

The Town of Wilton, in 1986 purchased Horseshoe Park as part of the land acquisition for the construction of a southern connector road to and from Wilton Center. The pond, known as Horseshoe Pond receives its name from the road surrounding it. Horseshoe Road, a small loop road, resembles the shape of a horseshoe.

A previous owner of the park property created the pond from a red maple swamp in the early 1950's. The felling of trees and construction of a dam allowed the area to flood from underground springs. Due to the method of its creation, the pond is shallow throughout.

Horseshoe Park is a popular walking spot for local residents and business professionals. The Conservation Commission constructed a short trail along the southern end of the pond to enable visitors to circumnavigate the pond without traveling on Wolfpit Road.

From the parking turnout, one can stroll to the water's edge and often see ducks or swans. A great blue heron, black-crowned night heron or green-backed heron may occasionally be observed by quiet visitors.

Many plant species typical of pond edge habitats such as silky dogwood, red maple, pussy willow, sycamore, purple loosestrife and a variety of sedges grow along the edge of the pond.

The Conservation Commission planted trees and shrubs at the northern edge of the park and along Horseshoe Road. This provides screening in places where road construction caused the removal of natural vegetation.

In winters when the pond is not drained to control the lilies, the pond itself freezes quickly and therefore becomes a popular skating area. Those who use the pond for skating are cautioned they do so at their own risk.

Although relatively small, Horseshoe Park offers much to its visitors, including the opportunity to observe a pond throughout the changing seasons. The park is a pleasant place to visit at any time of the year.



Directions:	From Wilton Center, go south on River Road for 1.1 miles, bearing left at the first stop sign. The park entrance is on the right just before the junction of Wolfpit Road and Horseshoe Road.
Acreage:	+8.5
Parking:	At turnout on west side of Horseshoe Road
Access:	Horseshoe Road
Trails:	Short trail along southern end of pond. Loop around the pond on roadways.
Ownership:	Town of Wilton

