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 Interpretive 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.

*DuPage Birding Club, 2020*
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
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