

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



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.

June Highlights



Photo by Mary Anne Borge



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Bee-Balm *Monarda didyma*. Bee-balm, a popular plant for pollinator gardens, uses its striking scarlet cylindrical flowers poised above its red-tinged bracts to invite hummingbirds, butterflies and bees. The large, dark green serrated leaves provide a sharp contrast to the brilliant, showy flowerhead. As a member of the mint family, all parts of the plant emit a pleasant aroma, and the dense cluster of tubular flowers is supported by a rigid square stem. This hardy plant reaches up to 4 feet and flowers profusely throughout midsummer making it a wonderful choice as a backdrop to shorter native plants. Given its preference for sun and moist soil, bee-balm is often used successfully in rain gardens. Its strong fragrance usually keeps deer away.

Eastern Prickly-Pear *Opuntia humifusa*. Eastern prickly-pear is the only cactus widely distributed in the Eastern United States. Beginning in June, the cactus produces 2- to 3-inch yellow flowers with reddish centers and a mass of prominent stamens that sit along the upper edges of the pads. Often clump-forming, its fleshy gray-green pads contain both long spines and tiny reddish-brown barbed bristles. The cactus should be handled carefully as the bristles are difficult to remove because of backward pointing hooks that can cause an uncomfortable allergic reaction. While it can reach a height of 12", it is often semi-prostrate. A sun-loving plant, it can easily thrive in rocky or sandy soil where broken pads can easily create new plants. The reddish-colored fruit that matures in late summer is a favorite of birds and other critters.

Trumpet Honeysuckle *Lonicera sempervirens*. A magnet for ruby-throated hummingbirds, this woody vine can grow up to 20 feet in a growing season. Both the leaves, which are dark blue-green above and white and waxy below, as well as the trumpet-shaped flowers hold interest for gardeners and wildlife. The 2-inch flowers are narrow tubes of orange-red on the outside and yellow on the inside. They are displayed as whorled clusters at the end of long stems that provide an excellent source of nectar for hummingbirds, butterflies and bees. Planting in full sun will encourage more prolific blooming throughout the summer. The vine is the larval host for the spring azure butterfly's caterpillar, and birds feast on its scarlet berries in late summer.

Mountain-Laurel *Kalmia latifolia*. This beautiful evergreen shrub grows in both full sun and on shady slopes. The white to rose-pink cup-shaped flowers are five-sided and can be found at the tips of the gnarled branches. Prior to opening, the flowers resemble angled balloons and are often sticky to the touch. The remarkable pollination strategy is worth a closer look, where each of the five stamens arising from the center of the flower has its anther tucked into the corners of the five-sided cup. When an unsuspecting bee lands on the flower, the stamen, which is spring loaded, thwacks the visitor, depositing sticky pollen pack on the bee's back. You can simulate this by placing your finger in the center of a newly opened flower. Mountain-laurel is the state flower of Pennsylvania.

Spiderwort *Tradescantia sp.* Three purple petals surround bright yellow stamens on this prolific perennial. With long, narrow leaves that spread up to 14", when you look down at the plant, it is reminiscent of a squatting spider, hence the common name. Though each flower of spiderwort lasts just a few hours, there is such an abundance of buds in the queue, the bloom time for each plant can be several weeks. Named after John Tradescant (1608-1662), a gardener for Charles I of England, a lovely stand can be found at the lower part of the meadow just as you pull into the Preserve. It is best visited in the morning, as the flowers wither by midday.

Dogbane *Apocynum cannabinum*. This common flower of fields and forest edges may not be very showy, but it is the place to be when it comes to pollinators. Butterflies, bees, moths and beetles congregate on the small cream-colored flowers collecting nectar and pollen. After pollination, long slender pods form and split when ripe releasing hundreds of parachuted seeds. Though in the same family as milkweed, monarch caterpillars do not eat dogbane, but adult butterflies will feed on the nectar. Oval leaves are opposite on the stem and release a milky latex when bruised. The beautiful metallic-green dogbane beetle can often be found hiding on the leaves. Almost jewel-like in appearance, this beetle feeds exclusively on dogbane. Indigenous people made rope, string and cordage from the dried outer bark of the stems, which is said to be stronger than most other fibers.

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 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

the Preserve
@Play!
Tree Jamboree
Saturday, June 15 11:00 to 3:00
Family Fun & Learning
Games • Crafts • Music • Food • Wood/Mobile
Lolly Hopwood • Aark Wildlife

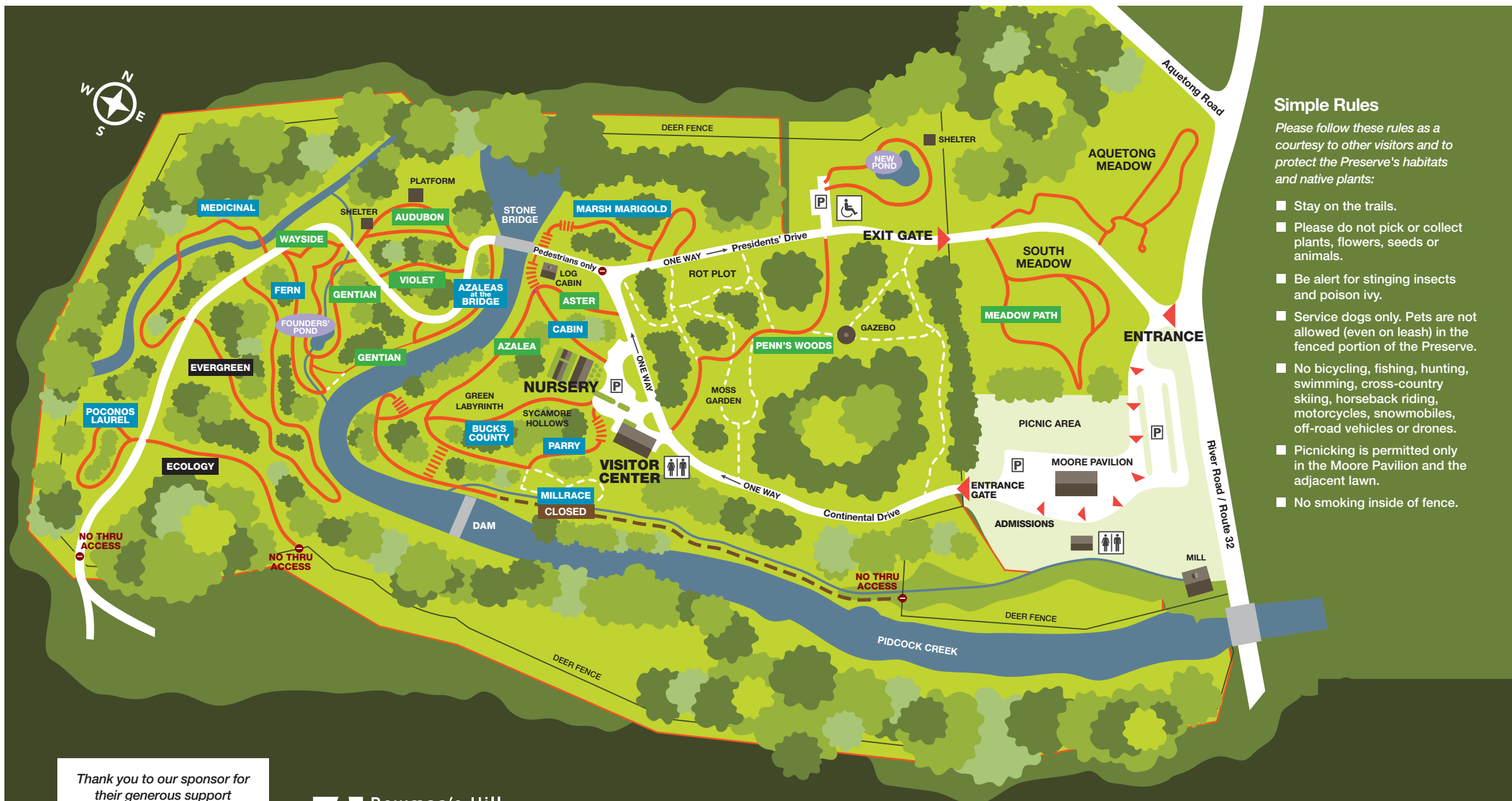


 Bowman's Hill
Wildflower Preserve
1635 RIVER ROAD | NEW HOPE | PA 18938
www.bhwp.org



Twinleaf
BOOK & GIFT SHOP

Hours: 9 am - 5 pm



- ### 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

JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

- Visitor Center Garden
 - New Pond
 - Medicinal Trail
 - Marsh-marigold Trail
 - Founders' Pond
 - Aquetong & South Meadows
- Note: For easier access (no stairs) to lower Parry Trail, use the Bucks County Trail towards the Azalea Trail then follow the Bucks County Trail to the lower area.*



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215.862.2924

Trails	Stairs	EASIER Good surface Wider paths	MODERATE Some inclines Narrower paths Some stairs or steps	DIFFICULT 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