

# Wilcox Park

Wilcox Park is a wooded and grass area of about 12 acres situated on a bluff overlooking Milford Harbor.

This land is part of the original land grant to William Fowler, the first miller. This land was owned by the Fowler family until purchased by Clark Wilcox in 1908. Mr. Wilcox deeded this land to the Town of Milford in 1909 as a public park.

With the help of the Milford Garden Club, CT declared this as part of a state refuge for wildlife in 1931.

In 1939 Milford Harbor was dredged. The mud and debris removed was used to fill in a tidal marsh. Today that area is called Fowler Field.

In 2003, Wilcox Park underwent a major restoration that include the current trails, benches, and viewing platform. A plaque near the lower parking lot commemorates this project. Volunteer groups secured funding for this project from CT Long Island Sound and Iroquois Land Enhancement Funds. Community groups, scouts, and schools continue to help the City care for Wilcox Park.

Today Wilcox Park continues to be an important bird viewing area in the heart of downtown Milford. Waterfowl can be viewed in the harbor or flying overhead. A variety of birds depend on this area during spring and fall migrations.

The East Coast Greenway passes through the park on Shipyard Lane. The trails provide a place for a quiet walk, opportunities for viewing wildlife and scenic views of Milford Harbor.



Photo by CT DEEP

## Trail Description:

### Easy to Moderate Hike

Wilcox Park features an extensive trail system through a forest adjacent to Milford Harbor. The trails lead to a cantilevered wooden platform that offers excellent views of Milford harbor and the wide variety of boating activity it supports. The site also hosts a boat ramp with parking for vehicles and trailers. Boaters must obtain a parking pass to access the launch.

Total trails distance is approx. 0.49 miles

## Directions and Parking:

Milford Public Library, 57 New Haven Avenue. Follow Shipyard Ln. behind the library. Parking is across from the Boat Launch parking area. The lower trail starts at the boat launch parking lot. Limited handicap parking is located in a parking area at the end of a shared driveway at Harborside Drive and Bedford Avenue.

## Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

Dogs must be leashed at all times. No motorized vehicles are allowed and alcoholic beverages are prohibited.



Photo by Steve Johnson, City of Milford

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## For more information about this location, contact:

City of Milford  
Open Space & Sustainability Office  
(203) 878-7812 or (203) 783-3201



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