

Ellanor C. Lawrence Park

The quiet woods of Ellanor C. Lawrence Park are well worth the trip. Natural surfaced trails wind through woods, over rocks, around ponds, and along streams. The elongated park has higher ground in the north end of the park, and lower ground in the south. Though walkers are the most frequent users, runners do use the trails. Some of the trails are wood chip surfaced and all are well marked. A nature center is open throughout the week and offers adult and children's educational programs (reservations required). No bicycling is allowed on the dirt trails. At the south end of the park, the Big Rocky Run Trail (see Greenbriar Park, Big Rocky Run) can be reached and bicycled. The size of the park has grown smaller in recent years as land was traded for new housing developments.

Getting There

From the Capital Beltway

Take Exit 9, for Interstate 66 headed west. Go just under 12 miles, then take Exit 53 for Sully Road, Rte. 28, headed north. Turn right at Walney Rd. Go about 1 mile, then turn left into the Walney Visitor Center parking.

Area Routes

Walney Pond (2.45 or 3.0 miles, III)

This tree covered loop covers the west end of Ellanor C. Lawrence Park from the north to the south. Start on the Walney Road Trail. The unpaved trail gradually climbs as it closely parallels Walney Rd. going north. Optionally turn right onto the Wild Turkey Loop, some of the best terrain in the park to run on. The wood chip trail rambles about over somewhat flat ground. Despite many people walking about nearby, tame (nearly) deer were visible just off the trail during late in the morning. From the Walney Road Trail or the Wild Turkey Loop, turn right for the west side of the North Loop Trail. This trail rambles about also but eventually starts following Walney Creek on its downward course. Bear right at the Visitor Center to continue following the trail along Walney Creek, crossing it twice on bridges. At the bottom, cross on the wooden bridge over Big Rocky Run, then turn right going counterclockwise around Walney Pond. Cross the bridges over the pond and Big Rocky Run coming back, then bear right up the Ridge Trail. The Ridge Trail climbs, then drops back down to the trail along Walney Creek. Finally, pass the Ice Pit, a deep hole in the ground where those who lived here once stored ice through the warm months. Other historic remnants are visible on the way back to Walney Visitor Center also.

Nearby and Connecting Zones

Greenbriar Park/Big Rocky Run Park

Cub Run Stream Valley Park

What to do Afterward

Food and Drink

Viet-French Deli - 703 803-9868

Shawerma Café - 703 222-0722

Dairy Queen - 703 266-1036

Ciro's New York Pizza - 703 830-0003

Sweetwater Tavern - 703 449-1100

Entertainment and Edification

Ellanor C. Lawrence Park & Walney Visitor Center - 703-631-0013

Ellanor C. Lawrence Park Cable's Mill - 703 750-1598

Sully Historic Site - 703 437-1794

Walney Pond

Distance: 2.45 or 3.0 miles

Rating: III; natural and wood chip trails with some short climbs; mostly shady

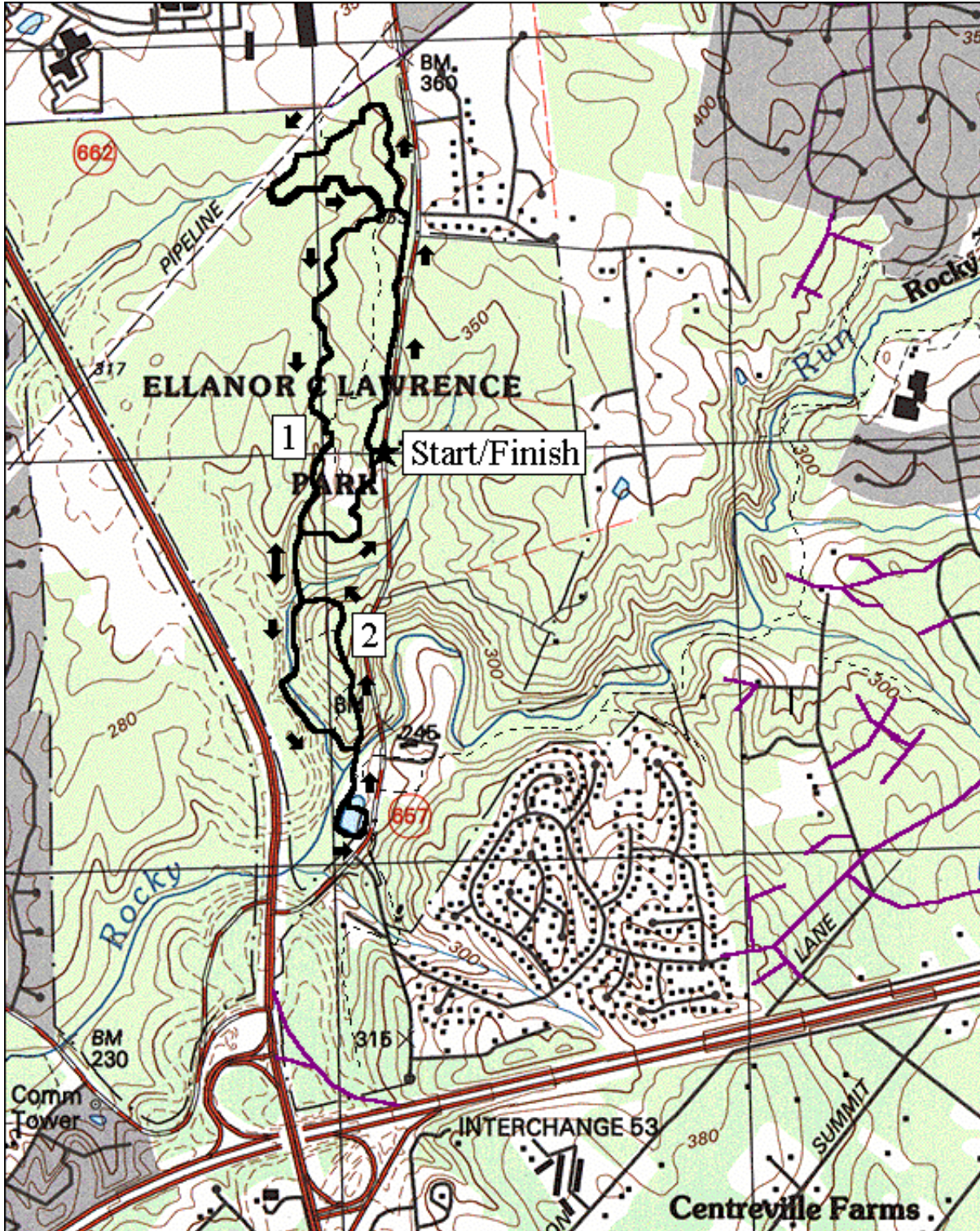
2.45 Mile Route

	R	1.55 at Walney Pond; go around
		1.6 trail X on R
0.0		from the parking lot take the
		bluestone Walney Rd Trail north
<*	L	1.7 L on bridge over pond; xwalk on R
		over Walney Road
0.4		Wild Turkey Trail on R
	BL	1.75 to bridge over Big Rocky Run
S		0.4 on North Loop Trail; North Loop
		Trail on L; Wild Turkey Trail on R
>*	R	1.8 trail splits after bridge over Big
		Rocky Run (go uphill)
S		0.95 go S as North Loop Trail goes L
		1.9 double track trail on L
		2.0 gravel road on L
R		1.0 at trail X; S is to Visitor
		Center/amphitheater
	R	2.15 trail X after going down stairs (!);
		before Walney Creek
		1.15 trail X on L to Ice Pit & Visitor
		Center
	R	2.2 trail X on R to Visitor Center; go
		uphill
R		1.2 to Pond Loop; stairs are S ahead
		1.35 gravel road on L merges
		1.4 bridge over Walney Creek
		1.45 bridge over Walney Creek; gravel
	L/R	2.4 at Smoke House & Visitor Center
		2.45 Walney Rd Trail Head at parking
		road on L merges
		1.5 trail on L merges
		1.5 bridge over Big Rocky Run

*3.0 Mile Route

R		0.4 Wild Turkey Trail on R
		0.6 trail X on R to gas pipeline clearing & Poplar Tree Rd
BL		0.7 at trail X; R goes to gas pipeline clearing
BL		0.9 at trail X (unmarked)
R		0.95 onto North Loop Trail; S is North Loop Trail also; L is Walney Rd Trail (pickup cues at mile 0.95 on 2.45 mile route)

Walney Pond



MN TN
10 1/2°

