

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

 **Bowman's Hill
Wildflower Preserve**
1635 RIVER ROAD, NEW HOPE PA 18938



Hours: Daily: 9 am - 5 pm
Last entry at 4 pm

April - June: Open Daily
July - March: Closed Tuesdays

Admission:
Non-members: Fee required
Members: Complimentary

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.



December Highlights



Eastern White Pine *Pinus strobus*. The largest northeastern pine, white pines have unique blue-green, 5" long needles that are set in bundles of five. These needles are rich in vitamin C and can be made into a winter immunity tea. The steam from this tea can also be inhaled to help clear congestion. Male and female flowers are present on the same tree (monoecious), and after pollination, the female flowers develop into 6-8" long narrow cones. The seeds inside the cones are eaten by many birds, rabbits and squirrels throughout the winter. Often used in restoration efforts, its seeds easily germinate in many different forest types.



Eastern Red-Cedar *Juniperus virginiana*. Often called a pioneer species, red-cedars are one of the first trees to grow in a meadow or fallow field. The bark peels off in sheets and red-cedar tree trunks are often stripped by squirrels to line their nests. The fruits, which are eaten by squirrels, wild turkey, deer and other wildlife, are blue-green and resemble berries but are in fact cones with fused scales. Red-cedar wood is prized for its natural pest repellent qualities as well as resistant to rot.



Christmas Fern *Polystichum acrostichoides*. As you walk the trails of the Preserve, you can't help but notice this evergreen fern prevalent throughout. Christmas fern thrives in wooded areas and really stands out, especially after it snows. The fronds (leaves) are once pinnately compound, meaning they are only divided one time. Each division, called a pinna, looks similar to a stocking hung on a line. That, as well as being evergreen, gives rise to the common name Christmas fern.



Canada Hemlock *Tsuga canadensis*. This tree has short flat needles that are dark green on top and have two white bands on the back that makes this evergreen easily recognized. Not to be confused with the poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*) that killed Socrates, native to Europe and North Africa, our native hemlock is not poisonous. Unfortunately, this Pennsylvania state tree is threatened in many areas because of an invasive non-native pest called the hemlock wooly adelgid. The Preserve has a large stand of Canada hemlock on the Azalea Trail.



American Holly *Ilex opaca*. Often used in holiday decorations, the American holly's abundance of evergreen foliage covers its branches from top to bottom. The thick, leathery leaves are accented with spines that save them from being browsed by hungry herbivores, while clusters of tart red globular fruits are a valuable food source for many of the Preserve's residents including mockingbirds, red-bellied woodpeckers, wild turkeys and racoons. These colorful fruits, produced only on female trees, are ripe from early fall until spring, becoming more palatable after a frost.

**Discover the Preserve
in all seasons!**

There's something beautiful
around every bend.
(Closed Dec. 23 to Jan. 5,
reopening January 6)



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



The Preserve Needs You!
Support our Annual Fund 2024

 **Twinleaf**
BOOK & GIFT SHOP

Holiday Gifts for Everyone!
Hours: 9 am - 5 pm



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1635 RIVER ROAD, NEW HOPE PA 18938

www.bhwp.org
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 CLOSSES 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 for repairs) | Stone Bridge to upper gate - .37 mi |
| | New Pond Loop - .14 mi | Ecology to Stone Bridge - .3 mi |

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

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Aquetong & South Meadows

Marsh-marigold Trail

Medicinal Trail

Founder's Pond

New Pond

Penn's Woods

Azaleas by the Bridge Trail

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.