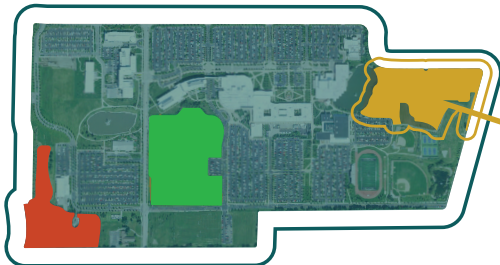


# Ecological Study Area

## College of DuPage Campus

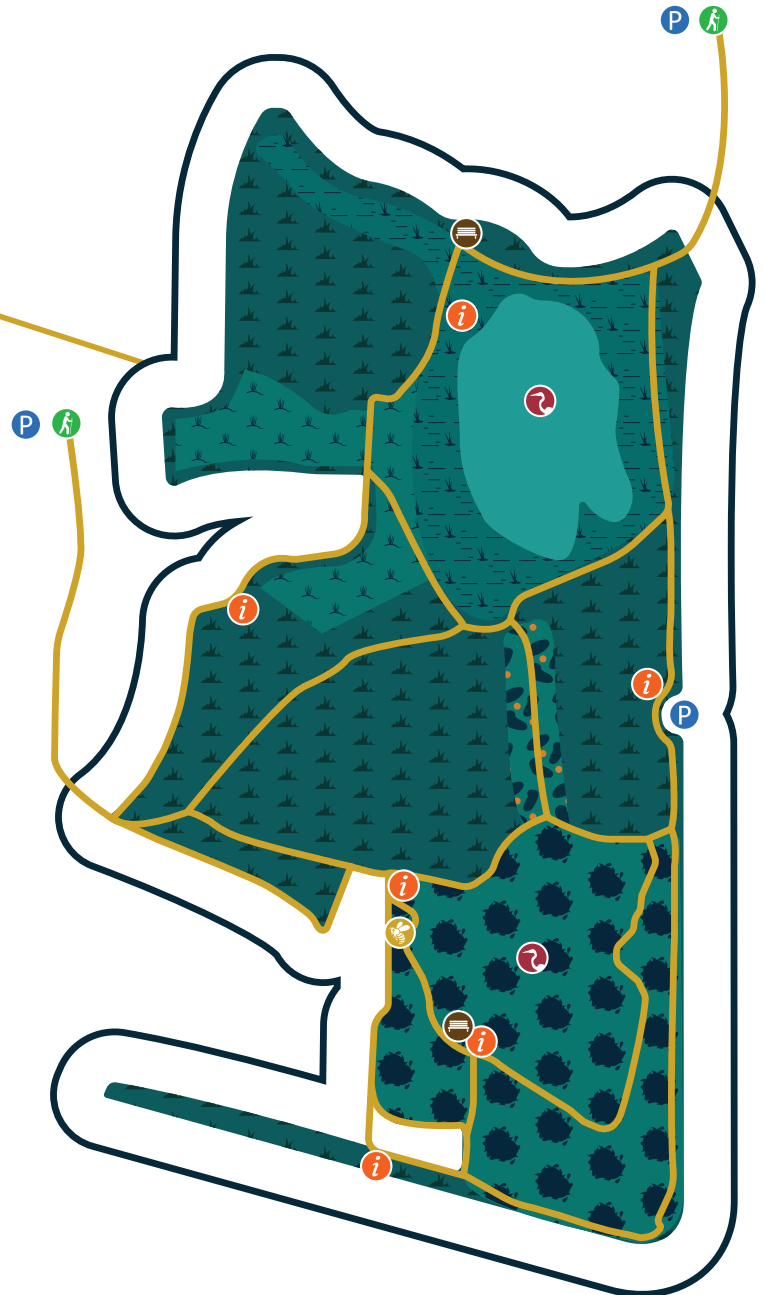


## About the Ecological Study Area

The ESA was the first natural area established on campus beginning in 1974. The mesic woodland within it is the site of an old homestead belonging to the Kuhn Family. Building foundations, an old well, two cisterns, and rows of Osage Orange Trees (*Maclura pomifera*) planted around the site are evidence of these settlers' occupation. In November 1984, COD officially dedicated the area as the Ecological Study Area. Before March 31st, 1983, it was known as the East Prairie.

From 1978 into the early '80s, rotating teams of volunteers expanded restoration efforts in the woodland adjacent to the initial plot to the east. After this, in 1987, they began converting what is known as the Farmhouse Prairie and expanding this area west. Throughout the 1990s, they expanded the site to incorporate a steeped hill prairie and marsh before finishing their initial expansion in 1997. The last area established was the hill prairie produced from fill from the construction of the McAninch Arts Center.

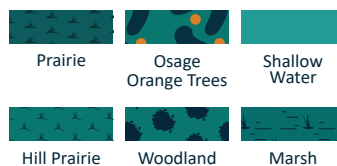
Various awarded grants from the Bayer Feed a Bee Program, DuPage County Stormwater Ordinance, and the Honeybee Conservancy have provided for the establishment of honeybee hives and turfgrass-to-prairie restorations that provide valuable pollen and nectar for insects.



### Trails



### Featured Habitats



### Points of Interest

