

Lake Glenview & Gallery Park

In 1993, the selection of the Glenview Naval Air Station for base closure presented the community with a challenging opportunity to determine the use of the 1,121-acre property. The Community Reuse Planning Group, organized through the Village Board of Trustees, recommended an open space amenity be created that would serve as a civic resource for the entire community. The 142-acre Gallery Park, with Lake Glenview at its center, is the result. Planning and design of this space involved many community groups and residents with ideas for active and passive recreational areas, wetlands and the lake itself. The design and construction of Gallery Park provided a centerpiece to connect the residential, office and commercial neighborhoods that surround it.

Now managed by the Glenview Park District, Gallery Park is the largest single community park within Glenview. The park is, first and foremost, open space for the residents. Its landscape provides the opportunity for education, recreation and quiet reflection. There are many ways the public can use the park, along with adjacent Park Center, Attea Middle School, athletic fields and Lake Glenview. The 45-acre lake is surrounded by meandering trails, never displaying a complete view of the water from any single vantage point. The fingers of land and bays off the lake create an environment for exploration and recreation. Shallow ledges and submerged trees provide fish habitat, while partially submerged trees provide perches for birds and turtles. The perimeter of the lake consists of wetland shelves supporting habitat for wildlife and plants adapted to the wetland environment.

Lake Glenview is also part of the large storm drainage system for Glenview. Stormwater runoff from the redeveloped air station drains into the lake, as do many detention basins and storm sewers throughout Glenview. The lake's outlet is connected to the West Fork of the North Branch of the Chicago River (West Fork). The lake and wetlands thus provide a last opportunity for filtering the stormwater before it is released to the river.

Location: Bounded by West Lake Avenue to the north, Chestnut Avenue to the south, Patriot Boulevard to the west, and Lehigh Avenue to the east

Lake Glenview created in 1998
Surface area: 45 acres
Average depth: 16 feet
Deepest point: 19 feet

Gallery Park area: 142 acres
Approximately 6 miles of bicycle/jogging trails

The lake and surrounding area provide habitat for wildlife such as great blue herons, crayfish, bullfrogs, snapping turtles, northern water snakes, and dragonflies

Walleye, Northern pike, largemouth bass, channel catfish, fathead minnows, green sunfish, and bluegill can be found in the lake.



Top: Lake Glenview and its environs

Bottom: Wetland vegetation along the perimeter of Lake Glenview



The Village of
Glenview