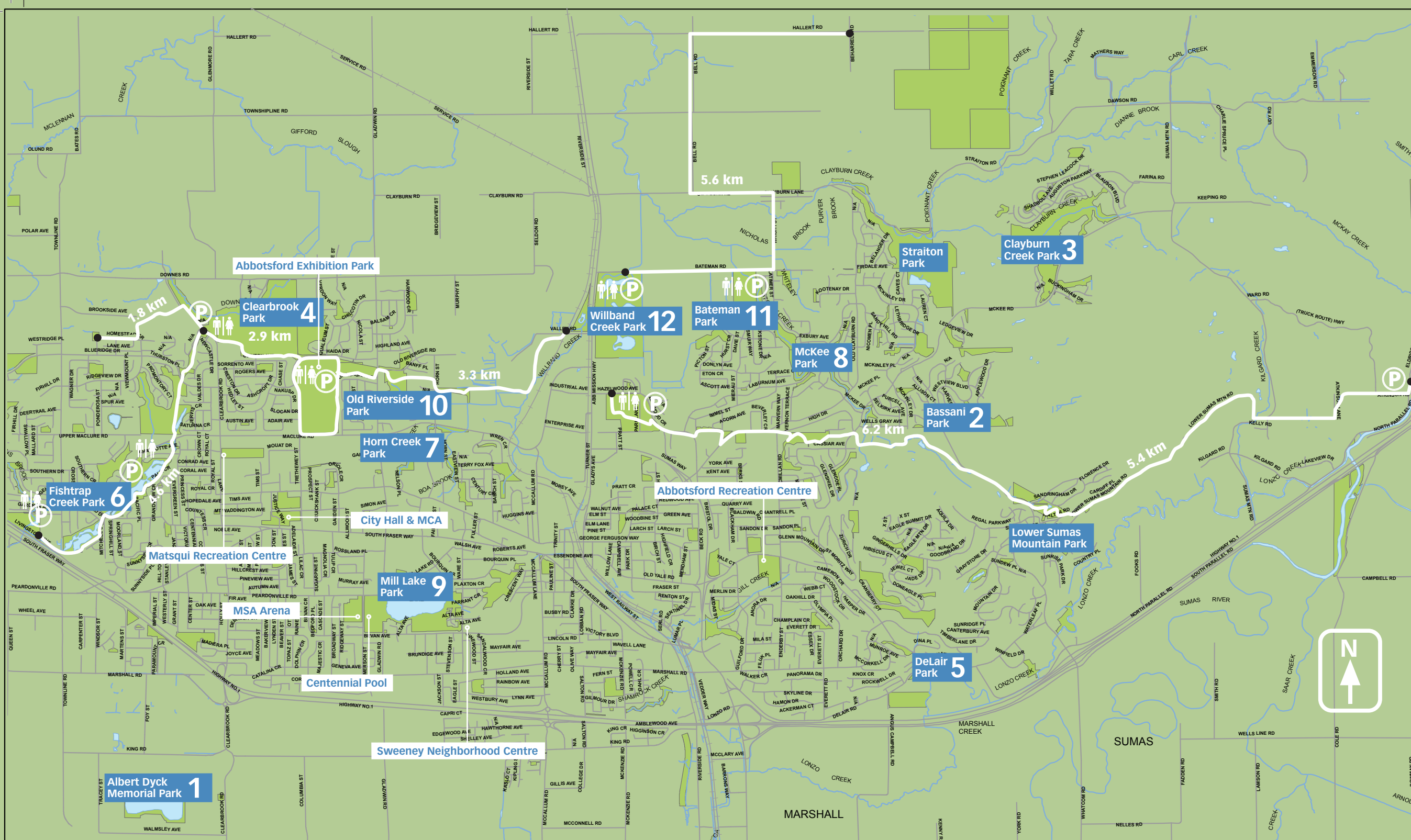
Discovery Trail is a paved corridor spanning through the community, connecting the east and west sides of Abbotsford. This extensive trail system is perfect for all season activity including walking, running, rollerblading and cycling. The trail system winds through natural habitat and includes areas with forest, ponds, creeks and lush meadows. Interpretive signage along portions of the trail, as well as well-marked lookout spots, make the trail a great place for observing, photographing and learning about the community's indigenous ecosystem.

Trail: multi-use paved trails with level to moderate grades

Amenities: parking lot, picnic tables, benches, public washrooms

- 1 Albert Dyck Memorial Park
- 2 Bassani Park
- 3 Clayburn Creek Park
- 4 Clearbrook Park
- 5 DeLair Park
- 6 Fishtrap Creek Park
- 7 Horn Creek Park
- 8 McKee Park
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For more information regarding Abbotsford's trails, please visit our website at www.abbotsford.ca/prc



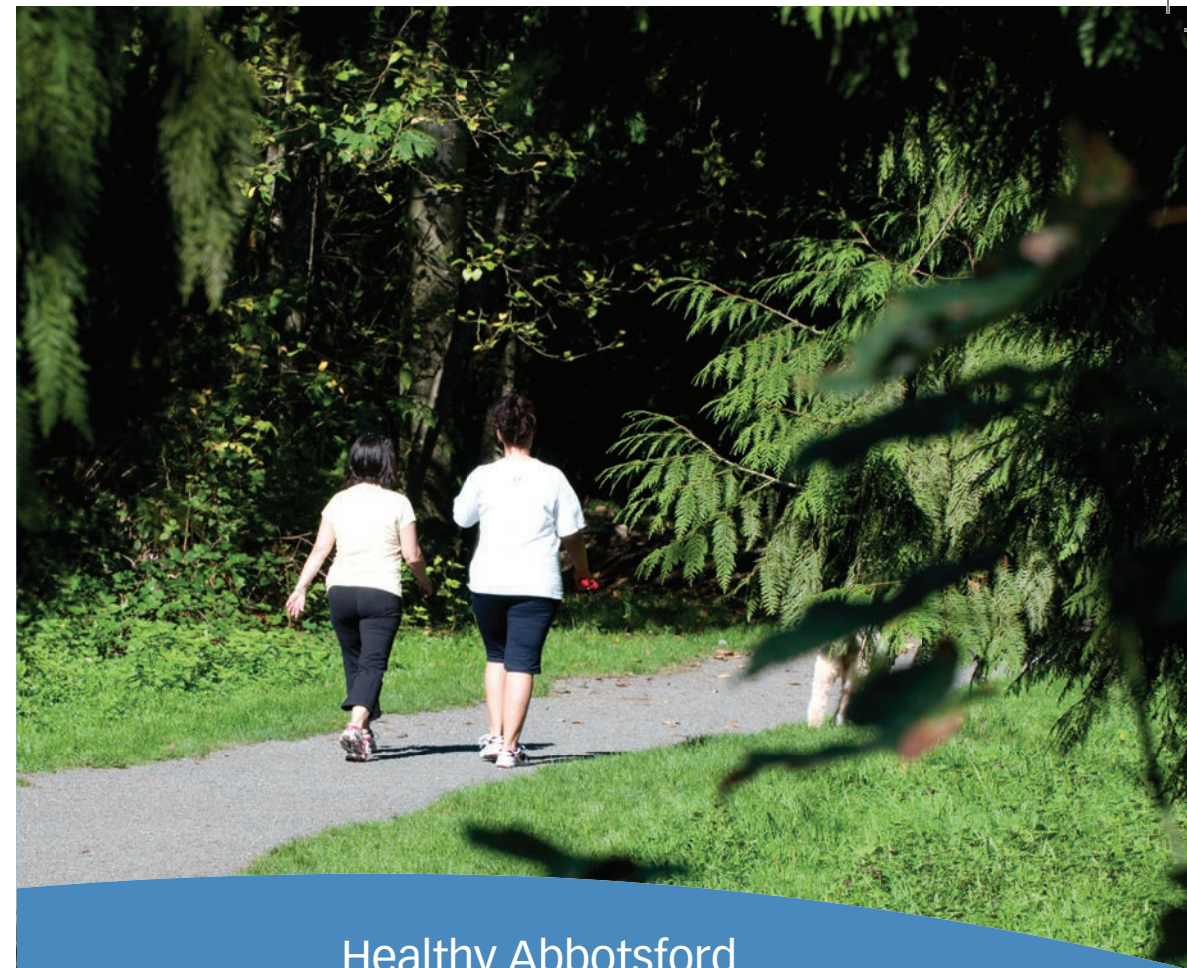
Nature in the City

Located in the heartland of the Fraser Valley region of British Columbia, the City of Abbotsford is known as the “City in the Country”. Abbotsford has the best of both worlds; a pristine, natural location in a rich agricultural hotbed, blended with a vibrant and diverse urban culture. Located between picturesque mountain ranges and bordering the majestic Fraser River, the city has over 366 hectares of active parkland with some of the best developed green spaces in western Canada. Abbotsford’s focus on preserving outdoor environments enables residents and visitors to enjoy an active outdoor lifestyle in this rapidly-growing, family-oriented community.

The City of Abbotsford is committed to the preservation and stewardship of natural areas within its parkland system. The City has approximately 660 hectares of natural lands and open space, which include forests, shrublands, meadows, wetlands and riparian corridors throughout the community. These areas provide opportunities for residents to enjoy their neighbourhoods as “nature intended” as well as providing ecological connections and critical habitat for numerous species of local wildlife.

Abbotsford’s natural parkland provides many opportunities to learn about and connect with the natural world in an increasingly urbanized environment. The City of Abbotsford strives to provide a balance of public access and recreational opportunities, while maintaining and enhancing the ecological integrity and the environmental values of these areas.

For Abbotsford, offering the best of both worlds means providing a little bit of “green” to our increasingly urbanized environment. The City of Abbotsford fosters many green spaces throughout its residential neighbourhoods. Parks are focal points for neighbourhoods. They join neighbourhoods together and provide meeting places for young and old alike. Easy access to amenities like trails, restrooms and picnic facilities make Abbotsford’s urban green spaces a destination for active outdoor exploration.



Healthy Abbotsford

The City of Abbotsford proudly supports Healthy Abbotsford, a community-wide initiative aimed at engaging residents in participating, promoting and fostering healthy lifestyle choices and improving their overall health and well-being. The City’s abundance of parkland and over 100 kilometres of trails plays a major role in supporting a healthy and active community lifestyle. The City of Abbotsford’s Parks, Recreation & Culture Department works continuously to preserve Abbotsford’s natural landscapes to ensure residents of all ages have abundant opportunities to get out and get active! Recreational opportunities and activities like walking, hiking, trail running, photography, orienteering, geocaching, horseback riding and off-road cycling all contribute to making Abbotsford a healthy and active community.

Abbotsford
—let's make it
Healthy

Be Prepared

- ALWAYS – Let someone know where you are going and when you plan to be back.
- Check the weather before you head out.
- Protect yourself from the elements, layer your clothing and wear sturdy footwear.
- Stay on designated trails. Bring a map of the area, a compass, and a cell phone (but remember, they don't always work in remote areas).
- Bring water, snacks, first aid, and sunscreen.
- If you get lost, ensure you are visible and stay where you are until help arrives.
- Watch for wildlife and avoid areas that show recent signs of bears and cougars.
- Do not walk in forested or heavily treed sites during high winds or extreme snow or ice events – falling trees or branches can be fatal.
- Bridge and boardwalk decks can be very slippery at all times of year. Use the metal traction strips for better traction.
- Snow and ice are generally not cleared from our pathways or trails. If you choose to use these routes when they are snowy or icy, please use the appropriate equipment such as winter boots, snowshoes and walking poles.

Trail Etiquette

- For your safety and to protect soil from erosion do not venture off-trail and do not create new trails.
- Respect the privacy of people in homes living adjacent to trails.
- Keep dogs on leash, except on designated off leash trails. Always keep your pets under control. Please clean up after your pets.
- Stay to the right of trail and pass on the left.
- If a person is climbing up a hill they have the right of way if you are climbing down.
- Never disturb or remove wildlife or plants from our parks.
- Leave the trails cleaner that you found them. Carry out all litter.
- Fires are not permitted in Abbotsford's parks.
- Do not build structures, fire rings or dig trenches.
- Bike riders yield to both hikers and horseback riders; hikers yield to horseback riders.



Trail Types

Multi-use Trails

Multi-use trails are designed to accommodate a diverse range of uses by people of varying physical abilities. They are generally 3.0m – 5.0m. wide, asphalt paved travel corridors with gentle grades. This type of trail is suitable for pedestrians, strollers, rollerblades, bicycles, wheelchairs and skateboards.

Recreation Trails

Recreation trails average 1.0m – 4.0m wide. These gravel surfaced trails are designed primarily for pedestrians and bicycles. Recreation trails in flat terrain may also accommodate wheelchairs, and strollers. Grades can vary from flat to 15%.

Nature Trails

Nature trails average less than 1.50m in width. These trails are rustic routes through natural areas. This type of trail is suitable for sure-footed pedestrians with appropriate footwear and for low speed off-road cycling. Natural hazards may be present and users should be of average or better physical condition to enjoy these trails.

Legend

———— Multi-use Trail (Asphalt)

- - - - - Recreation Trail (Gravel)

———— Nature Trail (Dirt)

- - - - - Off-Leash Dog Friendly Trail

● ————— ● Indicates Distance
(metres or kilometres)



Parking

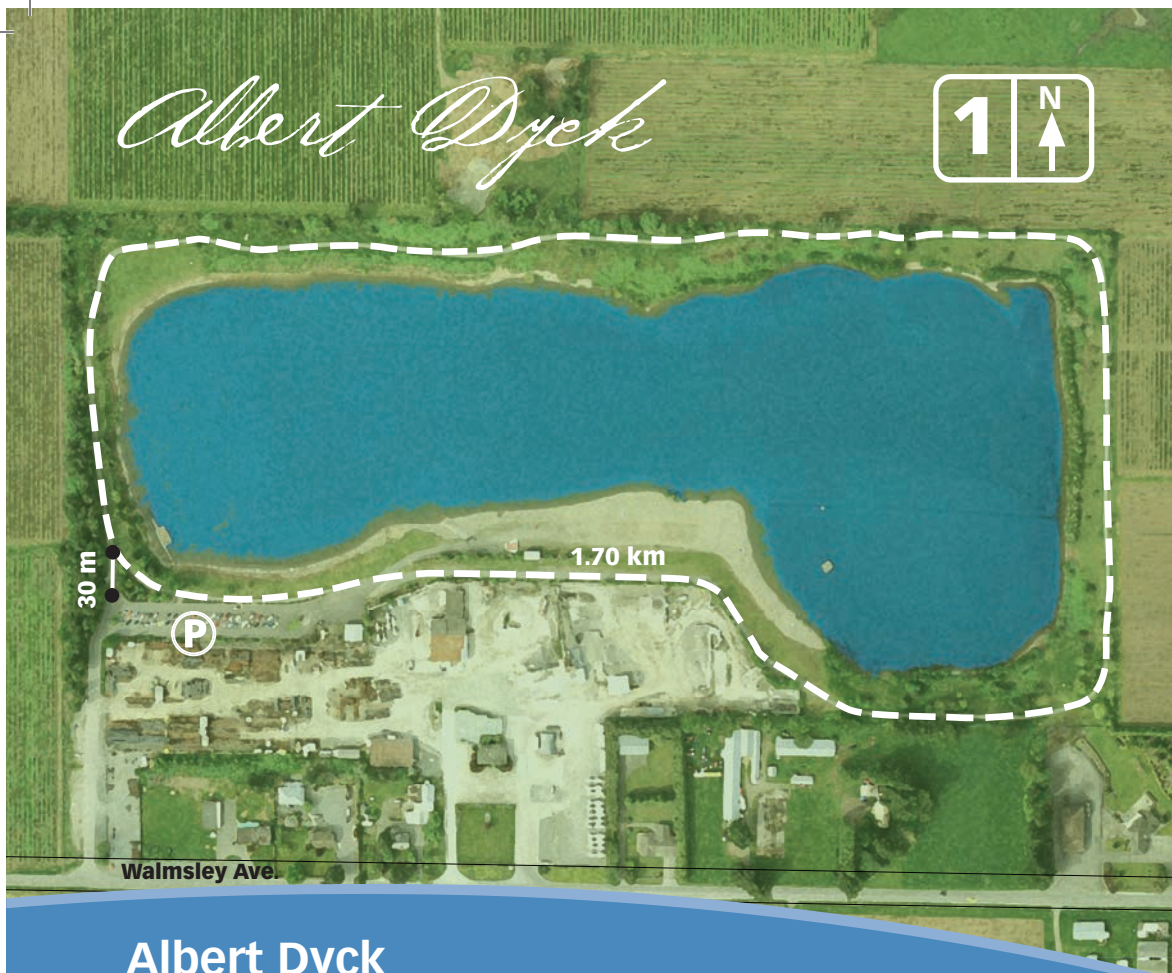


Look Out
Point



Washroom

Albert Dyck



Albert Dyck Memorial Park

The highlight of Albert Dyck Memorial Park is the man-made lake created from a former industrial cement-works pit. Specifically designed for wakeboarding and water skiing, the park has hosted numerous national and provincial tournaments. The lake invites swimming, fishing, sunset picnics on the sandy beach and wildlife viewing, usually blue herons, ducks and other waterfowl.

Trail: multi-use gravel trail with gentle grades

Length: 1.70 km

Amenities: parking lot, benches, beach and swimming area.



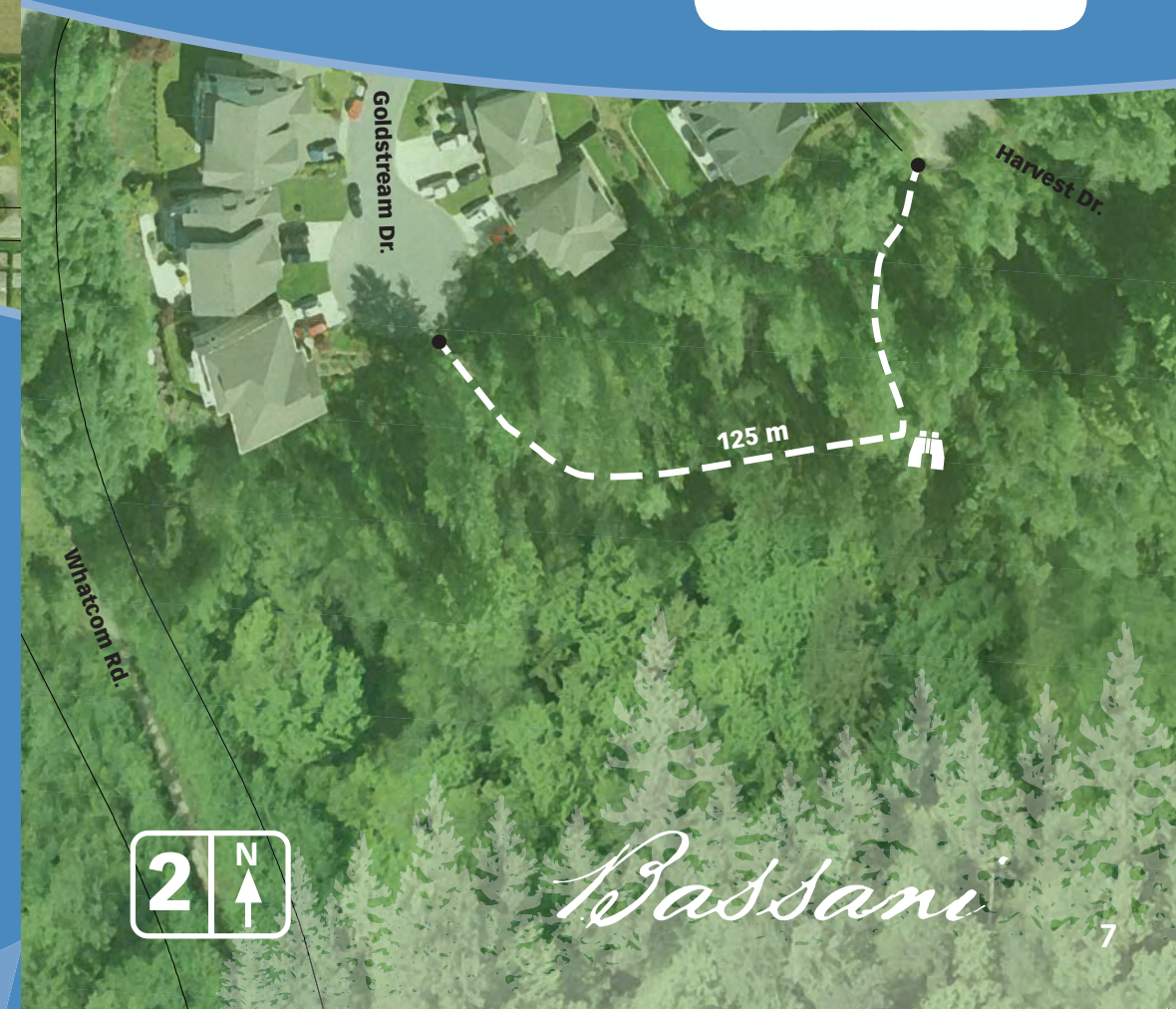
Bassani Park

Tucked away in the Highlands is Bassani Trail. This is a short walk with a great view and the perfect place to relax and enjoy the sights and sounds of a natural waterfall cascading over sandstone cliffs. Maidenhair fern, big leaf maple, Douglas-fir and western red cedars flourish in the misty coolness of the deep ravine.

Trail: gravel trail with moderate grades

Length: 125 m

Amenities: view platform and bench



Bassani



Clayburn Creek Park

This trail was once the narrow gauge railroad that serviced the clay factory in Clayburn and Kilgard and is now a wooded forest walking trail above the north bank of Clayburn Creek. Lined with huge big leaf maples and western red cedars clad in mosses and lichens, this trail is a haven for many native bird species such as black-capped chickadees, golden-crowned kinglets and Pileated woodpeckers.

Trail: multi-use gravel trail with moderate grades

Length: 1.95 km

Amenities: roadside parking at east end only

Dyke Trails

Located in Sumas Prairie are the Dyke Trails: Arnold, McKay Creek, Sumas River, Barrowtown and Vedder Trails. Passing through the agricultural heartland of Abbotsford, hikers will take in the acres of blueberry and raspberry fields as well as the many dairy farms. The banks of the Sumas River and Vedder Canal offer spectacular opportunities to bird watch. The Dyke Trails are geared to many activities including walking, running, cycling and horseback riding for all levels of fitness.

Trail: multi-use gravel trails with level grades

Length:

Arnold Dyke Trail: 7.36 km

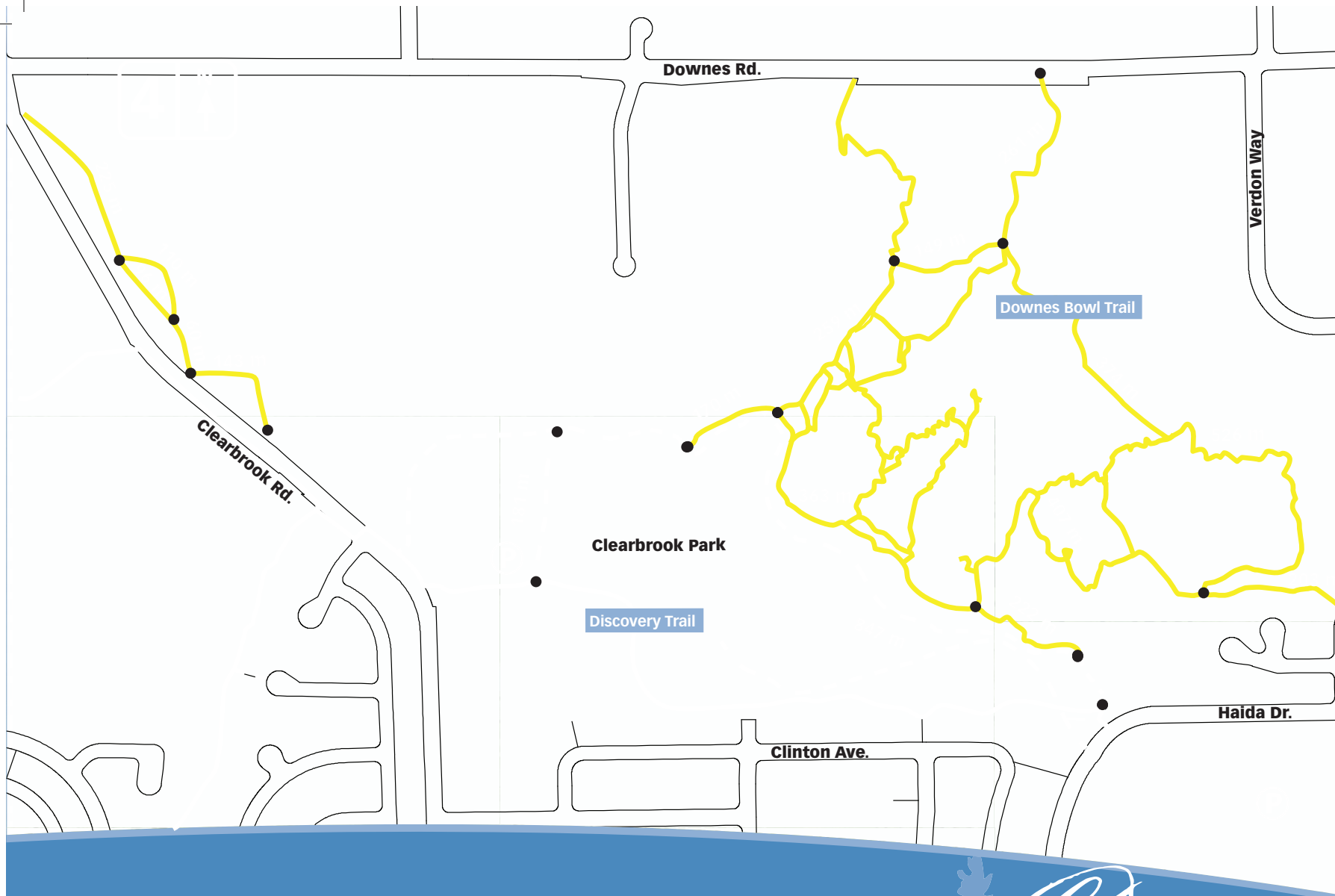
McKay Creek Dyke Trail: 1.58 km

Sumas River Dyke Trail: 8.10 km

Barrowtown and Vedder Dyke Trails: 4.48 km

Amenities: parking at Hougén Park, Barrowtown Pump Station and north of Vye Rd. at Arnold Rd.





Clearbrook Park

Downes Bowl is an urban hiking experience for trail runners and hikers alike! The rugged trail conditions and challenging grades make this a perfect system for outdoor workout enthusiasts.

The bowl shape of the terrain creates a natural wetland at the bottom where a wooden boardwalk is perfect for observing nature in a serene setting. Hikers without a keen sense of direction are advised to take a map and compass or GPS unit. The trail network in Downes Bowl is extensive and navigating it can be a challenge.

Downes Bowl

Trail: rugged natural trail with steep grades

Amenities: parking at Clearbrook Park, boardwalk



DeLair

DeLair Park

Situated where city and country meet, DeLair Park is widely known for its sporting amenities that include baseball diamonds, soccer fields and tennis courts. The Park also has an easy network of looped pathways perfect for leisurely walking or novice cyclists. Large weeping willow trees border the trail, making it a perfect destination for a family picnic in the shade.

Trail: multi-use gravel and paved trails with level grades

Amenities: parking lots, picnic tables, public washrooms





Trail: multi-use paved trails with mild grades

Amenities: parking lots, public washrooms, playground, picnic shelters, benches, lookout points



Fishtrap Creek Park

Fishtrap Creek was originally built as a large stormwater management facility to minimize the downstream flooding caused by urbanization. The Park includes a paved loop that wanders through creeks, wetlands, peninsulas and islands. Extensive native plantings were designed to reflect local conditions and to enhance habitat for fish and wildlife, including the endangered fish species the Nooksack Dace. Section 1 of the Discovery Trail (see Discovery Trail) runs through the east side of Fishtrap Creek Park.

Fishtrap Creek



Horn Creek Park

Along the banks of Horn Creek, hikers can enjoy the sights and sounds of nature in this green oasis near the City's core. This young forest supports a variety of bird life and the cool air of the streamside trail offers restful reprieve from the bustle of the urban center. Access the trail from Maclure Avenue, north on Trafalgar Street.

Trail: multi-use gravel trail with mild to moderate grades

Amenities: bridges, benches



Horn Creek

McKee Park

Hikers can often catch a glimpse of blacktail deer grazing in the lush vegetation. The McKee Park Trail is home to some incredibly large big leaf maples laden with mosses and licorice ferns and provides great connections to nearby trail systems such as Palfy Park, Stoney Creek and McKee Creek. It also provides a convenient connection route from Old Clayburn Road at McKee Drive to Laburnum

Avenue at Robert Bateman Secondary. The Discovery Trail crossing at McKee Road is located roughly 500 m south of the McKee Park south trailhead.

Trail: multi-use gravel trail with mild to moderate grades

Amenities: street parking only, bridges, benches

McKee





Mill Lake



Trail: multi-use paved trail with mild grades

Length: 2.30 km
(total distance around lake)

Amenities: parking lots, public washrooms, picnic shelters, fishing areas, floating boardwalk, benches, outdoor fitness equipment, playground, spray park, outdoor pool, MSA Museum and Kariton House.



Mill Lake Park

Mill Lake is a perfect family destination offering everything from quiet picnic areas to an impressive spray park and playground for children. Mill Lake is a popular spot for walkers, joggers and fisherman. The trail winds around a lake hidden in the middle of the City's urban core. The lake is home to a variety of waterfowl including ducks, mergansers, and geese and a pair of bald eagles which make this area their home. Lots of lakeside benches and the floating boardwalk make this trail a peaceful place to exercise and rejuvenate.



Old Riverside Park

Old Riverside Trail is a forested trail that winds through a variety of terrain from a level boardwalk through the wetlands to challenging uphill sections. This trail is a great outdoor fitness destination. The forested haven supports many plant and wildlife species, including the rare and endangered Oregon forestsnailed and Pacific waterleaf. Old Riverside Trail connects to the Discovery Trail network.

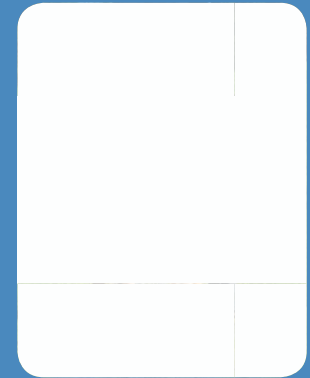
Trail: multi-use gravel trail with mild to steep grades

Amenities: street parking only, boardwalk





Stoney Creek



Trail: multi-use gravel trail with mild to steep grades

Length: 1.10 km

Amenities: parking lots, public washrooms, playground, bridges, dog off-leash areas



Bateman Park

Hikers can criss-cross Stoney Creek on a series of pedestrian bridges that provide great fall viewing opportunities for the west coast salmon migration. Birds of prey such as barred owls, red-tailed hawks and Coopers hawks thrive in this forest on the fringes of farmland. The designated dog off-leash areas are shown in shaded yellow and yellow dashed lines. Please ensure that dogs are kept under voice control and please take care not to disturb the sensitive fish and wildlife habitats. This trail is also home to one of the largest Douglas fir trees in Abbotsford.



Willband



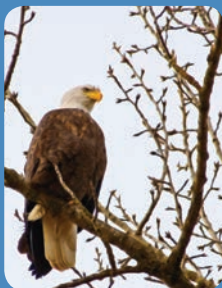
Willband Creek Park

Located off Hwy 11, the trails at Willband Creek Park are built around stormwater detention ponds and encourage a diverse waterfowl population and various species of migratory birds. These wetland trails border on farmland and provide excellent opportunities for viewing wildlife and enjoying the quiet, natural environment. An easy interpretive walk weaves around the ponds, as well as a longer 3km loop that brings hikers back to the parking lot.

Trail: multi-use gravel trail with mild grades

Amenities: parking lot, porta-washrooms, benches

NOTE: Occasional flooded sections during heavy rains



Abbotsford Parks, Recreation & Culture

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