

Elklick Preserve CDP Notes:

1. Resource Protection Zone (RPZ): Uses within the RPZs will be restricted to foot traffic on park-maintained trails, unless otherwise designated. Off trail use is highly discouraged for all visitors and their pets due to the sensitivity of the natural plant communities and rare or unique wildlife species. Authorized trails will be maintained within their existing footprints, though existing trails may be rerouted for resource management if they are found to be impacting rare species or natural communities, or to improve their sustainability with Park Authority approval. If trails are rerouted, all abandoned sections must be carefully restored and managed. No new trails may be constructed except in the general areas as shown on the approved CDP.
2. Trail maintenance should be coordinated internally to minimize impacts to all resources. Limited off-trail activity will be permitted. Site management and programs scheduled and supervised by the Park Authority are permitted.
3. Accessible trails are trails that are designed and constructed to align with ADA Guidelines to the extent possible. Trail design and construction should consider FCPA maintenance and operations needs, and should minimize impacts to natural resource communities.
4. Constructed sustainable trails may be constructed as dirt paths, stonedust trails, or paved trails as site conditions warrant. They may not be able to be designed as fully accessible.
5. Trail locations are approximate and shall be located as ground conditions allow. Trails may be closed at the discretion of the FCPA as needed for operations or management purposes.
6. Pedestrian trailheads shall include park identification, safety signage, map signage, and/or kiosks as appropriate.
7. Use by special permission in natural areas may include activities such as: orienteering, geocaching, letterboxing or similar activities, search and rescue training, programs or classes, research or nature study, and other approved or nighttime activity.
8. Deed restricted areas are overlay areas where certain uses, facility development are limited. Refer to deed and/or agreement language for further development guidance.
9. See Mountain Road District Park CDP and Rock Hill District Park master plan for details on park facilities at those sites.

LOUDOUN COUNTY

Maintenance Access

Resource Protection Notes:

1. Diabase Forest Resource Protection Zone (RPZ)
This Resource Protection Zone contains the best remaining example of the globally rare Northern Hardpan Basic Oak Hickory Forest. The core area of this RPZ is the Elklick Woodlands Natural Area Preserve, dedicated under Virginia state easement for the protection of this rare plant community. Northern Hardpan Basic Oak Hickory Forest is ranked as both globally and state rare (G3/S3) by the Virginia Natural Heritage Program. This forest type, characterized by white oak, pignut hickory, white ash and redbud, occurs on diabase soil underlain by dense plastic clay, commonly referred to as shrink-swell soil. Under these conditions, water ponds easily during wet periods but evaporates quickly during dry spells. Such fluctuation in soil moisture results in stunted, open-canopy trees but encourages a wide variety of grasses and herbs to occupy the sunlit understory. With a natural range restricted to just a few counties in the northern Virginia and Maryland Piedmont, most examples of this forest-type have disappeared due to the rapid urban and suburban growth of the area. Protecting the integrity of the remaining diabase forest blocks is critical to the survival of the community type and the species it supports. Other examples exist on Fairfax County parkland at Cub Run Stream Valley Park, Confederate Fortifications Historic Site and Hickory Forest Park.
2. Meadow Resource Protection Zone (RPZ)
This Resource Protection Zone contains a healthy warm season grass habitat that supports associated wide variety of bird, mammal and reptile species as well as state rare plants. The meadow habitat at Elklick Preserve is maintained using prescribed fire to promote the health of native plant species and remove non-native invasive species. Meadow habitats are disappearing from Northern Virginia as treeless areas are developed for human uses. Protecting the integrity of the old field and surrounding meadow habitat will support a hundreds of plant and animal species, provide outstanding wildlife viewing opportunities for the public and support the water quality protection goals for the Bull Run-Occoquan Reservoir.
3. Forest Resource Protection Zone (RPZ)
This Resource Protection Zone contains a mixture of upland and bottomland forest. This forest was impacted by 20th century land use, and shows signs of disturbance and non-native invasive species. However, there is good forest cover overall which provides habitat for a variety of animal species. This forest can be improved overtime to increase the ecosystem services provided and the habitat value, while providing opportunities for human access and enjoyment.

ELKLICK PRESERVE
Sully Woodlands
Conceptual Development Plan
Approved Plan

March 25, 2015
Prepared by: Fairfax County Park Authority
1,473 acres • Tax Map 43-2 and 43-3

LEGEND:

- Park Boundary
- Constructed Sustainable Trail
- Accessible Trails
- Trails by others
- Parking
- Drainage Easement
- Deed Restricted Area
- Trailhead

