

## Welcome to Middle McIntyre Creek!

McIntyre Creek is located within the traditional territories of the Ta'an Kwäch'än and Kwanlin Dün First Nations. The creek starts on the upper slopes of Mt. McIntyre, flows through the wetlands west of the Copper Ridge residential area, across the Alaska Highway, Mountainview Drive and Range Road and into the Yukon River. Middle McIntyre Creek is the area between the Alaska Highway and Mountainview Drive.

McIntyre Creek and its associated wetlands and forests have been identified as the largest, continuous *Significant Wildlife Area* in Whitehorse, providing habitat for a diversity of wildlife including beaver, otter, fox, pine marten and water shrew. The area functions as a wildlife corridor for larger mammals travelling between the Yukon River and upland areas, including moose and bear. The creek supports Chinook salmon, Arctic grayling and (introduced) rainbow trout. Over 100 bird species have been observed along McIntyre Creek including waterfowl, eagles, swans, Gray Jays, magpies, juncos, robins, Bohemian Waxwings, hawks and Pine Grosbeaks.

*Common trees:* lodgepole pine, white spruce and trembling aspen.

*Common plants:* bearberry (kinnikinnick), soapberry (buffaloberry), labrador tea, mosses and lichens.

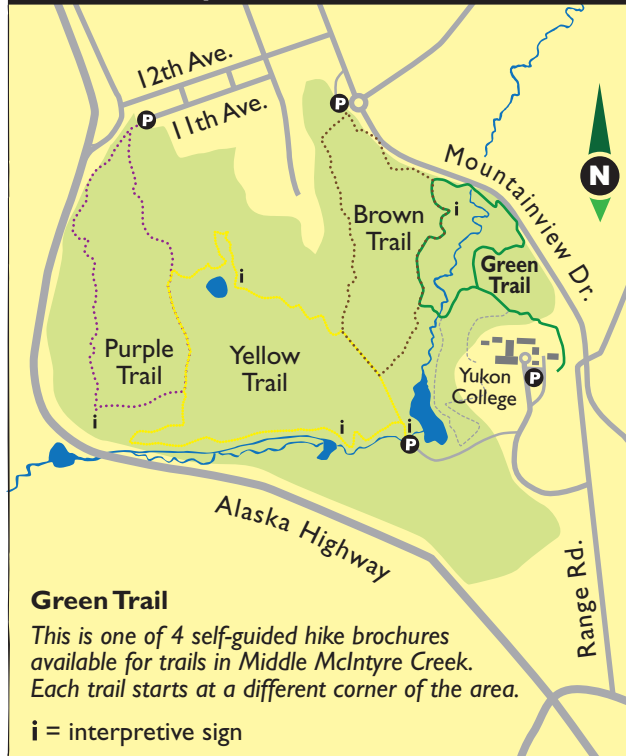
*Common flowers:* crocus, arctic lupine, elegant death camas, bluebells, wild rose, spotted saxifrage and Yukon beardtongue.

**Trails are not maintained – use at your own risk.**

### Please:

- Do not feed or approach wildlife.
- Stay on the main trails. Vegetation grows slowly due to the dry climate, sandy soils and long winters. This makes the land prone to erosion.
- Stay away from the water's edge - this area is sensitive to disturbance and important wildlife habitat.
- Take out all garbage.
- Pick up after your dog.

## Middle McIntyre Creek:



Want to learn more?

[www.friendsofmcintyrecreek.org](http://www.friendsofmcintyrecreek.org)

[www.yukonconservation.ca](http://www.yukonconservation.ca)

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## Exploring Middle McIntyre Creek: **GREEN Trail**



**Time:** ~1 hour

**Distance:** ~ 3.1 km

**Difficulty:** Moderate

**Key Features:** views of city and McIntyre Creek; foot bridge across McIntyre Creek; mature white spruce forest.

### Safety Considerations:

a short section of the trail runs along Mountainview Drive – watch for traffic. Some moderate hills; potential for falling trees; some dead trees across trail.

Yukon Conservation Society



The green heart of a wilderness city

# Green Trail

## Along the Trail

(follow in anti-clockwise direction)

Take the dirt trail to the left.(1) Follow this main trail behind the college, passing a construction storage area. This section of the trail is part of the Trans Canada Trail. Follow the trail as it heads into the woods and gradually leads you downhill.(2)

You will come to an intersection with a wooden post.(3) Take the right trail and follow it uphill until you reach a junction.(4) Turn right.

Follow the trail until you emerge from the forest onto another trail that runs parallel to Mountainview Drive.(5) Turn left on this trail and follow it downhill.

Walk along Mountainview Drive until you reach a road on your left leading to the McIntyre Creek fish hatchery.(6) Take this road and turn right at the bottom of the hill. Follow this trail as it leads you over the culverts that let McIntyre Creek pass under Mountainview Drive. Follow the trail up the hill.

After the first steep climb, there is a junction. Stay left (do not follow trail down to Mountainview Drive).

At the top of the second steep climb, turn left onto a small trail that heads into the woods.(7)

Follow the trail through the forest. When you come to a junction (8), take the left branch. Follow this trail through an opening in the forest and then downhill until you reach a T-junction overlooking McIntyre Creek.(9)

Take the trail to your right, which will follow along the ridge, instead of going downhill.

Continue along the main trail following the ridge, keeping left at each of the 3 junctions. Please do not use the tiny trails you pass that lead to McIntyre Creek – this is sensitive habitat.

Eventually, you will crest a small hill and reach a T-junction.(10) Turn left going downhill towards the creek. Cross the foot bridge and head uphill on the main trail, keeping left.(11) Follow the Trans Canada Trail signs back to the trailhead.

