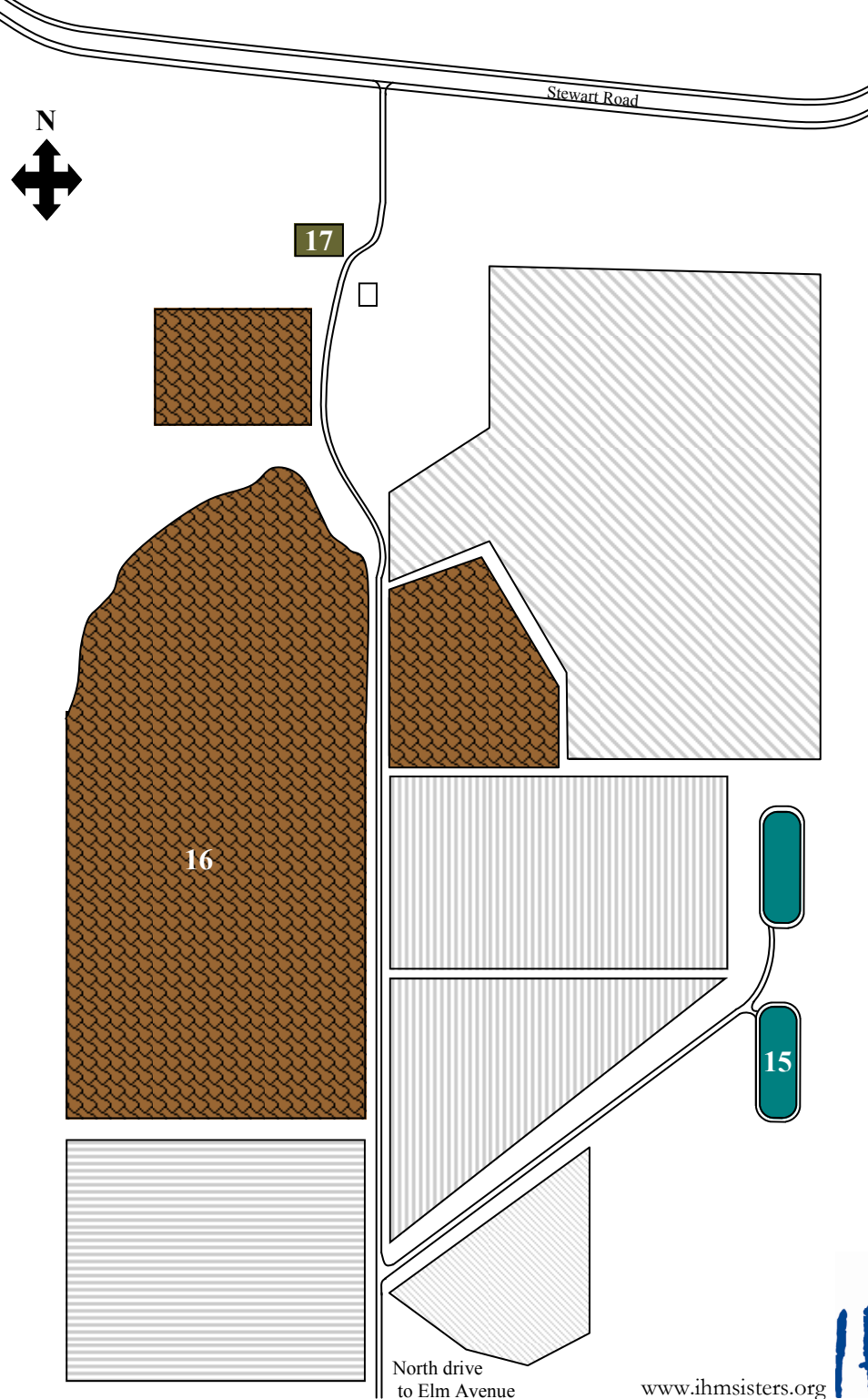


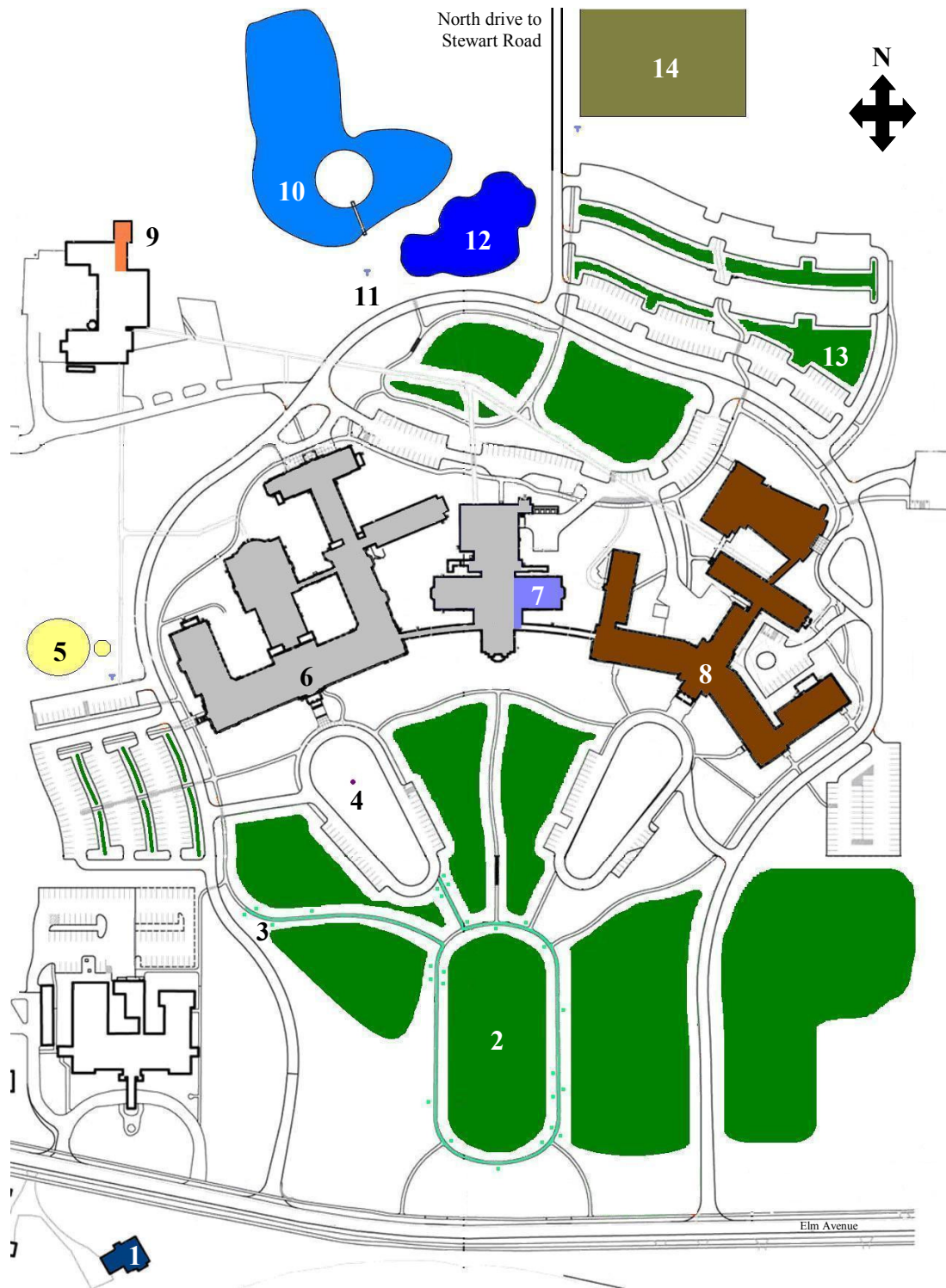
IHM Campus Self-Guided Tour

Welcome to the IHM Campus. The Motherhouse grounds offer a rich contemplative landscape of meadows, courtyards, a pond, woodlands, constructed wetland, walking paths, gardens, a labyrinth, a cemetery and green park space for quiet moments.

Have you ever stood in a place for the first time and felt a profound sense of belonging? This experience of connection—physical, spiritual and emotional—describes a sense of place. As author Wendell Berry says, “You cannot know who you are until you know where you are.” A sense of place is critical if we are to experience belonging and communion.

The IHM community originated in the River Raisin watershed and the Great Lakes bioregion. The better we know our own locality—our watershed or bioregion—the deeper our relationship will be to that place and to all the life it sustains. Our deepening appreciation for this place and our awareness of the plight of the Earth has led us to preserve and restore, not only for our life, but also for the life of the planet.





1. **River House Spirituality Center**—For programs or reservations, call 734-240-5494.
2. **Prairies**—Wander the eight acres of restored native landscape, a threatened and disappearing eco-system. Prairies provide food and shelter for creatures and a place to raise their young.
3. **Cosmic Walk**—Reflect upon the amazing story of the universe and some of the significant moments of the unfolding of life in the universe. This ritual is available during the summer.
4. **Peace Pole**—Visualize and pray for world peace as inscribed on the pole in several languages.
5. **Labyrinth**—Prayerfully walk the single path leading to the center and back.
6. **Motherhouse**—Visit the Chapel, Green Room, Heritage Exhibit and Gift Shop. Guided tours are available by appointment. Call 734-240-9754.
7. **Banquet and Conference Facility**—Contact our event coordinators at 734-240-9870 for information.
8. **St. Mary Center**—St. Mary Academy, a girls' boarding school, closed in 1986 and was converted into a conference center. The building was closed in 2004 and is currently for sale.
9. **Saint Joseph Studio**—Contact Nancy Lee Smith, IHM, at 734-457-0018 to schedule a tour of her studio or to purchase her icons.
10. **St. Joseph Pond**—Enjoy the serenity of this naturally spring-fed pond.
11. **Nature Stations**—Nature can heal, transform and connect us more deeply with God. Meditate on this self-guided collection of reflections and rituals.
12. **Constructed Wetland**—Water from sinks and showers in the Motherhouse is routed out to the wetland. The water is cleansed naturally and returned for flushing toilets.
13. **Bio-swales**—Rain water from the parking lots and driveways collects in these swales. Prairie plants help cleanse the water as it returns to the ground.
14. **St. Mary Organic Farm**—Members of this two-acre community garden use sustainable growing practices and learn about healthy living. Call 734-240-9720 for plots, programs and events.
15. **Cemetery**—Spend a few restful moments in this peaceful setting where more than 1200 sisters are buried. Access is also attainable from St. Joseph Cemetery on Monroe Street.
16. **Oak Savanna**—The 35-acre woodlot is a remnant of an endangered and unique eco-system. Hike at your own risk. Mosquitoes and poison ivy are present.
17. **Visitation Barn**—Restored as a chapel in 1970, the Barn offers a quiet place for prayer, reflection and study. For access, call River House Spirituality Center at 734-240-5494.