

**Observation Point 5:** The six trees that ring the playground area are a different variety of honey locust than the trees in the parking lot. Named ‘Skyline,’ these honey locusts have dark green leaves and bright, golden-yellow fall color. Just across the path at the corner of the soccer field are three native Mountain silverbells trees with pendulous, light pink, bell-like flowers in May. The flowers are followed by four-winged seed pods. These trees are popular with *Promethea* caterpillars, which eat the tree leaves. These caterpillars cause little harm and become attractive moths.

**Observation Point 6:** At the intersection of the path along Warfield Road and the path between the ballfields, there are four multi-stemmed trees, which are actually members of the dogwood family. These are Corneliancherry dogwoods named ‘Golden Glow’ for their small, bright yellow flowers in early April. By midsummer they will have small red fruit that attracts birds. After the purple-reddish fall color, interesting flaking bark can be seen.

**Observation Point 7:** The softball outfield area has several more reforestation areas planted on either side of the path. You will find native trees here such as Willow oak, Red maple, and Green ash and shrubs like Inkberry holly. If you are on this path in early March, you will find witch hazel in bloom with small, yellow flowers. Following in April are the rosy-lavender-flowered redbud and white-flowered Downy serviceberry. Older, more established native trees in the existing stand of woods along Warfield Road include Black locust (fragrant white flowers in May), and Tulip poplar (yellow flowers in summer and yellow leaves in fall). The numerous small shrubs throughout the park that have large thorns are seedlings of the Black locust trees.

Milton M. Kaufmann Park is owned and maintained by the Montgomery Village Foundation (MVF). Construction of the park was a joint venture of MVF, the Maryland–National Capital Park and Planning Commission Department of Parks and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Program Open Space. The park was dedicated on May 6, 2006 and is open to the public.

Milton M. Kaufmann Park  
9607 Wightman Road  
Montgomery Village, MD



# Milton M. Kaufmann Park Walking Tour



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# Milton M. Kaufmann Park Walking Tour



Welcome to Milton M. Kaufmann Park. Mr. Kaufmann was a longtime Montgomery Village resident and was involved in many efforts to address environmental issues and promote conservation throughout his life.

This brochure will guide you on a walking tour of the park grounds, and provides an overview of the conservation features that have been designed into the park. You can follow the observation points in chronological order, or enjoy a random walk to explore on your own. Some of the trees are identified by signposts.

**Observation Point 1:** The two trees flanking the park's entrance gate on Wightman Road are 'Apollo' sugar maples and highlight the park with brilliant fall color during that time of year. Across the parking lot from the gate is a single English elm. It was cloned from a magnificent old elm located on Goshen Road. Mr. Kaufmann was involved with saving the Goshen elm in 2001 when housing development and the expansion of Goshen Road threatened to destroy the tree.

The trees located along the center islands of the parking lot are fast-growing 'True Shade' honey locusts. As these trees mature, they will live up to their name by providing generous shade during the summer. They also provide beautiful yellow color in the fall. The four trees to the south of the entrance gate are Paperbark maples, noted for their interesting peeling bark.

**Observation Point 2:** The bulletin board, located at the top of the path from the parking lot, provides useful information about the park. Looking just to the left of the bulletin board, you will notice the tall Chimney Swift roosting tower. These birds build their nests on the inside walls.

The path between the two ballfields is lined with another type of elm tree. These are 'Patriot' elms, a newly developed variety of the stately American elm that used to line many city streets in the Washington area. Dutch elm disease killed most of the old American elms. The 'Patriot'

variety also is resistant to the disease. These young elms eventually will grow very large and form a nice shady lane for cool summer walks.

**Observation Point 3:** The two trees planted in the midst of the three culverts that pass under the path are Celestial dogwoods. They bloom in late April or early May and produce red berries that are a favorite food of native songbirds.

**Observation Point 4:** The gazebo area provides several benches for visitors to take a few minutes to enjoy a view of the pond to the south or to watch a sunset in the west.

The gazebo is encircled by six English elms, all cloned from the previously mentioned elm on Goshen Road that was saved from destruction in 2001, after a seven-year fight. The Goshen elm is estimated to be over 200 years old and is a Maryland Champion tree.

Looking to the northeast is a large berm that separates the park from a nearby community. Prominently planted along the top of the berm are a number of Eastern White pines that will form tall, narrow columns. Many native trees and shrubs also have been planted on the berm and will fill in around the pines. The berm is one of several reforestation areas that have been designed into the park. The native trees on the berm include Red maple, Eastern redbud, American sweetgum, Willow oak and Green ash.

To the southeast of the gazebo is a path going toward Aspenwood Lane. The path provides a nice view of the pond and leads to two other reforestation areas in the park that have been planted with trees and shrubs also native to Maryland. The trees and shrubs include several species of oak, Red maple, redbud, holly, viburnum and witch hazel. Native trees are adapted to the local climate, often provide food and habitat for native wildlife, and require less maintenance (such as extra watering and insect controls) compared to non-native plants. Non-native plants tend to be invasive, because they do not have natural controls such as insects, fungi and diseases that work together to keep an environment in balance.