Welcome to Quarry Hill
Park & Nature Center!

701 Silver Creek Road NE
Rochester, MN  55906

Saved by McGhie & Betts, Inc.

PARK RULES: Keep your dog on a leash.
Clean up after your pet.
Ride bikes on paved trails only.
Observe but don’t disturb the wildlife.
Please help save our park by staying on established trails.

HOURS: Park: 5am to dusk
Nature Center:
Sept - May / M - Sat  9am - 5pm,
Sun 12pm - 5pm
June - Aug / M -F  8:30am - 4:30pm,
Sat 9am - 5pm, Sun 12pm - 5pm

Savanna Trails
Beginning in 1997 this area was reclaimed as an oak savanna and seeded with native prairie plants. During the summer months the savanna blooms with forbes (flowers) and grasses, attracting birds and butterflies. Bluebirds can be seen here near the bird houses (please enjoy but do not disturb). At the top of the hill a bench allows for a rest while viewing downtown Rochester. Trails in the oak savanna are relatively flat and grass covered. Trails leading to/from the oak savanna are hilly.

Woodland Trails
During warm weather look for mosses, fungi, and wildflowers blooming early in the spring along these shady trails. At the south end of East Hill is a remnant “goat prairie” with a view of the area south of the park. Trails are dirt or grass covered and may be muddy/slippery in wet weather.

Pond/Prairie Trails
Sit by the pond and listen to the frogs or stroll through the prairie looking for butterflies. The trail is short but packed with sights & sounds of life. Trails are short and flat.

Stream Trails
Paralleling the Family trail this short path leads hikers along Silver Creek. Butterflies and other insects abound during the summer months. The trail is grassy and flat.

Quarry Ruin Trails
Points of interest include: the quarry for which Quarry Hill is named and ruins of the historic quarry operation, a large sandstone cave formerly used as food storage, the State Hospital cemetery, and two overlooks of downtown Rochester. Informational signs about the history of the grounds are located along these trails. The trails are hilly and rocky with uneven surfaces. Trails are muddy/slippery in wet weather.

Sports Trails
These wide grass & dirt covered trails pass through woods and meadows as they wander up and around East Hill, great for a pleasant walk or a long hike. During the winter these trails are reserved and groomed for cross-country skiing. Trails are relatively flat with some rolling terrain.

Family Trails
Connecting the three parking lot areas (P) these trails provide a smooth surface for easy mobility. Family trails are used by walkers, runners, bicyclists, skiers, and roller blade users. The trails are black-topped and relatively flat.