

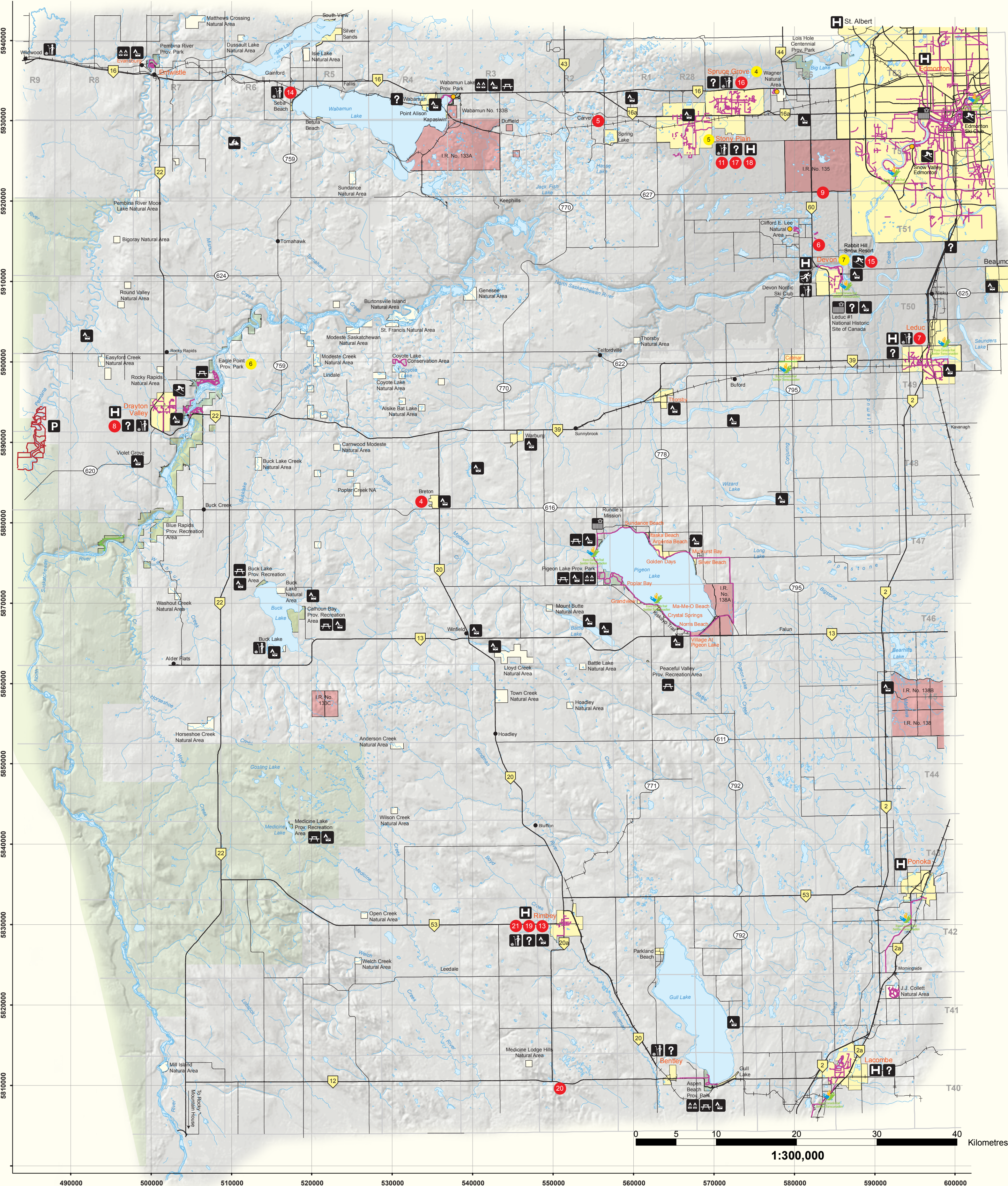
Edmonton

The **City of Edmonton** ([www.edmonton.ca](http://www.edmonton.ca)) maintains more than 160 km of paved and gravel trails for walking, jogging, in-line skating and cycling. The heart of this vast network lies in the deep, forested North Saskatchewan River Valley, which meanders for 48 km through the city and passes through 22 major parks, making it the largest expanse of urban parkland in North America. This allows for long linear trips as well as short outings, thanks to the many access points and feeder trails, the latter often dropping into the valley along quiet ravines. A 28.7 km stretch of the city's trail system is part of the **Trans Canada Trail**.

The city and the Edmonton Nordic Ski Club ([www.edmontonnordic.ca](http://www.edmontonnordic.ca)) maintain groomed cross-country ski trails in a number of city parks, several of them lit for night skiing. One stretch of forested river valley trail, along the south side of the river, is designated for equestrian use.

South of Edmonton

Just southwest of Edmonton, the Devon area has a number of trail systems that belies its small population base. Seven km north of Devon, the **Clifford E. Lee Nature Sanctuary** (<http://cliffordlee.com>) includes boardwalks and walkways – with loops ranging from 1.7 to 6.2 km – leading through marshes, meadows, sand hills, and pine and aspen forests. Along the way are benches and viewing platforms, providing plentiful opportunities to see the sanctuary's 100 plus bird species.



The nearby **Devonian Botanic Garden** ([www.devonian.ualberta.ca](http://www.devonian.ualberta.ca) 780-987-3054) has 0.77 km² of manicured display gardens, natural areas and ecological preserves. Walking paths and trails wander through alpine and Japanese gardens, butterfly and cactus showcases, upland jack pine and spruce forests and mixed wetlands

To the east of Devon, **Leduc** ([www.leduc.ca](http://www.leduc.ca) 780-986-5454) has developed more than 68 km of multi-use paved trails throughout the city, of which 25 km are cleared during the winter. A 10 km stretch of this system is part of the Trans Canada Trail. Routes along the shores of Telford Lake and Leduc Reservoir (the latter includes a nature path on its west side) provide good wildlife watching.

To the southwest, Pigeon Lake is a popular destination for water-based recreation activities like fishing, boating and swimming and is a fine choice for bird watching. At **Pigeon Lake Provincial Park**, along the lake's west shore, 13 km of non-motorized trails wander through coniferous and aspen forest. In winter, 10 km of these trails, in three loops, are groomed for cross-country skiing. An additional 8 km of groomed ski trails can be found at a nature conservancy near **Rundle's Mission** ([www.rundlemission.org](http://www.rundlemission.org)), a provincial historic site overlooking the lake, some 12 km to the north. The 0.9 km² conservancy also contains a summer interpretive trail and nature path.

Circling Pigeon Lake is the 64 km **Kiskayo Trail**, part of the Trans Canada Trail. Combining existing roads, road allowances and community trails, the route travels through parkland, two bird sanctuaries, the provincial park and the summer villages surrounding the lake. It is named after the Cree chief Kiskayo, who signed Treaty No. 6 in 1876 and helped develop trading trails to Edmonton and Rocky Mountain House.

Northwest of Pigeon Lake, near St. Francis, the 3.24 km² **Coyote Lake Conservation Area** ([www.natureconservancy.ca](http://www.natureconservancy.ca)) marks a transition between mixed-wood boreal forest and aspen parkland. Here, visitors can look for more than 150 bird species and a number of rare orchids while taking self-guided hikes, including a short loop that is wheelchair accessible. For more details, contact the Nature Conservancy of Canada at toll-free 877-262-1253 or [Alberta@natureconservancy.ca](mailto:Alberta@natureconservancy.ca)

At the south end of Gull Lake, **Aspen Beach Provincial Park** is Alberta's oldest provincial park (created in 1932) and a magnet for campers, boaters, anglers and beach lovers. A 3 km walking and cycling trail runs through the park, with an additional 1 km loop and boardwalk crossing a reedy marsh frequented by a diversity of bird species. The park trails connect to a popular 5.5 km asphalt path that follows Highway 12 west to the town of Bentley.

To the near east, Lacombe ([www.lacombe.ca](http://www.lacombe.ca)), population 12,000, is a full-service community set amidst rolling hills and scattered farms. A system of natural, gravel and asphalt walking and cycling trails meander throughout the city, highlighted by the trails surrounding Elizabeth and Cranra Lakes. The Trans Canada Trail route passes through town and, once ongoing trail construction is complete, will connect Lacombe with Blackfalds and Red Deer to the south and with Ponoka to the north. While in Lacombe, it's well worth taking a walking tour of the downtown historic buildings and murals.

West of Edmonton

Five km west of Edmonton along Highway 16A, the 1.29 km² **Wagner Natural Area's** diverse habitats include peatlands, willow-sedge wetlands and black spruce forests. These spring-fed fens support 16 orchid species, boreal and saw-whet owls and a healthy population of boreal toads. The interpretive 1.2 km **Marl Pond Trail**, so named because of whitish calcium carbonate deposits, winds through the natural area and is a good place to look for carnivorous plants and for bird species such as Tennessee warblers

To the near west in **Spruce Grove** ([www.sprucegrove.org](http://www.sprucegrove.org)), the **Heritage Grove Trail System** features some 50 km of paved and shale walking, jogging, cycling and in-line skating trails. These lead through woods and the city's **Central Park**, linking many neighbourhoods with green spaces. A series of outdoor classrooms along the trails allow visitors to learn about the history and evolution of the forest. Every February, many residents hit the city's trails for Winter Walk Day.

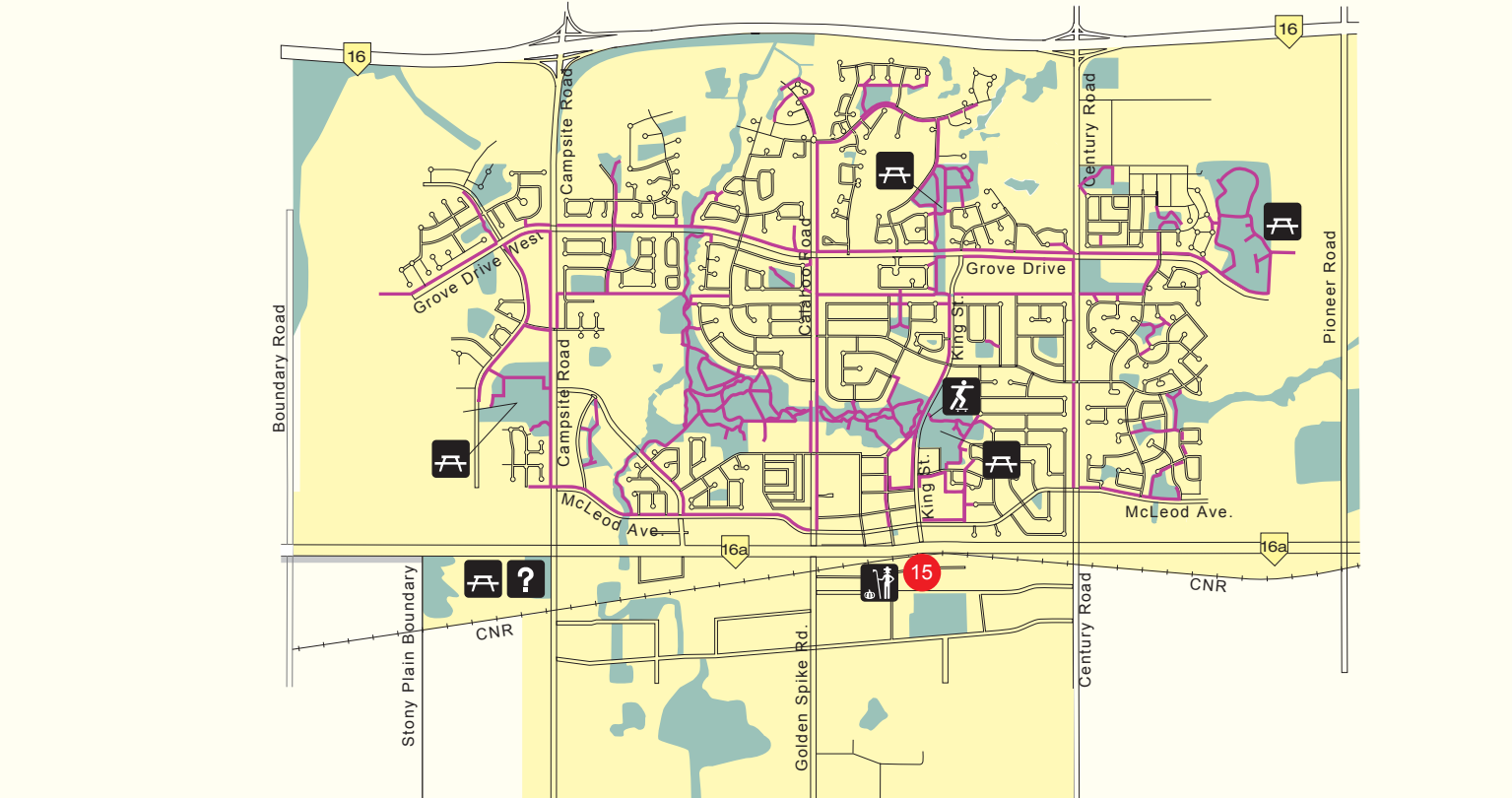
Nearby, **Stony Plain** ([www.stonyplain.com](http://www.stonyplain.com); 780-963-2151) has more than 25 km of asphalt walking, running, biking and in-line skating trails, maintained year-round. These trails are the site of the Great White North Triathlon, held every July long weekend. With a skate park and BMX track, **Whispering Waters Park** is a hub of the pathway system, while **Rotary Park** features a gravel walking trail circling a pond. While in town, check out the historic outdoor murals. Just southwest of Stony Plain, **Hasse Lake** offers a 3 km hiking loop and 5 km of groomed cross-country ski trails, both accessed from a parking lot along the lake's northwest corner.

Sixty km west of Edmonton, **Wabamun Lake Provincial Park** is a good place to watch for wildlife – particularly in the Moonlight Bay area – with nesting ospreys and grebes in summer. A 4 km trail runs through the park, connecting the campgrounds and day-use area and continuing on to the village of Wabamun.

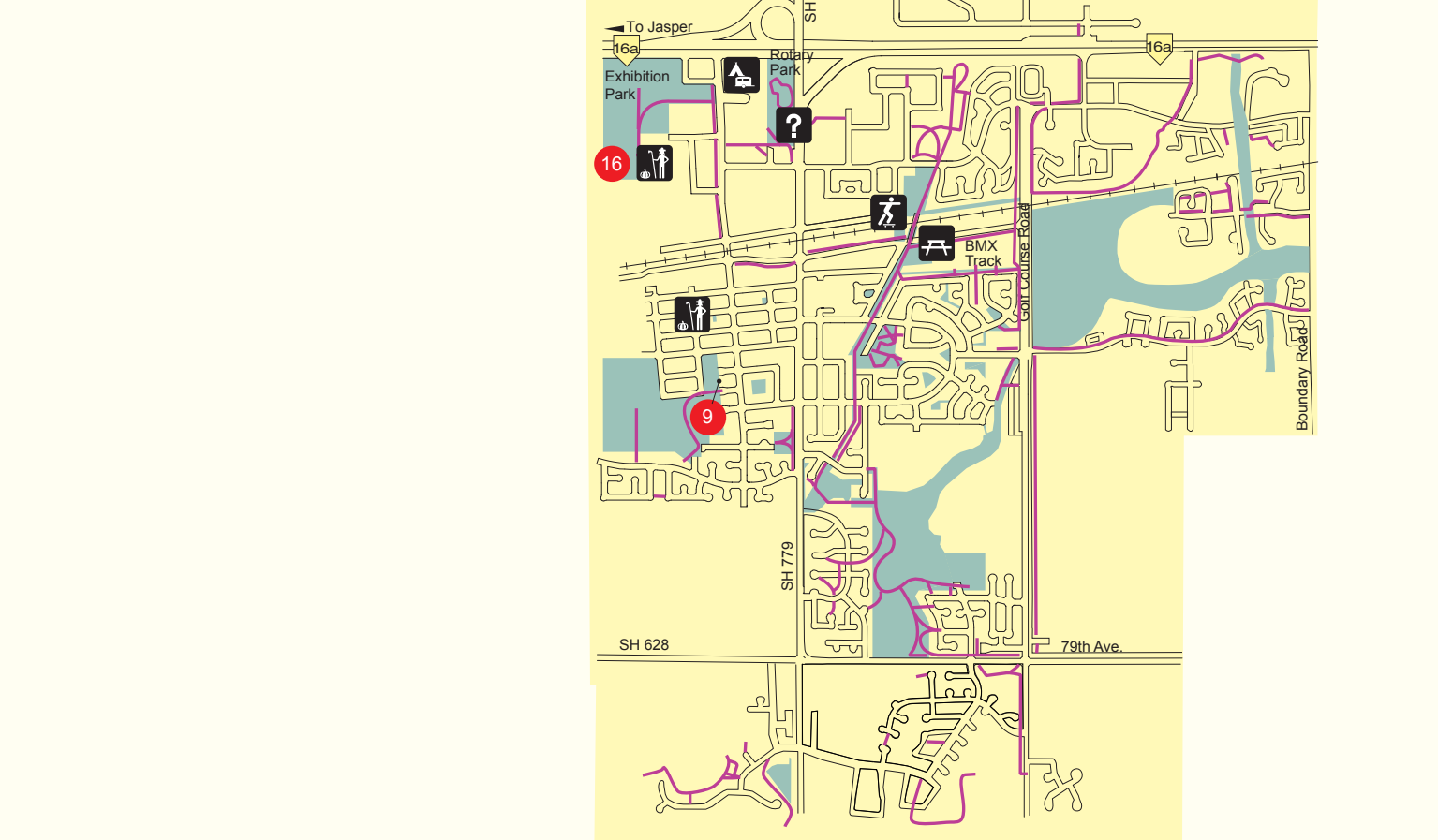
Southwest of Wabamun Lake, the Trailseekers Snowmobile Club Spruce Grove, Stony Plain & District ([www.trailseekers.ab.ca](http://www.trailseekers.ab.ca)) maintains 53 km of trails that, from a staging area, travel through open, slough-dotted fields and mixed-wood forests. These trails are part of a provincial grazing lease and are subject to change on a yearly basis hence they are not shown on this map. Please check the club's website for changes to trail routing and possible closures.



Spruce Grove



Stony Plain



**Legend - East Half**

Primary highways	All terrain vehicle
Secondary	Boat launch
Other roads (paved & gravel roads)	Campground
Rail	Canoeing
Water	Cross country skiing
Urban	Cycling
Indian reserve	Day use area
Melts settlement	Equestrian
Natural area	Farmers market
Forest recreation area	Group campground
Provincial recreation area	Hiking
National park	Historic site
Provincial park	Hospital
Wildland park	Information
Wilderness park	Motorcycle
Public land use zone	Museum
Municipality park	Picnic shelter
Watchable Wildlife sites	Skateboarding
Special interest site	Snowmobile
Trans Canada Trail	Staging area
Areas that have a pullout map	Viewpoint

**Trails**

Mixed use (motorized & non motorized)	Designated winter use
Non motorized	Equestrian use
	Edson Towns with trails

All trail distances are one way unless otherwise indicated.

- Special Interest Sites**
- Alberta Forest Service Museum
  - Alexo Saunders Historic Information Plaque
  - Beaver Boardwalk
  - Breton and District Historical Museum
  - Carvel General Store
  - Devonian Botanic Garden
  - Dr. Woods House Museum
  - Drayton Valley Museum
  - Edmonton Corn Maze
  - Hinton Mountain Bike Skills Park
  - Multicultural Heritage Centre and Oppert-Hauser House
  - Natural Resource Interpretive Park
  - Pas-Ka-Poo Historical Park
  - Saba Beach Heritage Museum
  - Shalom Water Ski Park
  - Spruce Grove Grain Elevator and Museum
  - Stony Plain & Parkland Pioneer Museum
  - Stony Plain Murals
  - Rimby Central Alberta Raceways
  - Medicine Lodge Ski Area
  - Beatty Heritage House

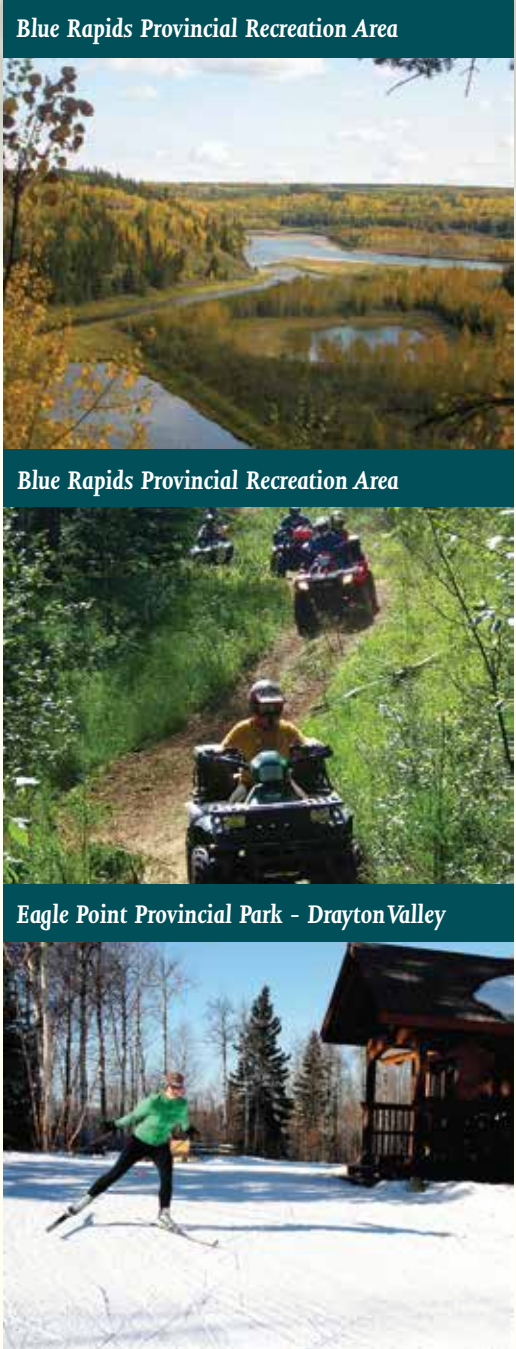


Drayton Valley Area

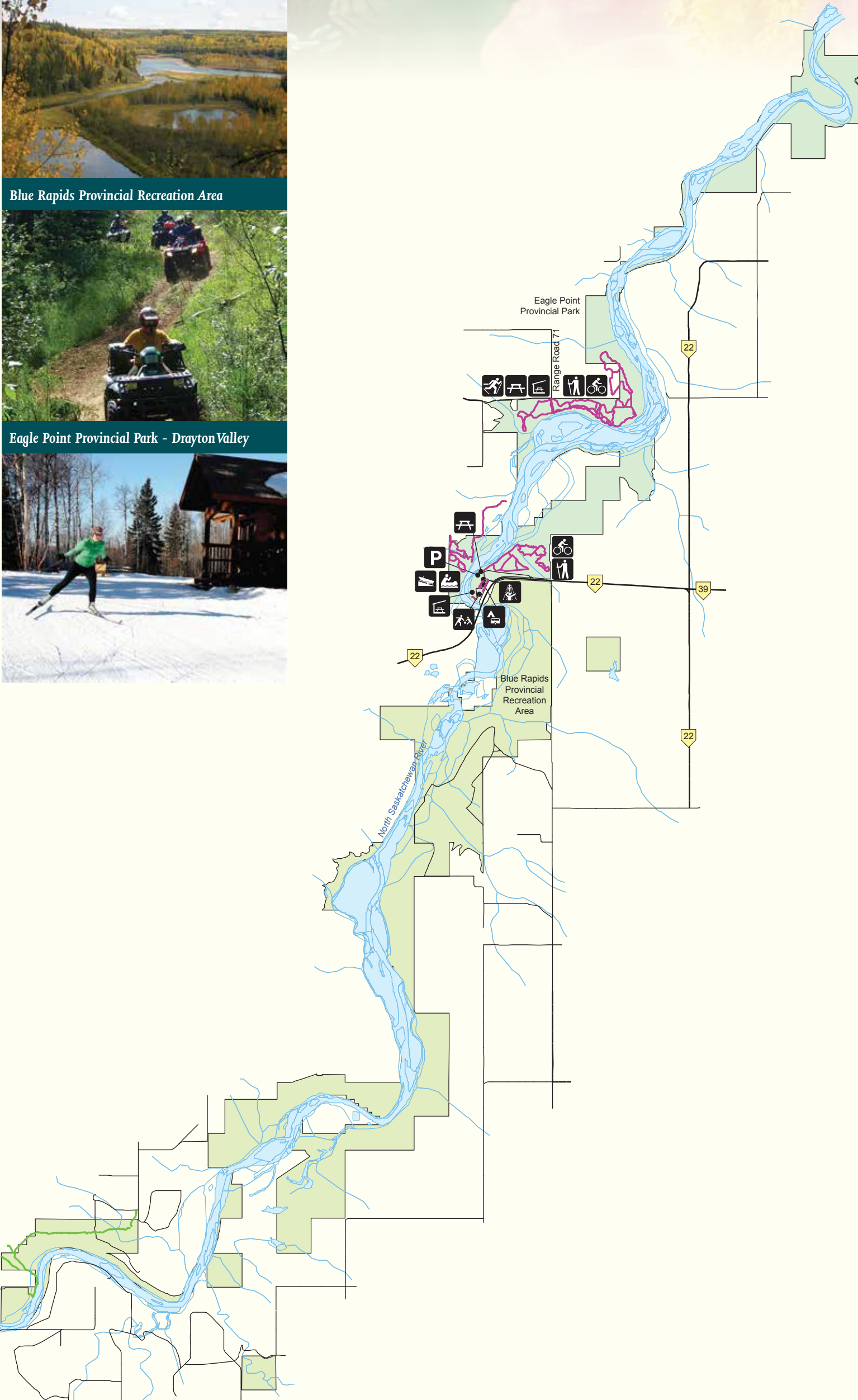
This area boasts a diversified trail system centered around the North Saskatchewan and Pembina River Valleys. Fourteen km of paved trails wind through the town of **Drayton Valley** ([www.draytonvalley.ca](http://www.draytonvalley.ca); 1-800-633-0899), many of them lit at night and with benches along the way. These are complemented by natural walking trails at the Omniplex on the west side of town. A walking and cycling pathway connecting Drayton Valley to the hamlet of Rocky Rapids, to the near north, is cleared throughout the winter. The riverside horse trails wind approximately 80 km along the banks of the Pembina River.

The jewel of the area's trail network is in the North Saskatchewan River Valley, east and north of Drayton Valley, where the new **Eagle Point Provincial Park** covers 19.6 km² of land. The park includes the **Rotary–Pembina Nordic Community Trail** system – some 20 km of year-round hiking, cycling and ski trails. Winter groomed for both classic and skate skiing, the trails are operated by the Eagle Point Park Trails Association and Pembina Nordic Ski Club and feature scenic picnic spots and a timber-framed, wood-heated chalet.

Just east and south of Drayton Valley, the new **Blue Rapids Provincial Recreation Area** (PRA) connects with the provincial park and includes hiking and cycling trails that follow the river valley south of town. Until designated trails are identified and developed in the PRA, off-highway vehicle users may continue to use existing access routes on the east side of the river. On the PRA's southernmost boundary, an all-terrain vehicle staging area operated by the Brazeau ATV club provides access to trails on adjacent public lands.

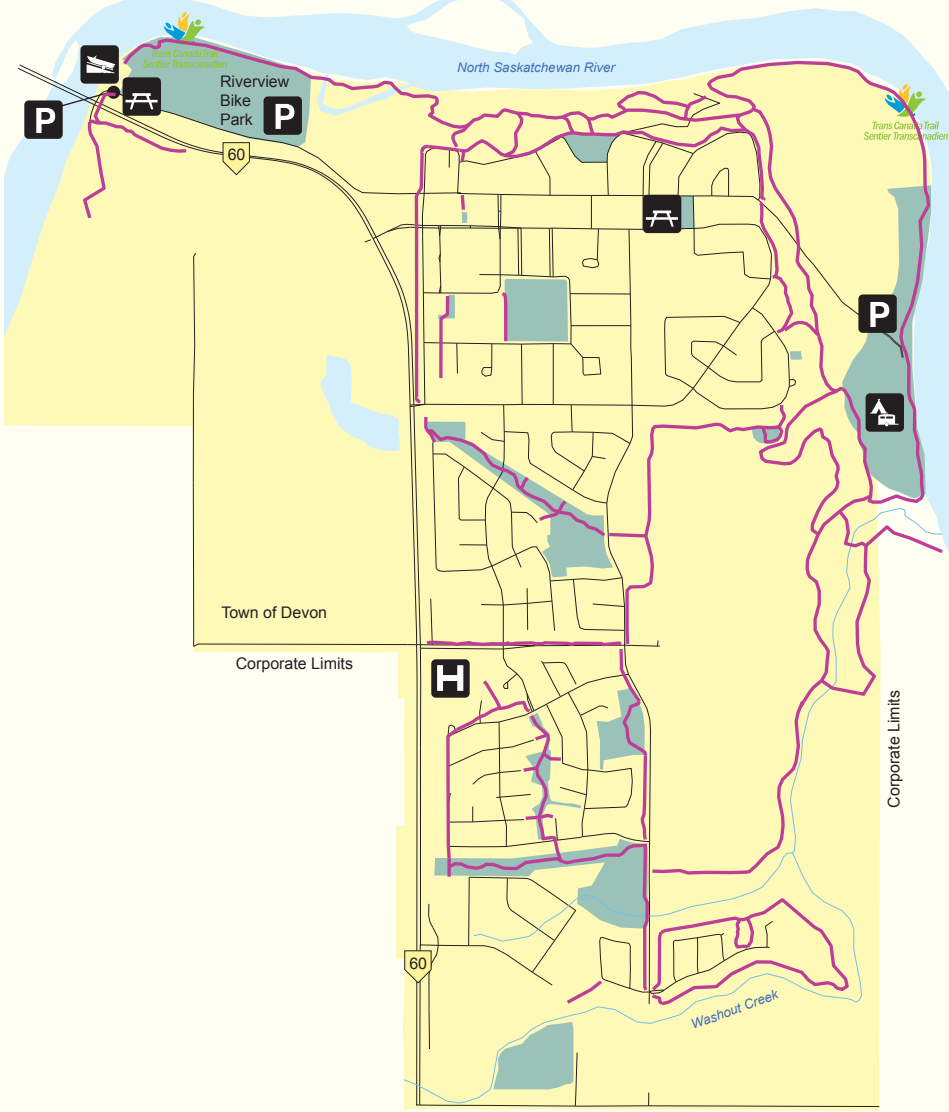


Eagle Point Provincial Park and Blue Rapids Provincial Recreation Area



Devon and Area

**Devon** ([www.devon.ca](http://www.devon.ca)) features asphalt paths in town, along with walking and track-set cross-country ski trails looping through the North Saskatchewan River Valley. At the latter, the Devon Nordic Ski Club offers 12 km of groomed tracks, lighted Wednesday night skiing and a mid-February day of racing for children and adults.

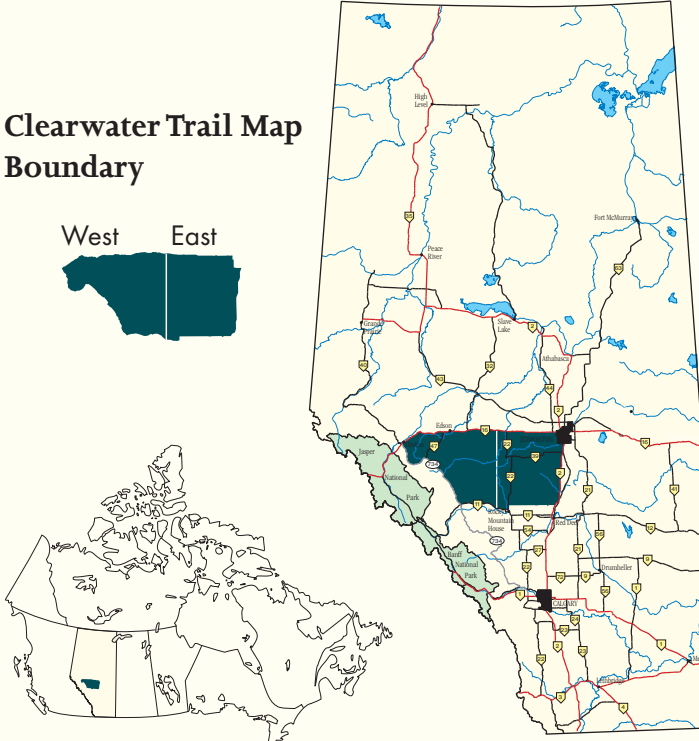


Clearwater Trails

Clearwater is a meeting ground of diverse west-central Alberta landscapes. Here, forested foothills butt up against low mountains, while not far to the east boreal wetlands give way to aspen parkland and rich farmland cut by mid-sized rivers and dotted with lakes. It's a land with scant habitation in the forested west and the million-plus residents of the greater Edmonton area in the northeast.

In this broad region, trails can be found to satisfy all types of recreational users throughout the year. These range from networks of short walking, cycling and cross-country ski routes in towns, cities and provincial parks to much longer multi-use trails traversing through less populated regions. Even close to major urban centres, trail users can often enjoy near solitude while watching for plentiful wildlife and wildflowers.

Nearly all these trails can be readily accessed from the major roads that frame this map area. Highway 16 (the Yellowhead) west of Edmonton travels through major centres like Spruce Grove, Stony Plain, Edson and Hinton – all with extensive trail networks and full visitor services – while Highway 2 (the Queen Elizabeth II) heads south through Leduc and provides access to provincial parks at Pigeon and Gull Lakes. West of Gull Lake and Rocky Mountain House, Highway 11 (the David Thompson) passes through forested recreation lands to the historic coal mining town of Nordegg, where the Forestry Trunk Road [Highway 734/40] winds north through foothills to Hinton.



**THE RESPECT LAND**

**Respect the Land**

Access to recreational opportunities on public and private lands is built on a foundation of responsible use. By focusing your activities on managed trails, you are contributing to the sustainable enjoyment of Alberta's magnificent natural landscapes.

Trail Etiquette and Safety

Be a leader and ambassador for your favourite outdoor activity. Join the many hikers, cyclists, horseback riders, cross-country skiers, off-highway vehicle users, snowmobile enthusiasts and other recreationists who proudly take a stewardship role by:

- knowing and abiding by applicable regulations and trail signs;
- staying on designated trails and restricting use to approved activities;
- sharing trails with courtesy and respect – Wheels yield to heels; heels yield to horses. Motorized users should pull over to the right side of the trail, turn off the engine and remove helmets when horses are approaching;
- respecting landowners by leaving gates and fences as found and avoiding livestock;
- leaving artifacts and natural features undisturbed;
- controlling pets and keeping them on leash;
- properly disposing all waste in provided facilities and following the pack-in, pack-out philosophy;
- avoiding the spread of invasive species by cleaning recreation equipment (vehicles, tents, packs, boots, etc.) after every trip and using certified weed-free feed for pack animals;
- minimizing the threat of wildfire by ensuring flammable debris is kept away from hot exhaust systems, and by keeping campfires small, contained and in designated areas, and ensuring they are fully extinguished;
- respecting wildlife by observing from a distance and properly managing food and garbage;
- avoiding recreation use during sensitive times (e.g. wet conditions, wildlife mating and rearing seasons) and in sensitive areas (e.g. watercourses, stream banks, wetlands and alpine areas);
- ensuring motorized vehicles are licensed and insured, and that all vehicles and equipment are operated with care;
- wearing an approved helmet for your particular activity; and
- actively participating in local club and trail stewardship programs.

For more information on responsible recreation and stewardship opportunities, visit [www.esrd.alberta.ca](http://www.esrd.alberta.ca) and [www.albertaparks.ca](http://www.albertaparks.ca)