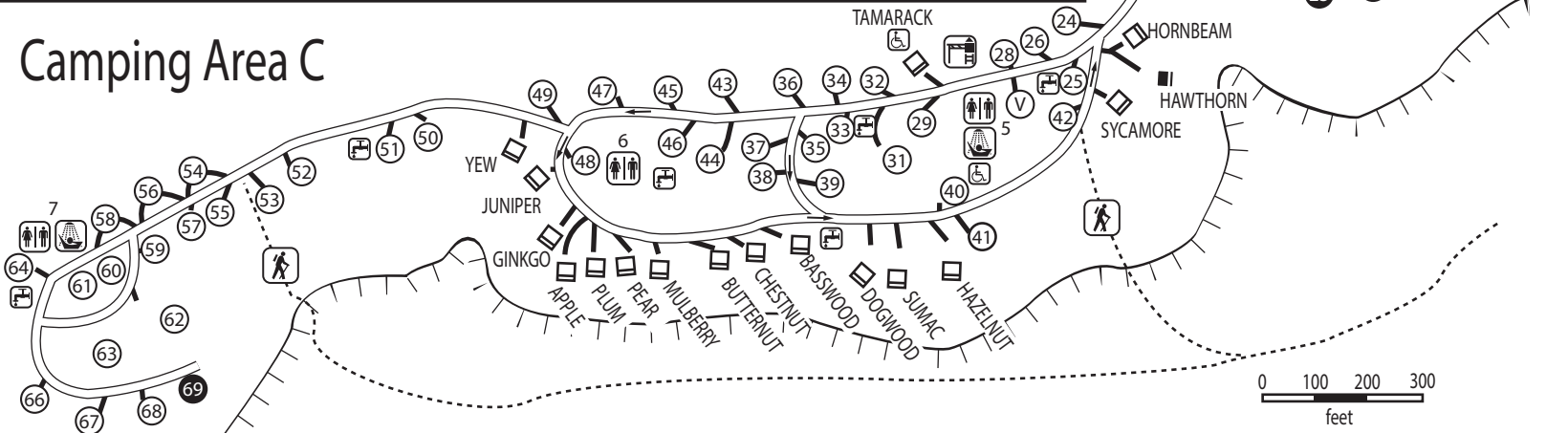


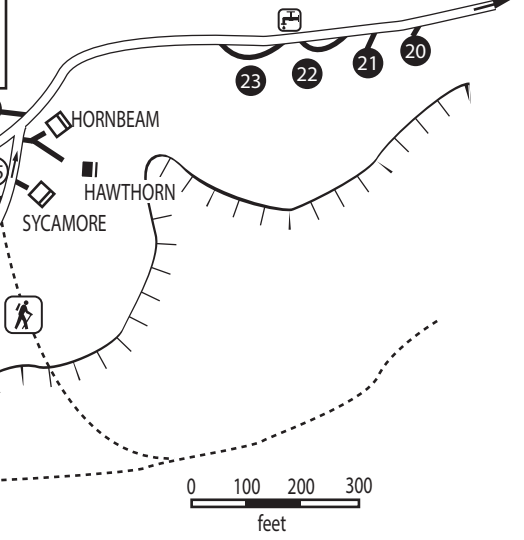
Emerald Lake State Park

North Dorset, Vermont

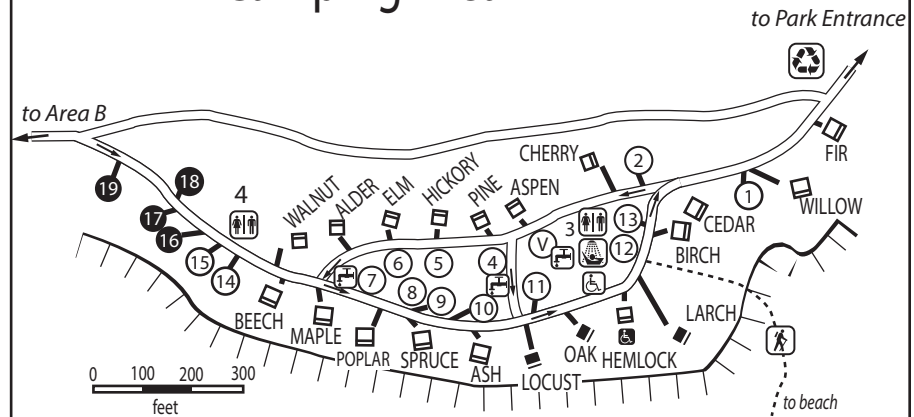
Camping Area C



Camping Area B



Camping Area A



LEGEND

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|----------------|
| | Park office | | Parking |
| | Campground | | Picnic area |
| | Prime campsite | | Picnic shelter |
| | Campsite | | Concession |
| | Prime lean-to | | Swimming area |
| | Lean-to | | Trailhead |
| | Restrooms | | |
| | Showers (\$) | | |
| | Wheelchair accessible facility | | |
| | Drinking water | | |
| | RV Sanitary Station | | |
| | Trash/Recycling center | | |
| | Nature Center | | |
| | Horseshoe pit | | |
| | Volleyball | | |

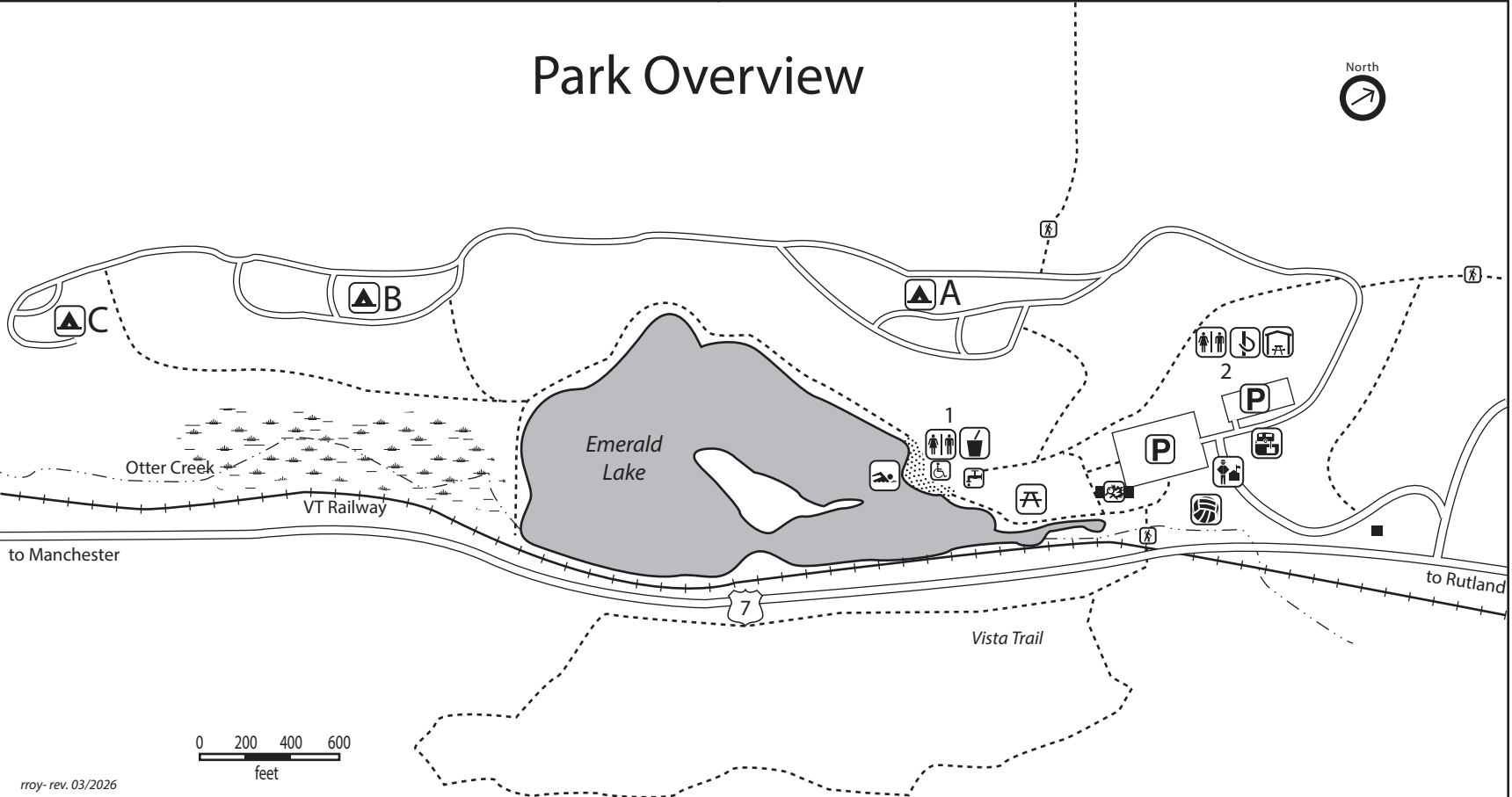
----- Park boundary

Steep bank

→ Traffic direction

this map is intended for informational purposes only

Park Overview



Emerald Lake State Park

Welcome to Emerald Lake State Park. Located conveniently between Manchester and Rutland. The 430-acre park is known for its wooded hillside campground, swimming area, nearby attractions and tourist destinations.

The park surrounds the 20-acre Emerald Lake, named for the emerald green color of its waters when viewed from above. Only non-motorized watercraft are allowed on the lake, making it ideal for swimming and paddling. The lake affords anglers an opportunity to catch yellow perch, smallmouth bass, northern pike and other warm-water species. The park is a favorite destination of hikers, with the Long Trail and Appalachian Trail nearby, and trails on Dorset Mountain.

The first commercial marble quarry to open in the region, and likely the country, was opened in 1785 by Isaac Underhill on Mt Aeolus. By the early 19th century, the Dorset area became well known for its marble quarries.

The quarry age of Dorset spanned 130 years. In the early years, workers cut marble for uses like headstones and hearthstones. The Freedley and Sons Quarry, on the southern end of the present state park, opened in 1804. The Freedley quarry cut huge blocks of stone from the mountainsides, placed them on an inclined rail system and sent them a mile down the mountain to a finishing mill. Quarry workers sent finished stone out on rail cars.

As many as 30 quarries harvested stone for many uses, including projects like the New York City library and banks and public buildings across the country. Many local buildings and sidewalks were also made from Dorset marble.

By the beginning of the 20th century, however, quarrying marble in Dorset began to draw to a close. Quarries further north in West Rutland and Proctor yielded higher quality stone with less effort than the rugged mountain quarries in Dorset.

Between 1918 and 1921, Robert Alfred Shaw purchased more than 1,000 acres of land, establishing North Dorset Farms. His acquisitions included the area surrounding Dorset Pond, now known as Emerald Lake.

In 1957, following Mr. Shaw's death, the State purchased approximately 1,000 acres from his estate. Emerald Lake State Park opened to the public in 1960. The original facilities included a small campground, beach and picnic area.

Remains of past quarry operations are still visible to park visitors. Stone remains of the Freedley and Sons finishing plant are located approximately 2 miles south of the park. Other former quarries remain as water-filled pits. Examples are along US Route 30 in Dorset and on the mountainside along Route 7. One of the more unique features of this bygone era is the North Dorset Cemetery, located on the hill overlooking the park's office and parking lot. The cemetery has many headstones made of local marble.

Emerald Lake State Park Amenities

- 69 campsites
- 36 lean-to shelters
- Swimming and fishing on the lake
- Picnicking and group events
- Interpretive programs
- Food concession
- Boat rentals
- Firewood for sale

Recreating and Sightseeing in the Area

Manchester

- Historic downtown, shopping and dining
- Southern Vermont Arts Center
- American Museum of Fly Fishing
- Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home
- Northshire Museum and History Center
- Skyline Drive toll-road on Mt Equinox
- Hiking on Mt. Equinox
- Fishing on the historic Batten Kill River and other lakes and ponds

Bennington

- Bennington Battle Monument
- Bennington Museum

Rutland

- Historic downtown, shopping and dining
- Wonderfeet Childrens Museum

Green Mountain National Forest

- White Rocks National Recreation Area, Wallingford
- Manchester Ranger Station-forest information
- Many hiking trails throughout the area

Woodford State Park

Lake Shaftsbury State Park

For more information, contact:

Emerald Lake State Park
65 Emerald Lake Lane
East Dorset, Vermont 05253
(802) 362-1655 (operating season)
OR

VT State Parks Reservation Center
(888) 409-7579

Monday - Friday 9 am-4 pm

www.vtstateparks.com



AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation

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Emerald Lake State Park Map & Guide



Memorial Day Weekend - Indigenous People's Day

Camping
Swimming
Picnicking
Group Events
Hiking
Interpretive Programs