

To Reach the Park

Ellenwood Lake Provincial Park is located just 19 kilometres (12 miles) northeast of Yarmouth and 1.6 kilometres (1 mile) south of Deerfield. To reach the park, take Exit 34 off of Highway 101, proceed 6.5 kilometres (4.1 miles) along Route 340, and follow signs to the park entrance.



RESERVATIONS

1-888-544-3434

9:00 am to 11:00 pm AT (7 days a week)

www.novascotiaparks.ca (24 hours)

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Parks and Recreation Division
Department of Natural Resources
RR # 1, Belmont,
Colchester County,
Nova Scotia, B0M 1C0
(902) 662-3030
www.novascotiaparks.ca

Department of Natural Resources
PO Box 99, Tusket
Nova Scotia, B0W 3M0
(902) 648-3540

Ellenwood Lake Provincial Park
(902) 761-2400
(May – September)



Photos courtesy Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and Nova Scotia Tourism, Culture and Heritage.

Ellenwood Lake

Provincial Park



Ellenwood Lake Provincial Park, nestled in the heart of Yarmouth County, is a 114-ha (282 acre) great spot for outdoor recreational activities. The warm, clear waters of this lake make it ideal for swimming, boating or fishing. And with the choice of two sandy beachfronts, a picnic park, playground, walking trail and boat launch, your dilemma is really what to do first. Only 19 km from the town of Yarmouth, and on the threshold of two scenic travelways, this park is an ideal base for daytrips around southwest Nova Scotia.



Natural History

Shaped by glaciers The land around the park, like all of southwest Nova Scotia, was scraped and moulded by glaciers more than 10,000 years ago. As the ice melted, the debris left behind created distinctive mounds—like eskers and drumlins—and blocked waterways that would form the many lakes we see here today.

The park's relatively flat terrain makes the 1.5 km walking trail within reach for all ages. Stroll through the traditional "Acadian Forest"—a mixture of maple, birch, hemlock, spruce, fir and pine. Stop, and take in the simple beauty around you. Little folk will delight in the antics of squirrels and the many forest birds. The more quiet among you may catch a glimpse of deer, grouse or groundhog.

Tucked in nature Campers at Ellenwood Lake appreciate the wooded campsites near the lake with their shade-giving canopies of maple and birch. Sites are also divided by greenery, making each its own private pocket of nature. A perfect place to unwind.

A short walk from the campsites are two beachfronts. One is the more private campers' beach, the other has lifeguards on-duty

in the summer months. While swimming is the most popular way to enjoy the lake, an on-site boat launch gives easy access for canoes and other watercraft. Anglers can look for trout, pickerel and perch. Most fishing seasons in this region run from spring through summer, with exact dates depending on the species. A Nova Scotia Fishing license can be purchased from many area shops. Online regulations are available at www.gov.ns.ca/fish/

The best memories If you feel like socializing, Ellenwood provides lots of opportunity to meet fellow campers. Get together at the group picnic shelter, or take the children to the playground, the beachfront, or for a game of tag in large open area at the day-use park. To get even more out of your experience, pay a visit to the Campground Host—a volunteer camper in residence much of the season—who welcomes your questions about park facilities, local services, shopping and upcoming events.

Four seasons to explore You are welcome to visit the park in the off-season too. Although the buildings and summer facilities are closed, the park lands and the trail make a perfect outdoor getaway, to walk, snowshoe or cross-country ski.



Stroll along the lakeshore in the perfect stillness of a summer morning.



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Coastal Plain Flora

Rare beauties As you explore the lakeshore area of the park, remember to look for, yet protect, the rare plants of the “Coastal Plain Flora”—a group of species that grows along rocky lakeshores of the eastern United States and in this small pocket of southwestern Nova Scotia. Thousands of years ago, the continental shelf along the Atlantic coast was exposed, and southwest Nova Scotia was part of an unbroken shoreline east of the Appalachian mountains.

Rising sea water from melting glaciers later submerged the shelf between Maine and Nova Scotia, but this special plant life has remained, cut off from its southerly cousins.

Today, the delicately flowered *pink coreopsis*, *Plymouth gentian* and *water pennywort* that grow in this part of Nova Scotia are not found anywhere else in Canada. All three are protected species by provincial and federal governments. For some Coastal Plain species the plants found here make up much of the world's remaining populations.



Partridge Berry

Area Attractions

- Firefighters Museum of Nova Scotia features a rare collection of firefighting equipment and memorabilia—including one of Canada's oldest steam pumpers—and examples of almost every type of fire engine ever used in Nova Scotia.
- Yarmouth County Museum and Archives is an award-winning general history museum on Yarmouth's seafaring history. Collections include china, glass, costumes, toys, tools, ship models and period rooms.
- Cape Forchu Light, a short drive from Yarmouth, is an enduring symbol of the marine activity of the town. Its two-million candlepower beam can be seen over 30 nautical miles out to sea.

Day Trips

- North of Yarmouth along Rte. 1, Port Maitland Beach and Mavillette Beach provide opportunities for seasonal supervised swimming. Smugglers Cove in Meteghan, once frequented by pirates and rum runners, is now a picturesque picnic park overlooking ocean cliffs.
- At the Bangor Sawmill Museum, near Saulnierville, visitors can tour a functioning restored 19th century water-powered sawmill.
- At West Pubnico, Le Village Historique Acadien portrays the area's rich Acadian heritage dating back to the 1600s. Visitors interested in wind power will enjoy a drive to Lower West Pubnico, site of a 17-turbine wind farm.
- For information on these and other attractions please consult the Nova Scotia Doers and Dreamers Guide, visit a Visitor Information Centre or the website at www.novascotia.com

Dip your paddle in Ellenwood Lake.



Cape Forchu

Ellenwood Lake Provincial Park

- Parking
- Park Office
- Washrooms and Showers
- Vault Toilets
- Playground
- Picnic Area
- Walking Trail
- Lifeguard
- Swimming
- Boat Launch
- Campground (87 sites)
- Water
- Firewood
- Dumping Station
- Park Boundary



A Special Message to Park Visitors

PARK SAFETY

- Help preserve and protect this beautiful park for the enjoyment of future generations. Plants, animals and rocks are an important part of its natural heritage. Please do not damage or remove them.
- Several rare plant species may be found along the lakeshore. Do not trample them. Bring boats ashore only at designated locations.
- Please keep pets on a leash at all times.
- Firearms are prohibited in the park.

PERSONAL SAFETY

- Please obey lifeguards' directions and observe posted swimming regulations. In unsupervised swimming areas children should be watched closely in or near the water. Inflatable swimming aids should not be used.
- Contact park staff for further information about the park. They want to make your visit as enjoyable as possible.