14. Middle Amity Creek Route



View from Skyline parking area, photo spot one

Highlights: The overlooks on the E. Skyline of Lake Superior and the Lakeside neighborhood are truly spectacular. The historic stone bridges and pine forest are remarkable. There are plenty of wildflowers along the Snively Trail in spring, summer and fall. Fall colors, spring blossoms and an occasion ice event on the ridge are a photographer's dream.

Parking and Directions:

From the I35 take the **21**st **Street exit** and head up the hill until you reach Woodand Ave. Follow Woodland Ave. north until you get to Snively Road. Take a right on Snively Road and head north until you reach the traffic circle. Take the first right onto Glenwood St. Head up the hill and at the top turn left onto the E. Skyline Parkway. You will find the parking area and a beautiful overlook about a half mile in.

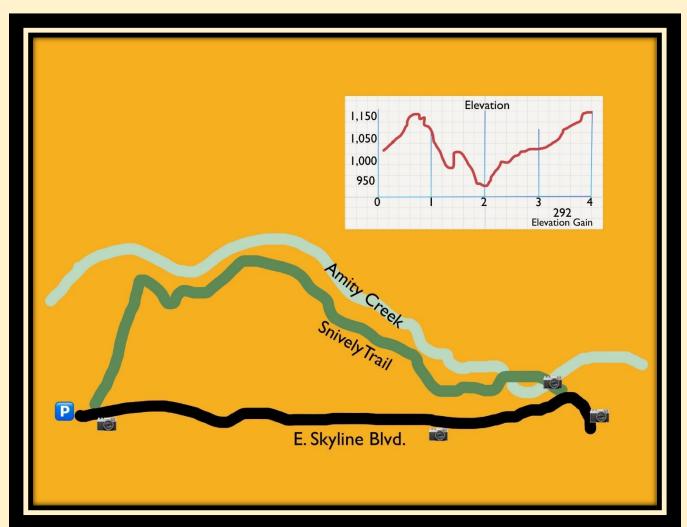
Distance: 4.5-mile Loop

Difficulty: moderate

Recommended for most hikers



Hawk Ridge Park Sign



The Route:

Mile 1: As soon as you park you are at a wide view of the Lakeside neighborhood and Lake Superior. **This is photo spot #1.** Take the Skyline Parkway east (stay on the left side, there is some traffic except in winter). First you go up a fairly steep hill and then down a fairly steep hill. There are fabulous overlooks along the way so look for little paths to your right to several overlooks. The bike trail runs along the cliffs but I would not recommend it unless you are daring. (Be aware of traffic on the Skyline Blvd., stay to the left when walking)

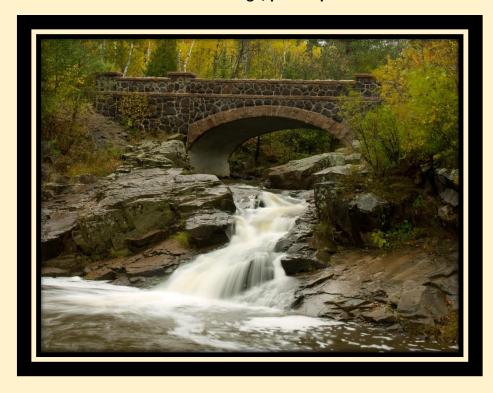
Mile 2: Just before heading down the steep hill, you come to Hawk Ridge with its expansive view of the lake and Moose Mountain in the east. This is photo spot #2. Hawk Ridge in the fall is busy with bird watchers because of the world class viewing of hawk and eagle migration. You head down a steep road through a pine and hardwood forest. Again, look for paths to your right for incredible overlooks.

Mile 3: At the bottom of the road is a parking area and the road continues to become Seven Bridges Road. Seven stone bridges built in the 1920's and refurbished in 2007. Head down to bridge number seven and enjoy the great views of Amity Creek cascading over huge rocks. Head down to bridge six and look for a path down to the rocks on the creek. This is one of my favorite photo spots in all seasons. This is photo spot #3. Head back up the hill to the parking area and look for the trail next to the creek. This is the Snively Trail and right away you come to a historic bridge with great views on both sides. This is photo spot #4. The trail head back up the hill with huge pines on your left and the creek on your right.

4: You will continue up the trail for another mile and one half until you come to an open area where the trail splits. One trail goes straight and one bigger trail heads left. Take the **left trail** which will lead you back to **E. Skyline Parkway**. Turn right at the parkway and you will shortly be at the parking area.



View from Hawk Ridge, photo spot #2



View of waterfall below bridge # 6, photo spot #3



View from bridge on Snively Trail, photo spot #4.

Extended Route: When you get to the sixth bridge, you can **continue down seven bridges** road and look for a trail to the left that leads to the **E. Amity bike trail**. Follow this back up the hill until in merges back with Seven Bridges Road.

Family Friendly Route: Park at the parking area for the Snively Trail and head up this trail along the creek. Go out about a mile and come back down the hill. Then drive down the scenic Seven Bridges Road to the Lester Park play area.

After the hike:

After hiking head down Seven Bridges Road to <u>Lake Superior Brewing</u> (<u>lakesuperiorbrewingduluth.com</u>)

Strava Link

JLMiddle Amity Creek, Hawks Ridge Route | 4.3 mi Hiking Trail on Strava