

# South Shore Natural Area

The South Shore Nature Sanctuary is an approximately 6-acre natural area that showcases the native diversity of Chicagoland wildlife. It is situated on a peninsula that reaches north into the waters of Lake Michigan, with views all the way from Downtown Chicago to Indiana.

The Sanctuary is accessible to visitors via a loop of gravel paths and boardwalks, with benches and two council rings for group gatherings at the northern end of the peninsula. The path will take you through restored sand dunes, over a wetland lagoon, around a grassy butterfly meadow, and into a shady evergreen woodland.

Before the Nature Sanctuary was established in 2002, this land was a dumping ground for the South Shore Cultural Center, formerly the South Shore Country Club. The Chicago Park District removed the debris and invasive overgrowth and restored the land as a haven for migratory birds, butterflies, and other insects and animals.



The Sanctuary features six different native Chicagoland habitat types: Dune, Wetland, Prairie, Savannah, Shrubland, and Woodland. As you stroll around the Sanctuary you will notice that each habitat has its own unique mix of trees, plants, flowers, insects, and animals. This map and scavenger hunt will help you identify some of the species you will notice, and guide you in your search for more.

# Nature Scavenger Hunt

*Can you find them all?*

As you explore the South Shore Nature Sanctuary, be on the lookout for the following:

- A seed
- Purple Coneflower
- A bird
- A spider's web
- Tree roots
- Butterfly Milkweed
- A rock
- Wild Columbine
- A feather
- Marram Grass
- Moss
- A butterfly
- Cardinal Flower
- A mushroom



While you're on your nature scavenger hunt, please be careful to stay on paths and not remove anything you find. Thank you for visiting. For more information about the South Shore Nature Sanctuary please visit [www.chicagoparkdistrict.com](http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com). To learn more about volunteer stewardship opportunities at this site, please e-mail: [stewardship@chicagoparkdistrict.com](mailto:stewardship@chicagoparkdistrict.com)