



# OHIO

## STATE NATURE PRESERVES & Natural Areas *Guide*

[naturalareas.ohiodnr.gov](http://naturalareas.ohiodnr.gov)



## Become a partner IN PRESERVATION

**Together, we can preserve Ohio's unique ecosystems, and provide our children with places to discover the wonders of nature!**

Consider directing a portion of your Ohio Income Tax refund to the "Nature Preserves and Scenic Rivers" fund on your annual Ohio 1040 form.



To make an online donation,  
scan the QR code or visit  
[ohiodnr.gov/donate/naturalareas](http://ohiodnr.gov/donate/naturalareas)

*Thank you for your support!*



**Department of  
Natural Resources**



# Welcome to

## OHIO STATE NATURE PRESERVES

Ohio's state nature preserves are special places. Sites protect unusual ecosystems, specialized plant communities, distinctive geology, and rare and endangered species.

The natural areas and rivers shown on the map are wonderful places to discover the beauty of Ohio's woods, wetlands, and prairie habitats. Find your special place!



### Stay in Touch



Use the QR code to sign up for our seasonal e-newsletters; if you share your mailing address, we'll send you our printed year-in-review newsletter. It's a great way to learn more about new natural areas, visitor facilities, and special programs.

#### Make it a safe & fun trip





- ✓ Pack binoculars, water, sunscreen, bug spray, and dress for the weather, wearing sturdy footwear.
- ✓ Restrooms are limited; please plan ahead.
- ✓ Stay on the trails and please don't pick the plants.
- ✓ Choose a new preserve to explore; each site is featured at [naturalareas.ohiodnr.gov](http://naturalareas.ohiodnr.gov)
- ✓ **PLEASE LEAVE PETS AT HOME.** Except for the paved trail at Blackhand Gorge, pets are strictly prohibited at all state nature preserves.










# Legend








































































































































































































































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- ^ Unimproved sites are natural areas with roadside parking and limited trail systems. See **website** for details.
- ~ A portion of the trail system is accessible.

## FACILITIES

-  Restrooms
-  Wheelchair Accessible
-  Drinking Water
-  Observation Area

## FEATURES





-  Woods
-  Wetlands
-  Prairie
-  Spring Wildflowers
-  Summer Wildflowers
-  Geologic Formation
-  Bird Watching

PRESERVE	COUNTY	ADDRESS	TRAILS (MILES)	FACILITIES	FEATURES	VISITOR INFORMATION
Adams Lake Prairie	Adams	14633 State Rte 41 West Union, 45963	0.6	 	   	Located within Adams Lake State Park • Seasonal restrooms and water
Aurora Sanctuary	Portage	896 East Pioneer Trail Aurora, 44202	2		   	Owned and managed by the Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland • <b>clevelandaudubon.org</b>
Baker Woods	Mercer	4316 Saint Anthony Rd Coldwater, 45828	1.3		   	
Bigelow Cemetery	Madison	600 Rosedale Rd Irwin, 43029	0.1		 	Pioneer cemetery with prairie
Blackhand Gorge	Licking	2200 Gratiot Rd SE Heath, 43056	10~	 	    	Bike trail • Licking River Narrows
Boch Hollow	Hocking	7100 State Route 664 Logan, 43138	7		     	Office address is 7211 Bremen Road, Logan, 43138
Boord	Washington	245 Falls Run Rd Cutler, 45724	0.8		  	
Brown’s Lake Bog	Wayne	*Brown Rd Shreve, 44676	1		   	Owned and managed by The Nature Conservancy • <b>nature.org/ohio</b> • <i>Caution - poison sumac</i>
Burton Wetlands	Geauga	15681 Old Rider Rd Burton, 44021	1.5	 	   	Owned and managed by the Geauga Park District • <b>geaugaparkdistrict.org</b> • Near Punderson State Park
Caesar Creek Gorge	Warren	4080 Corwin Rd Oregonia, 45054	2.3		   	Adjacent to Caesar Creek State Park and Little Miami Scenic Trail
Campbell, Louis W.	Lucas	2742 Crissey Rd Monclova, 43558	2.3		    	
Cedar Bog	Champaign	980 Woodburn Rd Urbana, 43078	1.1~	 	     	Fee • Seasonal • Managed by Cedar Bog Association • Nature Center open, Wed.-Sat., 10am-4pm • <b>cedarbognp.org</b>
Chaparral Prairie	Adams	209 Hawk Hill Rd West Union, 45693	2~		   	
Christmas Rocks	Fairfield	2360 Meister Rd SW Lancaster, 43130	4.5		    	
Clear Creek	Hocking	185 Clear Creek Rd Rockbridge, 43149	12	  	     	Clear Creek Metro Park • <b>metroparks.net</b> • Owned and managed by Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks
Clear Fork Gorge	Ashland	*Mohican Park Rd # 51 Perrysville, 44864	0.3		  	Park at fire tower lot • Adjacent to Mohican State Park and Forest
Clifton Gorge	Greene	2381 State Rte 343 Yellow Springs, 45387	3~	 	    	Nature Center, open Fri.-Sun., April-October • Adjacent to John Bryan State Park
Collier, Howard	Seneca	1655 W Township Rd 38 Tiffin, 44883	1.2		   	
Conkles Hollow	Hocking	24858 Big Pine Rd Rockbridge, 43149	3.5~	 	   	Near Hocking Hills State Park
Cooperrider-Kent Bog	Portage	1028 Meloy Rd Kent, 44240	0.5		    	
Crooked Run Sanctuary	Clermont	521 County Park Rd Chilo, 45112	2	   	  	Adjacent to Chilo Lock 34 Park • Managed by Clermont County Park District • <b>clermontparks.org</b>
Culberson Woods	Clinton	8865 State Rte 730 Clarksville, 45113	3		   	Near Cowan Lake State Park
Daughmer Prairie Savannah	Crawford	700 Marion-Melmore Rd Bucyrus, 44820	1		   	Managed by the Crawford Park District • <b>crawfordparkdistrict.org</b>
Davey Woods	Champaign	7661 Lonesome Rd St. Paris, 43072	1.5		  	Near Kiser Lake State Park
Davis Memorial	Adams	*Davis Memorial Rd Peebles, 45660	2		    	
Desonier, Marie J.	Athens	3385 Deep Hollow Rd Coolville, 45723	2.7		     	
DuPont Marsh	Erie	1805 River Rd Huron, 44839	0.6	 	 	Managed by Erie Metro Parks • <b>eriemetroparks.org</b> • Seasonal portable restroom
Eagle Creek	Portage	11027 Hopkins Rd Garrettsville, 44231	4.5		     	Near Nelson Kennedy Ledges, West Branch and Mosquito Lake state parks
Erie Sand Barrens	Erie	*Taylor Rd Sandusky, 44870	1		  	Roadside parking
Fowler Woods	Richland	7815 Olivesburg-Fitchville Rd Greenwich, 44837	1.2		   	
Gahanna Woods	Franklin	11699 Taylor Station Rd Gahanna, 43230	1		   	Managed by City of Gahanna • <b>gahanna.gov</b>
Gallagher Fen	Clark	4709 Old Columbus Rd Springfield, 45502	1.2		      	Near Buck Creek State Park
Goll Woods	Fulton	5800 County Rd 26 Archbold, 43502	5	 	   	Seasonal restrooms and water
Goode Prairie	Miami	10354 Union Church Rd Bradford, 45308	0.5		 	Managed by Miami County Parks • <b>miamicountyparks.com</b>
Gross Memorial Woods	Shelby	19575 Botkins Rd Jackson Center, 45334	0.5		   	Near Indian Lake State Park
Hach-Otis	Lake	37142 Skyline Dr Willoughby Hills, 44094	1.5		   	Owned and managed by the Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland • Open 8am-4pm • <b>clevelandaudubon.org</b>
Halls Creek Woods	Warren	3232 Mason-Morrow-Millgrove Rd., Morrow, 45152	2		    	
Headlands Dunes	Lake	9601 Headlands Rd Mentor, 44060	1~	   	   	Adjacent to Headlands Beach State Park • Seasonal restrooms and water
Herrick Fen	Portage	8260 Seasons Rd Streetsboro, 44241	1		   	Contact The Nature Conservancy for access details • <b>nature.org/ohio</b>
Hueston Woods	*Butler & Preble	*Main Loop Rd College Corner, 45003	3	 	  	Located within Hueston Woods State Park
Hutchins, Edward F.	Delaware & Franklin	9466 Columbus Pike Lewis Center, 43035	2	   	  	Located in Highbanks Metro Park • <b>metroparks.net</b> • Managed by Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks
Irwin Prairie	Lucas	9987 West Bancroft St Holland, 43528	1.3~	 	   	
Jackson Bog	Stark	7984 Fulton Dr NW Massillon, 44646	1.3~	   	    	<i>Caution - poison sumac</i>
Johnson Ridge	Adams	*Marjorie Johnson Rd West Union, 45693	1.2		   	
Johnson Woods	Wayne	13420 Fox Lake Rd Marshallville, 44645	1			








# Legend















































































































































































































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-  Observation Area

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-  Wetlands
-  Prairie
-  Spring Wildflowers
-  Summer Wildflowers
-  Geologic Formation
-  Bird Watching

PRESERVE	COUNTY	ADDRESS	TRAILS (MILES)	FACILITIES	FEATURES	VISITOR INFORMATION
Kendrick Woods	Allen	971 N Defiance Trail Spencerville, 45887	5	  	   	Managed by Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District • <b>jampd.com</b>
Kessler Swamp	Hocking	28749 Hide A Way Hills Rd. Sugar Grove, 43155			 	Observation deck
Kiser Lake Wetlands	Champaign	3975 Kiser Lake Rd St. Paris, 43072	0.6		    	Located within Kiser Lake State Park
Kitty Todd	Lucas	10420 Old State Line Rd Swanton, 43558	1		    	Managed by The Nature Conservancy • <b>nature.org/ohio</b> .
Knox Woods	Knox	18000 Yauger Rd Mount Vernon, 43050	1		  	Managed by the Knox County Park District • <b>knoxcountyparks.org</b> • Located in Wolf Run Park
Kyle Woods	Mahoning	6920 Tippecanoe Rd Canfield, 44406	.75		  	
Lake Katharine	Jackson	1703 Lake Katharine Rd Jackson, 45640	6		    	Visit <b>naturalareas.ohiodnr.gov</b> for information on obtaining permit for lake access (fishing/canoeing)
Lakeside Daisy	Ottawa	309 Alexander Pike Marblehead, 43440			 	Peak bloom in May
Lawrence Woods	Hardin	13278 County Rd 190 Kenton, 43326	1.1	 	    	
McCracken Fen	Logan	4140 Township Rd 32 S Bellefontaine, 43311	1		   	
Mentor Marsh	Lake	5185 Corduroy Rd Mentor, 44060	4		 	Co-managed by Cleveland Museum of Natural History • <b>cmnh.org</b> • Near Headlands Beach State Park
Milford Center Prairie	Union	* Connor Rd Milford Center, 43045	1.5^		 	Unimproved site^ • Park near the bridge • Site encompasses 1.5 mile linear trail.
Miller Nature Sanctuary	Highland	13657 Barrett Mill Rd Bainbridge, 45612	3		   	
Morris Woods	Licking	7495 Dutch Ln NW Johnstown, 43031	1.5		   	Managed by the Licking Park District • <b>lickingparkdistrict.com</b>
North Pond	Erie	*Ward Rd Kelleys Island, 43438	1		  	Located within Kelleys Island State Park
North Shore Alvar	Erie	*Division St Kelleys Island, 43438	0.3		  	Located within Kelleys Island State Park
Novak Sanctuary	Portage	382 Town Line Rd Aurora, 44202	2.5		    	Owned and managed by the Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland • <b>clevelandaudubon.org</b>
Old Woman Creek	Erie	2514 Cleveland Rd E Huron, 44839	1.3~	   	  	National Estuarine Research Reserve • Managed by Office of Coastal Management • <b>coastal.ohiodnr.gov</b>
Olsen, Augusta-Anne	Huron	4934 W River Rd Wakeman, 44889	3.5		    	Parking lot is north of office
Owens Fen	Logan	7273 Township Rd 192 West Liberty, 43357	0.5		  	Unimproved site^ • Park in front of cable
Pickerington Ponds	Fairfield	7680 Wright Rd Canal Winchester, 43110	0.5~	   	 	Located in Pickerington Ponds Metro Park • <b>metroparks.net</b> • Owned and managed by Columbus and Franklin Co. Metro Parks
Rhododendron Cove	Fairfield	2730 Pump Station Rd SE Lancaster, 43130	1.2		    	Adjacent to Wahkeena State Nature Preserve
Riddle	Athens	Sells Park - Avon Pl Athens, 45701	1.5		   	Adjacent to Sells Park (City of Athens) <b>ci.athens.oh.us/581/Sells-Park</b> • Near Strouds Run State Park
Rockbridge	Hocking	11475 Dalton Rd Rockbridge, 43149	2.8		   	Longest natural bridge in Ohio • Accessible from Hocking River • Near Lake Logan State Park
Rocky Fork Gorge	Highland	7660 Cave Rd Bainbridge, 45612	1.3		   	Seasonal, limited hours • Managed by Arc of Appalachia • <b>arcofappalachia.org</b>
Scioto Brush Creek	Scioto	*Tatman-Coe Rd McDermott, 45652	1.5		  	Canoe/Kayak Launch • <i>Use caution during high water</i>
Sears Woods	Crawford	1486 Mount Zion Rd Bucyrus, 44820	1.2		   	Managed by Crawford Park District • <b>crawfordparkdistrict.org</b>
Seymour Woods	Delaware	714 Winter Rd Delaware, 43015	1.8		 	Park outside gate
Shallenberger	Fairfield	2470 Beck's Knob Rd Lancaster, 43130	1.8		   	
Sharon Woods Gorge	Hamilton	11450 Lebanon Rd Cincinnati, 45241	0.8		   	Owned and managed by Great Parks of Hamilton County • <b>greatparks.org</b>
Sheepskin Hollow	Columbiana	51766 Pancake-Clarkson Rd Negley, 44441			   	Unimproved site^ • Near Beaver Creek State Park
Sheldon Marsh	Erie	2715 Cleveland Rd W Huron, 44839	2~	 	    	Seasonal portable restroom
Shoemaker	Adams	165 Pine Gap Rd Peebles, 45660	1.5		    	
Siegenthaler-Kaestner Esker	Champaign	5505 Couchman Rd W West Liberty, 43357	1.5		  	Near Kiser Lake State Park
Smith Cemetery	Madison	4400 Boyd Rd Plain City, 43064	0.1		 	Pioneer cemetery with prairie • Park along road
Solon Woods	Cuyahoga	34227 Russell Dr Solon, 44139	1.25		   	Limited parking
Springville Marsh	Seneca	12250 Township Rd 24 Carey, 43316	0.8		 	
Stage's Pond	Pickaway	4792 Hagerty Rd Ashville, 43103	3.3~	 	    	
Stratford Woods	Delaware	3083 Liberty Rd Delaware, 43015	1.3	 	   	Managed by Stratford Ecological Center • Open Mon-Fri, 9-5 all year, and Sat. Feb-Nov, 9-1. • <b>stratfordecologicalcenter.org</b>
Thomas, Edward S.	Franklin	6911 Cleveland Ave Westerville, 43081	1	  	   	Owned and managed by Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks • <b>metroparks.net</b>
Tinkers Creek	Portage & Summit	1230 Old Mill Rd Aurora, 44202	1.5		  	Managed by Summit Metro Parks • <b>summitmetroparks.org</b>
Triangle Lake Bog	Portage	3612 Sandy Lake Rd Ravenna, 44266	1~		  	<i>Caution - poison sumac</i>
Tucker, Walter A.	Fairfield	6975 East Livingston Ave Reynoldsburg, 43068	1.5~	   	    	Located in Blacklick Woods Metro Park • <b>metroparks.net</b> • Owned and managed by Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks
Wahkeena	Fairfield	2200 Pump Station Rd Sugar Grove, 43155	1.5	 	     	Managed by Fairfield County Historical Parks • Open late March- early Nov., Wed-Sun., 8am - 4:30pm
Whipple	Adams	1194 St Rte 247 Manchester, 45144	2.1		    	Limited parking

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## FACILITIES



**Restrooms**



**Wheelchair Accessible**



**Drinking Water**



**Observation Area**

## FEATURES



**Woods**



**Wetlands**



**Prairie**



**Spring Wildflowers**



**Summer Wildflowers**



**Geologic Formation**



**Bird Watching**



## Volunteers NEEDED

Volunteers play an important role in accomplishing critical work across our lands and rivers, like ecomanagement, programming, and species monitoring. If you love being outside, getting your hands dirty (or your feet wet) and are committed to protecting Ohio's natural resources, visit [ohiodnr.gov/volunteer](http://ohiodnr.gov/volunteer) to learn more.

## Follow us on SOCIAL MEDIA

Share your images on social media and don't forget to tag #OHNaturalAreas or #OhioWildflowers. Have a question about something interesting you saw or didn't recognize? Message us via Facebook or send your questions via email to [naturalareas@dnr.ohio.gov](mailto:naturalareas@dnr.ohio.gov).



Lakeside daisy



Since 1976, the ODNR Division of Natural Areas and Preserves has protected the very best of Ohio's pre-settlement lands.

State nature preserves are not like parks; they are permanently protected sanctuaries for rare plants, animals, unique geologic features, and fragile ecosystems. Preserves are best suited for low-impact outdoor pursuits like hiking, bird watching, nature study, and photography.

Lake Katharine State Nature Preserve



Ohio's state nature preserves and scenic river lands are open daily from dawn to dusk. Before heading out, please visit **[naturalareas.ohiodnr.gov](https://naturalareas.ohiodnr.gov)** to plan your trip.

Pets are prohibited at all state nature preserves, except Blackhand Gorge State Nature Preserve where leashed pets are only allowed on the multipurpose paved trail.

Public programs like guided hikes and classroom presentations are offered throughout the year. Check the ODNR calendar of events at **[ohiodnr.gov](https://ohiodnr.gov)** or request a group program by emailing **[naturalareas@dnr.ohio.gov](mailto:naturalareas@dnr.ohio.gov)**.



Preserves not listed are either unimproved, or require a written permit to visit. Visitation may be limited due to lack of access or to protect rare habitats and endangered species. Research, collecting, or off-trail use also requires a written permit, regardless of which site you are visiting.

A list of permit-only sites and access permit applications may be obtained by visiting **[naturalareas.ohiodnr.gov](http://naturalareas.ohiodnr.gov)**.

## **Ohio Scenic Rivers** PROGRAM

Ohio created the nation's first state scenic river program in 1968. Since its inception, the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves has designated 15 rivers as wild, scenic, and recreational. Each river offers outstanding water quality, tranquil beauty, and critical habitat for an abundance of native plants and animals including rare and endangered species.

You can find all 15 state designated waterways on the map. Many offer public access areas for paddling, fishing, and hiking. We welcome you to learn more by visiting **[ohiodnr.gov/scenicrivers](http://ohiodnr.gov/scenicrivers)**.

