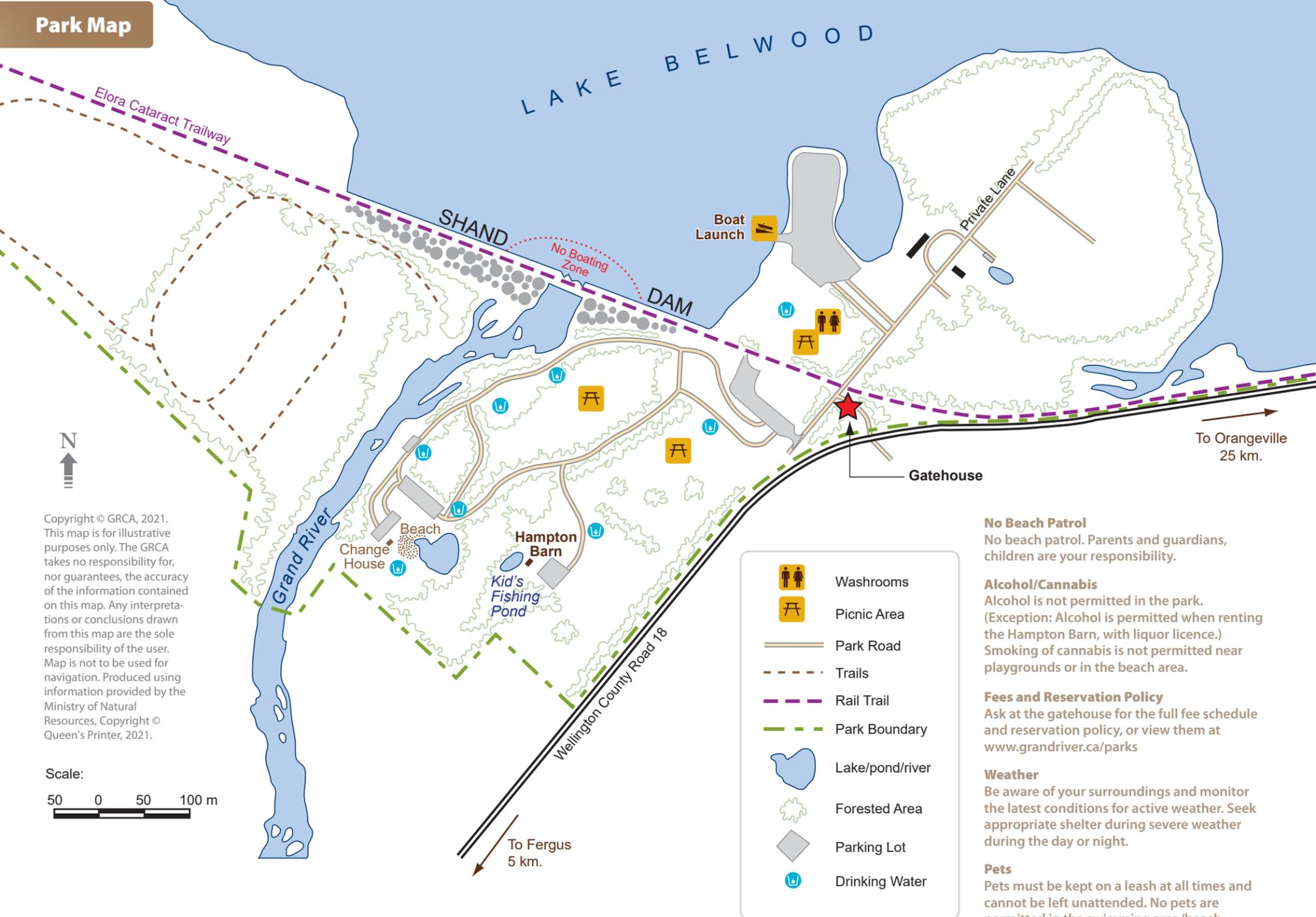




Grand River
PARKS

BELWOOD LAKE

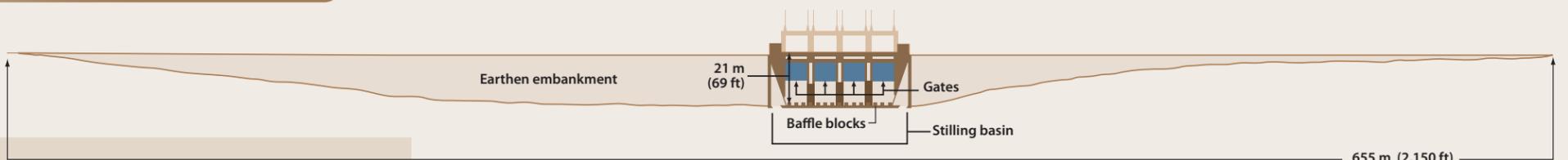
Park Map



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- No Beach Patrol**
No beach patrol. Parents and guardians, children are your responsibility.
- Alcohol/Cannabis**
Alcohol is not permitted in the park. (Exception: Alcohol is permitted when renting the Hampton Barn, with liquor licence.) Smoking of cannabis is not permitted near playgrounds or in the beach area.
- Fees and Reservation Policy**
Ask at the gatehouse for the full fee schedule and reservation policy, or view them at www.grandriver.ca/parks
- Weather**
Be aware of your surroundings and monitor the latest conditions for active weather. Seek appropriate shelter during severe weather during the day or night.
- Pets**
Pets must be kept on a leash at all times and cannot be left unattended. No pets are permitted in the swimming area/beach.

Shand Dam



Shand Dam is an earthen embankment dam with concrete wingwalls and a stilling basin (the area below the gates that allows the water to slow down).

It has four gates and three valves to control the water. The dam is monitored continuously – on-site and remotely – by GRCA staff.

A hydro turbine has been generating power here since 1987. It was rebuilt in 2008 and is expected to last 25 years. The turbine produces a maximum of 690 kW which is enough power to run about 500 homes.

History of the Dam

Shand Dam was the first large-scale multi-purpose water control dam constructed in Canada. It was built for flood control and low flow augmentation. Before the Shand Dam and other major reservoirs were built, the river was sometimes a raging, uncontrolled torrent. At other times it was a smelly trickle of sewer water. Shand Dam started to change all that.

Shand Dam came about after years of struggle to find a reservoir plan, a political structure and funding. Work on the \$2 million project started in 1939 and, at the peak, an onsite construction camp included a dozen buildings to house 200 men. The dam opened with great fanfare on August 7, 1942.



A view from downstream



DANGER - the water below the dam is not always so calm. Water levels and flow can change in an instant. Stay safe and keep away from the dam.

Grand River Trailwater

The Grand River tailwater, which starts at Shand Dam, is a world-class brown trout fishery. Brown trout are not native to Ontario, but they have adapted better to changed conditions than native brook trout.

If it were not for the dam bringing cold water from the lower levels of the reservoir, this tailwater fishery would not exist.

