



Creeking: Gilmore Ponds Challenge

Instead of our usual creeking program where we look for life in the creek, we challenge you to look us your senses at Gilmore Ponds to find out how great a habitat these wetlands are.

What is Habitat?

Habitat is the entire place an animal lives. It is where the animal finds its basic needs: food, water, shelter, and air. Different kinds of animals are found in different types of habitat. The habitats found at Gilmore Ponds are: wetlands, a pond, a canal, forest, and open grassland/shrub. Each of these areas provide different types of food and shelter.

The Challenge

Go for a hike on the wetlands trail which is shown as green on the map (see page 3). Use your senses of sight and hearing to discover as many of the following items listed on this sheet as possible

Materials

- This challenge and a pencil
- Good idea to bring: Bug spray, sun protection, and water
- Not necessary, but great tools to have: binoculars and a smartphone for apps/photos

Share your challenge with us

You can share pictures of your finds with us on facebook and instagram by using

#ButlerSWCD and **#ButlerMetroPark**

Great Apps to help you in your quest

- **iNaturalist and /or Seek**—you can share photos you have identified or share photos to receive help with identification
- **Dragonfly ID**—great photos
- **Audubon** -Bird pictures and sounds

For more education ideas, please visit



www.ButlerSWCD.org
www.yourmetroparks.net



Food

Look for food for herbivores (plants), carnivores (animals for meat), and for omnivores (meat and plants)

3 different shapes of leaves

Smooth



Toothed



Lobed



3 different types or colors of flower (pollen and nectar for pollinators)



1 type of fungus



Something dead (Could be a plant or animal for scavengers and decomposers to eat)



Shelter - Nest

Burrow

Beaver lodge. If you are really lucky you will see it across smartweed flats (see map)



Animals Not all of the animals can be found each time you visit. The time of day, the weather, and the season will make a big difference.

Amphibian Frog or toad

Reptile Snake Turtle

Insect Dragonfly Damselfly Butterfly Bee

Mammal You might have to look for evidence like footprints or scat (poop)

Birds A wading bird



Hawks, eagles, and vultures



Duck



Small bird like a cardinal, sparrow, or warbler



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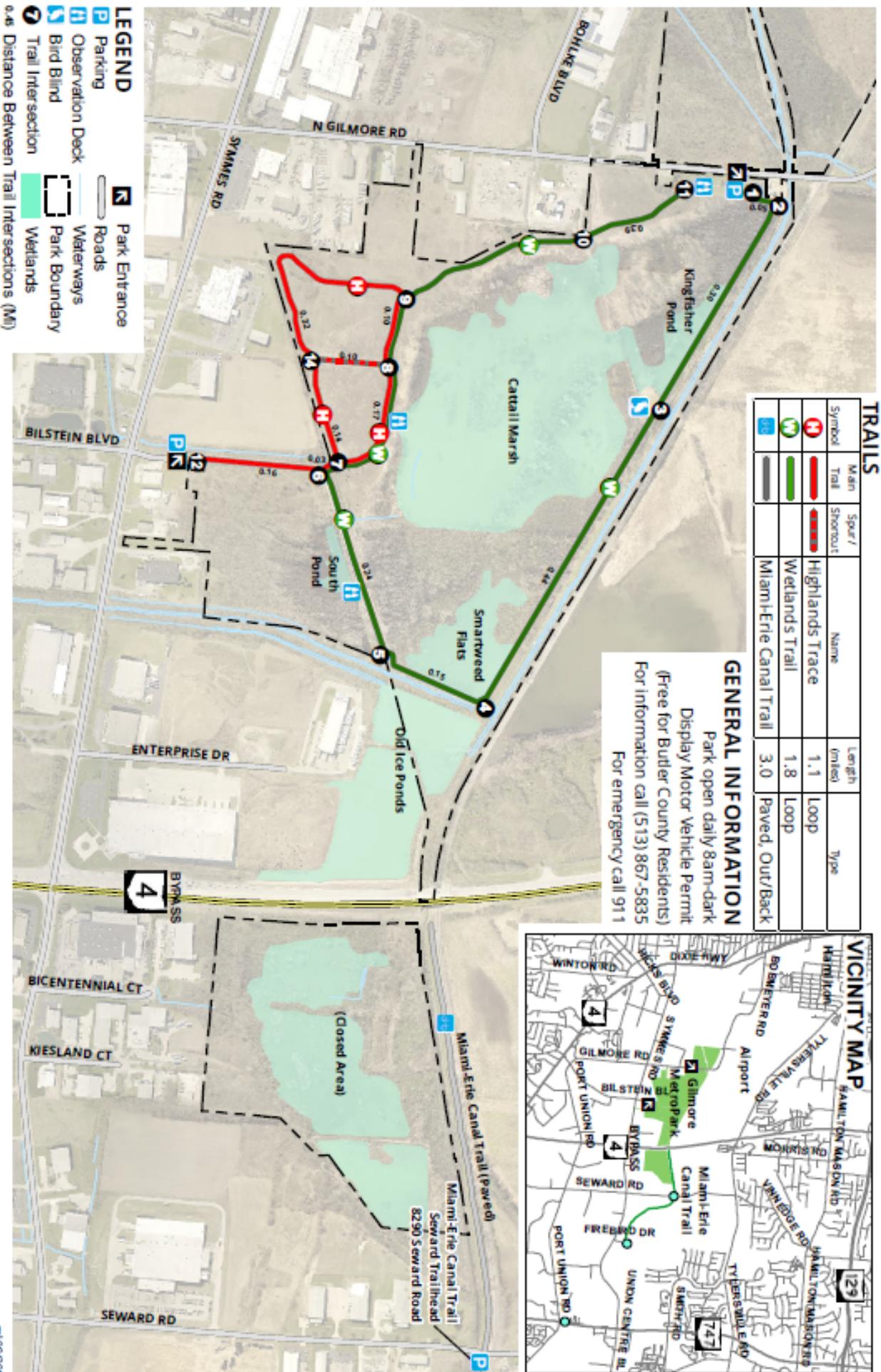
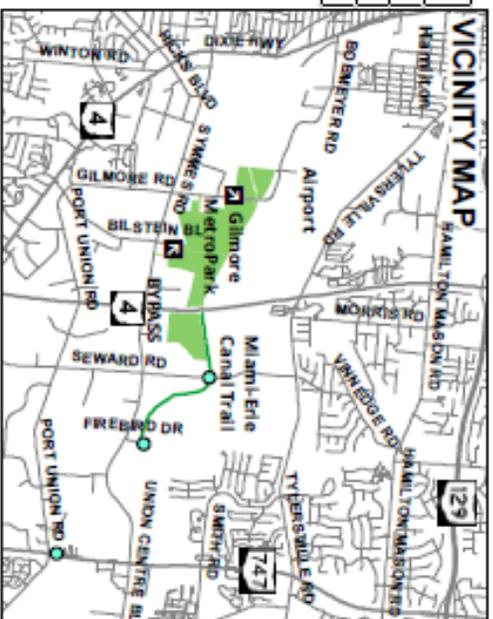
www.yourmetroparks.net

TRAILS

Symbol	Main Trail	Spur / Shortcut	Name	Length (miles)	Type
			Highlands Trace	1.1	Loop
			Wetlands Trail	1.8	Loop
			Miami/Erle Canal Trail	3.0	Paved, Out/Back

GENERAL INFORMATION

Park open daily 8am-dark
 Display Motor Vehicle Permit
 (Free for Butler County Residents)
 For information call (513) 867-5835
 For emergency call 911



Gilmore MetroPark

Gilmore Road Entrance

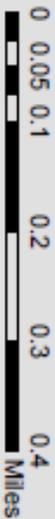
7950 Gilmore Road

Hamilton, OH 45015

Bilstein Blvd. Entrance

8300 Bilstein Blvd.

Hamilton, OH 45015



GRAPHIC SCALE lat/lon 39.356123, -84.519115



2051 Timberman Road, Hamilton, OH 45013
 www.YourMetroParks.net (513) 867-5835