

# West Trails Trek Guide

**20 Mile Hike Edition**



## Chief Pontiac Trail Credential Hikes

WP#	Dist. Feet	Accum. Miles	Dist. Meters	Accum. Meters
1	0	0.0	0	0
2	1,115	0.2	340	340
3	410	0.3	125	465
4	3,609	1.0	1,100	1,565
5	1,722	1.3	525	2,090
6	1,804	1.6	550	2,640
7	656	1.8	200	2,840
8	492	1.9	150	2,990
9	1,969	2.2	600	3,590
10	738	2.4	225	3,815
10A	2,871	2.9	875	4,690
11	2,018	3.3	615	5,305
12	443	3.4	135	5,440
13	1,640	3.7	500	5,940
14	738	3.8	225	6,165
15	4,183	4.6	1,275	7,440
16	1,640	4.9	500	7,940
17	2,051	5.3	625	8,565
18	492	5.4	150	8,715
19	1,066	5.6	325	9,040
20	164	5.6	50	9,090
21	1,640	6.0	500	9,590
22	574	6.1	175	9,765
23	984	6.3	300	10,065
24	820	6.4	250	10,315
25	1,394	6.7	425	10,740
26	1,312	6.9	400	11,140
27	443	7.0	135	11,275
28	164	7.0	50	11,325
29	2,510	7.5	765	12,090
30	328	7.6	100	12,190
31	1,476	7.9	450	12,640
32	2,920	8.4	890	13,530
33	246	8.5	75	13,605
34	1,476	8.7	450	14,055
35	787	8.9	240	14,295
36	689	9.0	210	14,505
37	410	9.1	125	14,630
38	509	9.2	155	14,785
39	771	9.3	235	15,020
40	427	9.4	130	15,150
41	328	9.5	100	15,250
42	410	9.6	125	15,375
43	3,117	10.1	950	16,325
44	6,102	11.3	1,860	18,185
45	394	11.4	120	18,305
46	951	11.6	290	18,595
47	1,066	11.8	325	18,920
48	3,445	12.4	1,050	19,970
49	459	12.5	140	20,110
50	459	12.6	140	20,250
51	1,247	12.8	380	20,630
52	361	12.9	110	20,740
53	492	13.0	150	20,890
54	3,396	13.6	1,035	21,925
55	771	13.8	235	22,160
56	394	13.8	120	22,280
57	1,640	14.2	500	22,780
58	459	14.2	140	22,920
59	459	14.3	140	23,060
60	804	14.5	245	23,305
61	2,625	15.0	800	24,105
62	1,066	15.2	325	24,430
63	951	15.4	290	24,720
64	394	15.4	120	24,840
65	6,102	16.6	1,860	26,700
66	3,117	17.2	950	27,650
67	1,936	17.5	590	28,240
68	1,148	17.8	350	28,590
69	525	17.9	160	28,750
70	607	18.0	185	28,935
71	230	18.0	70	29,005
72	82	18.0	25	29,030
73	689	18.2	210	29,240
74	1,804	18.5	550	29,790
75	656	18.6	200	29,990
76	558	18.7	170	30,160
77	2,871	19.3	875	31,035
78	2,329	19.7	715	31,745
75	2,034	20.1	620	32,365

## Alternate Starting Locations

This guide is designed with a start/end location in the parking lot in Proud Lake Rec. Area. Alternate start/end locations are:

- Riverside picnic area parking lot (WP #23)
- Heavner Canoe Rental gravel parking lot (WP #25)
- Dairy Queen parking lot (WP #45, but ask for permission)
- Kensington Group Camp (WP #50)

## Sharing The Trail With Horses

It is very common to come upon horses and riders along this entire trek. The local trail rider's group advises that when you encounter them to stand a ways off of the trail, but still visible to the horses. While waiting for the horses to pass maintain eye contact with the horses and speak softly to them. This will let the horses recognize you as being a human, instead of a predator. Once the horses have passed you may resume your trek.

## Hiking Is A Personal Choice And Requires Personal Responsibility

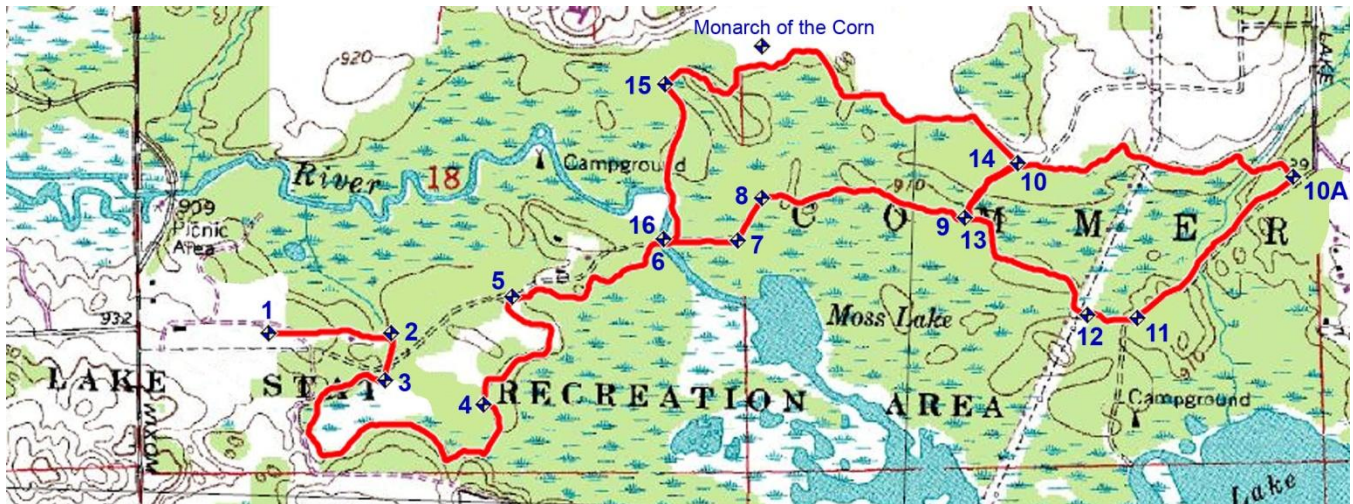
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## About The Maps

The trail data points were collected using a Lowrance H<sub>2</sub>O-C handheld GPS with an attached Gilsson amplified external antenna. Topographical trail maps were produced using ExpertGPS by TopoGrafix. The guide was finally composed using Adobe Photoshop, MS Word, and Adobe Acrobat.



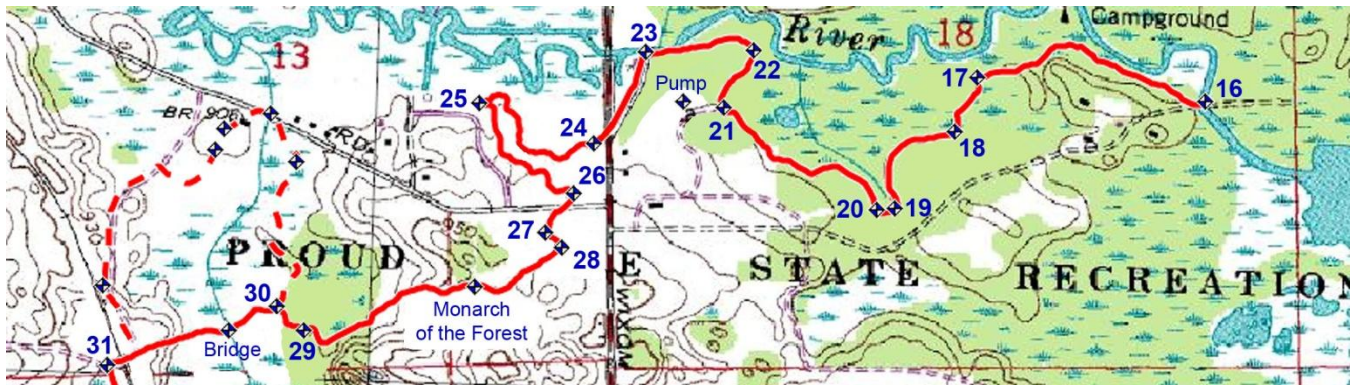
## CPT West Trails Trek, Parking Lot to Moss Lake Dam (20 Mile Hike Edition, Map #1)

### NOTES

- Several portions of this trek will lead through areas of poison ivy and thorny bushes and contact is unavoidable. It is therefore highly recommended that you wear pants, preferably synthetic, while hiking. Wear pants, not shorts!
- The waypoint numbers of this guide do not correspond to the numbered signs posted in the park by the DNRE.

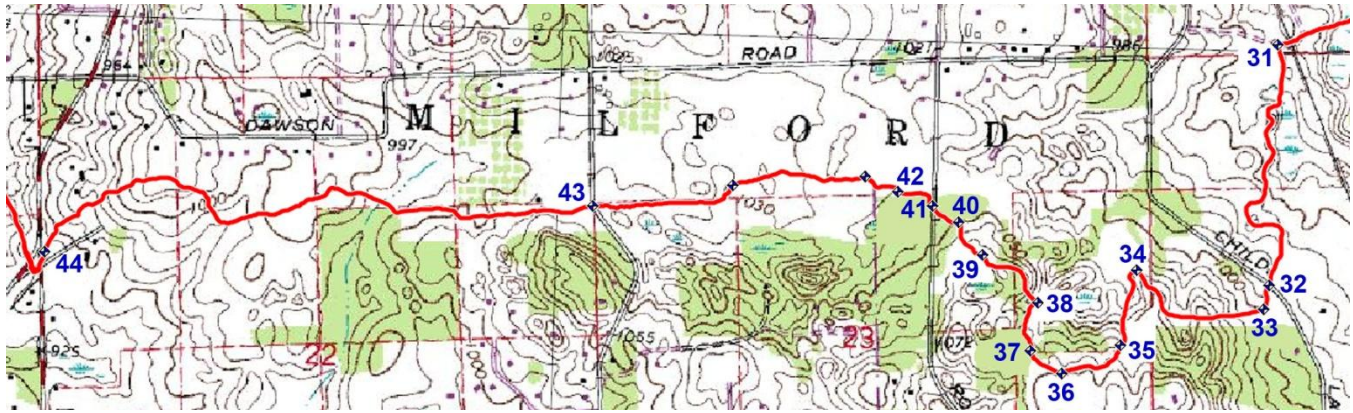
1. E – Head east through the parking lot and around the gate in the northeast corner. Continue east (340m) past the Annex Building to the second marked intersection.
2. S – At this intersection turn onto the trail heading south to the marsh trail. Cross the access road and proceed (125m) to the nature trail that goes around the marsh.
3. W – Turn west and follow the Marsh Trail (1.1km) so that you are skirting the marsh in a counter-clockwise direction.
4. N – Shortly after rounding the eastern edge of the marsh and now heading west, turn to go north at the three-way intersection instead of completing the Marsh Trail loop. Take this path north (525m) until you come to a very large clearing.
5. NE – As you pass the clearing, turn northeast onto the short trail leading down to the ski trail. A short distance (10m) before the access road turn east between two red oak trees and onto the ski trail. Continue east (550m) on the winding trail towards the Moss Lake Dam. Note: If you are ever hiking on the road, you missed the turn. Go back and proceed onto the ski trail.
6. E – Starting from Moss Lake Dam follow the hiking trails as shown above to form two intersecting loops. From the dam head east (200m) to the second marked intersection.
7. NE – Turn and head northeast (150m) to the next intersection.
8. E – Turn east and proceed (600m) to the next intersection.
9. NE – Turn and head northeast (225m) to the next intersection.
10. E – Turn east and head (875m) to the boat launch access road. Turn onto the road and head southwest (615m).
11. W – Where the road makes a sharp turn to the south, you continue heading west into the woods. Hike through the woods (135m) west to the next intersection near the far edge of the woods.
12. NW – Head northwest and pass under the power lines. Continue northwest into the woods and proceed to the next intersection (500m).
13. NE – Turn and head northeast (225m) to the next intersection.
14. NW – This time at this intersection turn and head northwest (1.3km) to the next intersection. The *Monarch of the Corn* is a large and sprawling dead oak tree in the middle of a corn field.
15. S – Turn south and proceed back to the dam (500m). When you reach the dam this is a good place for everyone to take a short break and use the latrines.





## CPT West Trails Trek, Moss Lake Dam to Railroad Tracks (20 Mile Hike Edition, Map #2)

16. NW – Immediately after crossing back over the dam, you turn onto a trail leading to the northwest (625m). Take this trail, which will curve to the southwest, to the next intersection.
17. S – Turn south and proceed (150m) to the next intersection.
18. W – Turn onto a trail heading west. Take this trail, which will curve south, to the next intersection (325m).
19. W – Turn and head west a short ways to where the trail splits (50m).
20. NW – At the split turn northwest (500m) and continue northwest until you go uphill to the camp road.
21. N – Turn north and proceed downhill to the Lower Pines campsite pavilion (175m).  
**ATTENTION: You’ve just completed 6.0 miles. There is a pump in the Upper Pines Campsite (West 100m from WP# 21). The next pump is 6.5 miles away. If you have less than two liters of water, fill up now!**
22. W – Find the trail heading west just east of the pavilion. Follow the trail west through the woods and to a picnic area parking lot (300m).
23. SW – Proceed southwest across the parking lot and down the driveway (200m). Then continue straight across Wixom Road to one of the metal CPT arrowhead signs at the entrance to the trail (50m).
24. W – From the signpost, turn west into the woods and follow the “Nature Trail” to the next intersection (425m).
25. E – Turn east and follow the winding nature trail southeast to the next intersection (400m).
26. SW – Turn southwest and proceed across Garden Road to the next intersection (135m).
27. SE – The trail turns to the southeast for a bit (50m) to the next intersection.
28. SW – Turn and proceed southwest. In a while (265m) you will come to a large old tree that has been named "Monarch of the Forest". Continue on this path until it ends at an equestrian trail junction (500m).
29. NW – Turn northwest and hike to an intersection with another one of the old metal arrowhead signs (100m). This sign is different because it is a double sign. The upper arrowhead shows an image of a canoe with two scouts in it.
30. W/N – In the spring the trail after The Russell Bridge may be flooded. If this is the case, follow the northward trail to Garden Road and then west, crossing over the Norton Creek Bridge. Head southwest through the staging area and follow the two-track road south to the railroad crossing. In dryer conditions, follow the westward trail over The Russell Bridge (140m) to the railroad tracks (280m). From the railroad crossing continue west a short distance to a four-way intersection (30m).

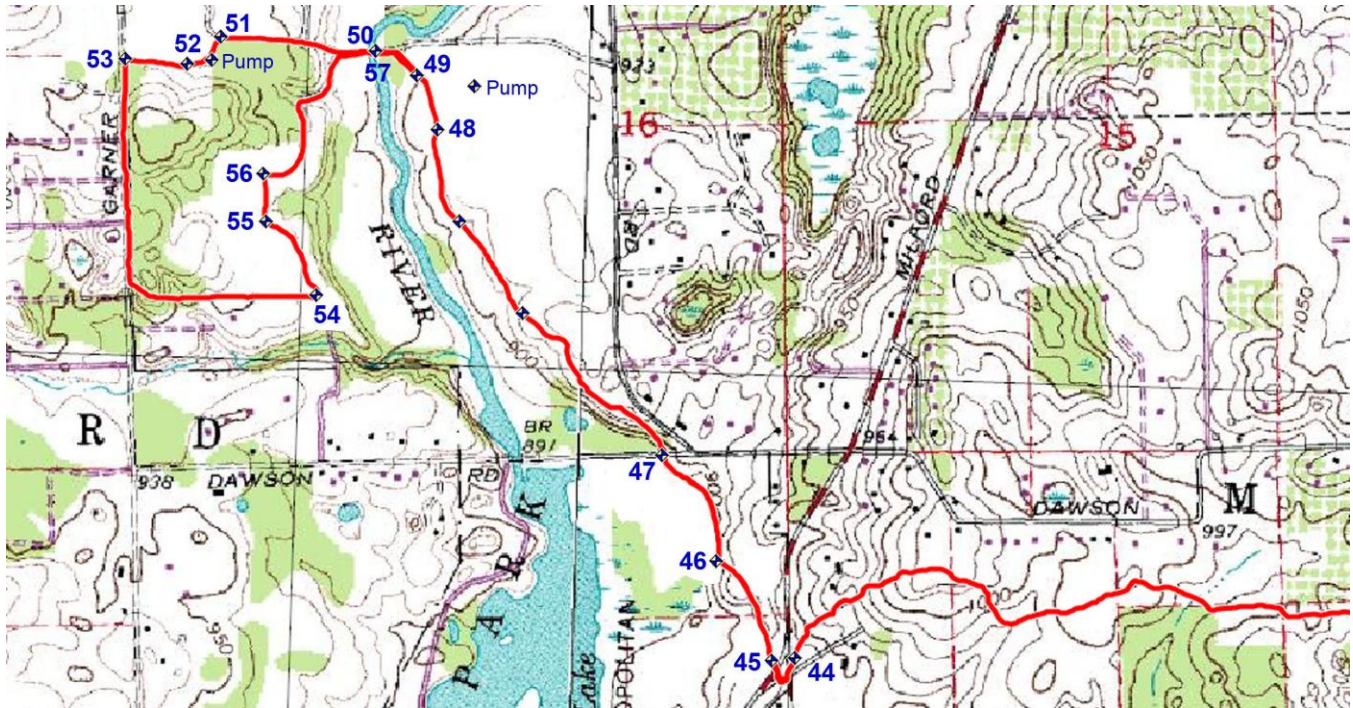


## CPT West Trails Trek, Railroad Tracks to Milford Road (20 Mile Hike Edition, Map #3)

### NOTES

- It is very common to come upon horses and riders along this entire trek. The local trail riders' association recommends when you encounter them that you stand a ways off of the trail. While waiting for the horses to pass maintain eye contact and speak softly to the horses. Once the horses have passed you may resume your trek.
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31. S – From this four-way intersection turn south and continue down this trail to Childs Lake Road (890m).
  32. SW – Head southwest across Childs Lake Road, then south a short ways to the next intersection (75m).
  33. W – Turn west and continue uphill. After passing a steep grassy downhill slope on your west side, you will begin to descend and come to the base of an unmarked Y-intersection (450m).
  34. SW – Take the southwestern path downhill. This path will turn south and up an extremely eroded hillside. Continue on to the next intersection (240m).
  35. SW – Turn southwest, then proceed west to the next intersection (210m).
  36. NW – Turn northwest and continue downhill to the next intersection (125m).
  37. N – Continue north and hike downhill to the next intersection which is midway down a steep descent (155m).
  38. NW – Turn northwest and descend down a steep slope, then uphill to the next intersection (235m).
  39. NW – Continue northwest to the next intersection (130m).
  40. NW – From here head northwest to Old Plank Road (100m).
  41. N – Cross the road and head north a short ways to the entrance of the equestrian trail (30m). Turn west onto this trail and proceed to a four-way intersection (95m).  
 Note: After crossing Old Plank Road you will be on Kensington Metropark property. This part of the trail is closely bounded by private property on both sides.
  42. N – Turn north off the bridle trail onto the hiking trail, then head west. Continue hiking west until you will come to South Hill Road (950m).
  43. W – Continue west across South Hill Road and back onto the Hike/Bike Trail. Here is another metal CPT sign. As you get closer to Milford Road, the trail turns to the north and uphill, then southwest and downhill (1.8km/1.1M).

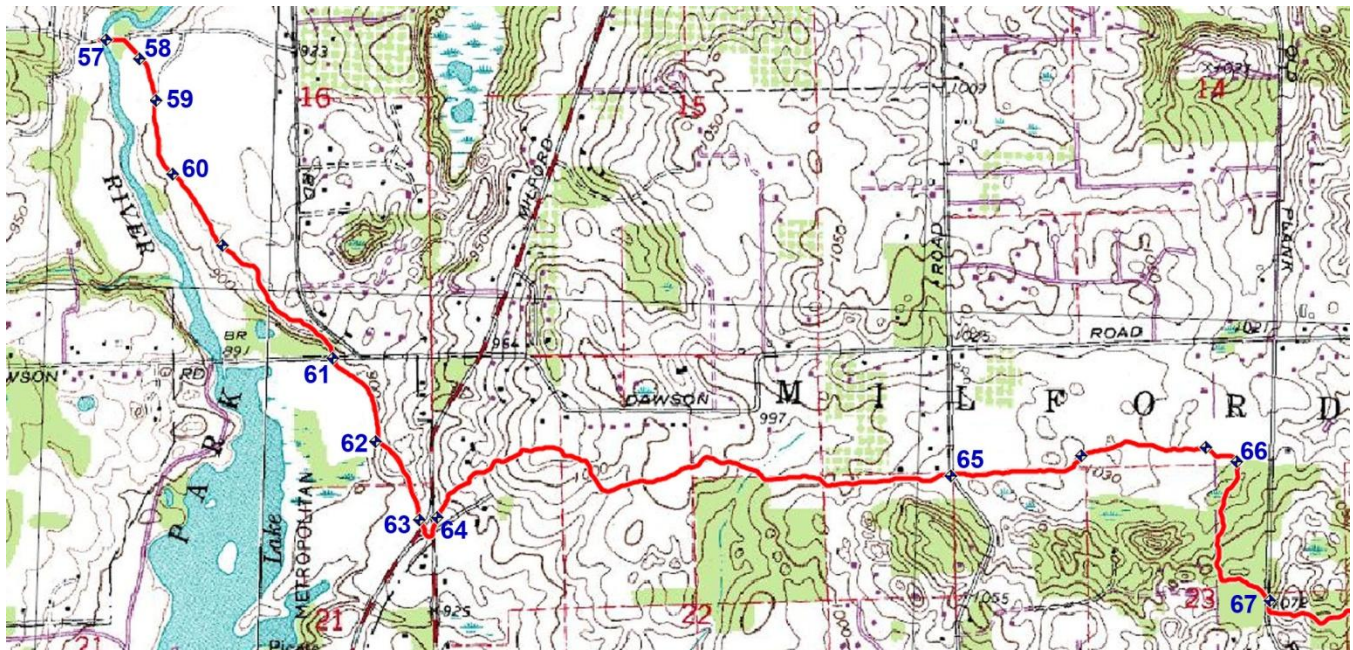




## CPT West Trails Trek, Milford Road to Kensington Group Camp (20 Mile Hike Edition, Map #4)

44. S/W/N – For safety reasons, cross Milford Road in the following manner: Head south across Huron River Pkwy, west across Milford Road, then north across Huron River Pkwy (120m). This is because the traffic light may start the northbound traffic before the southbound side without warning. (Sorry, but no ice cream until after you complete the trek). Continue north to another metal double-arrowhead sign.
45. N – Follow the trail to the north until you come to the top of a hill overlooking a paved bike/hike trail (210m). From here proceed downhill to the paved path (80m).
46. N – Head north down the path to Dawson Road. Cross the road and go to the metal CPT signpost on the north side of the road (325m).
47. NW – Head northwest and proceed uphill into the woods. Take this path all the way to a gate next to a latrine (1.0km). Note: On this segment you will cross over two other paths, a paved one and then a dirt one. Just past the paved trail the path splits, you can take either path.
48. N – From this latrine head north to a path found between two large bushes. You should be at the top of a very steep slope leading down to another latrine. Carefully take the path downhill to the second latrine (140m).
49. NW – From the second latrine head northwest to the bridge (140m).
50. W – From the bridge hike west to Campsite #10 (380m).
51. SW – Turn southwest into the campsite and proceed to the horse trail access in the northwest corner (110m).
52. W – Proceed west to the intersection just before Garner Road (150m).
53. S – Turn south and continue on the path all the way to the next intersection (1.0km).
54. N – Staying on the well-worn path, turn north and head to the next intersection (235m).
55. N – Turn north off of the horse trail and hike through Campsite #7 to the camp road (120m).
56. E – Turn east onto the camp road and follow it all the way back to the bridge (500m).

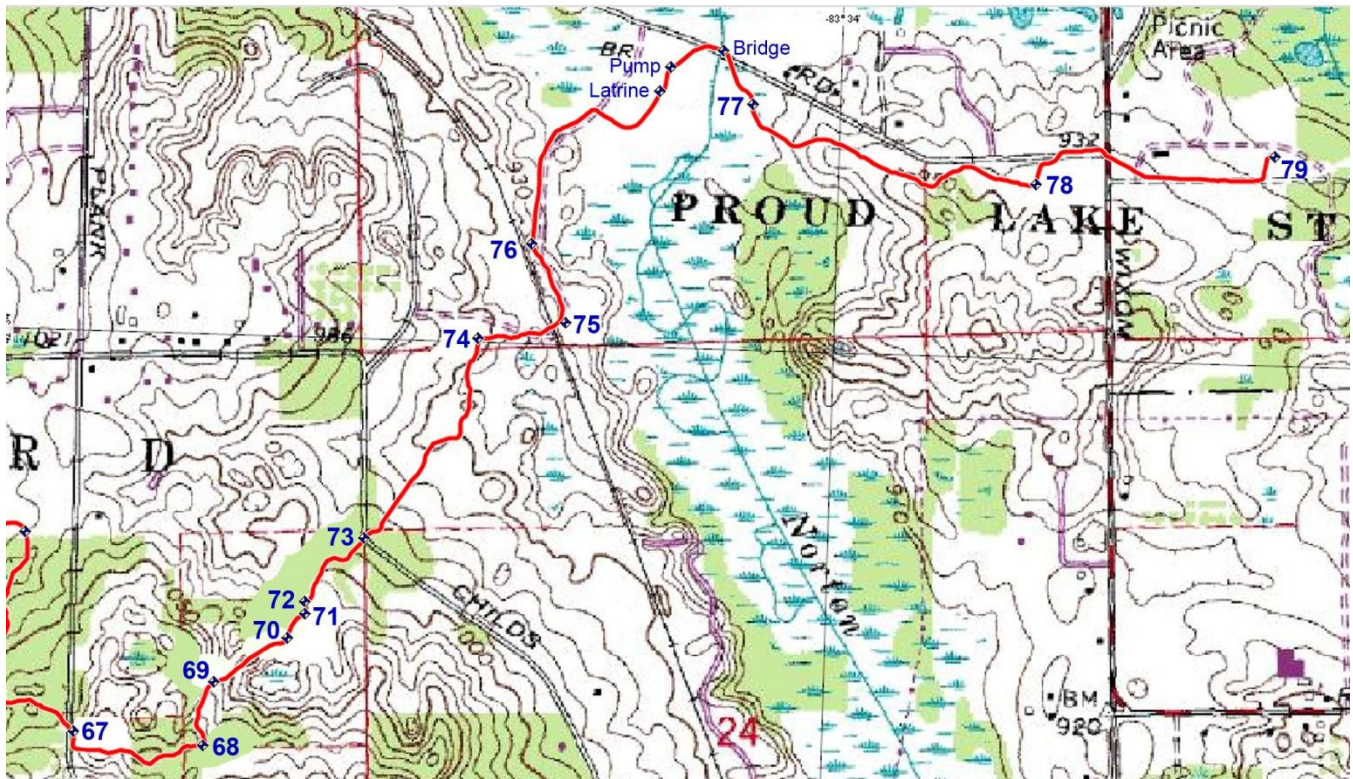




## CPT West Trails Trek, Kensington Group Camp to Old Plank Road (20 Mile Hike Edition, Map #5)

57. SE – From the bridge go southeast from the bridge (140m) to the first latrine.
58. S – Proceed up the steep embankment to the upper campsite and head south (140m) to the second latrine.
59. S – From the gate proceed south to a four-way intersection of trails (245m).
60. SE – From this intersection continue going southeast. After taking either path at the split, proceed to the paved bike trail (275m). Staying on the dirt path, continue southeast across the paved bike trail and back into the woods. Proceed on the path to the CPT metal arrowhead sign at Dawson Road (525m).
61. S – Head south across Dawson Road and proceed to the paved bike path. Hiking on the grass on the east side of the pavement, head southeast to a wooden CPT trail post (325m).
62. SE – Turn southeast and head up the hill. At the top of the hill you will find a path. Continue southeast to a metal CPT arrowhead sign post near the intersection of Milford Road and the Metropark entry road (290m).
63. S/E/N – For safety reasons, cross Milford Road in the following manner: Head south across Huron River Pkwy towards the Dairy Queen, east across Milford Road, then north back across Huron River Pkwy (120m). This is because the traffic light may start the northbound traffic before the southbound side without warning.
64. NE – Now head northeast (40m) to the two trailheads. Proceed onto the “Hike-Bike Trail”, NOT the horse trail, and continue northeast (1.8km). The hiking trail you use is well worn, runs parallel to the equestrian trails to your south, and takes an eastward track to South Hill Road.
65. E – After crossing South Hill Road, continue on the Hike-Bike Trail and proceed east through the woods (430m). You will exit the woods into a bushy meadow, continue east. After a while (400m) you will re-enter the woods. Head southeast through the woods, then south a short way to a four-way intersection (120m). If you should come out to Old Plank Road, turn around and proceed back to the intersection (85m).
66. S – Continue south from the four-way intersection and then east out to Old Plank Road (590m).





## **CPT West Trails Trek, Old Plank Road to Parking Lot (20 Mile Hike Edition, Map #6)**

67. E – Cross Old Plank Road, exiting the Metropark and entering Proud Lake State Recreation Area. The trail rises uphill from the road and goes into a grove of hickory trees. Head east (350m) to the next intersection.
68. N – From this intersection you turn north and hike downhill. Midway down a steep descent is the next intersection (160m).
69. E – Turn east and then head northeast and downhill (185m) to the next intersection.
70. N – Turn north and then proceed northeast (70m) to the next intersection.
71. N – Take the trail heading north a very short distance to the next intersection (25m).
72. E – Turn east, then head northeast through a thick green glen and out to Childs Lake Road (210m).
73. NE – After crossing Childs Lake Road the trail goes northeast, joining with more equestrian trails. Head northeast until you come to an intersection with a trail heading east (550m) to the railroad tracks.
74. E – From here turn and head east to a set of railroad tracks (160m). These are active tracks and you are cautioned to be careful and follow all safety rules. Cross over the tracks to a path heading north (40m).
75. N – Immediately past the railroad tracks turn north and hike to where the path splits (170m).
76. NNE – At the split, veer to the north-northeast towards the staging area and continue on this trail (350m) until you enter a large meadow. Turn southeast and follow its perimeter around to the picnic area. Here you will find a water pump, latrine and tables. Continue northeast and across the bridge over Norton Creek (380m). Immediately after crossing the bridge take the horse trail southeast to the next intersection (145m).
77. SE – Turn southeast and proceed to the next intersection (710m).
78. N – Turn north and head out to Garden Road (100m). Turn east on to Garden Road, head across Wixom Road, and hike over to the park road. Using the north side of the road, continue east on it to the “Trailhead Parking” parking lot. Turn into the parking lot (510m).

**Congratulations! You have completed your 20 mile hike!**