

# Seager Park, Naperville Park District

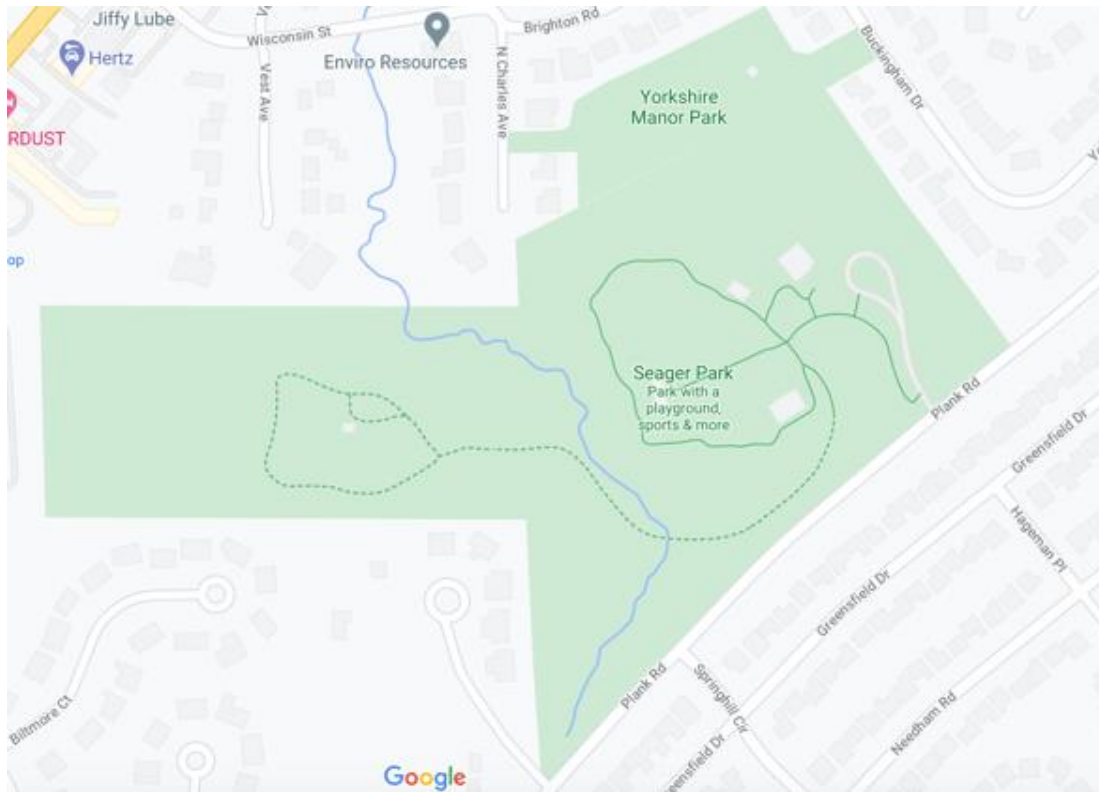
A 30-acre hidden gem located close to downtown Naperville, Seager Park features an oak-hickory savanna, a ravine, and sycamore-maple woods with an ephemeral pond.

The park is located at 1163 Plank Road in Naperville, approximately one mile east of the downtown area, nestled in a residential area. The parking lot is located off Plank Road.



## Habitat type/site overview

Seager Park is a small, hidden gem that packs a lot into its 30 acres! There are mature trees, a stream running through a ravine on the west side of the park, an ephemeral pond that usually holds some water year-round, and a detention basin near the parking lot with native plantings. It is a great little park to visit any time of year, and an excellent spot in the spring for warblers.



## DBC Hotspot

### Topography

Seager Park has a circular trail from the parking lot around the oak-hickory savanna. In this area, there is a basketball court, a sand volleyball court and a shelter which can get busy later in the day on weekends. The Interpretative Center also hosts a preschool on some weekdays, so there may be small children outside in the park area for their class. There is also a quieter area on the west side. This area is accessed by a gravel road/trail that parallels Plank Road and then winds north up next to the ravine and stream and back towards the woods and ephemeral pond.



### Birds

In the native planting area near the parking lot, one can usually find American Goldfinches, Song Sparrows and Red-winged Blackbirds. The area around the Interpretative Center can have a nice array of flycatchers, warblers, and Cedar Waxwings. Walking the path around the oak-hickory savanna, woodpeckers, Baltimore Orioles, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Scarlet Tanagers and warblers may be seen.

Along the gravel road/trail leading up to the north part of the park and the pond area, there are often thrushes along the stream, warblers feeding in the trees and sometimes a flock of Cedar Waxwings. Occasionally, Yellow-billed Cuckoos can be spotted as well.

The ephemeral pond is amazing with birds packed into a small area. It's usually bustling with Red-headed Woodpeckers, Hairy Woodpeckers, Northern Flickers, flycatchers, many warblers, vireos, Scarlet Tanagers, and Wood Ducks. There is a small path near a portion of the wetland, but it does not extend all the way around it.

Also be sure to keep your eyes on the sky; often Red-tailed and Cooper's Hawks can be seen circling as well as migrating Sandhill Cranes in season.





## DBC Hotspot



### Best time to go

Any season at Seager is a nice time to be outside. You never know what you'll find at this little treasure of a park! Spring is especially wonderful for warblers, tanagers, flycatchers and vireos. Due to the park and preschool located there, early morning is best or weekday evenings are good too.

### Amenities

The parking lot has 48 parking spaces. The Interpretative Center has public washrooms right inside the door. There is a shelter, picnic tables, benches and some interpretative signs.

### Site contributor

Content and photography by Ann Letzel.

