

Hiking Trails Map



The goals of the Radar Hill Hiking Club are to promote the use of hiking trails and increase involvement in trail-related conservation in the Saugatuck/Douglas area. radarhill.club



The Tri-Community Trail Master Plan aims to preserve and expand the ability of visitors and residents to enjoy the natural beauty of the Greater Saugatuck/Douglas area. trailmasterplan.com

Leave No Trace

Seven principles for respecting nature while hiking.

- 1 Know Before You Go**
Learn the rules, know the route, and bring a map. Prepare for the weather and bring drinking water.
- 2 Stick to the Trail**
Preserve the ecosystem: follow designated trails.
- 3 Trash Your Trash**
Carry out all trash and all leftover food. Use toilet facilities, not bushes. Clean up after pets.
- 4 Leave It as You Found It**
Leave plants, rocks, and historic items alone. Don't put soap, waste, or trash in lakes or streams.
- 5 Be Careful with Fire**
Only make fires where permitted and follow the rules.
- 6 Keep Wildlife Wild**
Do not follow, approach, or feed wildlife. Control your pet (leash if required) or leave it at home.
- 7 Respect Other People**
If you take a break, step to the side of the trail. Avoid making loud voices and noises.



Trail Difficulty Rating



Saugatuck Dunes State Park*

- North Trail** 2 mile loop
This trail starts out by passing a small pond and then offers two loop options. The inner loop consists of mostly packed sand in beautiful, wooded areas with tall pine trees. The outer loop offers wide open vistas, rolling dunes, and soft sand. The northeast section of the outer loop becomes steep, making it great for a more rigorous hike. Access both loops from the far north side (nearest the restroom) of the State Park parking area.
- Beach Trail** 1.2 mile loop
This is the shortest and busiest of the four trails, offering the easiest access to the beach. Mostly packed sand, this trail begins somewhat steep but is the best trail for beginner hikers and those who want to watch the sunset. Access from the south side of the State Park parking area.
- Livingston Trail** 0.9 miles
This trail is the most direct route to the beach but involves some up and down hiking over several rolling hills. Heavily wooded, this trail is a great option for hotter days due to the dense shade. Access from Shore Acres Township Park lot, the far southwest corner near the white parking pylons. Enter the trail, take the immediate right, and follow the red signs. You can walk to the shore on this trail, follow the beach, and then walk back on a different path.
- South Trail** 5.2 mile loop
The longest of the four trails, this passes through the Patty Birkholtz Natural Area. Bring plenty of water as this is a rigorous hike involving a good deal of hiking up and down small hills with a lot of soft sand. A less crowded option due to length and degree of difficulty, this trail is also heavily wooded, making it ideal for hotter days. Access similarly to the Livingston Trail, but follow blue signs. On the dune climb on the inner loop, follow the wood posts to remain on the trail through the cut forest.

* State park permit or day-use fee required.



Mount Baldhead and the Peninsula

- Saugatuck Harbor Natural Area** 3 miles
From the north end of the Oval Beach parking lot, follow the beach north. Please stay off the private land.
- Crows Nest Trail** 1.7 mile loop
At the end of Park St., continue 100 yards to the trailhead. Starts low, rises to the peak and then follows a ridge back.
- East Ridge Trail** 0.4 miles
Starts across from Crow's Nest trailhead. Follow the blue marks on trees and stakes. Trail goes up the hill, around two houses, and down a dirt road to a gravel access road.
- Fishtown Trail** 0.5 miles
Across from #879 Park Street, walk west up the gravel road. After 50 yards, go around the right-hand gate and head west down the old road.
- North Woods Trail** 0.5 miles
At the top of Mt. Baldhead, find the sign on the north side. Follow the ridge through the woods.
- Mount Baldhead Steps** 0.1 miles
There are 300 steps, divided into 15 flights, with seats for resting every other flight.
- Mount Baldhead Park Trail** 0.3 miles
From the top of Mt. Baldhead, go west, straight down a very steep dune.
- South Ridge Trail** 0.3 miles
From the top of Mt. Baldhead, go south and follow the ridge to Perryman, near the beach entrance.
- Forward Movement Trail** 0.3 miles
Starting at Val Dalsen and Park Streets, head west following the wooden markers or trees with a yellow stripe.
- John Woolam Trail** 0.8 miles
From the top of Mt. Baldhead, go south and follow the ridge to Perryman, near the beach entrance.



Trail Difficulty Rating

- Easiest
- Easy
- More Difficult
- ◆ Very Difficult
- ◆◆ Extremely Difficult

Trails for Cyclists and Hikers

Beeline Trail Heads north from Burger King and follows Beeline Road to Holland, with a pretty section in the woods.	6.6 miles ●
Blue Star Trail, North Heads south from Burger King and primarily follows the Blue Star Highway. Still under development.	4.2 miles ●

Saugatuck Township and Laketown

River Bluff Park The "upper trail" segment is a bit challenging, but the remaining trail is an even, easy hike. Lots of highway noise.	0.7 miles ■
Wade Nature Sanctuary Overlooking Silver Lake are two loops that are well marked. There are also posted maps that show where you are.	1.2 miles ●

Farview Nature Park Unmarked but clear, the trail ends at a small lake. There is also a horse trail. Expect to hear highway noise.	2 mile loop ●
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Huyser Farm Park Trails are not marked. Undeveloped park with a free u-pick blueberry field and historic buildings.	1 mile ●
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Farther East

Outdoor Discovery Center Eight trails, mostly paved, through diverse ecosystems. Check in advance for special programs.	2.5 miles ○
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New Richmond Bridge Cross the Kalamazoo River on a historic bridge. The park features wetlands and a half-mile of boardwalk.	0.6 miles ○
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Additional Trails

Beach to Bayou Trail Paved walkways follow Center Street from Wade's Bayou on the river to the Douglas Beach on the lake.	1.6 miles ○
Community Church of Douglas A walking path that is peaceful, clearly marked, and well-maintained. A few sections get muddy.	0.9 miles ○

Peterson Preserve Trail Starts by a pond and follows the route of a train that used to come down from Holland a hundred years ago.	0.4 miles ○
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Wa-Ke-Nah Preserve, North Tract Take an easy trail to an overlook or make the tricky climb down to the beach. A beautiful place with lots of deer.	0.5 miles ○
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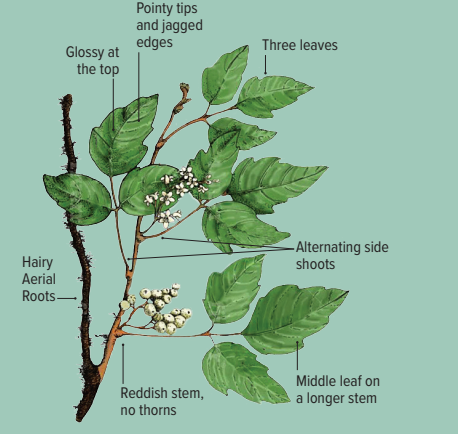
- ★ Trailhead
- Public Area with Trails
- Recreation Area or Cemetery
- Public Trail on Private Land
- Nonmotorized Trail
- Proposed Nonmotorized Trail

Trail Smarts

To get the most enjoyment out of your hike, be sure to steer clear of the following:

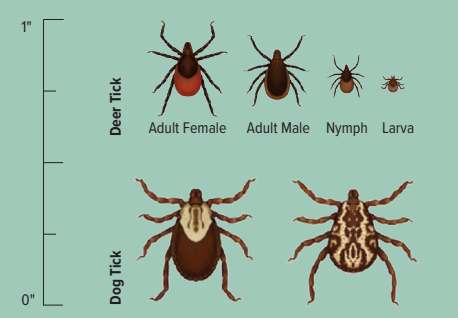
Poison Ivy

The best way to deal with poison ivy is to never let it touch you in the first place. Poison ivy can grow as a shrub or wind its way up trees. Look for a leaf arrangement of three, with one larger leaf on the end and two smaller leaves flanking it. Wear long pants and long sleeves while hiking to prevent exposure to skin. If you do come in contact with poison ivy, wash exposed skin with dish soap and plenty of cool water as soon as possible.



Deer & Dog Ticks

Deer ticks can carry the bacteria that causes Lyme disease. Wearing long sleeves, long pants, and bug repellent are the best ways to ward off ticks. Be sure to check your clothing and your body during and after a hike for any ticks. For the best tips on tick removal, please visit cdc.gov/lyme/removal.



With your smartphone camera, scan the QR code at left to see a list of trails with descriptions, photos, maps, and links to the Hiking Project.

Hiking Project apps let your smartphone become your guide on these trails.

