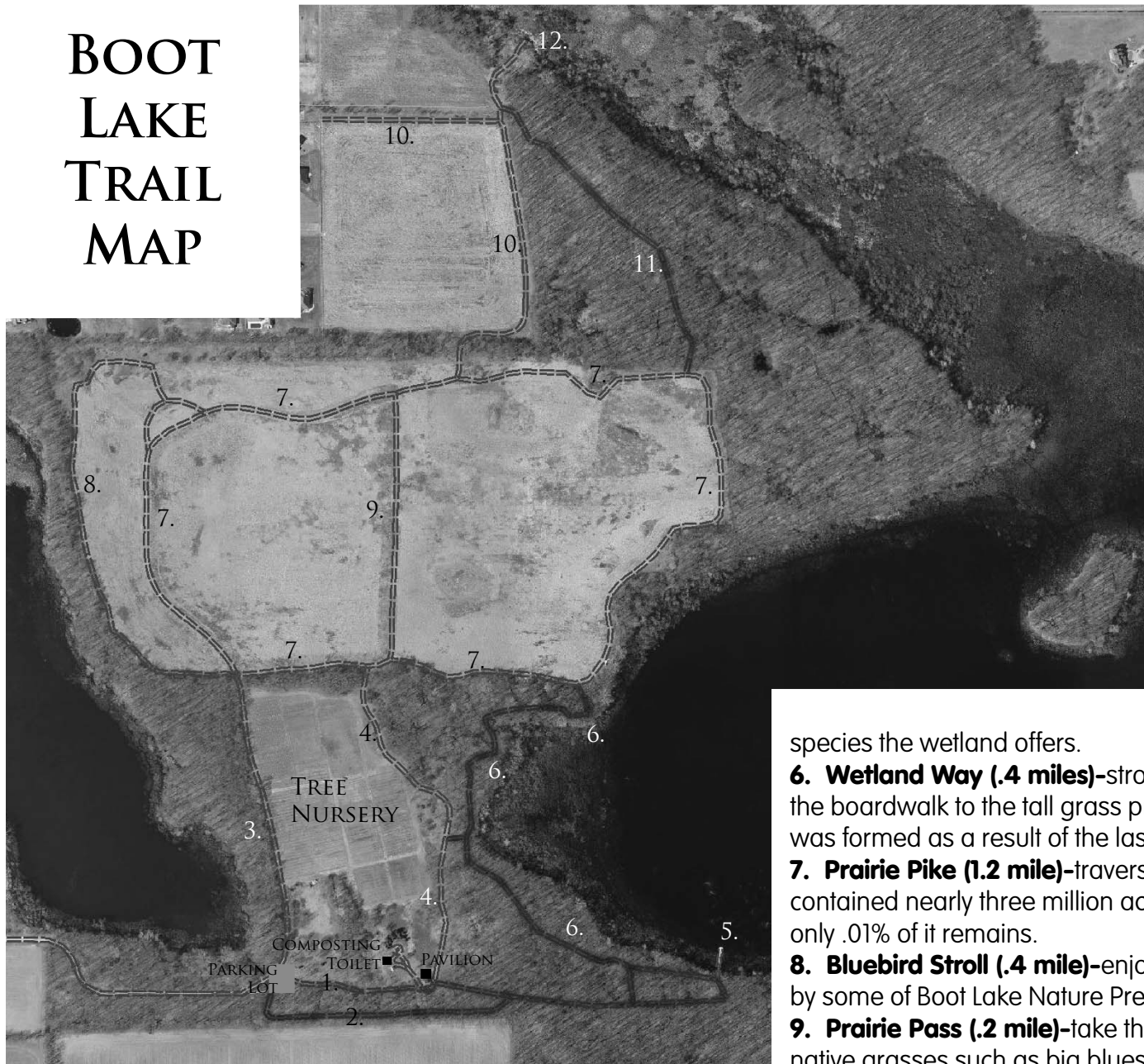


# BOOT LAKE TRAIL MAP



**1. Welcome Walk (1/5 mile)**-the journey begins here. Take this trail to the pavilion, composting toilet and the head of several other trails.

**2. Woodland Way (.4 mile)**-take this scenic route from the parking lot through a temperate deciduous forest, hosting more than 20 varieties of trees including maples, elms and oaks ending at Wetland Way.

**3. Tree Nursery Trek West (.25 mile)**-extends from the parking lot to the tallgrass prairie. Along the way you will pass the tree nursery which is watered by a solar pump irrigation system, whose photovoltaic panels are visible from this western trek.

**4. Tree Nursery Trek East (.25 mile)**-explore the eastern side of the tree nursery. The City of Elkhart Forestry Division established and maintains this nursery containing over 50 variety of trees which are planted throughout the City.

**5. Boot Lake Boardwalk**-take a break at this boardwalk and enjoy the diversity of

species the wetland offers.

**6. Wetland Way (.4 miles)**-stroll along the edge of Boot Lake Wetland from the boardwalk to the tall grass prairie. Boot Lake is known as a kettle lake and was formed as a result of the last glacier period.

**7. Prairie Pike (1.2 mile)**-traverse the native, tallgrass prairie. Indiana once contained nearly three million acres of tallgrass prairie when settled. Today, only .01% of it remains.

**8. Bluebird Stroll (.4 mile)**-enjoy the western edge of the prairie as you hike by some of Boot Lake Nature Preserve's 42 bluebird boxes.

**9. Prairie Pass (.2 mile)**-take this shortcut through the prairie passing by native grasses such as big bluestem, indian grass and many others.

**10. Savanna Stroll (.4 mile)**-follow this trail beyond the oak savanna on the west and the forest on the east.

**11. Red Oak Path (.25 mile)**-explore the native woods taking you from the tallgrass prairie to the northern section of Boot Lake.

**12. Photography Blind**-this unique spot at Boot Lake Nature Preserve allows visitors to sit back, relax and enjoy nature. Use the blind to take great pictures of the red-winged blackbirds and other wildlife in the area.