

Sweet Woods

North Creek (flows to Thorn Creek and the Little Calumet River)

Address or Nearest Intersection:

Just south of 183rd Street and Cottage Grove Avenue, Glenwood, IL.

Directions: From the north, take State St. through Riverdale/South Holland. This road becomes Williams St. once you cross into Thornton (south of I-80). Turn left onto E. Margaret St., then right onto South Schwab St. Continue straight on Thorn Creek Rd. after 2 blocks. After 183rd Street the road becomes Cottage Grove Ave. The entrance to Sweet Woods is on your right after about a mile.

Owner: Forest Preserves of Cook County (permit required).

Habitat Description: Sweet Woods is located along the Thorn Creek Trail System and is home to a mix of winding creeks, oxbow lakes, scenic remnant oak woodlands and floodplain forests. Here, visitors can partake in a variety of activities including hiking and biking. The site offers diverse spring wildflowers and is excellent for migratory bird watching in the late fall and early spring.

Access to water: North Creek is along the north side of the parking lot and shelter, but the best access is underneath the bridge at Cottage Grove where there is a rocky riverbed. Thorn Creek is 2000 feet along the trail to the west. The banks of Thorn Creek are steep, but the creek is wadable.

This is a great site for any river-based activity or lesson.

Amenities: Portable bathrooms are available seasonally. Picnic shelter is available for lunch.

Parking: Parking is plentiful for both cars and buses.

Capacity: 60 students.



Sweet Woods Picnic Groves

