# Dyken Pond Environmental Education Center

## Bring your kayak or hiking boots!

Located in Grafton, New York, we are in the midst of the Rensselaer Plateau, an area of high elevation and New York's fifth largest unfragmented forest. Over thirty-three ecological communities are found on the property, ranging from beech-maple forests to spruce-fir swamps, beaver ponds and vernal pools. This variety offers visitors an exciting blend of places to explore and enjoy.

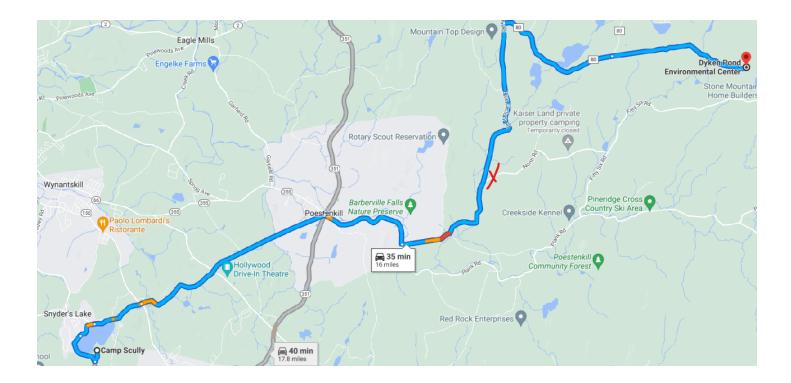
We are a low-use recreational area. Open during daylight hours, the park features over 6 miles of trails for hiking, bird watching and nature photography, with a launch for non-motorized boats, and areas on the shoreline for great fishing. Four short trails are self-guiding, allowing you to learn of our plants and animals at your own pace. There is no swimming, open fires or collecting of any kind.

#### Address and Directions

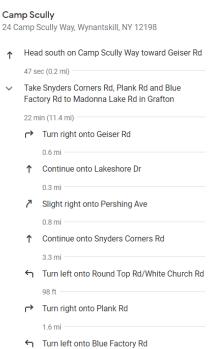
Dyken Pond Environmental Center, 475 Dyken Pond Rd, Cropseyville, NY 12052

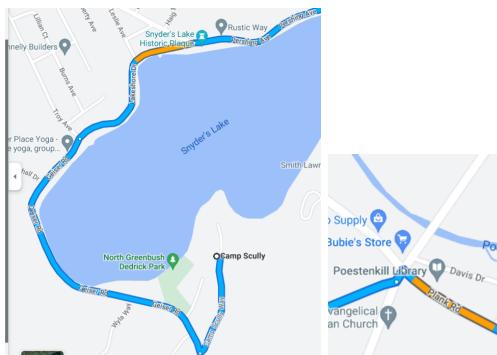
**Do Not Follow Your Car GPS**- Some GPS units are directing people to the east side of the lake, which is 25 minutes from the Center. Please follow the directions below (or your GPS) to get to Route 80.

- Head south on Camp Scully Way toward Geiser Rd (0.2 mi)
- Take Snyders Corners Rd, Plank Rd and Blue Factory Rd to Madonna Lake Rd in Grafton
- Turn right at Dyken Pond sign onto Route 80 (Madonna Lake Rd). **DO NOT** take North Road to the other side of the lake.
- Bear right at fork (Jay Hakes Rd is to the left).
- Bear right at Dyken Pond sign onto Dyken Pond Rd (go straight instead of following the turn). Continue 2 ½ miles. Dyken Pond Road is a dirt road. Don't get discouraged. We're at the end of the road!



## **Driving details**





#### Web site

https://dykenpond.org/

#### **Trails**

Link to trail map: <a href="https://www.friendsofdykenpond.org/dykenpond/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/dykentrails">https://www.friendsofdykenpond.org/dykenpond/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/dykentrails</a> 2021.pdf

#### **Self-Guiding Trails**

There are three self-guiding trails. Each are less than half mile in length.

Abbt Farm Trail Guide – History and Change Cherry trace- Woodland Management Witchhobble wander – Plant Ecology

## **Boating**

Canoe and kayak rentals are offered for enjoyment of the lake. Rentals are \$10 per boat for 90 minutes or \$20 per boat for 3 hours. Each person renting a kayak must be minimum 12 years old and 220 pounds maximum. Exact change required. Rentals can be made from 9am until 3:30 pm with a last rental at 2 pm. Staff may not always be present, so be sure to call or email ahead one day in advance to reserve your boat rental.

Dyken Pond Environmental Education Center is the only public access onto Dyken Pond. Non-gasoline motor and electric motor boats are allowed onto Dyken Pond through our public access. The launch is accessible by car to unload gear, but vehicles must be parked at the main parking lot. Portaging may be necessary at certain times. The gate to the boat launch is locked at night and is unlocked during daylight hours. The gate is open generally from 9 am until 7pm.

To reserve boats: 518 658-2055 or dykenpond@gmail.com