

Welcome to Kinbrook

The Board of Directors of the Eastern Irrigation District (EID) would like to welcome you to the Kinbrook Marsh Trail System. The Kinbrook Marsh is a managed wetland, (one of many within the EID) with the land and water supplied by the EID. The District manages its land and water resources with a multi-use philosophy. Being one of the driest regions in Alberta, the water diverted from the Bow River enables farmers to grow bountiful crops and has also transformed this desert-like landscape into a virtual oasis.



A very diversified ecology has resulted from this water, greatly increasing the variety of wildlife species found in this area. The primary purpose of the irrigation system is to supply water for agriculture, but through careful planning and management, the EID has been able to enhance and maximize wildlife production as well. The district takes great pleasure in being able to provide Kinbrook Marsh Trail and other wildlife viewing opportunities within our boundaries for your

Complex Development

The marsh complex was constructed under the Cooperative Ventures Program (partnership of the Eastern Irrigation District, Ducks Unlimited and Alberta Fish and Wildlife Division) and is classified as a North American Waterfowl Management Plan Project. The wetland has a north and south segment encompassing 200 ha (500 ac). The project was developed by isolating two shallow bays from Lake Newell by a system of three dikes. This prevented marsh water levels from being impacted by irrigation drawdowns of Lake Newell.



Location

The Kinbrook Marsh Trail system is located 12 km (7 mi) south of the City of Brooks, adjacent to Kinbrook Island Provincial park.

Phone: (403) 362-1400
Fax: (403) 362-6206

Email: eid@eid.ab.ca
www.eid.ab.ca

Eastern Irrigation District
550 Industrial Road
P.O. Bag 8
Brooks, Alberta
Canada T1R1B2



Where Water Works Wonders

Kinbrook Marsh Nature Trails

The Trails

The trail system follows the shoreline around the north segment of the marsh complex. It was constructed by the EID with financial assistance through tourism grants from the Town of Brooks, and the County of Newell. The main trail head includes parking, washrooms, a covered kiosk, picnic tables and can be reached by turning north off the Provincial Park access road. The secondary trail head is located within the Provincial Park, near such park facilities as the boat launch, swimming beach, campground and concession stand. The trail system includes two developed sections (3.5 km), a 1 km link left undeveloped and a number of observation points and structures. A complete loop around the marsh can be undertaken by tying the two trail heads together with a walk through the park and along the park access road. The full loop would take a minimum of 1.5 hours, but would likely take longer as there is such a variety of flora and fauna to observe.

Trail Etiquette

- Please stay on developed trail
- Use caution when cattle are present on undeveloped trail routes
- Pedestrians have right-of-way; cyclists use caution
- Please cause as little disturbance to wildlife as possible
- Vegetation and nests are for viewing only
- Please do not litter; waste receptacles are provided
- Always keep pets on a leash

Kinbrook Marsh Nature Trail Map



Wildlife to Watch For on the Trail

This arid, mixed grass prairie region is often overlooked by wildlife enthusiasts, but we believe you will be pleasantly surprised by the diversity of wildlife you will see in the marsh ecosystem. The marsh is home to an abundance of different waterfowls, wading birds, song birds and raptors. One is likely to see white pelicans, double-crested cormorants and great blue herons on a regular basis, but there are more than just birds. It is possible for the careful observer to see beaver, muskrat, mink, white-tailed and mule deer, pronghorn antelope and coyotes. The marsh is also home to a number of different reptiles and amphibians, plus a wide array of invertebrates.