

CREEK ACCESS FAQ

What are the designated access points at Silver Creek?

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has installed 30 designated fishing access points along the banks of Silver Creek and 5 designated points into Sullivan Lake. **Anglers must enter and exit the water at any one of these designated points.** There are separate access points for boaters (see map). Access points were placed in close proximity to existing, well-used entry and exit points along the creek. Most access points also have ramps for stable, easy access. Please see the accompanying map for specific locations and follow signage along the marked trails to find the numbered access points.

Why did TNC create designated access points?

The new access points are vital to protect the area's sensitive habitats from disturbance and erosion so that Silver Creek Preserve remains a thriving ecosystem with a healthy fishery for years to come. The new ramps will provide easier and safer stream access enabling visitors to take full advantage of Silver Creek's renowned fishing opportunities while conserving its natural resources and habitats. Unofficial user-created trails and damaged banks will be restored and allowed to heal.

How will this impact the streambed?

Streambank stability is critical to protecting in-water habitat quality. Because the streambed is naturally dynamic, the new access points should have no significant effect on fish habitat while providing long-term benefits to the stream environment throughout the Preserve. The ramps have been positioned to avoid most sediment deposits and put anglers on gravel when they enter the water. We ask anglers to then move in the stream staying on gravel as best they can. Gravel is more resilient to angler traffic and avoiding angler caused mobilization of sediments will help the health of the system.

What if my favorite fishing spot isn't near one of the access points?

Anglers can navigate up- or downstream after entering the water via a designated access point. You can enter and exit at different access points along the river. There is no limit on the number of people allowed at each access point; however, we request that all visitors are considerate of others when sharing space on the water.

Do boaters and float tubers need to enter/exit at access points too?

Yes, boaters and float tubers must also use the access points to enter and exit the water. There are separate access points for fishing and boating/floating (see map). While boaters/paddle boarders are welcome to use the access points to pause during their float, note that the Stalker Put-In and Kilpatrick Take-Out are the only locations where vessels are permitted entry and exit from the water.

Can I reserve an access point in advance?

No, access points cannot be reserved. Upon arrival at Silver Creek, please follow instructions on posted signage to electronically sign in. Visitors are required to sign in for each visit. A paper sign in option is available at the Conservation & Education Center.

What else do I need to know before I visit?

Silver Creek Preserve is currently undergoing a major enhancement project that will include renovation of the existing infrastructure, new educational and outreach programming and innovative, science-driven restoration. The project will help improve the resiliency of Silver Creek and its world-class fishery, ensuring it remains a place where visitors can recreate, take solace in nature and experience first-hand the benefits of natural resource conservation. For more information, visit nature.org/silvercreek.

Friendly Reminders:

- Preserve access permitted **dawn to dusk--NO NIGHT FISHING.**
- Fly fishing, single barbless hooks ONLY
- Respect everyone's space while sharing the river
- Communicate with other anglers, boaters and recreationists to avoid conflict
- Once in the creek walk on gravel, minimize disturbing the sediments as much as possible
- Treat wildlife and the natural environment with respect
- Stay within marked boundaries
- Leave no trace
- Enjoy the scenery!