

Trail Map

Cowling Arboretum

Carleton College

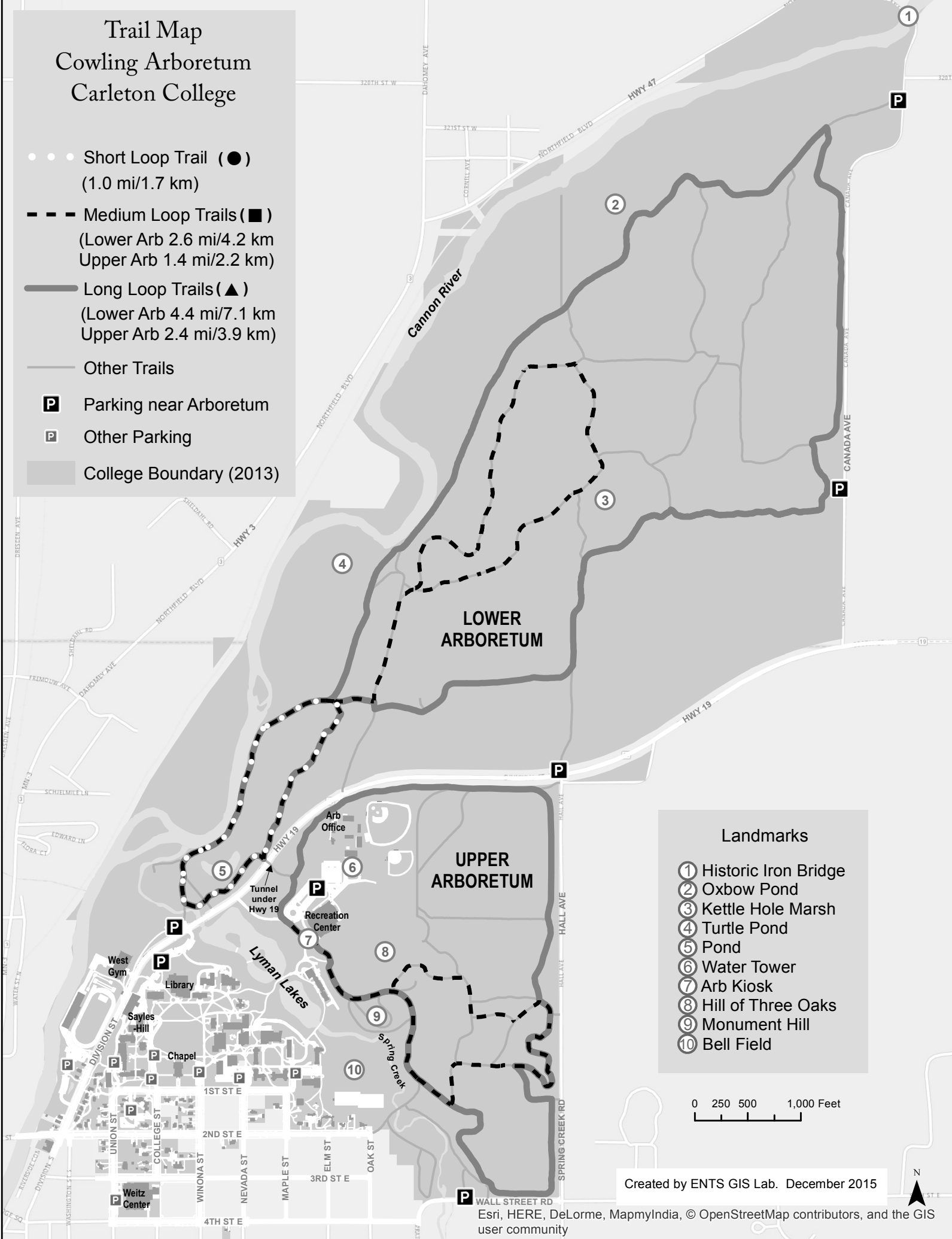
- • • Short Loop Trail (●)
(1.0 mi/1.7 km)
- - - Medium Loop Trails (■)
(Lower Arb 2.6 mi/4.2 km
Upper Arb 1.4 mi/2.2 km)
- Long Loop Trails (▲)
(Lower Arb 4.4 mi/7.1 km
Upper Arb 2.4 mi/3.9 km)
- Other Trails
- P** Parking near Arboretum
- P** Other Parking
- College Boundary (2013)

- #### Landmarks
- ① Historic Iron Bridge
 - ② Oxbow Pond
 - ③ Kettle Hole Marsh
 - ④ Turtle Pond
 - ⑤ Pond
 - ⑥ Water Tower
 - ⑦ Arb Kiosk
 - ⑧ Hill of Three Oaks
 - ⑨ Monument Hill
 - ⑩ Bell Field

0 250 500 1,000 Feet

Created by ENTS GIS Lab. December 2015

Esri, HERE, DeLorme, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community



Welcome to Carleton College's Cowling Arboretum!

The Arboretum ["the Arb"] consists of approximately 800 acres of land adjacent to the College and was created under the leadership of President Donald J. Cowling and Professor Harvey E. Stork in the 1920s. Much of the Arb was originally used for agriculture, including a prize winning dairy herd, and a formal arboretum with examples of plants from around the world was at one time envisioned. Today the Arb is maintained as a collection of native plant communities for education, recreation and conservation purposes.

Many Carleton classes utilize the Arb as an outdoor laboratory for science classes; art and writing classes find inspiration and solitude. Visitors enjoy 14 miles of trails for hiking, running, limited biking, cross-country skiing and nature appreciation. Conservation activities include 150 acres of prairie restoration and 160 acres of forest plantings, as well as management of existing native forests and wetland areas.

The Arb is divided by Highway 19 into the Upper Arb (south of the highway) and the Lower Arb (north of the highway); "lower" because it contains the low-lying floodplain of the Cannon River. The two portions of the Arb differ in character and in the pattern of visitor use. Since the Upper Arb is closer to both the campus and most Northfield residents, it receives more traffic and is being developed for heavier recreational use. The Upper Arb has greater trail density, some trails designated for bike use, and generally smaller areas of natural communities. In contrast, the Lower Arb has populations of rare plants and animals and has primary conservation and education importance. The Lower Arb has fewer trails, no bike use, and large contiguous areas of natural habitat.

Rules for Visitors

Visitors to the Arboretum are welcome, both from the Carleton community and beyond. To maintain the Arboretum for all, please follow these rules:

- Bikes are allowed only on specifically designated trails in the Upper Arboretum; no bike use is allowed in the Lower Arboretum.
- No motorized vehicles allowed, except for maintenance or emergency.
- The Arb is not open for camping.
- Fires are not permitted except in specifically designated fire rings in the Upper Arb.
- Dogs are welcome if on leash; please be polite and remove your dog's droppings from the trails. Keeping dogs on leashes is essential for the health of the prairie ecosystems and the safety and enjoyment of all visitors.
- Do not remove flowers, plants, rocks or artifacts; berry picking is permitted.
- Horses are not allowed.
- The Arboretum is a State Game Refuge, so there is no general hunting. Archery hunting is allowed in portions of the Lower Arb by permit issued by Arboretum Staff in order to control the deer population and reduce damage to trees and other vegetation.
- Public use is restricted to trails during the Deer Archery Hunt between Thanksgiving and December 31st.

For more information, see our website: www.carleton.edu/campus/arb or call the Arboretum office at 507-222-4543 or 222-5413.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY Call 911 or Carleton Security Services (507-222-4444).