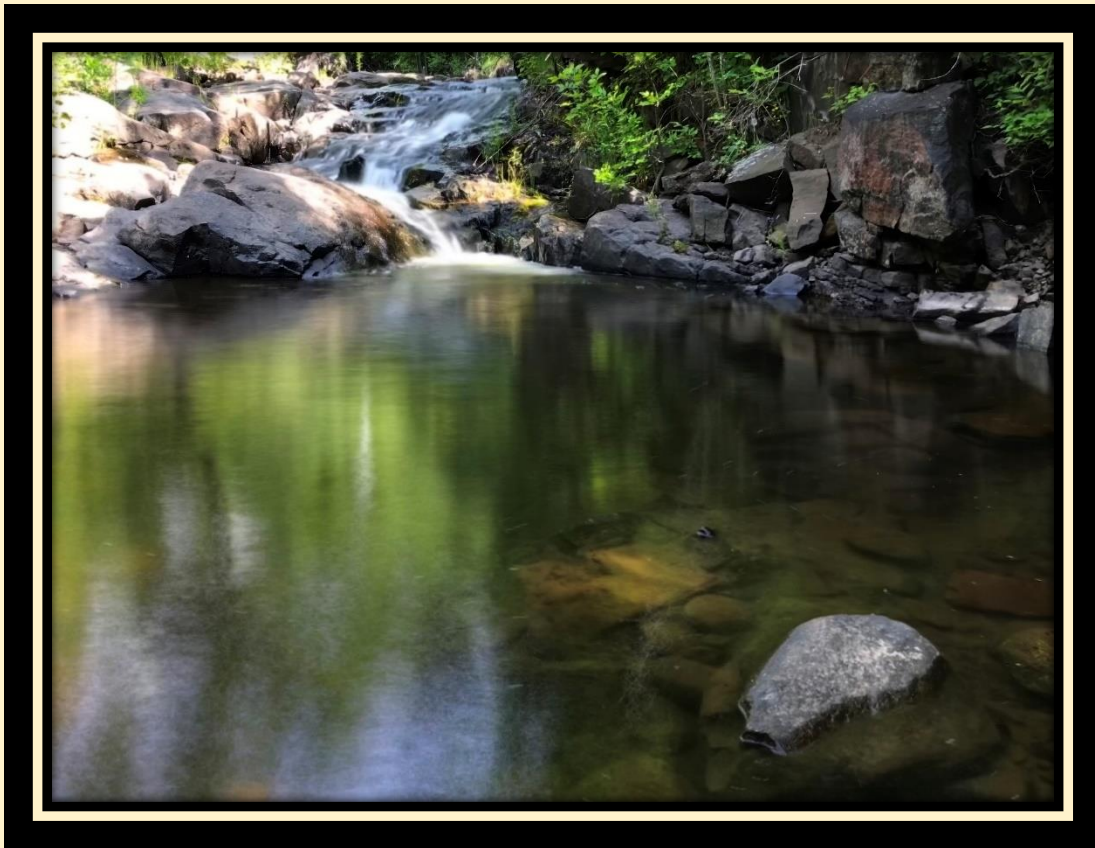


8.Keene Creek Route



Waterfall and pool when reaching Keene Creek, photo spot #1

Highlights: The multiple waterfalls and pools are spectacular. This is a great place for wildflowers in spring, summer and fall. **Views from the overlooks on top of the bluff along the way to Haines Road, incredible.**

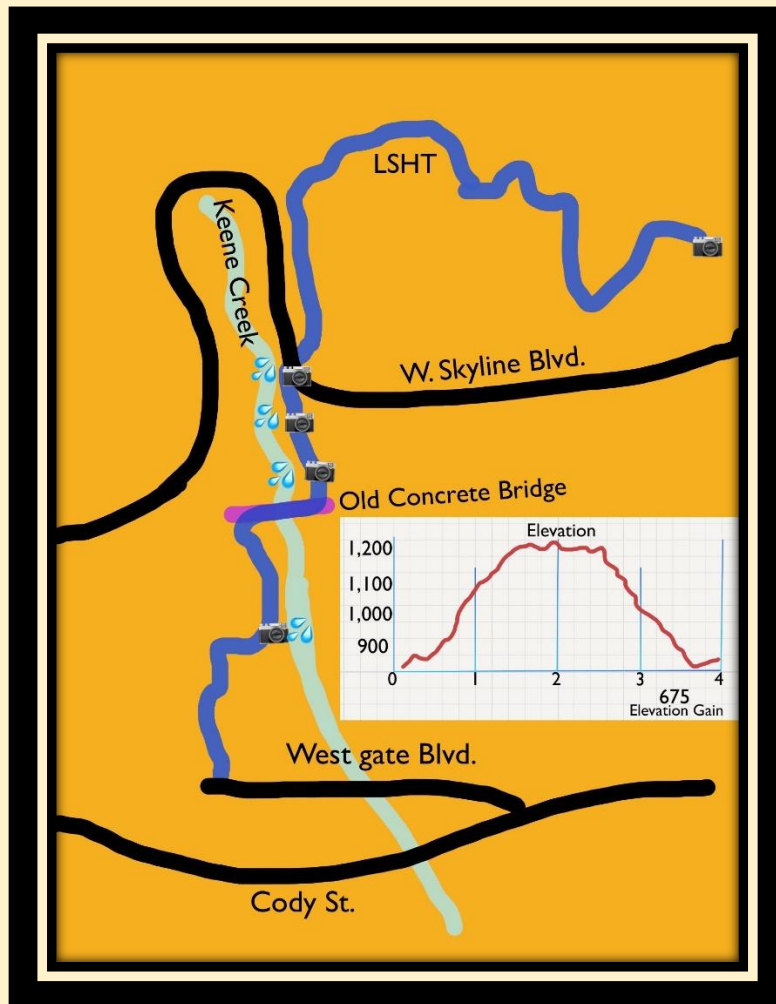
Parking and Directions:

From 35W take the **Central Ave. Exit.** and head north on Central. Drive across Grand Ave. and turn left on Cody St. Head up the hill on **Cody St.** until **66th Ave. W.** **Turn right on 66th** and turn left on **Westgate Blvd.** Follow Westgate to the end and you will find a small parking area. From the parking area walk back a short way until you see a gravel road on your left. Walk up the gravel road a short way and look for the **LSHT sign on your right.**

Distance: 4 miles+ Up and Back

Difficulty: moderate

Recommended for: most hikers



The Route:

Mile 1: The trail leads you down the hill through tall grass and mixed tree types to the creek. About two thirds of a mile, you will see the creek far down below. Continue on under the railroad bridge and look for a path down to the creek. There is a small waterfall that empties into a large pool. This is **photo spot #1**. As you continue up the LSHT, you will see many cascades and pools along the way. This is the area for **photo spot #2**. Just before reaching a mile, you go under the Highland Street Bridge. Just past the bridge is a long series of waterfalls

coming down out of the woods. The trail keeps moving higher until you can see the creek far below. You finally arrive at the **old concrete bridge** with a great view of the creek on both sides. You head down carefully to the creek on rock steps (there is a cable to hang on to) to a great part of the creek with multiple waterfalls and a large pool. This is **photo spot #3**. Head up the trail to another spectacular set of waterfalls. **This is photo spot #4**. Finally, you reach the Skyline Blvd.

Mile 2: After crossing the Skyline, you head up into a beautiful hardwood forest. The trail winds around rock outcroppings until you climb up a rock stairway to the top. At the top of this stair is an incredible view looking south and west of **the St. Louis River Valley**. **This is photo spot #5**. Taking a photo is a must. This spot is about two and a quarter mile, so it is a turnaround spot to keep the hike to about four miles. If you continue, you are on top of a huge cliff overlooking western Duluth and eventually the bridges and Duluth harbor.

Mile 3 & 4: Head back down the trail or switch over to the parallel bike trail and enjoy the scenery.



View area below the concrete bridge, photo spot #2



Waterfall just above the concrete bridge, photo spot #3



Waterfalls just below Skyline Blvd., photo spot #4



View from overlook on top of the bluff, photo spot #5

Extended Route:

If you want a long hike, you can go all the way to **Haines Road** and then circle back on the **Brewer Park loop**. (About 6 miles total)

Family Friendly Route: I suggest doing the lower part of the trail from **Westgate Rd.** to the old concrete bridge. Lots of places to explore with rocks and pools. It is about a mile in and a mile back. There is a **McDonalds and Dairy Queen** in West Duluth for after the hike.

After the hike:

A great place to take your time and enjoy the scenery of waterfalls, wildflowers, and pools. The scenery at the top of the bluff, has to be seen to be believed. When done you will be thirsty so head over to **The Boreal House** for craft beers and snacks. [The Boreal House - Home](#)

Strava Link <https://www.strava.com/routes/3171564184637051882>