

Elanor C. Lawrence Park, Centreville, VA Loop Hike

This day hike occurred on Saturday, April 3, 2021. It was an easy 3 mile loop. Participants were Mike Calabrese, Mary Gordon, Tom O'Brien and Jessica Lowry.

As usual we met at the church at the rear parking lot. We left at 8:00 AM sharp and proceeded to Elanor C. Lawrence Park. There was a lot of construction on VA28 at I66. They built a flyover exit to Walney Road where this park is located. It was a left lane flyover so I missed it. We had to drive to Westfields BLVD, exit there and drive back along Walney RD to the park.

When we got to the park Jessica was there waiting for us. So we started the hike around 8:45 AM. The weather was in the mid 40's and sunny. We did a counterclockwise loop around the perimeter of the park. The trail was muddy in some spots and had gravel or asphalt in other areas. There was a lot of what I call 'scrub' in the woods surrounding these trails. The park was clearing some of it in the north area of the park.

This park was named for Elanor C. Lawrence. Her husband David founded U.S. News & World Report. The park visitor center and the adjacent Cabell's Mill House were both built prior to 1800. The Mill House was a guest house that housed many notable people.

So we went around the perimeter of the park. When we got to Walney RD we crossed it and



Beginning of the hike.



Interesting signage.



What is that?

hiked a loop on the other side of the road. We also saw the western terminus of the Big Rocky Run Trail. This is a 4 mile linear trail that we plan to hike in 2022 provided that COVID restrictions are eased.

We then crossed the road, took one of the trails back to the visitors center, said our goodbyes and went home. We ended the hike around 10:30 AM. This was a very nice hike in a park with a lot of history. I'm glad that we finally got to this one.

Mike C



Entrance Sign.



Meadow Stomper!

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