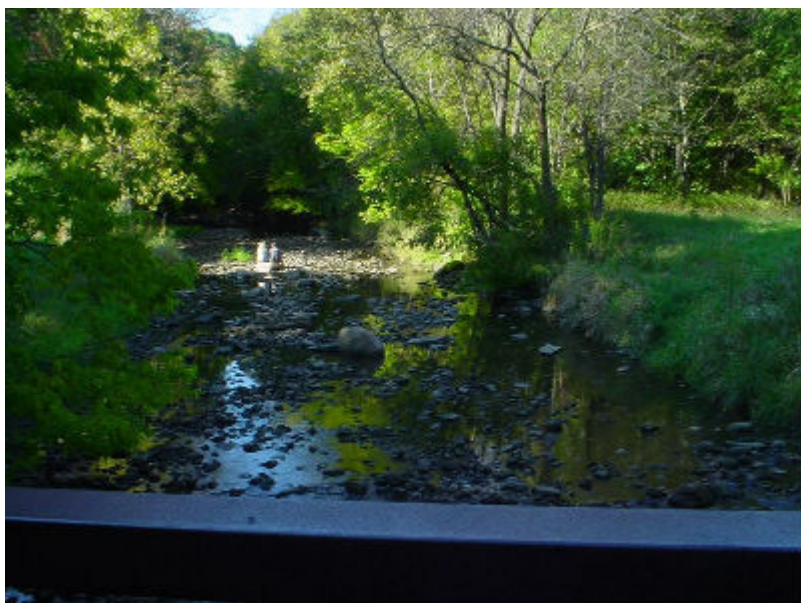


# WATERFALL GLEN

Intersection of Cass and Northgate Roads  
Darien, IL 60561  
630-933-7200



Waterfall Glen is a great place to go camping, or even just enjoy a day hike with your troop. Possibly the most attractive feature of this forest preserve is the orienteering course that is set up for the public to use and enjoy. Several courses are available, and are designated by difficulty. Your new scouts can try the easy course and learn basic map and compass skills, while your older scouts can go explore the more challenging course. This preserve is also very close to council (15 minutes!), which makes this appealing for shorter camping/day trips. The trails are beautiful for hiking, running, and biking, and covered with crushed limestone gravel. Don't forget to take a hike down to the waterfall while you're here!

**Activities in the park:** If you are camping here, most likely it is to use the orienteering course. A permanently marked course is located in the northeast section of Waterfall Glen, near the trail

head. Your troop can borrow maps, compasses, and activity sheets by calling the Fullersburg Woods Nature Education Center at 630-850-8110. There are several courses available. Youth group camping by permit is available as well, with water pumps, a shelter, grill, and latrines available. Fishing is permitted in the preserve, at the still water locations by the old quarries. A model aircraft hotspot is available in the large open field in the southwest section of the preserve, for testing out model planes and rockets. For more information, contact Visitor Services at 630-933-7248.

**Seasonal Information:** The park is open year-round, and the orienteering courses can be used in the winter, spring, summer, or fall. Since the preserve is so close to council, it makes for a great day trip during the colder months. If your troop's monthly theme is Orienteering, this is a highly recommended activity. The foliage in this preserve is very diverse, especially for a preserve so close to the city. During the warmer months you may see many people using the gravel trails in the park to train for the Chicago marathon. The preserve even hosts an annual race in July called the XTreme 10, which is a 10 mile race around the main trail loop in the park. During the spring, a leisurely hike and picnic at the waterfall is a great activity, but don't forget to bring sandals and a towel!



**Interesting fact about the park:** Some of the 1996 movie Chain Reaction was filmed in the Zero-Gradient Synchrotron Ring Room and the former Continuous Wave Deuterium Demonstrator laboratory at the Argonne National Laboratory. The lab was also part of the Manhattan Project, which built America's first atomic bomb.

**Must do before you leave:** If it isn't obvious, try the orienteering course! Many orienteering clubs come here to compete, so it's certainly up to par!

*Authored by Chris Brown*