

## Getting to the Garden

The Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary is located in Theodore Wirth Regional Park in Minneapolis.

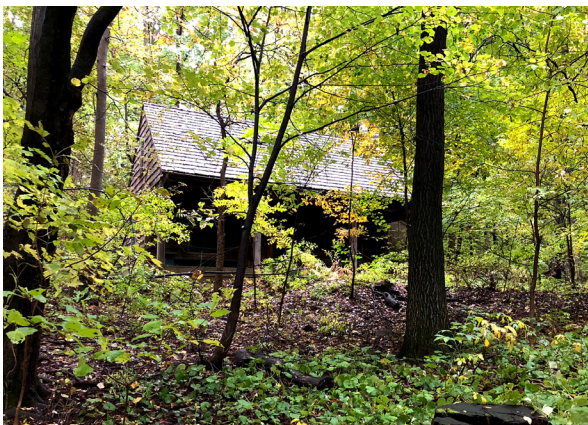


**By Car:** The Garden's parking lot is a pay lot. The fee is \$1.50 per hour and up to \$4 for the day. The fee can be paid with change or a debit card/credit card at the pay box in the lot. We recommend participants carpool to the Garden to ensure there is enough parking for the group.

**By Bus:** Due to the size of our parking lot we do not allow buses to park in our lot. Buses can drop off groups at our parking lot and park in the larger Wirth Lake parking lot. The Wirth Lake parking lot is located off Glenwood Avenue just east of Theodore Wirth Parkway. To get there from the Garden lot, take a right turn on Theodore Wirth Parkway after leaving our lot. Take a right turn at the first intersection on to Glenwood Avenue. The parking lot is on the left side of the road.

**By Bike:** The Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden is located on the Grand Rounds Bike Trail and is adjacent to Theodore Wirth Parkway. The Garden is on the East side of the road. A bicycle rack is available in the Garden's parking lot.

**By City Bus:** MTC Bus Route 9 stops near the Wildflower Garden. Visit the MTC website to plan your trip at [www.metrotransit.org](http://www.metrotransit.org).



“Do you know there is a ‘wild’ garden in Minneapolis and that it is only ten minutes ride from the heart of the city? Hidden away in a small valley surrounded by hills, this garden lies, a sequestered, unravished spot. Here in this tract of native wildness the flower lover may in a few hours view what would otherwise take days of search and travel. This bit of primeval wilderness, which has escaped the encroachment of civilization as the city has grown, is preserved in all its native wildness as a part of the city's largest park, Theodore Wirth.”

— Adapted from a 1915 Garden brochure



Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden & Bird Sanctuary  
Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
[minneapolisparcs.org/ebwg](http://minneapolisparcs.org/ebwg)

## Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden & Bird Sanctuary

# GUIDED TOURS

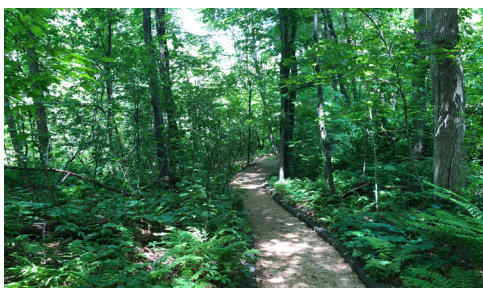
FOR ADULT GROUPS



Naturalist-led guided tours of the Garden  
for groups of various  
backgrounds and interests  
including garden clubs, senior citizens,  
birding clubs and work outings

The **Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary** is a spectacular 15-acre naturalistic botanic garden with trails meandering through woodlands, wetlands, and an upland meadow that showcase more than 600 plant species and 140 resident and migratory birds species.

The Garden was founded in 1907, making it the oldest wildflower garden in the country. The Garden's beautiful Visitor Shelter has field guides, maps of the Garden, binoculars to borrow, seasonal displays and helpful staff to answer your questions.



## Group Size

We welcome groups of 5 to 20 participants. One Naturalist is scheduled for every ten participants. Groups with more than 20 participants can be given a 15 minute introduction to self-guided tours of the Garden for \$50, subject to staff availability.

## Garden Naturalists

A knowledgeable Garden Naturalist will lead your guided tour.

## Cost and Scheduling

Tours last one hour and are offered Tuesday-Friday with starting times between 10:30am-4:30pm, from early May to mid-October. Please schedule your group's visit at least two weeks in advance. The cost of a guided tour is \$10 per participant. Payment is due at the time of the tour by cash (exact change) or check made out to the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden. Credit card payment is also available.

## What to expect on a guided tour

A Garden Naturalist will greet your group at the Garden's front gate. During your guided tour, the Naturalist will share information about the Garden's history, point out the best places to see what is currently in bloom, and answer questions you might have along the way.



## Preparing for your visit

All tours take place outdoors. Please encourage participants to wear sturdy shoes and clothing appropriate for the weather. The Garden is often cooler than expected and it's a good idea to have an extra layer of clothing available in the spring and autumn months. Tours are cancelled only in the case of severe weather.

The trails of the Garden are narrow and covered with fine, shredded woodchips. Due to the topography of the Garden, some of our trails can be steep and rugged. If individuals in your group require assistance walking, please contact us.

Rustic outhouses are located near the front gate.

Running water and drinking fountains are seasonably available.

There are no picnic facilities within the Garden. Picnic areas are located near the Garden in Theodore Wirth Park across from the Wirth Lake Beach parking lot, off Glenwood Avenue (about ¼ mile from the Garden).

## How to Schedule a Program

Complete the **Group Tour Interest Form** at:  
[www.minneapolisarks.org/ebwg](http://www.minneapolisarks.org/ebwg)

## The Garden through the seasons

The 15 acres within the Garden gates consist of three garden areas: woodland, wetland and meadow. Each garden area creates a different habitat, or living environment, that in turn fosters different plants, animals and birds. Each ecosystem has a peak flowering season when the majority of the flowering plant species found in that habitat are in bloom. Throughout the seasons the Garden changes dramatically and each visit will be a unique experience with new discoveries.

### Garden Area/Peak Flowering Seasons

**Woodland:** early April until early June

**Wetland:** mid June until late September

**Prairie:** late July until early October

