

TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS



Mashburn Family Discovery Trail (0.72 miles, all-accessible)

This level trail is designed for persons of all abilities. It features interactive exhibits to enhance your understanding of the natural world. As the trail winds through forest and grasslands, explore these habitats, as well as two ponds, a vernal pool, our 19th century Abner Hollow Cabin and our Witt Family Pollinator Garden.



Edge Trail (0.66 miles, easy)

This loop trail serves as a connector trail to several other trail options while meandering around Powel Crosley Lake. In the spring, be sure to stop by Marsh Pond to look for salamander larvae, or in the summer, count butterflies drinking nectar from the buttonbush flowers.



Upland Trail (1.34 miles, easy)

This easy trail circles the core of our property, encompassing the historic Krippendorf Estate, including the Krippendorf Lodge, Herb Wall and Swimming Pool. This trail meanders around Reservoir and Lotus Ponds, through the old growth forest and around enhanced pollinator habitat. This trail is a connector trail for the Wildflower and Fernwood Trails, as well as the Limestone Steps.



Whitetail Trace (1.22 miles, easy)

Extend your hike on the Edge Trail or connect to the Redwing Trail. Either way, this trail offers a beautiful field, a gentle meander along Avey's Run and a pleasant view of a waterfall. Spring is an excellent time to discover and listen to the spring peepers and wood frogs calling near Spring Pond.



Geology Trail (1.33 miles, moderate)

This loop trail features several unique geological features. Fossil-rich, Ordovician-age limestone, shale and waterfalls are found along this trail. Fox Rock, at the end of a long glacial till ridge, is at a rocky outcropping with a viewing deck, shelter and a spectacular vista of the stream valley below. This trail has several good climbs, nearly 200 stair steps, a historic Pump House and three stream crossings.



Lookout Trail (2.27 miles, moderate)

Throughout the summer, butterflies flourish in the 26 acres of native grassland that highlight this hike. Mostly level, this trail winds through the grassland and into young forest which allows for healthy edge habitat for birds and other wildlife. A side trail leads to a shelter providing a place to relax.



Wildflower Trail (1.13 miles, moderate)

As the name suggests, this is the best trail for wildflowers, especially in the spring. This trail winds through our old growth forest, around the valley field along Avey's run and back up to the ridgetop. This trail provides a beautiful ridgetop view overlooking the valley.



Fernwood Trail (1.56 miles, difficult)

Discover this old camp trail, which takes you past the historic Groesbeck Lodge, now our Center for Conservation. This trail will take you across hilltops and into the valley where you will cross several small tributaries. Catch a scenic view of the valley and wetland below.



Far Ridge Trail (1.40 miles, difficult)

Explore the further reaches of our property on this quiet loop trail. Cross the stream and enter the forest for a peaceful but challenging hike. At the top, take a tangent trail to Harmony Ridge where you can hang a hammock on the stands provided. Enjoy the serenity of nature!



Redwing Trail (2.86 miles, difficult)

Old fields, woods, streams, a restored wetland and native grassland will be yours to discover on our longest trail. Be sure to check out abundant spring wildflowers in the mature forest by taking the long way around the small loop.

TRAIL RATINGS

An easy trail:

- Is comparatively flat
- Is < 1.25 miles in length
- Is at least 3 feet in width
- Has stream crossings with bridges

A moderate trail:

- Contains greater elevation changes
- Is ≥ 1.5 miles in length
- Varies in width and/or
- Presents a stream crossing with abundant stepping stones
- Has a natural surface and could be muddy or slippery when wet

A difficult trail has at least one of the following characteristics:

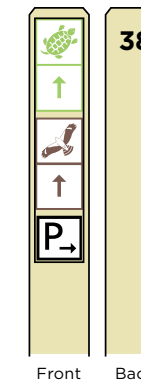
- Has significant elevation change
- Is ≥ 2.5 miles in length
- Presents a stream crossing with fewer stepping stones
- Is comparatively remote to other trails



Photo: Cindi Williams

TRAIL AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

Check with Visitor Services staff for updated trail information. During inclement weather, some trails may close. Boardwalk, bridges and steps become very slippery when wet. Please use caution as you hike.



Front Back

Trail Markers

At trail intersections, you will find posts with color-coded trail symbols and directional arrows. Most trail markers are numbered on the back. If you are lost, go to the nearest trail marker and locate the number on the back. Call Visitor Services at (513) 831-1711 or (513) 965-4245, provide the number and a staff person will orient you.



Arrows

Arrows show direction of the trail.



Dashed arrows

Show direction of an alternate, shorter route on the same trail.



Parking Lot

Follow the "P" symbols for the shortest route back to the main parking area.