



UNLOCK IT!

BY YMCA OF THE NORTH



The Marsh, Minnetonka

15000 Minnetonka Blvd, Minnetonka, MN 55345



Y Adventure

The great outdoors are for the good of us all. Find more outdoor adventures at:

ymcanorth.org/adventure

About this location

Our thanks to the city of Minnetonka. Learn more about The Marsh, including directions and parking information at:

minnetonkamn.gov/our-city/the-marsh

Our environment and you

Our world is a beautiful place that needs our protection, and knowledge is the key. Learn more about our local environment here:

dnr.state.mn.us/nature



Find the answers to the clues below. The letters in boxes will be used to solve your Unlock It! adventure.

As you begin your Unlock It! adventure, you'll find a sign behind The Marsh building describing the importance of the wetlands you are about to enter. In a wetland, what protects the shorelines from erosion?

1

Keep following the path to the west, and stay to the left at the fork. Walk around the loop, and on the way back, you'll find a bench. Count how many wooden slats make up the back of the bench and spell out the number.

2

Walk back to the east side of the building and take the path to your right. Notice that the path forms an outside perimeter to a grassy "island" area. How many trees do you count inside that grassy island area?

3

Take the small path to the right. You have to watch your step, or you will trip on these, which keep the trees in the ground and absorb the nutrients to help the tree grow.

4

When you come to the T, take a left and walk toward the boardwalk. Cross the boardwalk. Look for a sign near the entrance to the park. What is the name on the sign?

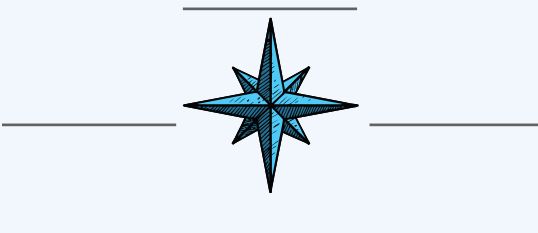
5

Reverse course and follow the gravel path out onto an island in the Marsh. Once there, find your way down to a dock on the waterway and take time to enjoy the peace of being in this beautiful spot. When ready to proceed, walk up the steps, saying the alphabet, one letter per step. Stop one step before the top and write down the letter that step represents as the answer to this clue.

6

Follow the trail back to the grassy hill. Take the small walking path near the top left of the hill. On this path you will circle the island and find your way back. If you find different trails, be adventurous. All trails lead back to the path. Head back toward the boardwalk. Once on the boardwalk, take a break to gather your bearings. Complete the blank compass below by writing in the correct cardinal directions.

7



Once you have done this, decide which direction you can see the farthest. Circle the third letter of that direction and write it here as the key letter to this clue.

Continue on the paved path, passing the small path on the right where you came from originally. As the path approaches a roadway, find the "Planting for Pollinators" sign which explains that "animal partners _____ pollen between flowers as they feed."

8

Carry down the letters from the clues above into the placeholder shown for each clue #.

Clue #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Now complete your Unlock It! adventure by unscrambling the letters into your keyword.

HINT: Some describe the marsh as an oasis of _____, amidst the bustling city of Minnetonka.

Congratulations!



Use the QR code to submit the keyword for a chance to win fun prizes. Or visit the website below.

ymcanorth.org/unlock-it-keyword