

Talkeetna Lakes Park

Year-round, non-motorized park

Talkeetna Park Rules and Restrictions

- Litter should be removed or placed in litter containers provided at the parking lot.
- Protection of natural features and park facilities are everyone's responsibility. Don't pick wildflowers or strip bark from trees. The park is closed to the cutting of trees.
Fires are not permitted.
- Discharge of firearms and explosives (including fireworks), the use of bow and arrow, and trapping are not allowed in the park.
- Pets must be on leashes and under control at all times.
- Motor vehicles are restricted to the maintained roads and parking areas; and the use of motorized snow vehicles are prohibited throughout the park except by park staff when grooming and maintaining trails and facilities.
- Outboard motors are not permitted on the lakes.
- Aircraft landings are not permitted unless it is an emergency.



Call 911 in case of emergency.

For more park information call 733-1228.



Canoeing and Fishing

The park's lakes are well known for their trout fishing and quiet setting for canoeing. The canoe trail, which travels through the two-mile long chain of lakes, has portage trails and docking sites to protect the fragile shoreline. Access to the lakes is available at three sites. The main access is from the park's trailhead/parking lot off of Comsat Road. From here a small access road heads west to X Lake and allows for vehicles to park near the lake (temporarily) and drop-off canoes or float tubes. A second access to the lake system is on the north side of Y Lake along a steep trail south of Comsat Road. Finally, a third access to the lake system is on the south side of the park where a walk-in trail from Whigmi Road leads to the southwest side of Tigger Lake where there is a dock and put-in site.

Safety Tips

To safely enjoy your visit, make sure you are properly equipped, for whatever recreational pursuit you are here to enjoy. Come prepared for the outdoors and rapid weather changes.

All occupants of watercraft must have and should wear an approved personal flotation device. High boots and waders are especially dangerous if you capsize, and should not be worn when boating. Keep close track of youngsters at all times, especially near water.

Wildlife, including bears, may be encountered at any time. Bears usually run away, but are unpredictable and can be dangerous. Make noise when hiking so you don't surprise bears or moose.

General description

Talkeetna Lakes Park encompasses 1189 acres; this includes four named lakes, X, Y, Z and Tigger, which comprise 204 acres. The park's fresh water lakes are surrounded by unspoiled forests of spruce, cottonwood and birch, and provide a quiet setting for hiking, canoeing, fishing, mountain biking in the summer, and cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in the winter. Talkeetna Lakes Park is unique among Mat Su Borough parks because it is the only one with both water and land-based recreation opportunities. Park amenities include a large parking facility, trails, docks, canoe portages, public toilet facility and trash bins.

The Talkeetna Lakes Park Trail System is maintained by the MSB Parks and Outdoor Recreation Division with help from the Upper Susitna Soil and Water Conservation District and the Denali Nordic Ski Club. The park has approximately 8 miles (12.9 kilometers) of trails that travel through heavily wooded forests of birch, spruce, and cottonwood. During the winter, when snow cover is sufficient, the winter trails are groomed for skate and classic skiing. The hiking trail is not groomed in winter so it provides a perfect place to snowshoe or walk. There are also short trails between lakes for portaging canoes or traveling cross country in winter when the lakes are frozen. The trail between Z Lake and X Lake has been completed, but the docks still need to be put in. The hope is to have the entire portage complete by the end of 2014.



How to get there

Talkeetna Lakes Park is located just south of Comsat Road. From the Talkeetna Spur Road turn east on Comsat Road, take the first right into the main parking lot. A wooden sign marks the entrance to the park.

Trails & trail uses

X Lake Loop

Tread surface: Dirt surface, 2- 4' wide
Length: 3.26 mile (5.25 km)
Difficulty: Easy to moderate
Activity: XC Ski, Hike, Mtn. Bike

Mink Loop

Tread surface: Groomed snow - 12- 16' wide
Length: 0.75 miles (1.21 km)
Difficulty: Easy
Activity: XC Ski, Hike, Mtn. Bike

Martin Loop

Tread surface: Groomed snow - 12- 16' wide
Length: 1.95 miles (3.14 km)
Difficulty: Easy to moderate
Activity: XC Ski, Hike, Mtn. Bike

Otter Loop

Tread surface: Groomed snow - 12- 16' wide
Length: 1.87 miles (3.01 km)
Difficulty: Easy to moderate
Activity: XC Ski, Hike, Mtn. Bike

Ermine Loop

Tread surface: Groomed snow - 12- 16' wide
Length: 0.18 miles (.29 km)
Difficulty: Easy
Activity: XC Ski, Hike, Mtn. Bike