

## Nature Preserve Booklet

OPRA Foundation Administrative Grant Report

Columbus Recreation and Parks Department

December 2024

### Project Objectives

Columbus Recreation and Parks Department has 25 designated nature preserves along with over 400 parks. Our nature preserves sustain the local natural heritage for the Columbus community while conserving habitat for endangered and threatened species such as the Prothonotary warbler, the Indiana bat, and the spreading rock-cress. A major tenet of the nature preserves program is advocating conservation, protection, and enhancement through awareness and education. Funding of \$1,500 from the OPRA Foundation Administrative Grant allowed CRPD to update and print Columbus Nature Preserve Booklets. These booklets are our main source of community outreach used to increase awareness of our nature preserve system.

### Background

In 2017, CRPD designed and printed 5,000 Nature Preserve Postcard Books to increase the awareness and education of our nature preserve system. The postcard book was inspired by a traditional field guide. The format of a postcard book lets users tear out individual cards to take with them or pin on the wall. The standard format and icons give people a quick reference to identify amenities and habitats across all sites while the summary, species, and full-page photo speak to the character of the individual preserve. The goal of the postcard books is to promote a “leave no trace” mentality, create awareness of our nature preserves, and educate community members about unique species, existing habitat, available amenities, trail maps, and addresses. In 2017, CRPD was awarded a publication award for this postcard book at the Environmental Education Council of Ohio.

Through this grant, the Nature Preserve Booklet was able to be updated including the addition of five (5) nature preserves that were designated in February 2024. Improved graphics and mapping were completed and 5,000 booklets were purchased and will be distributed to continue CRPD’s efforts toward community outreach. Our increase in education and awareness will work toward park users respecting wildlife and being considerate of others and the natural area.

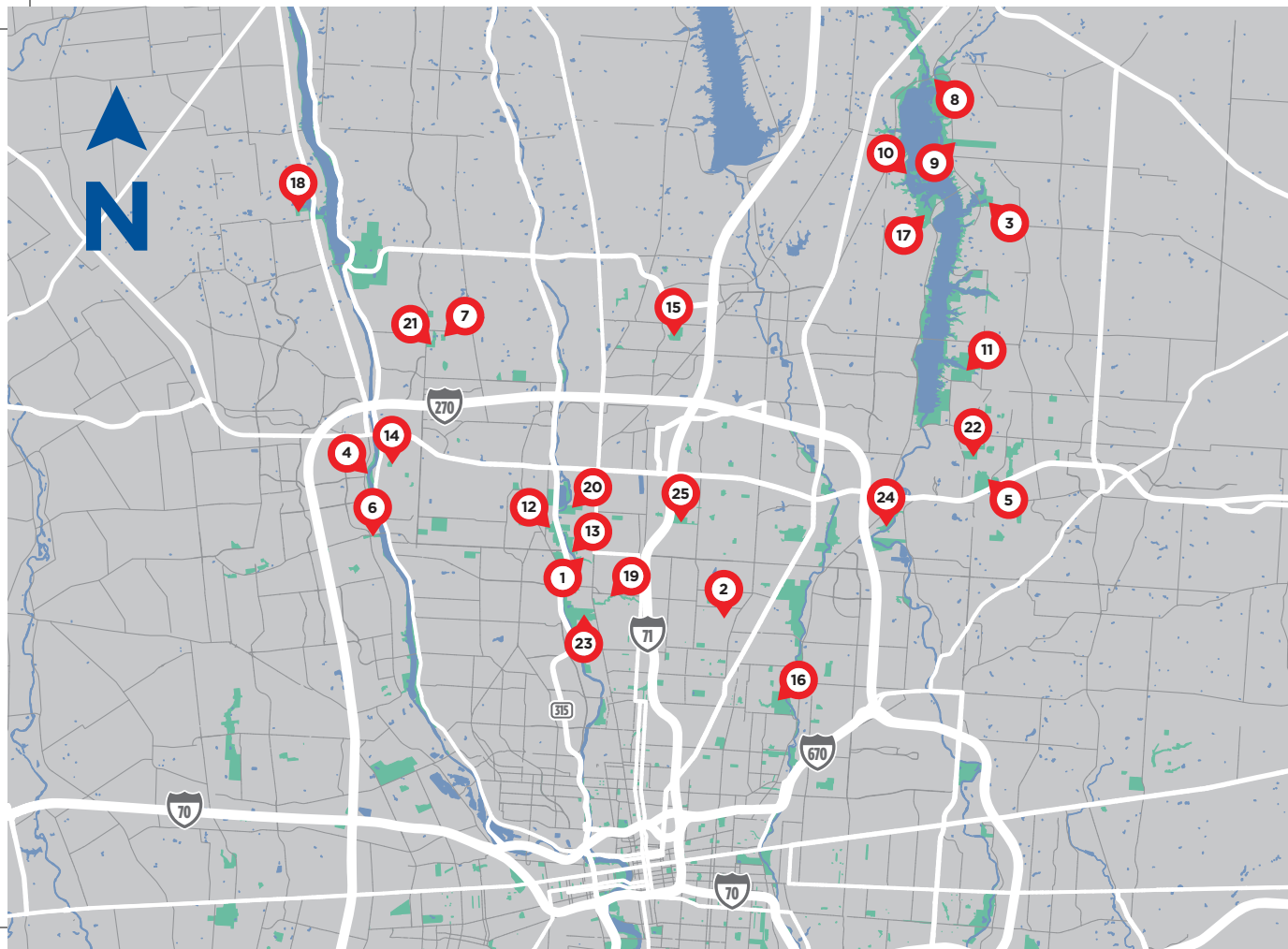
### Summary of Expenses

Nature Preserve Booklets			
Item	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Nature Preserve Booklets	5,000	\$1.41180	7,059.00

Cost does not take into account staff time to create content and design.



COLUMBUS  
NATURE  
PRESERVES



- 1 **Beechwold** | pg. 20
- 2 **Coronet Woods** | pg. 22
- 3 **Gertrude S. Lawrence Woods** | pg. 24
- 4 **Griggs** | pg. 26
- 5 **Hamilton Road Wetland** | pg. 28
- 6 **Hayden Falls** | pg. 30
- 7 **Hickory Woods** | pg. 32
- 8 **Hoover** | pg. 34
- 9 **Hoover Meadows** | pg. 36
- 10 **Hoover Oxbow** | pg. 38
- 11 **Hoover Prairie** | pg. 40
- 12 **Island View** | pg. 42
- 13 **Kenney** | pg. 44
- 14 **Kiwanis Riverway** | pg. 46
- 15 **Lazelle Woods** | pg. 48
- 16 **Mock** | pg. 50
- 17 **Mud Hen Marsh** | pg. 52
- 18 **O'Shaughnessy** | pg. 54
- 19 **Overbrook** | pg. 56
- 20 **Rush Run** | pg. 58
- 21 **Sawmill** | pg. 60
- 22 **Warner Woods** | pg. 62
- 23 **Webster** | pg. 64
- 24 **Woodstream** | pg. 66
- 25 **Woodward** | pg. 68

- RULES & REGULATIONS 2**
- HISTORY 4**
- HABITAT 5**
- TREES 6**
- WILDFLOWERS 8**
- BIRDS 10**
- MAMMALS 12**
- AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES 14**
- INSECTS 16**
- MACROINVERTEBRATES & FISH 18**
- NATURE PRESERVES 20**



# RULES & REGULATIONS

Columbus' nature preserves contain some of Ohio's rare and sensitive natural resources. These rules and regulations are designed to protect this environmentally significant land so it can be enjoyed for generations to come.

- ▶ Preserve hours are **7 a.m.–11 p.m.** (unless otherwise noted)
- ▶ Visitors must **stay on the trail.**
- ▶ **No pets.** Pets can introduce harmful parasites and diseases, spread invasive species, and distract, disturb and displace wildlife.
- ▶ **Don't feed the wildlife.** Human foods aren't healthy for wild animals. When animals rely on human foods, they may stop hunting or foraging, which can lead them to starve.
- ▶ **No swimming or wading.** This disrupts wildlife, and the terrain can be treacherous.
- ▶ **No camping or fires.**
- ▶ **No motorized vehicles.**
- ▶ **All City codes are enforced.**



# HISTORY

Nature preserves provide habitat for different species of plants and wildlife amid Columbus' urban landscape. Our nature preserve system conserves and enhances ecologically significant land through research, awareness and education.

Columbus Recreation and Parks Department has 25 designated nature preserves that encompass over 2,850 acres across Franklin and Delaware counties. The first City nature preserves were adopted in 1988; additional preserves were added in 2004, 2010, 2016 and 2024. In 2022, nature preserve code language was adopted into Columbus City Code, strengthening protections for this significant land.

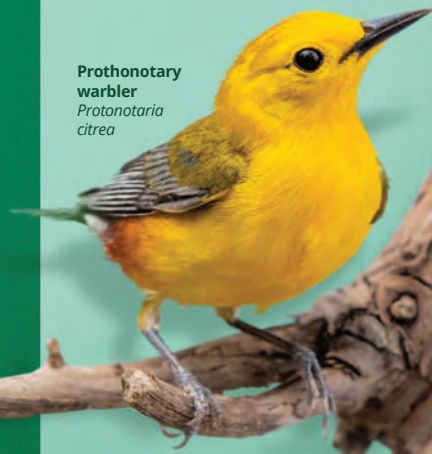
## LISTED SPECIES

Animal or plant species of conservation concern may be listed as threatened or endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

A **federal listing** means a species is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of the area. This may encompass several other states or nations.

A **state listing** means a species is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of the state.

Prothonotary warbler  
*Protonotaria citrea*



# WHAT IS A HABITAT?

A habitat is a place where an organism makes its home. Habitats provide food, water and shelter that animals and plants need to survive. There are a variety of habitats across Columbus' nature preserves, including:



FORESTS



WETLANDS



GRASSLANDS



WATERWAYS



## SPECIES OVERVIEW

# TREES

Trees clean the air we breathe, filter the water we drink and provide habitat to over 80 percent of wildlife living on land.



Eastern red cedar  
*Juniperus virginiana*



Ohio buckeye  
*Aesculus glabra*



American elm  
*Ulmus americana*



Eastern cottonwood  
*Populus deltoides*



Eastern red cedar  
*Juniperus virginiana*



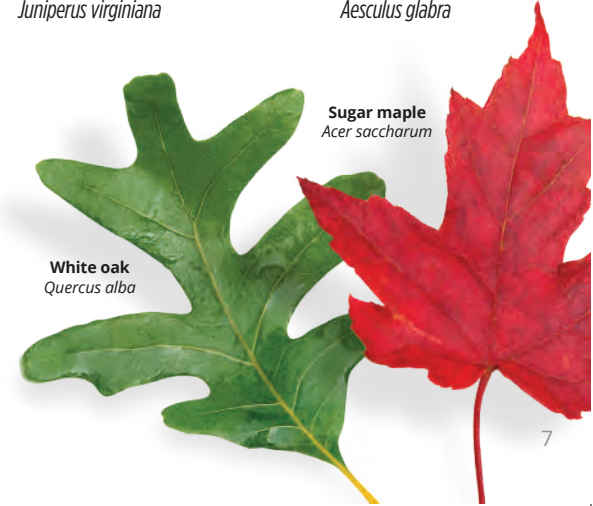
Ohio buckeye  
*Aesculus glabra*



Sugar maple  
*Acer saccharum*



White oak  
*Quercus alba*



White oak  
*Quercus alba*

Sugar maple  
*Acer saccharum*

## COMMONLY FOUND TREES IN OUR NATURE PRESERVES INCLUDE:





# WILDFLOWERS

Wildflowers grow naturally in their environment and support our ecosystem and pollinators.

Spring beauty  
*Claytonia virginica*

Yellow trout lily  
*Erythronium americanum*



COMMONLY FOUND **WILDFLOWERS** IN OUR NATURE PRESERVES INCLUDE:



Mayapple  
*Podophyllum peltatum*



Spring beauty  
*Claytonia virginica*



Cut-leaved toothwort  
*Cardamine concatenata*



Jack-in-the-pulpit  
*Arisaema triphyllum*



Yellow trout lily  
*Erythronium americanum*



Bloodroot  
*Sanguinaria canadensis*



Golden ragwort  
*Packera aurea*



Dutchman's breeches  
*Dicentra cucullaria*



## SPECIES OVERVIEW

Carolina chickadee  
*Poecile carolinensis*



# BIRDS

Birds are key to a healthy, balanced habitat. As predators, they keep prey populations in check. As scavengers, they break down organic material and consume decaying organisms that could pass on diseases to other animals. Birds pollinate flowers, disperse seeds, build nests and create tree cavities that other animals use.

## COMMONLY FOUND BIRDS IN OUR NATURE PRESERVES INCLUDE:



**Carolina chickadee**  
*Poecile carolinensis*



**Northern cardinal**  
*Cardinalis cardinalis*



**Red-bellied woodpecker**  
*Melanerpes carolinus*



**Red-winged blackbird**  
*Agelaius phoeniceus*



**Tree swallow**  
*Tachycineta bicolor*



**House wren**  
*Troglodytes aedon*



**Great blue heron**  
*Ardea herodias*



**Tufted titmouse**  
*Baeolophus bicolor*





# MAMMALS

Eastern cottontail  
*Sylvilagus floridanus*



Mammals are critical members of the food web, whether as predators or prey. Some also are part of symbiotic relationships with other species, meaning both species serve an important role in the other's survival. One example of this is that coyotes and badgers are more successful at hunting when paired up.

COMMONLY FOUND **MAMMALS** IN OUR NATURE PRESERVES INCLUDE:



**Raccoon**  
*Procyon lotor*



**Eastern gray squirrel**  
*Sciurus carolinensis*



**Eastern cottontail**  
*Sylvilagus floridanus*



**Red fox**  
*Vulpes vulpes*



**White-tailed deer**  
*Odocoileus virginianus*



**Eastern chipmunk**  
*Tamias striatus*

## DID YOU KNOW?

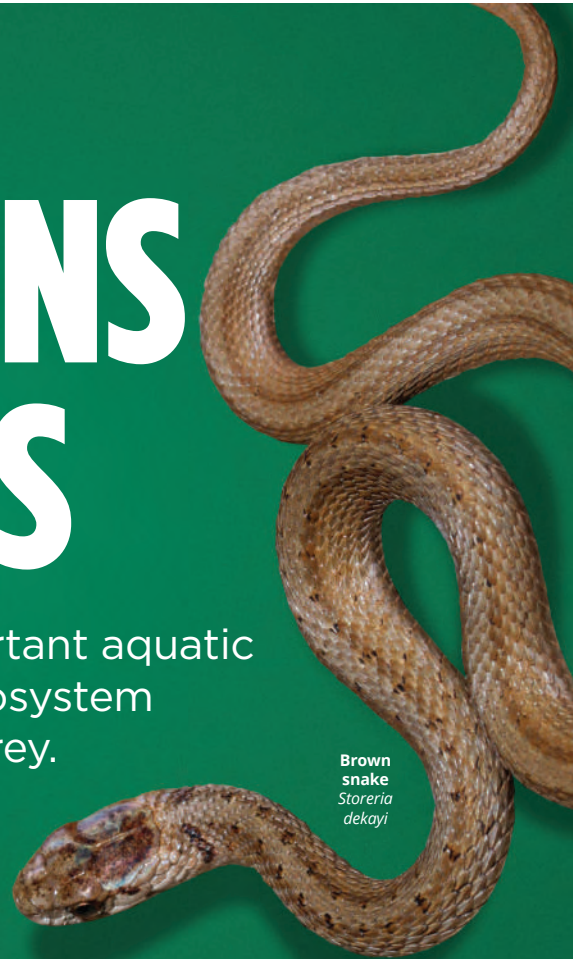
Feeding wildlife harms ecosystems. Mammals, like squirrels that use their keen sense of smell to find hidden nuts, are adapted to forage on their own. Giving them snacks disrupts their natural behavior and can be detrimental in the long run.





# AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES

Amphibians and reptiles are important aquatic and terrestrial members of the ecosystem that serve as both predator and prey. They also control populations of insects like mosquitoes.



Brown snake  
*Storeria dekayi*

## REPTILES FOUND IN OUR NATURE PRESERVES INCLUDE:



Brown snake  
*Storeria dekayi*



Common watersnake  
*Nerodia sipedon*



Common snapping turtle  
*Chelydra serpentina*

## AMPHIBIANS FOUND IN OUR NATURE PRESERVES INCLUDE:



Small-mouthed salamander  
*Ambystoma texanum*



Northern green frog  
*Rana clamitans melanota*



Northern green frog  
*Rana clamitans melanota*





# INSECTS

While some people don't like "bugs," insects are crucial primary or secondary decomposers and pollinators.



Convergent lady beetle  
*Hippodamia convergens*

Monarch butterfly caterpillar  
*Danaus plexippus*

COMMONLY FOUND **INSECTS** IN OUR NATURE PRESERVES INCLUDE:



Monarch butterfly  
*Danaus plexippus*



Convergent lady beetle  
*Hippodamia convergens*



Cabbage white  
*Pieris rapae*



Eastern tiger swallowtail  
*Papilio glaucus*



Blue dasher  
*Pachydiplax longipennis*



Silver-spotted skipper  
*Epargyreus clarus*

## DID YOU KNOW?

Insects are ancient. They first appeared about 480 million years ago—long before the dinosaurs or any other terrestrial vertebrates. Compare that with modern humans who only evolved around 300,000 years ago.



# MACROINVERTEBRATES & FISH

Macroinvertebrates help recycle nutrients back into the ecosystem and are an important food source for fish, birds, amphibians and reptiles. Fish play an important role in the food web, nutrient cycling and ecosystem resilience.

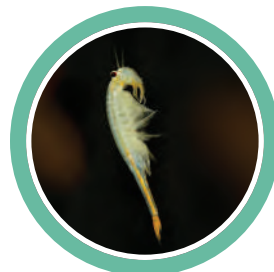


**Planaria**  
*Platyhelminthes*

**Rainbow darter**  
*Etheostoma caeruleum*



## MACROINVERTEBRATES FOUND IN OUR NATURE PRESERVES INCLUDE:



**Fairy shrimp**  
*Eubranchipus vernalis*



**Planaria**  
*Platyhelminthes*



**Fingernail clam**  
*Pisidium moitessierianum*



**Rusty crayfish**  
*Faxonius rusticus*

## FISH FOUND IN OUR NATURE PRESERVES INCLUDE:



**Rainbow darter**  
*Etheostoma caeruleum*



**Bluegill**  
*Lepomis macrochirus*



**Brook silverside**  
*Labidesthes sicculus*

### DID YOU KNOW?

Macroinvertebrates spend their entire lives in one small area and do not migrate, which means they often show the effects of changes in a habitat. This makes macroinvertebrates good indicators of the health of our streams and waterways.





# BEECHWOLD

NATURE PRESERVE | 11 ACRES

📍 101 W. Beechwold Blvd. | 43214



## Beechwold Nature Preserve

includes a riparian forest along the Olentangy River and a forested ravine that stretches up into the Beechwold neighborhood. The forest features mature native trees such as beech, oak and hickory with a variety of woodland wildflowers and native shrubs in the understory.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 American beech  
*Fagus grandifolia*
- 2 Eastern redback salamander  
*Plethodon cinereus*
- 3 Black cherry  
*Prunus serotina*

### FEDERAL/STATE LISTED SPECIES:

- ▶ Snuffbox mussel  
*Epioblasma triquetra*  
FEDERALLY-ENDANGERED
- ▶ Kidneyshell mussel  
*Ptychobranthus fasciolaris*  
STATE SPECIES OF CONCERN
- ▶ Elktoe mussel  
*Alasmidonta raveneliana*  
STATE SPECIES OF CONCERN





# CORONET WOODS

NATURE PRESERVE | 3.7 ACRES

📍 1790 Coronet Dr. | 43224



## Coronet Woods Nature Preserve

is largely an upland forest and features a small wetland that is fed by both precipitation and groundwater. Historically, Coronet Woods was agricultural land until approximately the 1950s, when the land was unoccupied and natural forest succession occurred, forming the woods we see today.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Calico aster  
*Symphotrichum lateriflorum*
- 2 Hackberry  
*Celtis occidentalis*
- 3 Eastern fox squirrel  
*Sciurus niger*





# GERTRUDE S. LAWRENCE WOODS

NATURE PRESERVE | 29 ACRES

📍 4748 Red Bank Road | 43021



1



2



3



## Gertrude S. Lawrence Woods Nature Preserve

is a forested area situated high above two ravines that feed into Hoover Reservoir. You can view the flooded ravines from two overlooks on the loop trail. In the fall, they drain and become mudflats, filtering the water and absorbing sediment, nutrients and pollutants.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Fan clubmoss  
*Diplazium digitatum*
- 2 Acadian flycatcher  
*Empidonax virescens*
- 3 Liverwort  
*Hepatica nobilis*

### FEDERAL/STATE LISTED SPECIES:

- ▶ Prothonotary warbler  
*Protonotaria citrea*  
STATE SPECIES OF CONCERN

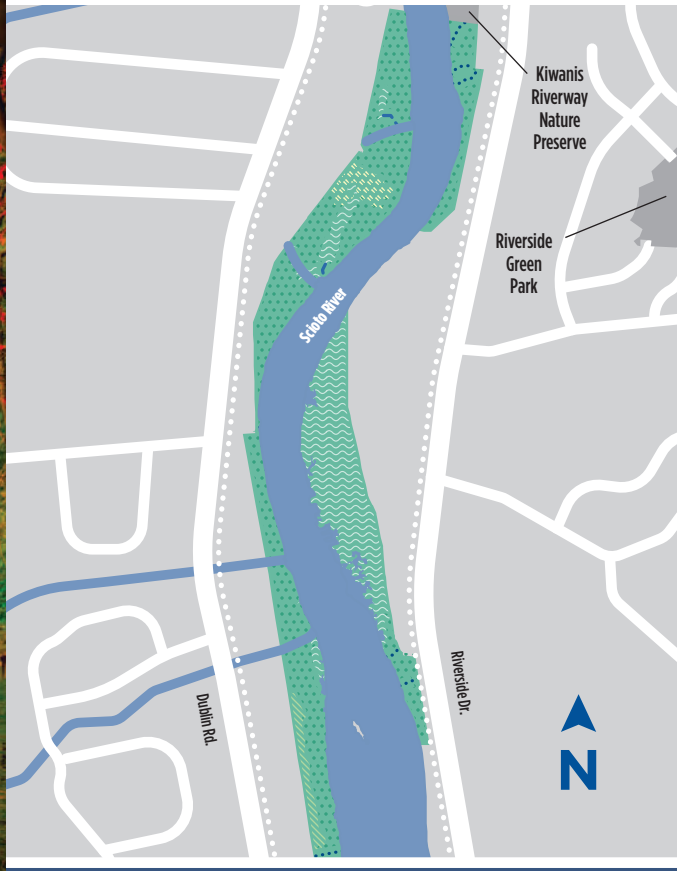




# GRIGGS

NATURE PRESERVE | 41 ACRES

6245 Riverside Dr. | 43017



## Griggs Nature Preserve

features varying topography, including hillside slopes, steep cliffs and river bottomlands. The nature preserve is located on the 6-mile-long Griggs Reservoir. You can access Griggs Nature Preserve through Kiwanis Riverway Nature Preserve or by the Scioto River.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Common self-heal  
*Prunella vulgaris*
- 2 Chinkapin oak  
*Quercus muehlenbergii*
- 3 North American beaver  
*Castor canadensis*

### FEDERAL/STATE LISTED SPECIES:

- ▶ Rayed bean mussel  
*Villosa fabalis*  
STATE ENDANGERED
- ▶ Arborvitae  
*Thuja occidentalis*  
STATE POTENTIALLY THREATENED



# HAMILTON ROAD WETLAND

NATURE PRESERVE | 78 ACRES

6135 N. Hamilton Road | 43081 | Accessible by permit only



## Hamilton Road Wetland Nature Preserve

consists of mature woodlands that feature vernal pools. This preserve provides habitat to the largest great blue heron rookery in Franklin County. As many as 50 nests can be found in the interior beech-dominated area of the woods.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Spring peeper  
*Pseudacris crucifer*
- 2 Great blue heron  
*Ardea herodias*
- 3 Buttonbush  
*Cephalanthus occidentalis*



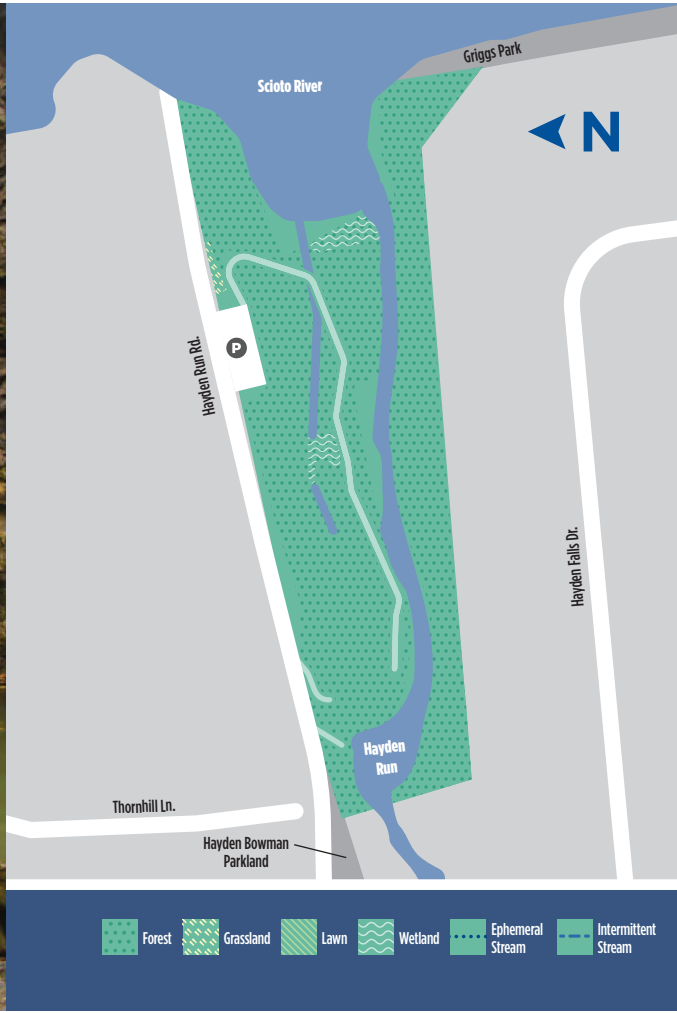




# HAYDEN FALLS

NATURE PRESERVE | 3 ACRES

📍 4325 Hayden Run Road | 43221



**Hayden Falls Nature Preserve** features a limestone gorge that includes a stunning 35-foot natural waterfall located on the western shore of the Scioto River. Hayden Falls is a historically and geologically significant site for central Ohio, drawing visitors to this destination spot for over a century.

**SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:**

- 1 Maidenhair fern  
*Adiantum pedatum*
- 2 American basswood  
*Tilia americana*
- 3 Cliff swallow  
*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*

**FEDERAL/STATE LISTED SPECIES:**

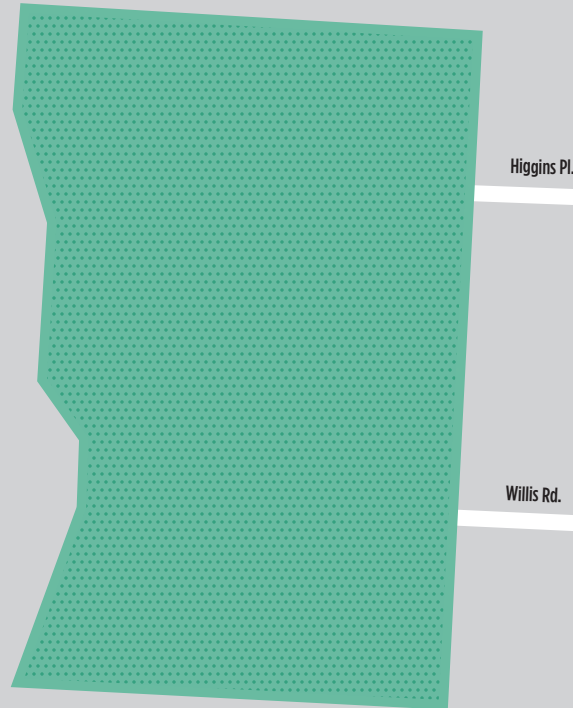
- ▶ Rayed bean mussel  
*Villosa fabalis*  
STATE ENDANGERED
- ▶ Spreading rock cress  
*Arabis patens*  
STATE THREATENED



# HICKORY WOODS

NATURE PRESERVE | 5 ACRES

📍 2485 Willis Road | 43016



## Hickory Woods Nature Preserve

is composed entirely of an upland forest habitat with many mature hickory and beech trees. It also has a largely open understory featuring native spicebush. Forests serve an important role in the local ecosystem by regulating the flow of water in the area.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Northern red oak  
*Quercus rubra*
- 2 Virginia opossum  
*Didelphis virginiana*
- 3 Shagbark hickory  
*Carya ovata*



# HOOVER

NATURE PRESERVE | 2,204 ACRES

33 Front St. | 43021



## Hoover Nature Preserve

was a result of the Hoover Dam and subsequent reservoir being built in 1954. The area has become a popular birding spot for viewing migratory waterfowl and shorebirds in spring and fall. This area features the largest breeding population of prothonotary warblers in Ohio.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 American tree sparrow  
*Spizelloides arborea*
- 2 Black willow  
*Salix nigra*
- 3 Jefferson salamander  
*Ambystoma jeffersonianum*

### FEDERAL/STATE LISTED SPECIES:

- ▶ Blue catfish  
*Ictalurus furcatus*  
STATE SPECIES OF CONCERN
- ▶ Cerulean warbler  
*Setophaga cerulea*  
STATE SPECIES OF CONCERN
- ▶ Prothonotary warbler  
*Protonotaria citrea*  
STATE SPECIES OF CONCERN





# HOOVER MEADOWS

NATURE PRESERVE | 76 ACRES

📍 3715 Sunbury Road | 43082

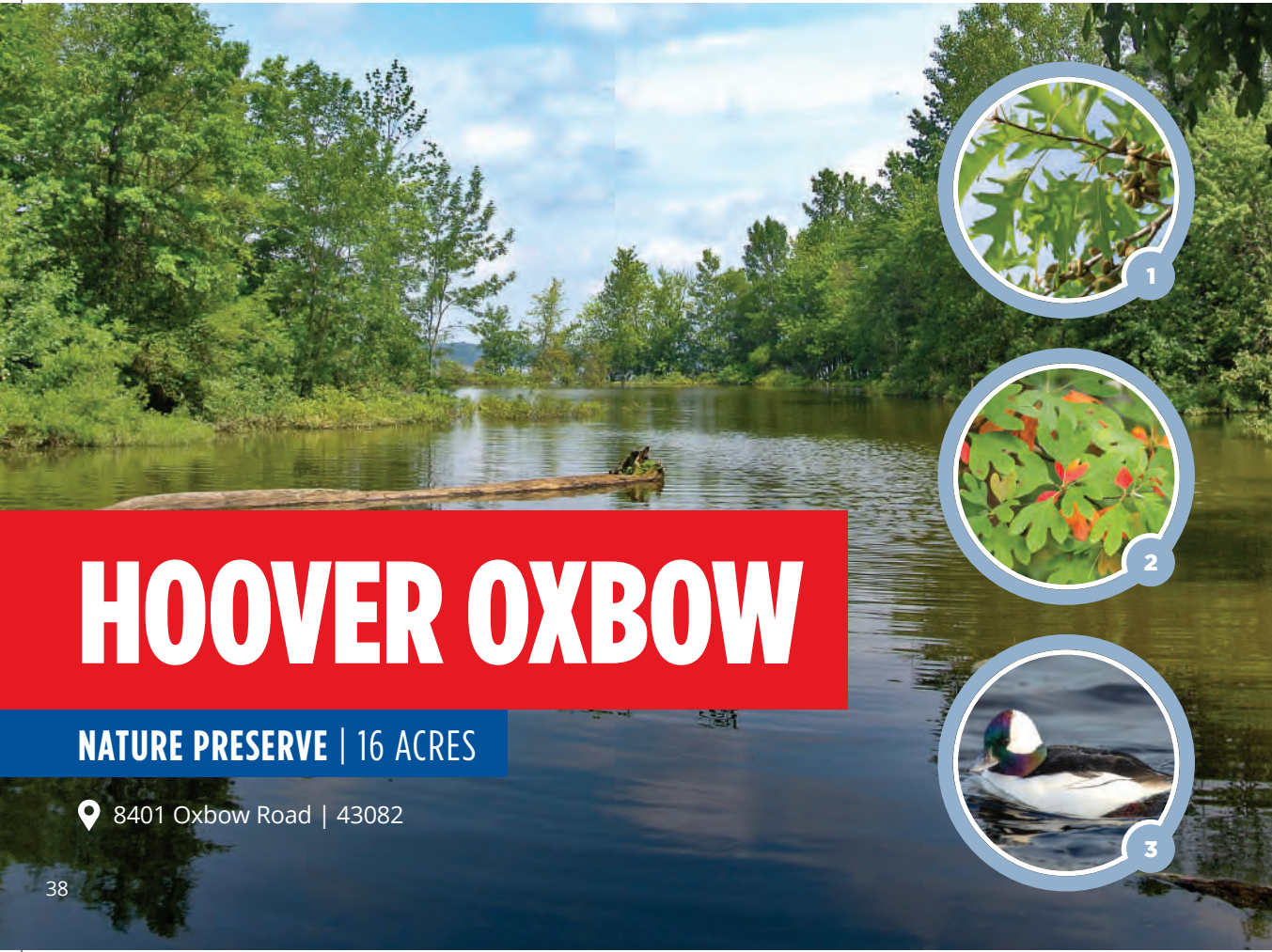


**Hoover Meadows Nature Preserve** features diverse habitat types including woodland, wetland, vernal pool, grassland and stream. The wetlands provide good habitat for migrating birds such as soras and bitterns. A large vernal pool nestled in the woods provides vital breeding ground for amphibians.

**SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:**

- 1 Spotted salamander  
*Ambystoma maculatum*
- 2 Least bittern  
*Ixobrychus exilis*
- 3 Sora  
*Porzana carolina*





# HOOVER OXBOW

NATURE PRESERVE | 16 ACRES

📍 8401 Oxbow Road | 43082



1



2



3



Forest
  Grassland
  Lawn
  Wetland
  Ephemeral Stream
  Intermittent Stream

**Hoover Oxbow Nature Preserve** showcases an upland forest intertwined with wooded wetlands along the western shores of Hoover Reservoir. Popular for boat launching, fishing and birding, it serves as a favored spot for winter waterfowl as they migrate, particularly in the vicinity directly east and south of the preserve.

**SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:**

- 1 Pin oak  
*Quercus palustris*
- 2 Sassafras  
*Sassafras albidum*
- 3 Bufflehead duck  
*Bucephala albeola*

**FEDERAL/STATE LISTED SPECIES:**

- ▶ Blue catfish  
*Ictalurus furcatus*  
STATE SPECIES OF CONCERN



# HOOVER PRAIRIE

NATURE PRESERVE | 40 ACRES

7445 Cabbage Road | 43081



1



2



3



## Hoover Prairie Nature Preserve

features an upland forest and a prairie habitat. The 100-year-old prairie provides habitat to the state's only known population of the state-threatened Gattinger's-foxglove. In 1973, Naturalist John Thomas discovered the first wild indigo dusky wing skipper here.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Prairie blazing star  
*Liatris pycnostachya*
- 2 Common milkweed  
*Asclepias syriaca*
- 3 Summer azure  
*Celastrina neglecta*

### FEDERAL/STATE LISTED SPECIES:

- ▶ Gattinger's-foxglove  
*Agalinis gattingeri*  
STATE-THREATENED
- ▶ Blue catfish  
*Ictalurus furcatus*  
STATE SPECIES OF CONCERN
- ▶ Prothonotary warbler  
*Protonotaria citrea*  
STATE SPECIES OF CONCERN
- ▶ Prairie false indigo  
*Baptisia lactea*  
STATE-POTENTIALLY THREATENED





# ISLAND VIEW

NATURE PRESERVE | 10 ACRES

📍 403 Westview Ave. | 43214



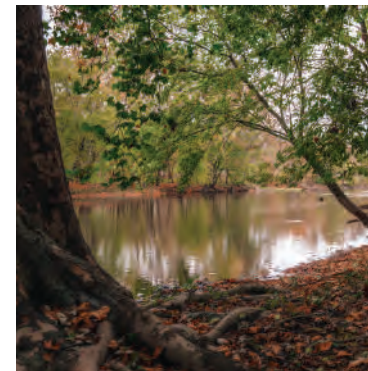
Forest
  Grassland
  Lawn
  Wetland
  Ephemeral Stream
  Intermittent Stream

## Island View Nature Preserve

is an integral part of the riparian area along the Olentangy River. Riparian areas are the transition zone between fully land and fully aquatic systems. The soil and vegetation are shaped by the presence of water, which enhances plant growth and supports complex food webs.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Pileated woodpecker  
*Dryocopus pileatus*
- 2 Common hoptree  
*Ptelea trifoliata*
- 3 Meadow fritillary  
*Boloria bellona*







# KENNEY

NATURE PRESERVE | 22 ACRES

369 Graceland Blvd. | 43214



## Kenney Nature Preserve

features upland forest, forested wetlands and streams that join the Olentangy River. It is estimated Kenney contains 3,850 linear feet of stream. With its wide range of habitat types, this nature preserve supports many populations of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Eastern screech owl  
*Megascops asio*
- 2 Map turtle  
*Graptemys geographica*
- 3 Toadshade  
*Trillium sessile*

### FEDERAL/STATE LISTED SPECIES:

- ▶ Snuffbox mussel  
*Epioblasma triquetra*  
FEDERALLY-ENDANGERED
- ▶ Kidneyshell mussel  
*Ptychobranchus fasciolaris*  
STATE SPECIES OF CONCERN
- ▶ Elktoe mussel  
*Alasmidonta raveneliana*  
STATE SPECIES OF CONCERN



# KIWANIS RIVERWAY

NATURE PRESERVE | 10 ACRES

📍 6245 Riverside Dr. | 43017



1



2



3



**Kiwanis Riverway Nature Preserve** features many habitat types and streams that join Griggs Reservoir. Kiwanis Riverway serves as an easy access point to an area rich in natural beauty and ecological heritage. Walk its wooden boardwalk, and be surrounded by forest, wildflowers and scenic views.

## SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Marsh blue violet  
*Viola cucullata*
- 2 Scarlet tanager  
*Piranga olivacea*
- 3 Muskrat  
*Ondatra zibethicus*

## FEDERAL/STATE LISTED SPECIES:

- ▶ Rayed bean mussel  
*Villosa fabalis*  
STATE-ENDANGERED





# LAZELLE WOODS

NATURE PRESERVE | 10 ACRES

8140 Sancus Blvd. | 43081



**Lazelle Woods Nature Preserve** features acres of mature forest that support native wildflowers and migrating birds. Lazelle Woods has an abundance of plant diversity, which is correlated with attracting a wide array of wildlife. Located next to Lazelle Woods Community Center, it provides easy access to explore.

**SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:**

- 1 Kentucky coffeetree  
*Gymnocladus dioica*
- 2 Bitternut hickory  
*Carya cordiformis*
- 3 Pawpaw  
*Asimina triloba*







# MOCK

NATURE PRESERVE | 83 ACRES

📍 2520 Mock Road | 43219



## Mock Nature Preserve

features wooded ravines, floodplains and streams overlooking Alum Creek. The upland forest is dominated by oak and hickory species that provide habitat for a wide range of wildlife. However, Mock has steep terrain so it may be difficult for some individuals to access.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Flowering dogwood  
*Cornus florida*
- 2 Eastern box turtle  
*Terrapene carolina carolina*
- 3 Tulip tree  
*Liriodendron tulipifera*



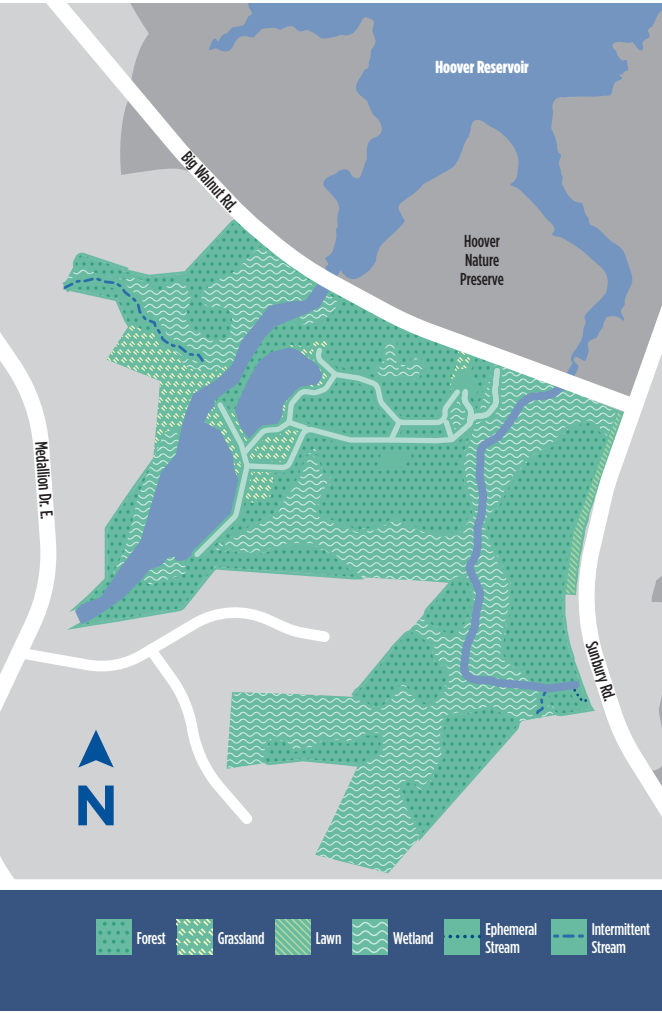




# MUD HEN MARSH

NATURE PRESERVE | 54 ACRES

📍 8742 Big Walnut Road | 43082



**Mud Hen Marsh Nature Preserve** features an upland forest, a high-quality forested wetland and numerous streams that feed into the Hoover Reservoir. Wetlands are characterized by areas covered or saturated with water. Mud Hen Marsh provides excellent birding opportunities from trails located throughout the preserve.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Broad-winged hawk  
*Buteo platypterus*
- 2 Eastern black walnut  
*Juglans nigra*
- 3 Magnolia warbler  
*Setophaga magnolia*

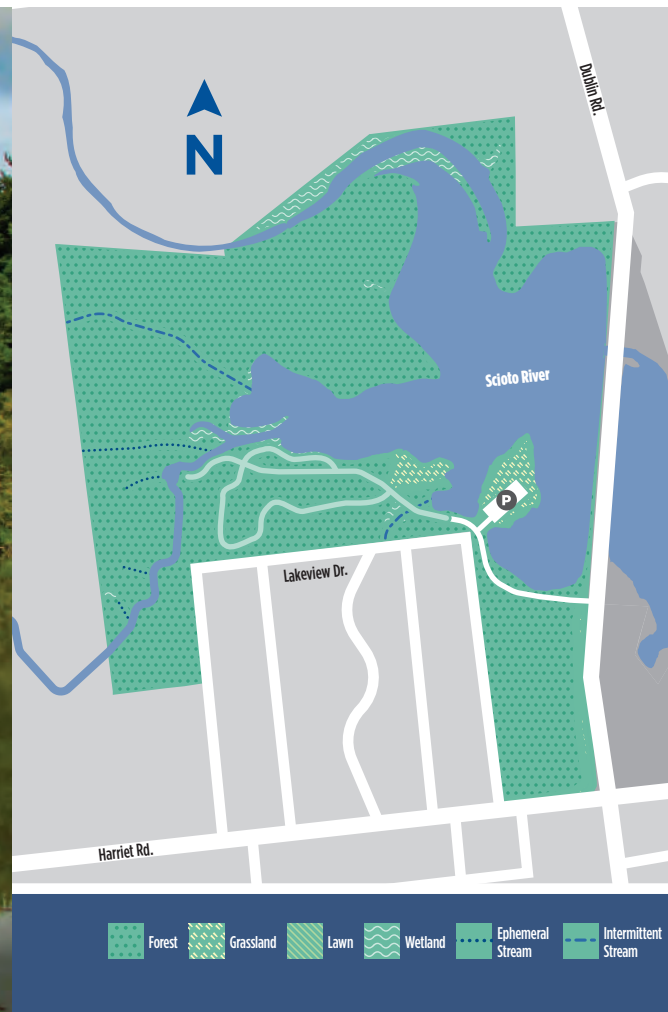




# O'SHAUGHNESSY

NATURE PRESERVE | 80 ACRES

📍 9280 Dublin Road | 43065



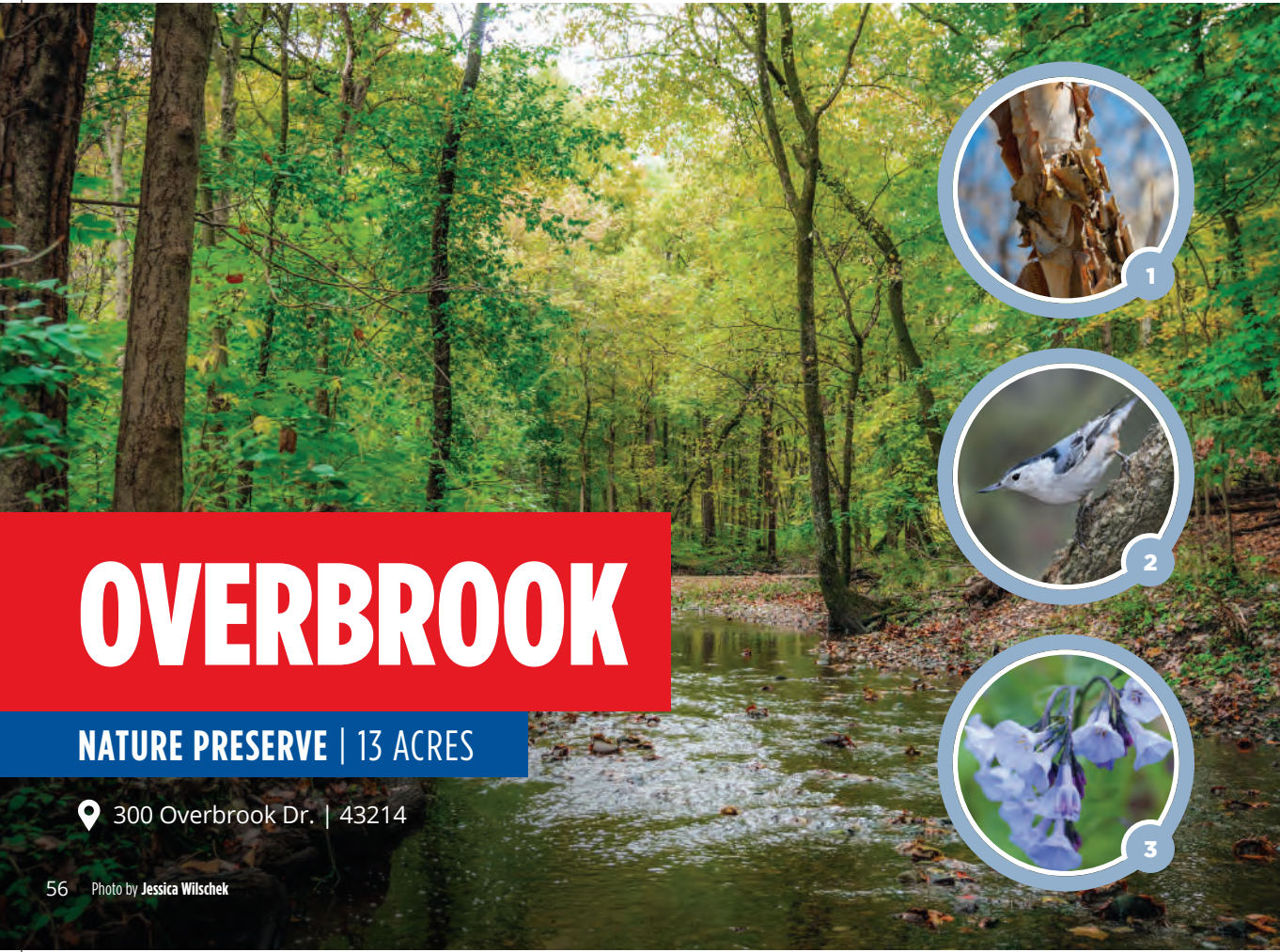
**O'Shaughnessy Nature Preserve** features upland forest, a pollinator habitat, wetlands and a large pond that joins the Scioto River. Also known as Twin Lakes, it's adjacent to two large lakes and is within a migratory route, supporting over 100 species of migrating birds and 45 species of breeding birds.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Killdeer  
*Charadrius vociferus*
- 2 Ghost pipe  
*Monotropa uniflora*
- 3 Great egret  
*Ardea alba*



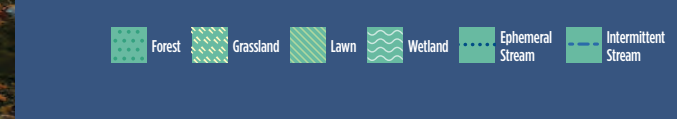
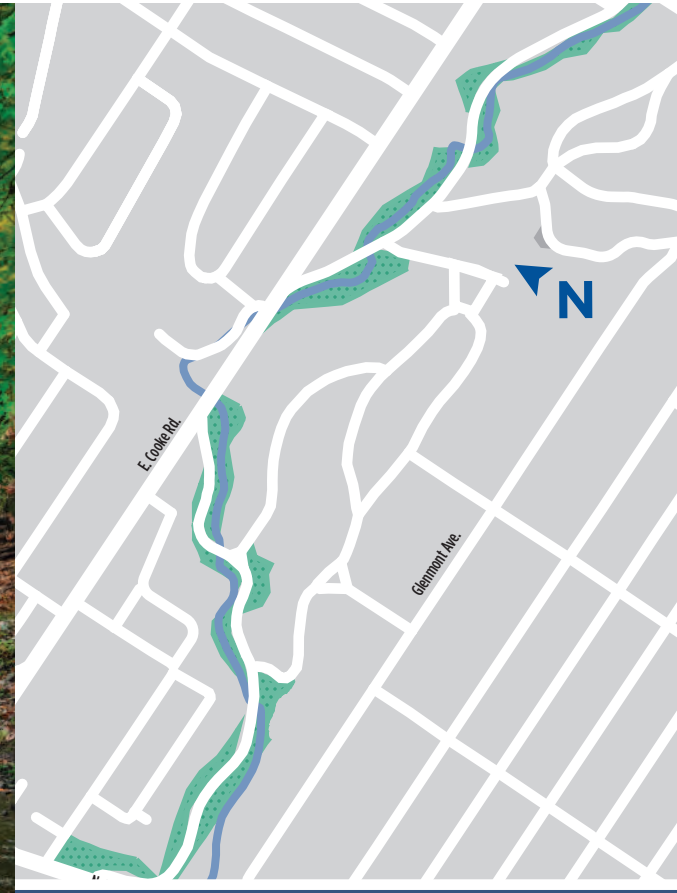




# OVERBROOK

NATURE PRESERVE | 13 ACRES

📍 300 Overbrook Dr. | 43214



## Overbrook Nature Preserve

serves as a riparian buffer. This safeguards the Adena Brook ravine by filtering harmful pollutants that could otherwise reach the Olentangy River. The trees and shrubs along the ravine create space between the water and nearby land use, which helps to protect the stream habitat.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 River birch  
*Betula nigra*
- 2 White breasted nuthatch  
*Sitta carolinensis*
- 3 Virginia bluebells  
*Mertensia virginica*

### FEDERAL/STATE LISTED SPECIES:

- ▶ Yellow-crowned night-heron  
*Nyctanassa violacea*  
STATE SPECIAL INTEREST





# RUSH RUN

NATURE PRESERVE | 39 ACRES

370 Broad Meadows Blvd. | 43085



**Rush Run Nature Preserve** features wooded ravines, wetlands and streams that join the Olentangy River. Located just south of Antrim Lake within a residential area, the nature preserve retains its natural beauty as a mature forest with diverse plant life.

**SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:**

- 1 Honey locust  
*Gleditsia triacanthos*
- 2 Belted kingfisher  
*Megasceryle alcyon*
- 3 Hop hornbeam  
*Ostrya virginiana*

**FEDERAL/STATE LISTED SPECIES:**

- ▶ Snuffbox mussel  
*Epioblasma triquetra*  
FEDERALLY-ENDANGERED





# SAWMILL

NATURE PRESERVE | 17 ACRES

📍 2650 Starford Dr. | 43016



## Sawmill Nature Preserve

includes an emergent and forested wetland, upland forest, grassland and a pond. Throughout the preserve, you can find many hardwood mature trees and vernal pools, also known as seasonal depressional wetlands. The wetlands in Sawmill are dominated by swamp white oak and various sedge species.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Common persimmon  
*Diospyros virginiana*
- 2 Swamp white oak  
*Quercus bicolor*
- 3 Indigo bunting  
*Passerina cyanea*

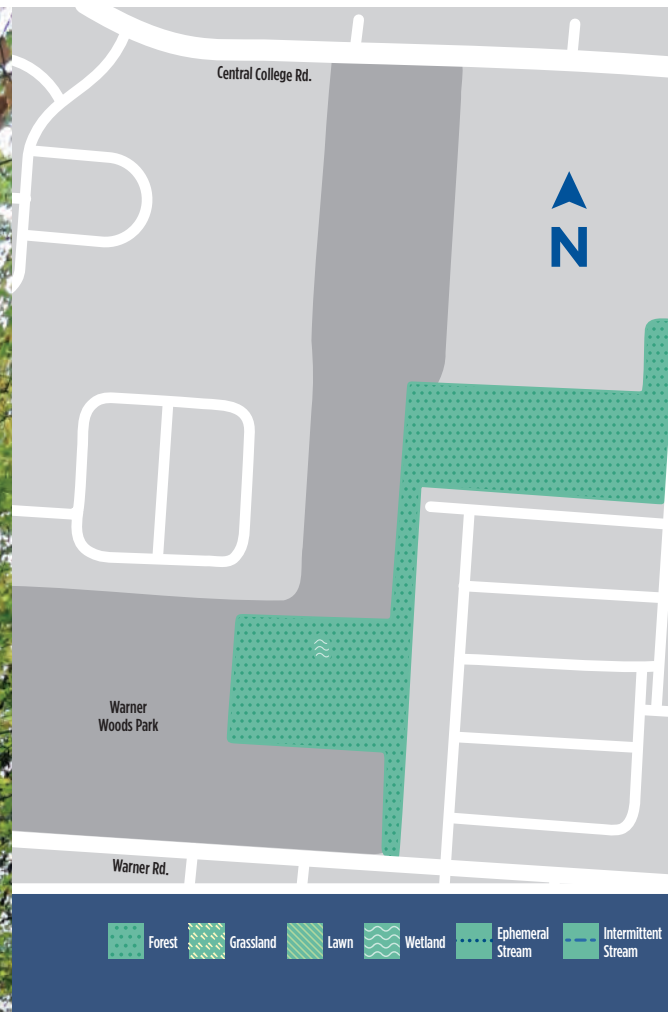




# WARNER WOODS

NATURE PRESERVE | 15 ACRES

📍 4790 Warner Road | 43081



## Warner Woods Nature Preserve

features several vernal pools that serve large populations of early spring amphibians. This nature preserve is uniquely intermixed with the surrounding Warner Woods Park, making this location great for both recreation and conservation.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Red-headed woodpecker  
*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*
- 2 Black locust  
*Robinia pseudoacacia*
- 3 Western chorus frog  
*Pseudacris triseriata*







# WEBSTER

NATURE PRESERVE | 1.6 ACRES

📍 230 Webster Park Ave. | 43214



## Webster Nature Preserve

is one of Columbus' oldest parks. The land was granted to the City of Columbus in 1909 and in 1926, it was dedicated as a "bird sanctuary and flower preserve." The preserve is a pocket of forested habitat with an unnamed tributary of the Olentangy River.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Sweetgum  
*Liquidambar styraciflua*
- 2 Eastern skunk cabbage  
*Symplocarpus foetidus*
- 3 Bur oak  
*Quercus macrocarpa*





# WOODSTREAM

NATURE PRESERVE | 31 ACRES

📍 4535 Big Walnutview Dr. | 43230 | *Accessible by permit only*



1



2



3



## Woodstream Nature Preserve

has a diverse understory of trees and high-quality wetlands. This preserve was originally a field that became a meadow before eventually transitioning to a forest, which is an example of ecological succession. This preserve supports an abundance of plants and wildlife.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Blue-winged warbler  
*Vermivora cyanoptera*
- 2 Spicebush  
*Lindera benzoin*
- 3 Blue-gray gnatcatcher  
*Poliopitila caerulea*

### FEDERAL/STATE LISTED SPECIES:

- ▶ Kidneyshell mussel  
*Ptychobranchus fasciolaris*  
STATE SPECIES OF CONCERN
- ▶ Rainbow mussel  
*Villosa iris*  
STATE SPECIES OF CONCERN



# WOODWARD

NATURE PRESERVE | 34 ACRES

📍 5147 Karl Road | 43229



## Woodward Nature Preserve

features a high-quality oak-hickory, beech-maple mature forest. During spring and summer, the forest floor is covered with a wide variety of wildflowers. The mature forest supports a community of wildlife, including salamanders, warblers, owls and flying squirrels.

### SPOTLIGHT SPECIES:

- 1 Northern parula  
*Setophaga americana*
- 2 Woodland sunflower  
*Helianthus divaricatus*
- 3 Wood thrush  
*Hylocichla mustelina*







ColumbusRecParks.com

