

Expanded Parking

Trailhead Node

Accessible Parking

Resting Node

Resting Node

The diagram illustrates four types of paths using colored rectangles:

- Vehicular Access:** Represented by six dark grey rectangles.
- Main Accessible Path:** Represented by eight dark blue rectangles.
- Secondary Accessible Path:** Represented by ten medium blue rectangles.
- Challenge Trail:** Represented by twelve light blue rectangles.



Jackson St. provides vehicular access to Garrison Springs Community Forest, ending in a loop that directs traffic back towards the main entrance. Upon entering the park, an existing guest parking lot is immediately available near the entrance gate. The plan concept provides ADA accessible parking spaces located near the Garrison House, and includes expanded parking near the existing lot. Expanded parking at the existing lot may require grading / retaining walls. The entry loop near the Garrison House will need to be designed to allow for turning movements of a school bus.



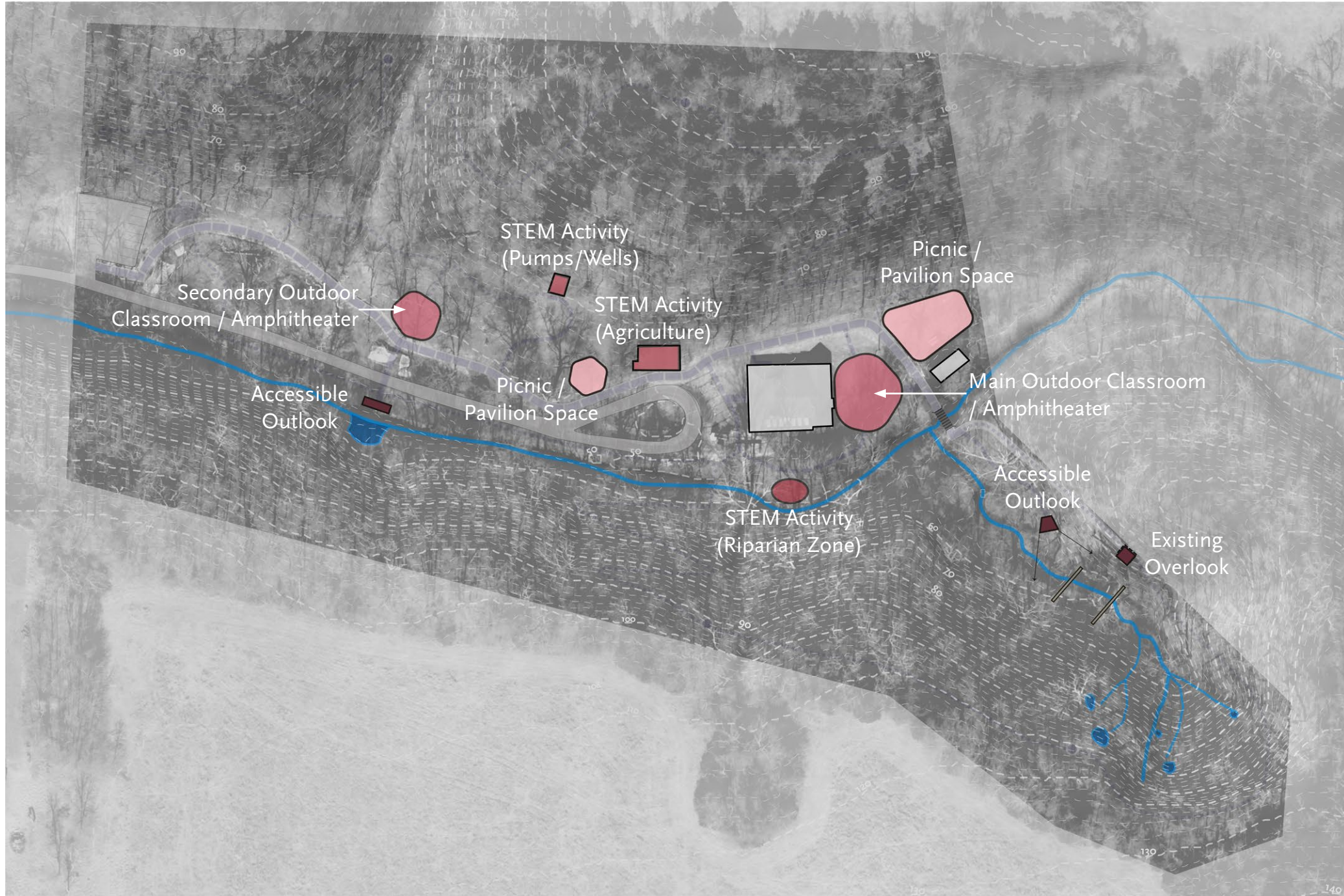
An existing paved pathway provides a main corridor thru the community forest connecting between the existing parking area to the Garrison House area. The concept plan includes additional accessible paths connections to provide access to the major features of the park, including the Garrison House, outdoor classroom spaces, picnic areas, STEM activities, trailheads, formal and vegetable gardens, and viewing platforms for Garrison Spring. Accessible pathways should be designed to follow ADA guidelines.



These accessible paths are similar to the main accessible paths and are either paved concrete or raised boardwalks. These trails are intended provide further connectivity to harder to reach areas and previously non accessible nodes throughout the park. These pathways will be narrower in width to minimize impact to existing natural areas, but shall be designed to meet ADA guidelines.



Although the least accessible and not compliant with ADA guidelines, the challenge trails provide additional opportunities to connect with nature within the park. These trails are unpaved and may have more rugged conditions compared to the other pedestrian pathways, like switchbacks, slopes, and stepping stones to cross Garrison Branch. Challenge trails feature additional wildlife amenities and have seating nodes located periodically throughout them.



Outlook	STEM Activity
Outdoor Classroom/Amphitheater	Picnic Area



An existing deck platform provides an overlook of the historic dams and the seeps. Two additional overlook/outlooks are proposed. One viewing deck overlooks Garrison Spring and another outlook provides an alternate view of the dams and seeps. The two proposed outlooks are intended to provide wheelchair accessible views of the existing dams and spring features. Outlooks offer scenic perspectives of the park's water features and will include informational signage about Garrison Springs, its history and natural environment.



There are four proposed STEM activity sites throughout the park. These stations give school groups and park visitors the opportunity to learn about Garrison Springs' unique microclimates, fauna, flora, and history. Some of the potential activities could include testing water samples from the branch, observing wildlife like birds or insects, or going on a botanical scavenger hunt throughout the park. The STEM activity areas are intended to function as secondary educational space.



To accommodate visiting school groups, large and small outdoor classrooms are proposed. These spaces would offer room for educators to host lessons outside of the traditional classroom while still facilitating a learning environment. The main outdoor classroom area will be connected to the Garrison House to allow for access direct access to the house's facilities. This space may include overhead cover to provide shade and protection from weather. A secondary classroom space is located within the proposed meadow areas. This space is intended to provide a more immersive experience with in the natural environment.



Two designated picnic areas are located within the park which offer room for different capacities and environmental aesthetics. The west picnic area brings park visitors into the sunny meadowland and has a smaller, more private atmosphere. The east picnic area lies on the woodland edge and is furnished with shades for larger groups and convenient access to the main hub of the park. These picnic areas may include seating spaces along and may include covered pavilions to provide additional shade and protection from weather.



The woodland that surrounds Garrison Springs is a key feature of the park. Consisting of multiple stands of tree families, the forest shelters many types of wildlife. Access to these undeveloped parts of the park, gives users a look into nature's seasonal cycle and role animals serve in the environment. These areas are proposed to be managed and maintained to remove invasive vegetation and promote desirable woodland species.



The central landscape area of the Park is proposed for a restored meadowland that amplifies the park's biodiversity, which will have many benefits for visitors and local fauna alike. Beautiful wildflowers and native plants stand tall in warm seasons and the dormant vegetation offers shelter to small animals and birds in winter months. It also improves the environment's capacity for pollinators like bees and butterflies, which would in turn support the formal and vegetable gardens. The meadow areas will be designed to fit differing ecotype and functions within the park including savanna species along the woodland edge, and species geared towards attracting pollinators and birds.



The Garrison Branch is the heart of Garrison Springs Community Forest. Historically, it supported the Garrison family, and now it flows on to support a new generation's curiosity and passion for the natural world. The riparian area, consisting of the branch, many natural springs, and the creek edge, will be managed to remove invasive species and incorporate native plantings that thrive in riparian environments, provide habitat for riparian animal species, and help protect the site from erosion.



Two garden spaces are proposed near the Garrison house. A formal garden surrounds the front and north-side of the home in homage to the formal garden that the previous property owners maintained. This garden spaces will feature native and ornamental plantings to provide an attractive focal point on the site. To the east of the formal garden raised vegetable garden beds are proposed. The vegetable garden area can be used to support educational activities and STEM activities focused on agriculture.