

**Empties into:** Lake Erie

**Mouth:** Fairport Harbor, OH (east) and Painesville Township, OH (west)

**Length:** 102 miles

**Elevation at source:** 1,117 feet above sea level

**Elevation at mouth:** 573 feet above sea level

**Average fall:** 5.6 feet per mile

**8-digit HUC:** 04110004

**8-digit HUC name:** Grand

**Number of Access Sites:** 22

# Grand River

The 102-mile long Grand River rises in Parkman Township (Geauga County) and initially flows eastwardly into neighboring Farmington Township (Trumbull County) before meandering northward toward Ashtabula County. In Austinburg Township (Ashtabula County) the river sharply turns west. Its westward stretch nearly parallels the Lake Erie shore for roughly 25 miles before making a northward turn in Painesville (Lake County). The lowermost 10 miles wind through Painesville, Fairport Harbor, (the village of) Grand River and Painesville Township. The river mouth is at Fairport Harbor. The Grand River Watershed drains 712 square miles (455,680 acres), including portions of Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake, Portage and Trumbull counties.

Mentor Marsh, a designated National Natural Landmark, occupies the former Grand River channel between Mentor Lagoons in Mentor and River Mile 1 of the river's existing course. The old mouth at Mentor Lagoons is located roughly 4.5 miles west of its current mouth at Fairport Harbor. Erosion from Lake Erie scoured a sufficient amount of land near present-day Headlands Beach State Park and caused a breach in the river, thus creating a new outlet. As a result, the redirected watercourse gradually transformed the abandoned river channel into marshland. Today, the 673-acre Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve (established in 1971 as Ohio's first state nature preserve) encompasses one of the largest remaining natural marsh areas along the Lake Erie shore.

The Grand River was once known as the Sheauga River, which is a variation of the Native American word "Geauga" meaning "raccoon." The river has also been referred to as the Chereage River and Chocago River.

Owing to an amenable microclimate, the Grand River Valley region is suitable for grape growing and wine production. The valley's proximity to Lake Erie allows for the effective circulation of warmer air, which as a result reduces the threat of frost in the spring and extends the growing season. Additionally, the gently sloping topography of the valley efficiently prevents water from oversaturating the grapevines. The Grand River Valley is recognized as an American Viticultural Area by the U.S. Department of Treasury.

In Ashtabula County, three covered bridges span the Grand River, including the Harpersfield Bridge, the Mechanicsville Road Bridge and the Riverdale Road Bridge. The two-span, 228-foot long Harpersfield Bridge is the second longest covered bridge in Ohio and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Mechanicsville Road Bridge, built in 1867, is the oldest covered bridge in the county.

The Grand River is one of only three rivers in Ohio designated as both a State Scenic and Wild River. Like other Lake Erie tributaries in northeast Ohio, the Grand is noted for its steelhead and muskellunge fishing.



Legend: Grand River Watershed (blue outline), Incorporated Areas (yellow fill). Scale: 8 Miles. Includes a north arrow.



## Fairport Harbor Short Pier

**Location:**  
Water and Second streets

**Waterbody:**  
Grand River  
Lake Erie

**River Mile Location:**  
At RM 0

**Jurisdiction:**  
Fairport Harbor, OH

**County:**  
Lake

**Latitude:**  
N 41° 45.61'

**Longitude:**  
W 081° 16.79'

**Access Site Type:**  
Recreation

**Date Visited:**

**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



**Learn More:**  
Fairport Harbor Port Authority  
[www.fairportharbor.org](http://www.fairportharbor.org)

**Field Notes:**

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## Robert "Buck" Benson Memorial Docks

**Location:**  
River and Henry streets

**Waterbody:**  
Grand River

**River Mile Location:**  
Between RM 1 and RM 2

**Jurisdiction:**  
Grand River, OH

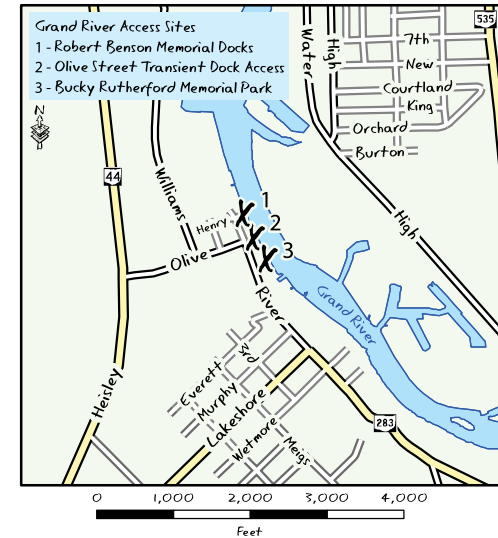
**Latitude:**  
N 41° 44.57'

**Longitude:**  
W 081° 16.88'

**Access Site Type:**  
Recreation

**Date Visited:**

**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



**Learn More:**  
Village of Grand River  
[www.grandriverohio.net](http://www.grandriverohio.net)

**Field Notes:**

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## Olive Street Transient Dock Access

**Location:**  
River Street at Olive Street

**Waterbody:**  
Grand River

**River Mile Location:**  
Between RM 1 and RM 2

**Jurisdiction:**  
Grand River, OH

**County:**  
Lake

**Latitude:**  
N 81° 16.85'

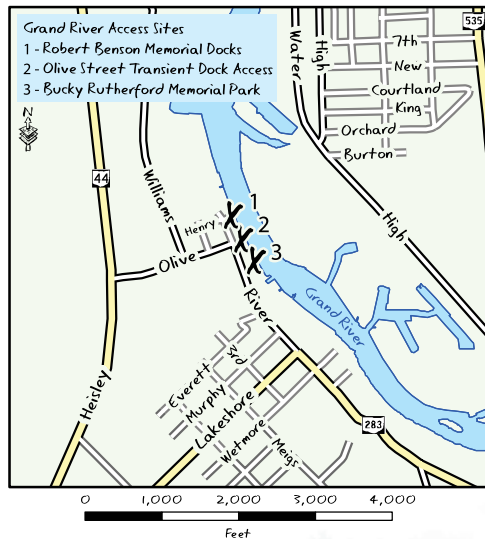
**Longitude:**  
W 041° 44.51'

**Access Site Type:**  
Recreation

**Date Visited:**

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**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



**Learn More:**  
Village of Grand River  
[www.grandriverohio.net](http://www.grandriverohio.net)

**Field Notes:**

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## Bucky Rutherford Memorial Park

**Location:**  
Off River Street, between Holland and Wilmot streets

**Waterbody:**  
Grand River

**River Mile Location:**  
Between RM 1 and RM 2

**Jurisdiction:**  
Grand River, OH

**County:**  
Lake

**Latitude:**  
N 41° 44.47'

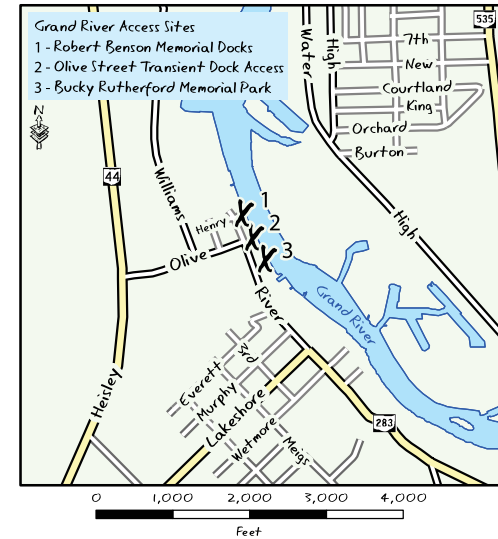
**Longitude:**  
W 081° 16.81'

**Access Site Type:**  
Recreation

**Date Visited:**

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**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



**Learn More:**  
Village of Grand River  
[www.grandriverohio.net](http://www.grandriverohio.net)

**Field Notes:**

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# Grand River Landing

# Kiwanis Recreation Park

**Location:**  
800 North St. Clair Street, east of East Street (SR 535)

**Waterbody:**  
Grand River

**River Mile Location:**  
Between RM 2 and RM 3

**Jurisdiction:**  
Fairport Harbor, OH

**County:**  
Lake

**Latitude:**  
N 41° 44.46'

**Longitude:**  
W 081° 15.88'

**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



**Learn More:**

Lake Metroparks  
[www.lakemetroparks.com](http://www.lakemetroparks.com)

**Field Notes:**

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**Location:**  
301 Latimore Street

**Waterbody:**  
Grand River

**River Mile Location:**  
Between RM 6 and RM 7

**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



**Jurisdiction:**  
Painesville, OH

**County:**  
Lake

**Latitude:**  
N 41° 43.69'

**Longitude:**  
W 081° 14.29'

**Access Site Type:**  
Recreation

**Date Visited:**

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**Learn More:**

City of Painesville  
[www.painesville.com](http://www.painesville.com)

**Field Notes:**

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# Beaty Landing

**Location:**  
417 East Walnut Street  
(SR 84)

**Waterbody:**  
Grand River

**River Mile Location:**  
Between RM 7 and RM 8

**Jurisdiction:**  
Fairport Harbor, OH

**County:**  
Lake

**Latitude:**  
N 41° 43.21'

**Longitude:**  
W 081° 13.8'

**Access Site Type:**  
Recreation

**Date Visited:**

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**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



The 54-acre Beaty Landing offers low-impact recreational activities, including hiking on the one-mile River Loop Trail, picnicking and fishing. The Grand River is reachable via three access trails that extend from the River Loop Trail.

**Learn More:**  
Lake Metroparks  
[www.lakemetroparks.com](http://www.lakemetroparks.com)

**Field Notes:**

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# Helen Hazen Wyman Park

**Access Locations:**  
6101 Painesville Warren  
Road (SR 86)

**Waterbody:**  
Grand River  
Big Creek

**River Mile Location:**  
Between RM 9 and RM 10

**Jurisdiction:**  
Concord Township, OH

**County:**  
Lake

**Latitude:**  
N 41° 42.24'

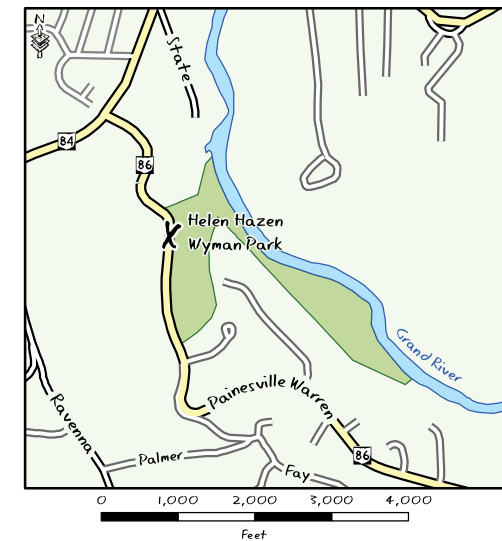
**Longitude:**  
W 081° 13.88'

**Access Site Type:**  
Recreation

**Date Visited:**

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**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



Helen Hazen Wyman Park was the first park acquired by the Lake Metroparks in 1959.

**Learn More:**  
Lake Metroparks  
[www.lakemetroparks.com](http://www.lakemetroparks.com)

**Field Notes:**

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## Mason's Landing Park

## Indian Point Park

**Location:**

5000 Vrooman Road, south of State Route 84

**Waterbody:**

Grand River

**River Mile Location:**

Between RM 12 and RM 14

**Jurisdiction:**

Perry Township, OH

**County:**

Lake

**Latitude:**

N 41° 43.63'

**Longitude:**

W 081° 11.11'

**Access**

**Site Type:**

Recreation

**Date Visited:**

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**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



**Learn More:**

Lake Metroparks  
www.lakemetroparks.com

**Field Notes:**

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**Location (Lower Entrance):**

12951 Seeley Road

**Location (Upper Entrance):**

3165 Seeley Road

**Waterbody:**

Grand River  
Paine Creek

**River Mile Location:**

Between RM 13 and RM 15

**Jurisdiction:**

Leroy Township, OH

**County:**

Lake

**Lat/Long (Lower):**

N 41° 43.25'  
W 081° 10.56'

**Lat/Long (Upper):**

N 41° 43.19'  
W 081° 9.94'

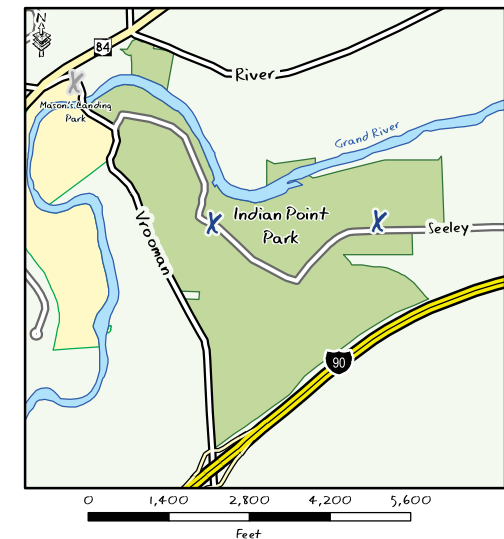
**Access Site Type:**

Recreation

**Date Visited:**

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**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



**Learn More:**

Lake Metroparks  
www.lakemetroparks.com

**Field Notes:**

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## Baker Road Park

**Location:**  
4960 Baker Road

**Waterbody:**  
Grand River

**River Mile Location:**  
Between RM 18  
and RM 19

**Jurisdiction:**  
Leroy Township, OH

**County:**  
Lake

**Latitude:**  
N 41° 44.036'

**Longitude:**  
W 081° 6.724'

**Access Site Type:**  
Recreation

**Date Visited:**

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**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



**Learn More:**  
Lake Metroparks  
[www.lakemetroparks.com](http://www.lakemetroparks.com)

**Field Notes:**

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## River Road Park

**Location:**  
5808 River Road

**Waterbody:**  
Grand River

**River Mile Location:**  
At RM 21

**Jurisdiction:**  
Madison Township, OH

**County:**  
Lake

**Latitude:**  
N 41° 44.782'

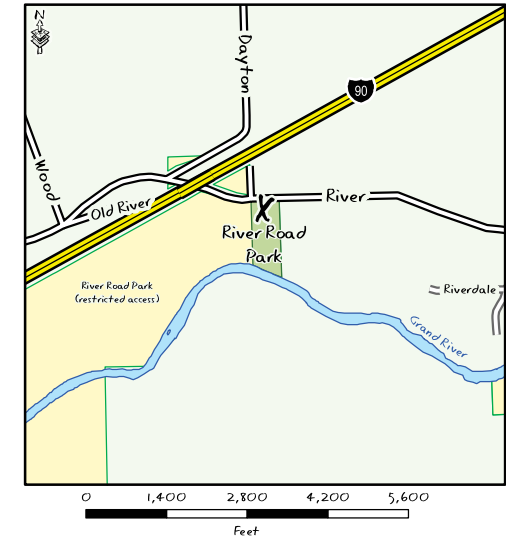
**Longitude:**  
W 081° 4.372'

**Access Site Type:**  
Natural

**Date Visited:**

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**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



**Learn More:**  
Lake Metroparks  
[www.lakemetroparks.com](http://www.lakemetroparks.com)

**Field Notes:**

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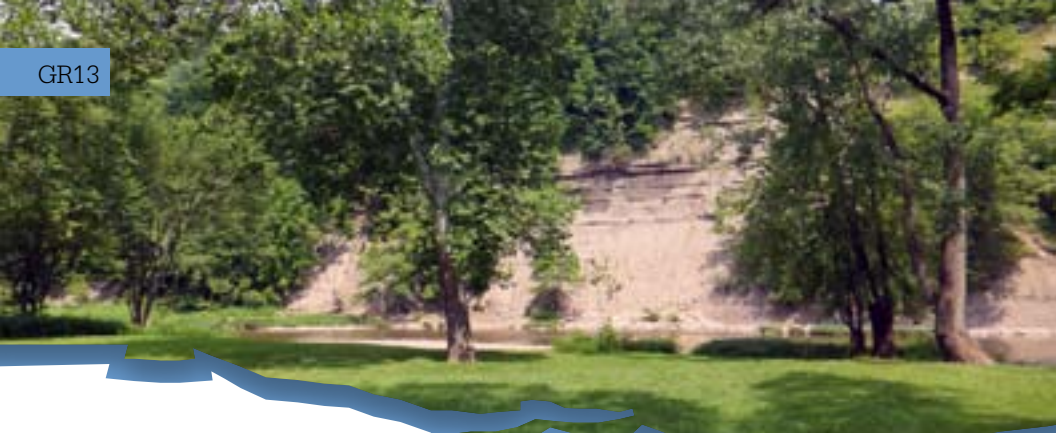
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# Hidden Valley Park

**Location (South Entrance):**

4880 Klasen Road

**Location (North Entrance):**

6500 River Road

**Waterbody:**

Grand River

**River Mile Location:**

Between RM 22 and RM 23

**Jurisdiction:**

Madison Township, OH

**County:**

Lake

**Lat/Long (South):**

N 41° 44.45'  
W 081° 2.96'

**Lat/Long (North):**

N 41° 44.67'  
W 081° 3.25'

**Access Site Type:**

Recreation

**Date Visited:**

**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



The 152-acre Hidden Valley Park features views of an exposed, 360-million year-old Chagrin Shale cliff.

Hidden Valley Park is divided by the Grand River. There are no driving or pedestrian connections within the park between the North and South entrances. Fishing along the Grand River is accessible from the South Entrance. Additional pond fishing access is located in the northern section of the park. A launch for small watercraft is located in the southern section of the park near the State Route 528 bridge.

**Learn More:**

Lake Metroparks  
[www.lakemetroparks.com](http://www.lakemetroparks.com)



# Riverview Park

**Location:**

4895 Bailey Road

**Waterbody:**

Grand River

**River Mile Location:**

Between RM 22 and RM 23

**Jurisdiction:**

Madison Township, OH

**County:**

Lake

**Latitude:**

N 41° 44.47'

**Longitude:**

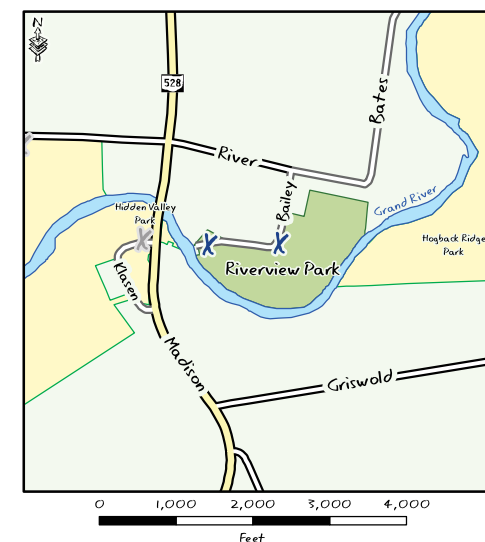
W 081° 2.49'

**Access Site Type:**

Recreation

**Date Visited:**

**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



**Learn More:**

Lake Metroparks  
[www.lakemetroparks.com](http://www.lakemetroparks.com)

**Field Notes:**

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## Hogback Ridge Park

**Location:**  
4700 Emerson Road

**Location  
(Mountain Bike  
Trailhead):**  
7300 Warner Road

**Waterbody:**  
Grand River  
Mill Creek

**River Mile  
Location:**  
Between RM 23 and  
RM 26

**Jurisdiction:**  
Madison  
Township, OH

**County:**  
Lake

**Lat/Long (Main  
Entrance):**  
N 41° 44.65'  
W 081° 1.78'

**Lat/Long  
(Mountain Bike  
Trailhead):**  
N 41° 45.42'  
W 081° 1.39'

**Access  
Site Type:**  
Recreation

### Location Map:



The 414-acre Hogback Ridge Park is named after its most prominent physical feature, the hogback located between the Grand River and Mill Creek. A "hogback" is a high and narrow ridge of land bounded on two sides by steep valleys. Hogbacks get their name because they resemble the bony spine of a hog.

The park's main recreational amenities, including a picnic shelter, its hiking trail network and fishing access to both the Grand River and Mill Creek are accessible from the Emerson Road entrance on the south side of the river. The park's mountain bike trail is accessible from the Warner Road entrance on the north side of the river and does not connect with the southern area.

**Learn More:**  
Lake Metroparks  
[www.lakemetroparks.com](http://www.lakemetroparks.com)

### Amenities:



## Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark

**Location:**  
Harpersfield Road,  
south of SR 307

**Waterbody:**  
Grand River

**River Mile  
Location:**  
Between RM 30 and  
RM 31

**Jurisdiction:**  
Harpersfield  
Township, OH

**County:**  
Ashtabula

**Lat/Long (North):**  
N 41° 45.44'  
W 080° 56.59'

**Lat/Long (South):**  
N 41° 45.32'  
W 080° 56.75'

**Access  
Site Type:**  
Scenic  
Recreation

**Date Visited:**

### Location Map:



The centerpiece attraction, connecting the north and south sides of the Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark, is the bridge itself. The 228-foot long, two-span Howe truss design was built in 1868 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The bridge closely parallels a dam.

**Learn More:**  
Ashtabula County Metroparks District  
[www.ashtabulacountyparks.com](http://www.ashtabulacountyparks.com)

### Amenities:





## Tote Road Park

### Location:

End of Tote Road, north of Woodside Road

**Waterbody:**  
Grand River

### River Mile Location:

Between RM 36 and RM 37

### Jurisdiction:

Austinburg Township, OH

**County:**  
Ashtabula

**Latitude:**  
N 41° 45.27'

**Longitude:**  
W 080° 52.46'

**Access Site Type:**  
Recreation

### Date Visited:

### Location Map:



### Amenities:



### Learn More:

Austinburg Township  
[www.austinburgtownship.org](http://www.austinburgtownship.org)

### Field Notes:

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## Morgan Swamp Preserve

### Location:

Footville-Richmond Road, between State Route 45 and Windsor-Mechanicsville Road

**Waterbody:**  
Grand River

**River Mile Location:**  
Between RM 48 and RM 51

**Jurisdiction:**  
Morgan Township, OH

**County:**  
Ashtabula

**Latitude:**  
N 41° 39.83'

**Longitude:**  
W 080° 53.11'

**Access Site Type:**  
Natural

### Date Visited:

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### Location Map:



### Amenities:



The nearly 1,400-acre Morgan Swamp Preserve, owned and managed by The Nature Conservancy, is one of the largest privately-protected wetlands in Ohio. Morgan Swamp features natural, remnant wetlands and swamp forests leftover from a large glacial lake that once covered portions of Ashtabula and Trumbull counties over 12,000 years ago. The protected swampland was once part of a much larger, five-square mile swamp complex that existed at the time of European settlement. However, much of the original swamp was logged and drained for agricultural purposes.

Morgan Swamp Preserve opened to the public in 2006 and includes an ADA-compliant trail and interpretive signage.

### Learn More:

The Nature Conservancy, [www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org);  
Morgan Swamp Preserve, <http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/ohio/placesweprotect/morgan-swamp-preserve.xml>



# Grand River Conservation Center

**Location:**

Callendar Road, between State Route 45 and Windsor-Mechanicsville Road

**Waterbody:**

Grand River

**River Mile Location:**

Between RM 52 and RM 53

**Jurisdiction:**

Rome Township, OH

**County:**

Ashtabula

**Latitude:**

N 41° 38.12'

**Longitude:**

W 080° 53.46'

**Access Site Type:**

Recreation

**Date Visited:**

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**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



**Learn More:**

The Nature Conservancy  
www.nature.org

**Field Notes:**

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# Grand River Jersey Farm Canoe Access Site

**Location:**

US Route 6, between State Route 45 and Mechanicsville Road

**Waterbody:**

Grand River

**River Mile Location:**

Between RM 55 and RM 56

**Jurisdiction:**

Rome Township, OH

**County:**

Ashtabula

**Latitude:**

N 41° 36.34'

**Longitude:**

W 080° 53.57'

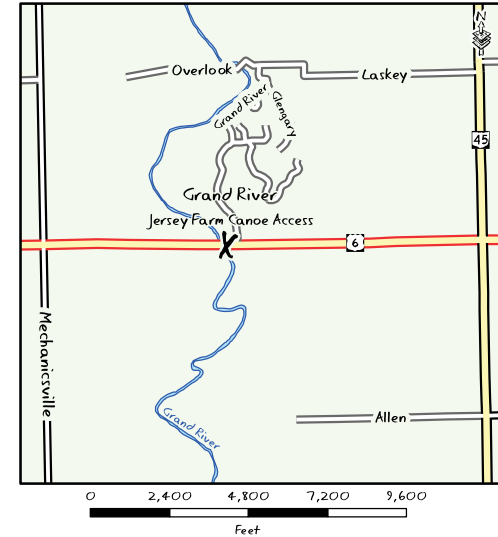
**Access Site Type:**

Recreation

**Date Visited:**

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**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



**Learn More:**

ODNR Division of Wildlife  
www.ohiodnr.com/wildlife

**Field Notes:**

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# Grand River State Wildlife Area

## Geis Property

**Location:**

Donley Road, at Coombs Road

**Waterbody:**

Grand River

**River Mile Location:**

Between RM 75 and RM 76

**Jurisdiction:**

Mesopotamia Township, OH

**County:**

Trumbull

**Latitude:**

N 41° 28.64'

**Longitude:**

W 080° 55.11'

**Access Site Type:**

Outdoors

**Date Visited:**

**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



The 7,453-acre Grand River State Wildlife Area offers fishing, hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities. The Wildlife Area is comprised of extensive swamp forests, wetlands (natural and manmade) and abundant wilderness, which is characteristic of the upper Grand River valley. Visitors and experienced outdoorsmen should take precautions against becoming lost.

Parking areas are located on State Route 88, State Route 534, Norton Lane, Peck Leach Road, Hyde Oakfield Road, Stroup Hickox Road, Hoffman Norton Road, Corey Hunt Road and Housel-Craft Road. A parking area is also located at the Geis Property on Donley Road.

**Learn More:**

ODNR Division of Wildlife  
www.ohiodnr.com/wildlife

# Grand River State Wildlife Area

**Location:**

6686 State Route 534

**Waterbody:**

Grand River

**River Mile Location:**

Between RM 80 and RM 88

**Jurisdiction:**

Farmington Township, OH

**County:**

Trumbull

**Latitude:**

N 41° 23.43'

**Longitude:**

W 080° 54.81'

**Access Site Type:**

Outdoors

**Date Visited:**

**Location Map:**



**Amenities:**



**Learn More:**

ODNR Division of Wildlife  
www.ohiodnr.com/wildlife

**Field Notes:**

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