

O.O. Denny Park Trail Map

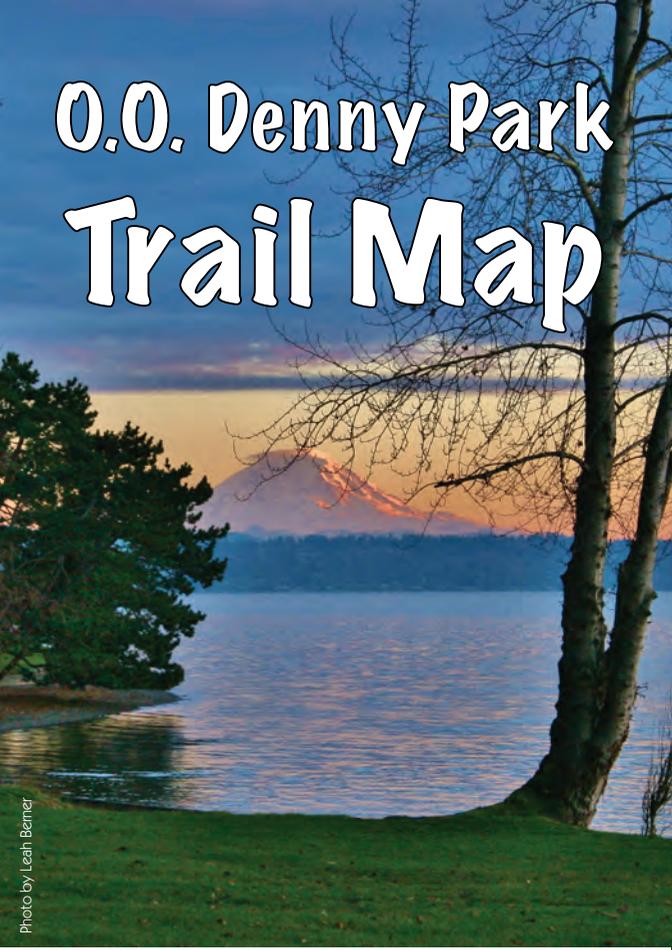


Photo by Leah Bernier

Venture forth!
...where lakeshore
meets enchanted forest.

Welcome to O.O. Denny Park. Whether you are here for a short stroll along the shores of Lake Washington, or for a hike through the deep wooded ravines alongside Denny Creek, many wonders of nature await your exploration.

Points of Interest



Skunk Cabbage – Big leaves shoot straight up out of black mud into chartreuse and canary yellow cabbage-like plants in February.



Spring Board Notch – In the early 1900s, the forest was dense with ancient cedars whose buttressed trunks spread out like toes. To cut them, loggers notched trunks 6 feet high, inserted boards, and stood on them pulling long saws back and forth.



Epiphytes – Licorice ferns live off the wet mosses that accumulate along the branches of old big leaf maples. These ferns bloom in the cold and wet of winter.



Homestead – Here, where the creek widens to a small plateau near a perennial spring-fed creek, were two homesteads.



Nurse Stump – Out of the tops of decomposing ancient cedar stumps, you often find square-stemmed huckleberry bushes and hemlock saplings that have taken hold.



Denny Creek MacDonald Memorial Preserve – This forest is a hilltop sanctuary, recently bequeathed by MacDonald's family and managed by Forterra.



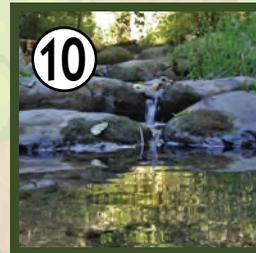
Devil's Club – A forbidding, broad-leafed, thorn-encrusted colony of stems, the Devil's club across the creek was a powerful plant for the native Coast Salish tribes. It was used – carefully prepared – as medicine for dire conditions.



Sylvia – Said to be the biggest Douglas Fir tree in all of King County and older than Columbus, Sylvia somehow bypassed the loggers. Sylvia toppled during the 1993 inauguration day storm.



Stone Bridge – This stone bridge was built as part of the Civilian Conservation Corps work under FDR in the 30's. Over time, the creek dug out a 12 foot drop to the west, preventing salmon passage.



Fish Ladder – In 2001, an elaborate fish ladder raised the creek below the bridge to allow salmon passage to traditional spawning grounds up-creek.

The story of O.O. Denny Park

This 46-acre shoreline and inland park overlooks Lake Washington and the Olympic Mountains to the West and Mt. Rainier to the South. One of the Puget Sound's most enchanting examples of natural woodlands, with some of the most remarkable vestiges of old-growth forest within the metro area of greater Seattle, this park at the northern edge of Kirkland is truly a hidden gem.

Here you will find the remains of the largest fir tree in King County, dubbed "Sylvia," which grew for 600 years to be some 255 feet tall, and 27 feet around, before a wild storm in 1993 blew off her top. You'll also find many other large trees, including hemlock, cottonwood, and Western red cedar.

Wildlife still abounds here. Keep a keen eye out for deer, listen for bands of yipping coyote and eerily screeching pileated woodpeckers. Bald eagles and barred owls train their young to fly from nests high in the forest canopy.

A loop trail takes you around a wooded canyon alongside Denny Creek, where you can view a fish ladder built to train salmon back to the creek and connect with other regional parks. Located just off Juanita Drive on the west side of Finn Hill, O.O. Denny is a half-hour drive from Seattle and a 10-minute bike ride from the Burke Gilman Trail in Kenmore.

Learn more about O.O. Denny Park and it's history at www.finnhillparks.net.

Trail guide funded in part by:

**Finn Hill Park
and Recreation
District**



Photos by Scott Macco



1 inch = 500 feet
M.R. Binkley 2012

O.O. Denny Park Trail Map

- Trail Head
- Points of Interest
- Stream
- Elevation Contours

Trails

	Beach Park	0.1 mile
	Creekside	0.5 miles
	Lower Loop	0.6 miles
	Upper Loop	0.7 miles
	Valley Trail	0.7 miles
	S.M. Memorial	0.1 mile

