

Visit  
Explore  
Discover  
Grow



Year round, visitors to the Preserve encounter an outdoor natural museum of native plants that grow on its 134 acres. Explore the diverse habitats that include hardwood forests, meadows, steep hillsides, a creek, ponds and other wetlands and the fauna that depends on them. Discover how the Preserve connects visitors with the essential unity of nature and humanity.

Come walk the trails to see what's growing in this living museum then visit our Native Plant Nursery to bring a piece back to your garden.

Experience what's natural | Learn what's native

**Hours:**

**April - June**

Open daily 9am - 5pm  
Last entry at 4pm

**July - March**

Wed. - Mon. 9am - 5pm (Closed Tues.)  
Last entry at 4pm

Note: All exit gates lock at 4pm, no re-entry

**Admission:**

Members: Free  
Non-members: Admission fee



**Twinleaf**  
BOOK & GIFT SHOP

Hours: 9 am - 5 pm

# April Highlights



**Toothwort** *Cardamine sp.* This demure member of the mustard family is a true spring ephemeral, sending up leaves and flowers for just a few weeks to set seeds before retreating underground for another year. Two species can be found at the Preserve, *Cardamine concatenata* or cutleaf toothwort and *Cardamine diphylla*, or two-leaved toothwort. Both have four-petal flowers, with *C. concatenata* having dissected, lacy leaves and *C. diphylla* having larger, more ovate leaves. Toothwort is the host plant for the lovely falcate orangetip butterfly. In early spring, female butterflies search for toothwort on which to lay their eggs. The caterpillars that emerge feed exclusively on members of the mustard family and they must eat, grow and pupate before the toothwort dies back for another year.



**Eastern Redbud** *Cercis canadensis.* This stunning small understory tree of the forest edge is a real showstopper. In spring, the pink-purple flowers bloom along bare branches and twigs before the heart-shaped leaves emerge. A member of the legume family, the edible flowers are pollinated by long-tongued bees that are able to reach deep into the flower to sip the sweet nectar while brushing against reproductive parts. After pollination, the flowers form 3-4" flattened pods. These pods resemble a weaver's shuttle, hence the name *kerkis* from the Greek word meaning 'weaver's shuttle'. (Photo by Jean Barrell)



**Trout-Lily** *Erythronium americanum.* As you walk along many of our trails, you may observe large colonies of brownish-green mottled leaves that resemble the skin of brown or brook trout. You have found a colony of trout-lily. When mature, some of the leaves will be paired with a single flower emerging between. The yellow petals reflex back to invite pollinators to visit, while brown rectangular stamens dust the guests with pollen. Other common names, such as dog-toothed violet, refer to the tooth-like shape of the underground root system. Though few grow from seed, those that do, produce an **elaiosome** which is a fat and sugar-rich morsel to attract ants. The relationship between flowers that depend on ants to disperse their seeds is known as **myrmecochory**. (Photo by Jean Barrell)



**Virginia Bluebells** *Mertensia virginica.* This lovely spring ephemeral blooms in masses along flood plains and moist woodland trails. Blue-green foliage supports clusters of pink buds that, as they open, turn a stunning cerulean blue. The tubular, pendulous flowers are a magnet for queen bumblebees in search of the first spring nectar. The genus name *Mertensia* honors Franz Carl Mertens (1764-1831), a Polish-born mathematician. Find a spectacular show of bluebells along the Parry and Marsh-marigold trails.



**Trillium** *Trillium sp.* This classic spring flower is common along woodland trails and the rich flood plain of the Parry Trail. The three whorled leaves support three petals which protect three stamens and three pistil parts. You will no doubt encounter many species of trillium, each as beautiful and intriguing as the next. Toadshade, *Trillium sessile*, has erect burgundy petals that sit atop three mottled leaves. Large-flowered trillium, *Trillium grandiflorum*, has large white flowers that fade to a soft pink after being pollinated. Yellow trillium, *Trillium luteum*, is similar to toadshade, but with lemon-yellow erect petals. There are many others to find as you walk our wooded trails, including nodding trillium, *T. cernuum*, purple trillium, *T. erectum*, and Huger's trillium, *T. cuneatum*, which is difficult to distinguish from toadshade. Whichever you encounter, enjoy them, for they are as fleeting as the spring in the mid-Atlantic! (Photo by Mary Anne Borge)



**Wood-Poppy** *Stylophorum diphyllum.* You can't miss this sunshine yellow flower when it blooms in wooded areas of the Preserve. Four bright yellow petals surround a mass of yellow stamens and a stout pistil. The blue-green lobed foliage is silvery beneath and offers a beautiful contrast in a home woodland garden. It readily self-seeds and the short bristly hairs that grow along the stem and cover the seed pod make them unattractive to deer browse. The species name refers to the paired lobed leaves just below the flower heads. (Photo by Mary Anne Borge)

## Your Support Matters Become a Member

Members enjoy many benefits including **12 months of free admission**, program discounts, Members Only events, our Twinleaf newsletter, and discounts on native plants and shop merchandise.

As a non-profit organization, your membership is tax deductible. We depend upon and appreciate all of your support.

See [bhwp.org/join](http://bhwp.org/join) for more information



### Guided Naturalist Walks

Join our Naturalists for an informative tour featuring the season's beautiful highlights. Explore the trails and share the stories about our native plants.

**Fri - Sat - Sun**  
11 am & 2 pm

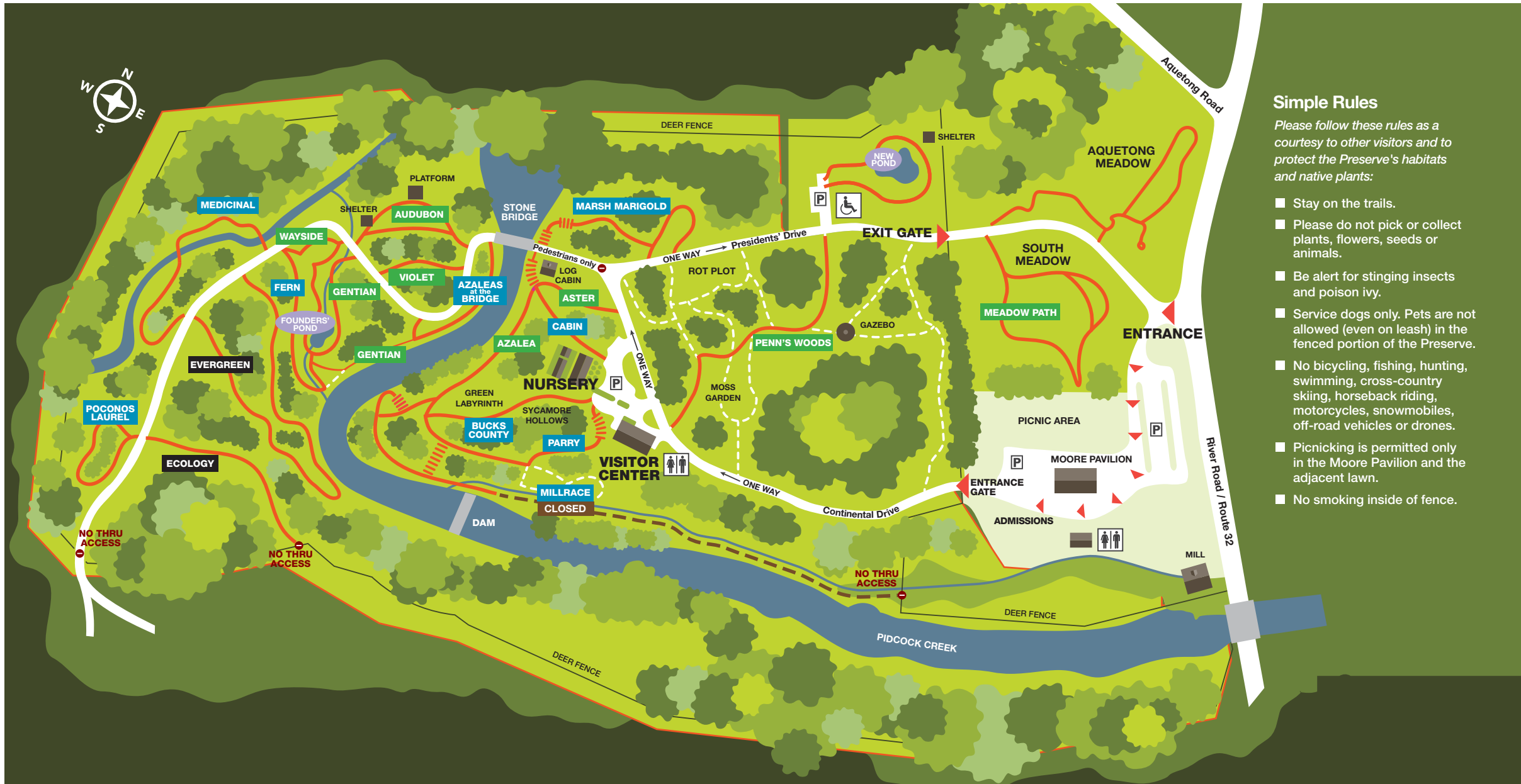
Limited Reservations  
at the Twinleaf Gift Shop  
Fee required for Non-members



Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve encompasses part of the Indigenous homelands of the Lenape peoples. We pay respect and honor to this lands' original inhabitants and acknowledge their displacement by European colonization.

We are dedicated to being respectful and sustainable stewards of the Preserve and to deepening the relationship with the Lenape peoples.





- ### Simple Rules
- Please follow these rules as a courtesy to other visitors and to protect the Preserve's habitats and native plants:
- Stay on the trails.
  - Please do not pick or collect plants, flowers, seeds or animals.
  - Be alert for stinging insects and poison ivy.
  - Service dogs only. Pets are not allowed (even on leash) in the fenced portion of the Preserve.
  - No bicycling, fishing, hunting, swimming, cross-country skiing, horseback riding, motorcycles, snowmobiles, off-road vehicles or drones.
  - Picnicking is permitted only in the Moore Pavilion and the adjacent lawn.
  - No smoking inside of fence.

## Paths to follow

### EASIER

- Penn's Woods to New Pond**  
One of our most gentle trails, past the Moss Garden and magnolias. Good for strollers and most wheel chairs.
- New Pond Loop**  
View the wonderful native plants and animals that live in this special place. Accessible parking nearby. Some rough paving.
- New Pond to Stone Bridge** (via President's Dr.)  
Walk down this shady road to the 1934 WPA Stone Bridge to view Pidcock Creek.
- Stone Bridge to Azaleas at the Bridge**  
Stroll along Pidcock Creek and take a break on a peaceful bench.
- Gentian to Founders' Pond**  
Visit our secluded pond and experience this natural spring-fed habitat.

### MODERATE

- Cabin Path to Stone Bridge**  
Walk down to the historic American chestnut log cabin. Take care on the stairs down to the Stone Bridge.
- Azalea to Millrace Dam**  
This gentle wide trail will take you down to the dam on Pidcock Creek.
- Fern Trail to Gentian to Founders' Pond**  
These trails meander through the forest to bring you to a woodland pond.
- Stone Bridge to Poconos Laurel**  
A brisk walk uphill from the creek on President's Drive rewards the effort with a visit to the most remote part of the Preserve

### APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

- Parry Trail
  - Native Plant Marketplace
  - Marsh-marigold Trail
  - Medicinal Trail
  - Penn's Woods
  - Azaleas at the Bridge Trail
- Note: For easier access (no stairs) to lower Parry Trail, use the Bucks County Trail to the Azalea Trail.*

**Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve**  
1635 RIVER ROAD, NEW HOPE PA 18938  
[www.bhwp.org](http://www.bhwp.org) 215.862.2924

Trails	Stairs	<b>EASIER</b> Good surface Wider paths	<b>MODERATE</b> Some inclines Narrower paths Some stairs or steps	<b>DIFFICULT</b> Narrow paths Inclines Rocky sections
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**The Preserve CLOSES at 5:00 pm.**  
All gates will lock at this time.  
*No re-entry through pedestrian gates. They will lock behind you.*  
For Meadow Trails access, please park in the lots outside of the fence.

### Trail Distances

Aster Path - .03 mi	Evergreen - .27 mi	Parry Trail - .08 mi
Audubon - .12 mi	Fern Trail - .20 mi	Penn's Woods to New Pond - .17 mi
Azalea - .15 mi	Gentian - .14 mi	Poconos Laurel - .11 mi
Azaleas at the Bridge - .08 mi	Marsh-marigold - .12 mi	Violet - .04 mi
Bucks County - .16 mi	Meadow Path - .14 mi	Wayside - .03 mi
Cabin Path - .07 mi	Medicinal - .28 mi	Visitor Center to Stone Bridge - .14 mi
Ecology (one-way) - .11 mi	Millrace (Closed temporarily)	Stone Bridge to upper gate - .37 mi
	New Pond Loop - .14 mi	Ecology to Stone Bridge - .3 mi