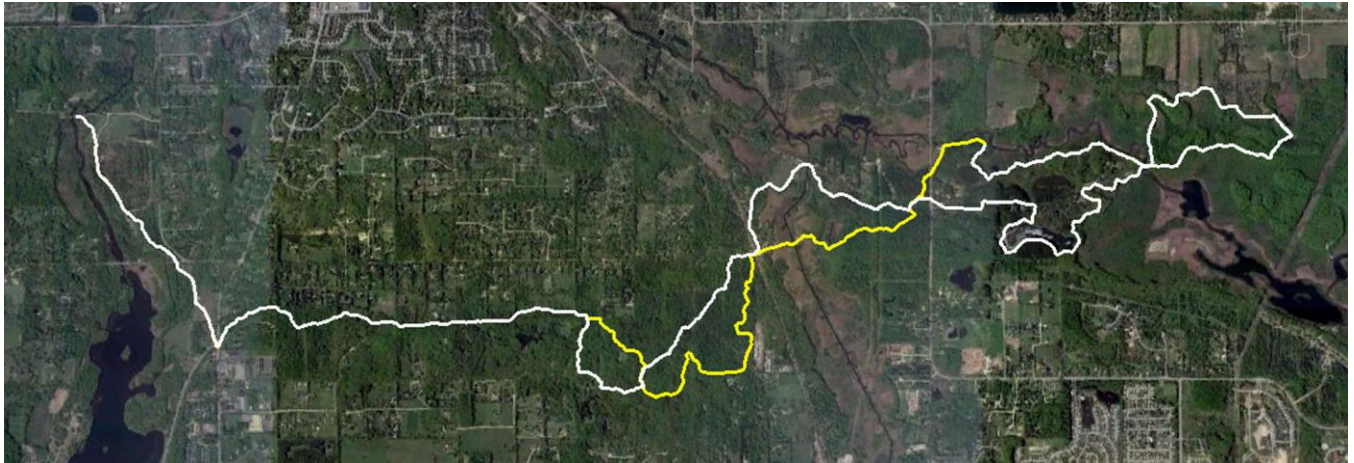


# West Trails Trek Guide

**Kensington Start Edition**



## Chief Pontiac Trail Credential Hikes

WP#	Dist. Feet	Accum. Miles	Dist. Meters	Accum. Meters
1	0	0.0	0	0
2	410	0.1	125	125
3	164	0.1	150	275
4	1,148	0.3	250	525
5	2,543	0.8	775	1,300
6	1,148	1.0	350	1,650
7	902	1.2	275	1,925
8	410	1.3	125	2,050
9	6,070	2.4	1,850	3,900
10	3,150	3.0	960	4,860
11	1,936	3.4	590	5,450
12	1,148	3.6	350	5,800
13	459	3.7	140	5,940
14	656	3.8	200	6,140
15	230	3.9	70	6,210
16	82	3.9	25	6,235
17	673	4.0	205	6,440
18	1,804	4.3	550	6,990
19	656	4.5	200	7,190
20	558	4.6	170	7,360
21	2,871	5.1	875	8,235
22	2,329	5.6	710	8,945
23	328	5.6	100	9,045
24	1,706	5.9	520	9,565
25	1,148	6.2	350	9,915
26	394	6.2	120	10,035
27	3,642	6.9	1,110	11,145
28	1,690	7.2	515	11,660
29	1,772	7.6	540	12,200
30	705	7.7	215	12,415
31	443	7.8	135	12,550
32	2,001	8.2	610	13,160
33	738	8.3	225	13,385
34	4,199	9.1	1,280	14,665
35	1,640	9.4	500	15,165
36	2,051	9.8	625	15,790
37	1,969	10.2	600	16,390
38	492	10.3	150	16,540
39	591	10.4	180	16,720
40	902	10.6	275	16,995
41	804	10.7	245	17,240
42	1,050	10.9	320	17,560
43	164	10.9	50	17,610
44	2,493	11.4	760	18,370
45	328	11.5	100	18,470
46	1,526	11.8	465	18,935
47	2,871	12.3	875	19,810
48	246	12.4	75	19,885
49	1,476	12.6	450	20,335
50	820	12.8	250	20,585
51	656	12.9	200	20,785
52	410	13.0	125	20,910
53	492	13.1	150	21,060
54	787	13.2	240	21,300
55	410	13.3	125	21,425
56	328	13.4	100	21,525
57	410	13.5	125	21,650
58	3,117	14.0	950	22,600
59	6,102	15.2	1,860	24,460
60	459	15.3	140	24,600
61	935	15.5	285	24,885
62	1,148	15.7	350	25,235
63	3,363	16.3	1,025	26,260
64	459	16.4	140	26,400
65	427	16.5	130	26,530

## Hiking Is A Personal Choice and Requires Personal Responsibility

Hiking, backpacking, canoeing, and other associated CPT trail activities are dangerous and can result in injury and/or death. These activities expose you to risks. Risks are mitigated, but NOT eliminated by training or skill. The BSA/GLC/ CPP assumes ABSOLUTELY NO responsibility, including but not limited to injury or loss due to the use of information, or participating in activities found within this guide.

## Disclaimer and Restriction of Liability

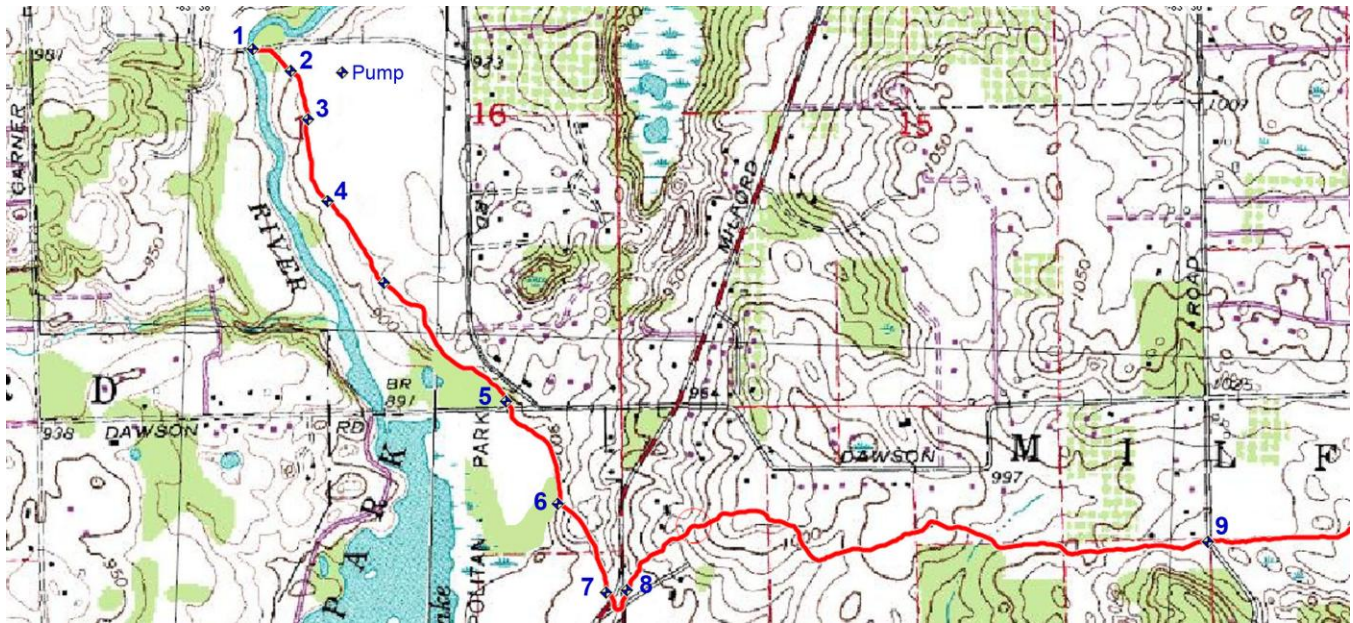
The BSA/GLC/ CPP provides this guide as a free service. While we're satisfied that this guide is dependable in the majority of cases at the time of publication, this guide may not reflect current ground conditions. Please use this guide as such and not as definitive information. All such information is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind. We make no claims, promises or guarantees about the overall accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the contents of this guide and expressly any and all liability for bodily injury and property damage associated with the use of this guide. In no event shall the BSA/GLC/ CPP be liable for any special, direct, indirect, consequential or incidental damages or injury. No responsibility is assumed for damages or other liabilities due to the accuracy, availability, use or misuse of the information herein provided.

## Sharing The Trail With Horses

It is very common to come upon horses and riders along this entire trek. The local trail rider's association recommends 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.

## 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. Final images and pages were composed using Adobe Photoshop, MS Word, and Adobe Acrobat.



## CPT West Trails Trek 1<sup>st</sup> day, Group Camp to South Hill Road (Kensington Start Edition Map #1)

### NOTES

- It is very common to come upon horses and riders along this entire trek. The local trail rider's association recommends 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. Once the horses have passed you may resume your trek.
- 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, when hiking. **Wear pants, not shorts!**

1. SE – Your days trek begins on the bridge over the Huron River in the Kensington Group Camp. Hike southeast from the bridge (125m) to the first latrine.
2. S – Proceed up the steep embankment to the upper campsite and head south (150m) to the second latrine.
3. S – From the gate proceed south to a four-way intersection of trails (250m).
4. 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 (500m).
5. 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 (350m).
6. 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 (275m).
7. 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 (125m). This is because the traffic light may start the northbound traffic before the southbound side without warning.
8. NE – Now head northeast (50m) 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 and takes an eastward track to South Hill Road. One of the old arrowhead signs is located on the west side of South Hill Road.

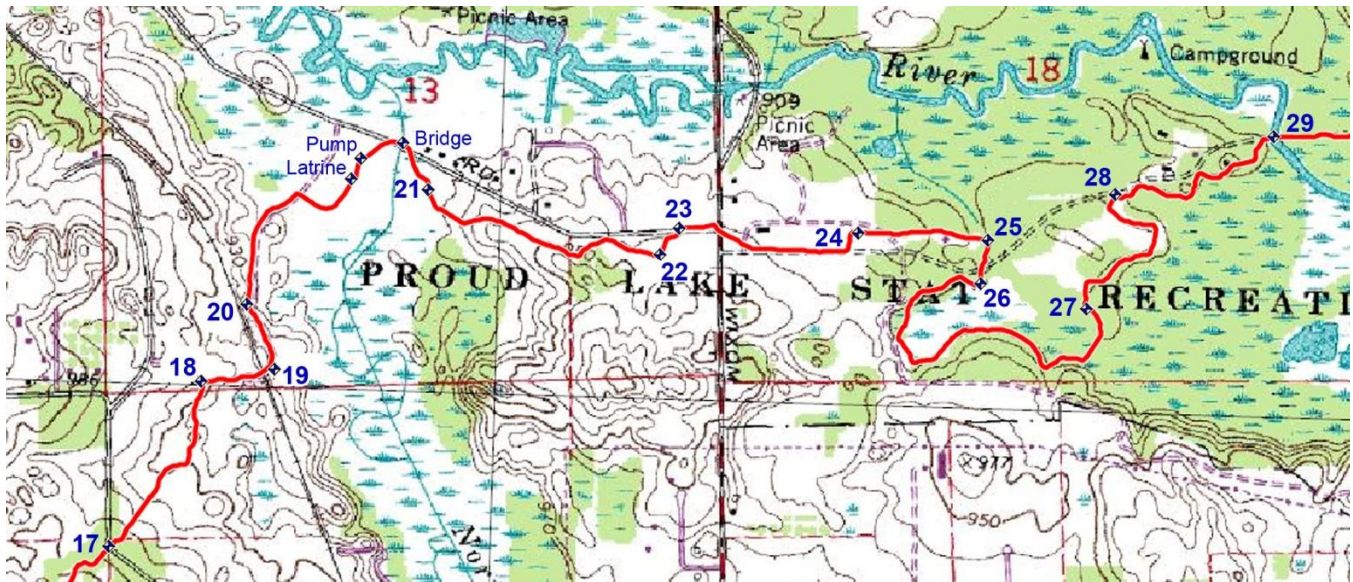
Note: This trail curves and is bisected by several grassy trails from the local homes.



## CPT West Trails Trek 1<sup>st</sup> day, South Hill Road to Childs Lake Road (Kensington Start Edition Map #2)

### NOTES

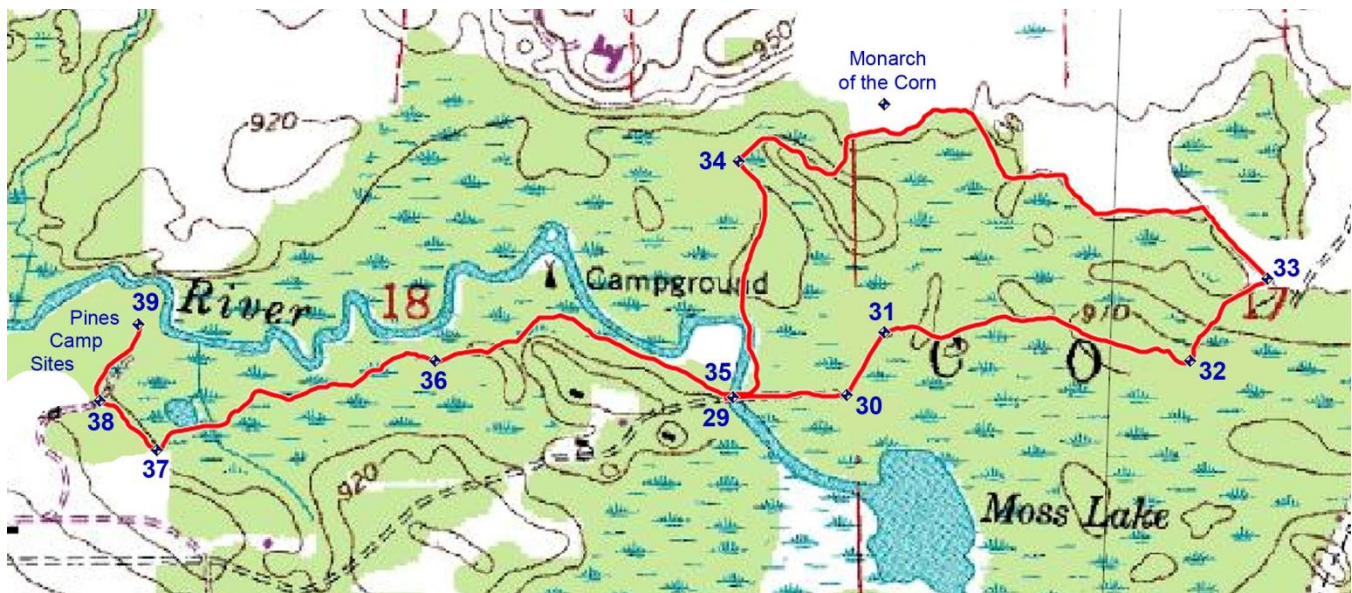
- The trail is intersected with many equestrian trails and meeting horses and riders should be expected.
  - This portion of Proud Lake State Recreation Area is open to hunting during the season, so please be cautious.
  - **Note:** Between South Hill and Old Plank Road hike only on the hike-bike trail. If ever signs indicate you are on an equestrian trail, backtrack and return to the hike-bike trail. East of Old Plank Road the trails are combined.
- 
9. E – After crossing South Hill Road, continue on the Hike-Bike Trail and proceed east through the woods (450m). 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 (110m). If you should come out to Old Plank Road, turn around and proceed back to the intersection (85m).
  10. S – Continue south from the four-way intersection and then east out to Old Plank Road (590m).
  11. 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.
  12. N – From this intersection you turn north and hike downhill. Midway down a steep descent is the next intersection (140m).
  13. E – Turn east and then head northeast and downhill (200m) to the next intersection.
  14. N – Turn north and then proceed northeast (70m) to the next intersection.
  15. N – Take the trail heading north a very short distance to the next intersection (25m).
  16. E – Turn east and then head northeast (205m), through a thick green glen and out to Childs Lake Road.



## CPT West Trails Trek 1<sup>st</sup> day, Childs Lake Road to Moss Lake Dam (Kensington Start Edition, Map #3)

17. 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).
18. 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).
19. N – Turn north and hike to where the path splits (170m).
20. 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).
21. SE – Turn southeast and proceed to the next intersection (710m).
22. N – Turn north and head out to Garden Road (100m).
23. E – 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 (520m).
24. E – Head east through the parking lot and around the gate in the northeast corner. Continue east past the Annex Building to the second marked intersection (350m).
25. S – At this intersection turn onto the trail heading south to the marsh trail. Cross the access road and proceed (120m) to the nature trail that goes around the marsh.
26. W – Follow the Marsh Trail (1.1km) to the southwest so that you are skirting the marsh in a counter-clockwise direction.
27. 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 (515m) until you come to a very large clearing.
28. 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 onto the ski trail. Continue east (540m) on the winding trail towards the Moss Lake Dam. When you reach the dam this is a good place for a short break and use the latrines.

**Note:** If you are ever hiking on the road, you have missed the turn. Go back and proceed onto the ski trail.



## CPT West Trails Trek 1<sup>st</sup> day, Moss Lake Dam to Pines Campsites (Kensington Start Edition Map #4)

- 29. E – After crossing over the bridge, continue east (215m) to the second marked intersection.
- 30. NE – Turn and head northeast (135m) to the next intersection.
- 31. E – Turn east and proceed (610m) to the next intersection.
- 32. NE – Turn and head northeast (225m) to the next intersection.
- 33. NW – Turn and head northwest (1.3km) take to the next intersection. The *Monarch of the Corn* is a large and sprawling dead oak tree in the middle of a corn field.
- 34. S – Turn south and proceed back to the dam (500m).
- 35. NW – Immediately after crossing back over the dam, you take the trail leading to the northwest (625m). This portion of the trail runs parallel to the Huron River.
- 36. W – Turn west and proceed (600m) to the next intersection. Along the way you will be going over several boardwalks. **CAUTION:** These boardwalks are very uneven in spots and extremely slippery when wet.
- 37. NW – Head northwest (150m) and uphill to the access road.
- 38. W/N – Your day's hike now ends here at the Pines Organizational Campsite. You may camp at the Upper or Lower Pines Campsites (150m). The upper campsite has a water pump and may be warmer than the lower site. The lower campsite has a pavilion and borders the river, but no water pump. There are latrines and fire rings at both sites. If the water pump is not functioning you may need to get water at the back of the park office building. Follow the two-track road from the campsite to get to the office. No ground fires are allowed.

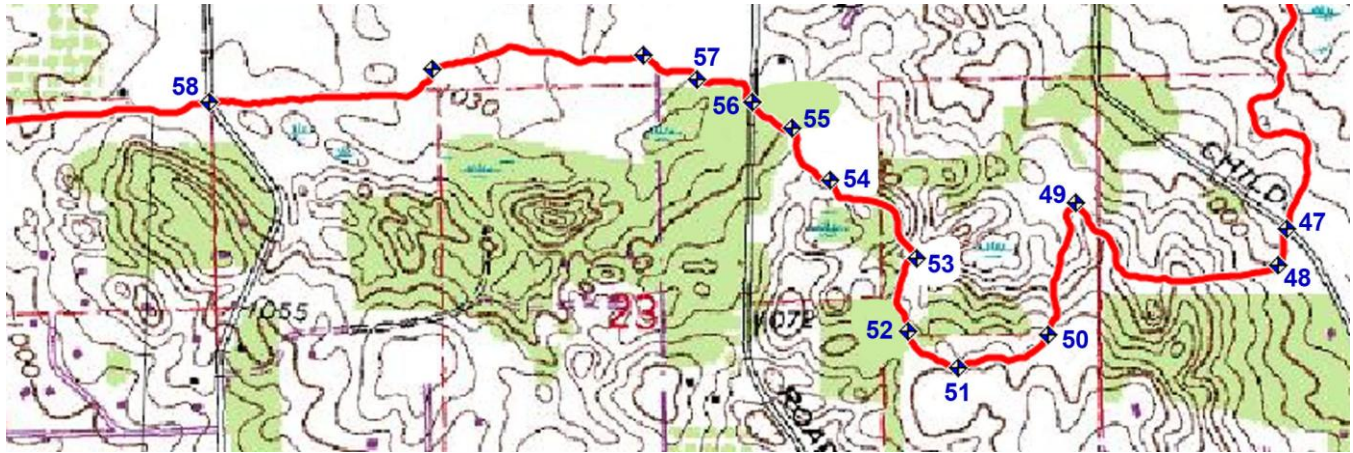


## CPT West Trails Trek 2<sup>nd</sup> Day, Pines Campsite to Childs Lake Road (Kensington Start Edition Map #5)

### NOTE

- It is very common to come upon horses and riders along this entire trek. The local trail rider's association recommends 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. Once the horses have passed you may resume your trek.

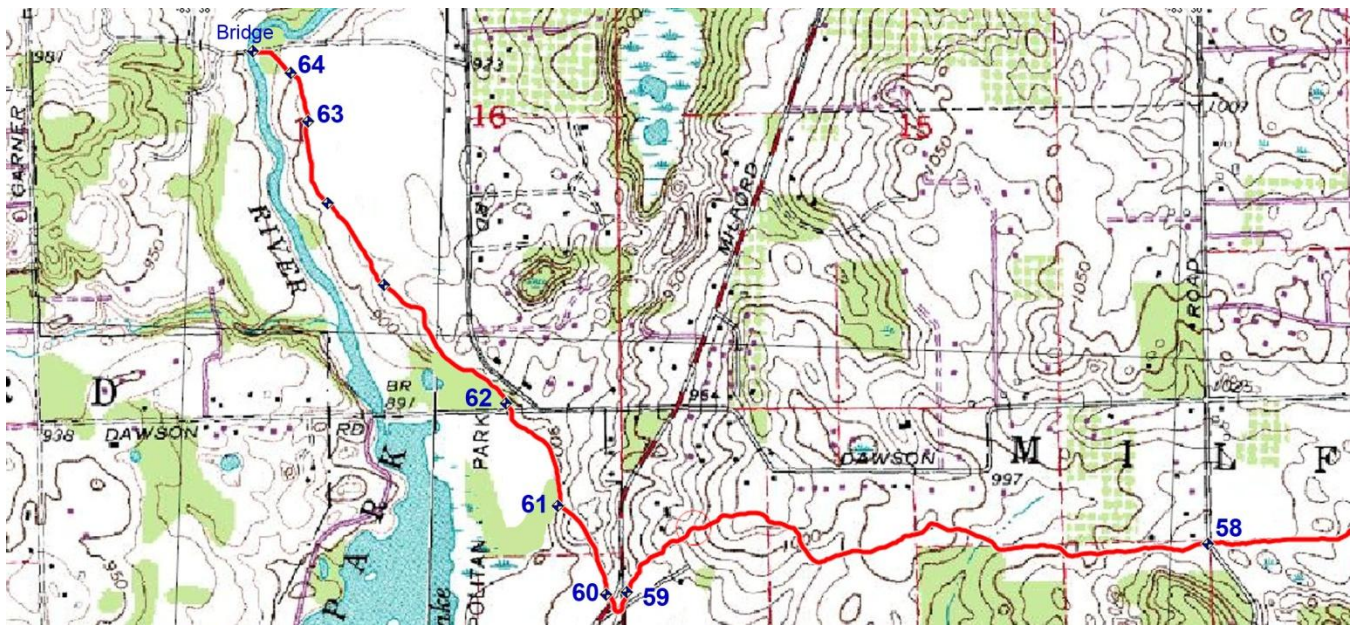
- 
- 39. W – This day's trek begins by following the trail west through the woods to a picnic area parking lot (275m).
  - 40. SW – Proceed southwest across the parking lot and down the driveway (220m). Then continue straight across Wixom Road to one of the old metal arrowhead signs showing the entrance to the trail (25m).
  - 41. SW – Enter the woods and follow the trail southwest and across Garden Road to the next intersection (320m).
  - 42. SE – The trail turns to the southeast for a bit (50m) to the next intersection.
  - 43. SW – Turn and proceed southwest. In a while (260m) 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 crossing (500m).
  - 44. 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.
  - 45. 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 crossing (290m). From the railroad crossing continue west a short distance to a four-way intersection (35m). FYI: Taking the bypass adds a quarter of a mile (400m) to your trek.
  - 46. S – From this four-way intersection turn south and continue down this trail to Childs Lake Road (875m).



## CPT West Trails Trek 2<sup>nd</sup> Day, Childs Lake Road to South Hill Road (Kensington Start Edition Map #6)

- 47. SW – Head southwest across Childs Lake Road, then south a short ways to the next intersection (75m).
  - 48. 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).
  - 49. SW – Take the southwestern path downhill. This path will turn south and up an extremely eroded hillside. Continue on to the next intersection (250m).
  - 50. SW – Continue southwest to the next intersection (200m).
  - 51. NW – Turn northwest and proceed downhill to the next intersection (125m).
  - 52. N – Continue north and hike downhill to the next intersection which is midway down a steep descent (150M).
  - 53. NW – Turn northwest and descend down a steep slope, then uphill to the next intersection (240m).
  - 54. NW – Continue northwest to the next intersection (125m).
  - 55. NW – From here head northwest to Old Plank Road (100m).
  - 56. N – Cross the road and head north a short ways to the entrance of the equestrian trail (25m). Turn west onto this trail and proceed to a four-way intersection (100m).
- 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.
- 57. N – Turn north off the bridle trail onto the hiking trail, then head west. This part of the trail is intersected with many equestrian trails and meeting horses and riders should be expected. From this point westward, the bridle trail runs parallel to your trail on the south side. Eventually you will come to South Hill Road (950m).





## **CPT West Trails Trek 2<sup>nd</sup> Day, South Hill Road to Trail's End (Kensington Start Edition Map #7)**

58. 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).
59. 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 (140m). 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.
60. N – Follow the trail to the north until you come to the top of a hill overlooking a paved bike/hike trail (205m). From here proceed downhill to the paved path (80m).
61. 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 (350m).
62. 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.
63. 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).
64. NW – From the second latrine head northwest to the camp road (100m). The trek does not end at the group campsite. The official trail end is on the bridge to the west (40m). This has been a tradition since the trail's inception in 1958. Literally thousands have completed their trek by ceremoniously walking onto the bridge. Here is the place and time to congratulate each other and take pictures.

### **Congratulations! You have walked in Chief Pontiac Steps!**

Please return the credential map you were given at the beginning to your trail guide along with your 250 word trail experience reports and hand drawn map sketches, within 42 days (six weeks) of completing your trek.