WATER TRAIL MAP
RAMSEY-WASHINGTON METRO WATERSHED DISTRICT

POINTS OF INTEREST

RAMSEY-WASHINGTON METRO WATERSHED (RWMWD) DISTRICT OFFICE
651-314-7721 x 99 / 993-4-437524
The watershed office overlooks Gervais Creek, but unfortunately it’s not accessible by boat. Come visit to see a parking lot, a green roof, native plantings, rain gardens and more. These features limit how much stormwater runs off our property.

GERVAIS LAKE
651-314-5527 / 993-5-11552
On the southwestern shore is Gervais Beach with plenty of parking, a fishing pier, picnic tables, and bathrooms. This is a great place to launch a kayak or canoe.

KOHLMAN LAKE
651-314-8837 / 993-5-243752
Paddling under the bridge over Kohlman will bring you face to face with a variety of feathered friends: eagles, hawks, egrets, and even pelicans live this place in this shallow lake, you will float over prime bluegill, crappie, and largemouth bass habitat.

KELLER LAKE
651-314-34689 / 993-5-31352
Keller is named for Herbert Keller who introduced the “linking of the lakes” project in the 1930s. That project dredged a wetland and a shallow creek to create Keller Lake. The dredging material was used to create Keller Island, which is another fun launch and lunch spot with seasonal restrooms.

KELLER GOLF COURSE RESTORATION
651-314-34689 / 993-5-26352
In the 1980s, Keller’s eroding shoreline problem was remedied by using gvanized wire baskets filled with rock. Though it was effective, they created little habitat value and looked unattractive. In 2008-2011, large areas of shoreline were restored. Currently, over 60 native plant species are established, creating attractive habitat for a multitude of bird and fish species.

KELLER CREEK RESTORATION
461-89-44670 / 993-5-44670
Started in 2016, this shoreline restoration replaced invasive buckhorn and reed canary grass with a critical wetland habitat. Hundreds of dedicated students and several civic groups contributed to the watershed district’s restoration effort.

KELLER CREEK PORTAGE
461-89-44670 / 993-5-44670
The only obstruction for small watercraft in the Chain is a small dam used to manage lake water level. As part of the creek restoration, two new rock landslides and steps make this 50 foot portage manageable for most paddlers.

FROST AVENUE HISTORICAL BRIDGE
461-89-10120 / 993-5-46352
Midway between Lakes Phalen and Keller, you will cross under the newest and the old Frost Ave Bridges. The visible marks on the concrete are remnants of the old Frost Avenue Bridge. The bridge was replaced in 1930 and now supports the Gateway Trail. Both bridges have double arches, one for Keller Creek and one for a paved trail.

PHALEN HISTORICAL RECREATION
461-89-44670 / 993-5-44649
The Phalen Chain has been a popular tourist destination since 1879. Learn more at the interpretive sign at the observation platform.

PHALEN WATERFALL
461-89-44670 / 993-5-34877
This man-made waterfall was created in the 1930s. It supplied water from a well to help increase Phalen's water level during drought conditioned. This approach was discontinued in the 1970s, and the well was sealed. Artfully restored in 2014 with community and city support, it now uses a pump to circulate lake water.

ROUND LAKE
461-89-23656 / 993-5-42365
This is a shallow lake with sunfish, northern pike, and largemouth bass. A fishing pier is located on the north end. Wading birds cruise shallows, gobbling up small fish, frogs, and waterbugs.

LAKE PHALEN SHORELINE
461-89-34407 / 993-5-7704
Beginning in 2001, the watershed district initiated over two miles of shoreline restoration to stabilize eroding banks, create habitat, and improve the aesthetics. There are now over 100 native plant species that are well-established, comprising one of the most ecologically diverse lakeshores in the Twin Cities. This is now one of the largest and most successful shore restoration projects in Minnesota. The watershed district and the City of St. Paul continue to manage shoreline areas and Lake Phalen.

WATER ROUTES

KOHLMAN LOOP
1.3 mi | Launch: Gervais Beach
The closest launch is at Gervais Beach. (No public launch on Kohlman.) This shallow lake has an extensive cattail shoreline with exceptional habitat for water birds. In late summer, the water level declines far from shore.

WEST GERVAIS SHORELINE
1.0 mi | Launch: Spoon Bean Launch
This route will take you up the west shoreline of Gervais. Paddle under the Linden Lake Bridge and into Kohlman, or continue on to route 43 down the east shoreline.

EAST GERVAIS SHORELINE
1.0 mi | Launch: Spoon Bean Launch
Use this route to view the east side of Gervais and gain access to Lake Kohlman.

SPOON LAUNCH TO GERVAIS BEACH
0.75 mi | Launch: Spoon Bean Launch
If you’re looking for a scenic route to the beach, this is it!

SPOON LAUNCH TO KELLER ISLAND
0.5 mi | Launch: Spoon Bean Launch
Paddle along the east shore and look for the boardwalk trail linking Keller and Spoon Bean beaches. Have a picnic on Keller Island and lake in the shoreline restoration. Seasonal restrooms are just over the pedestrian bridge.

PHALEN BOAT LAUNCH TO KELLER ISLAND
1.1 mi | Launch: Phalen Boat Launch
This route will take you up Keller Creek and into Keller Lake. Have a picnic on Keller Island and lake in the shoreline restoration. Seasonal restrooms are just over the pedestrian bridge.

PHALEN LAUNCH TO ROUND LAKE
0.75 mi | Launch: Phalen Boat Launch
Head south along the shoreline until you see a bridge on your right. Paddle under that bridge, then pick either path around Phalen Park Island. SHAREDUSE: Paddle under a small tunnel just north of the bridge. Use the breakwater to guide you.

PHALEN LAKE LOOP
1.3 mi | Launch: Phalen Dock Launch
This route starts and ends at the same point and gives you access to Phalen Beach and miles of breathtaking native plants along the shoreline. No motorized boats are allowed on Phalen Lake, so enjoy a peaceful paddle.

SAFETY
- Use Personal Flotation Device (life jackets).
- Use portages on Keller Creek to avoid the dam.
- Use designated launch points.
- Check the weather beforehand.
- Before you paddle, check the abilities of all persons in your group.

RESPONSIBLE RECREATION
- Embrace “leave no trace” by packing your garbage out or using designated bins.
- Respect the natural shoreline using designated access points.
- Respect private property.

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THIS MAP IS COURTESY OF THE CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMISSION AT THE RAMSEY-WASHINGTON METRO WATERSHED DISTRICT.
CAUTION: Portage boats around the dam in Keller Creek.

Boat Launch
Portage
Beach
Picnic Areas
Restroom
Parking
Restored Shoreline
Wildlife Watch/Eagles Nest

Points of Interest
See reverse for details
Water Trail Identifiers
See reverse for details

Hiking/Biking Trails
Water Trails
City Boundary
Marsh
Open Water
Parks & Golf Courses

Kohlm An Lake is a great place to see eagles, hawks, herons, egrets, loons, songbirds and more.

This public golf course has 16 acres of restored natural areas.

Phalen Lake has over two miles of restored shoreline.

There are three entry points located at Gervais Beach, Spoon Lake, and Phalen Lake.

Fishing is excellent along the entire Phalen Chain.