



ROUTZONG PRESERVE

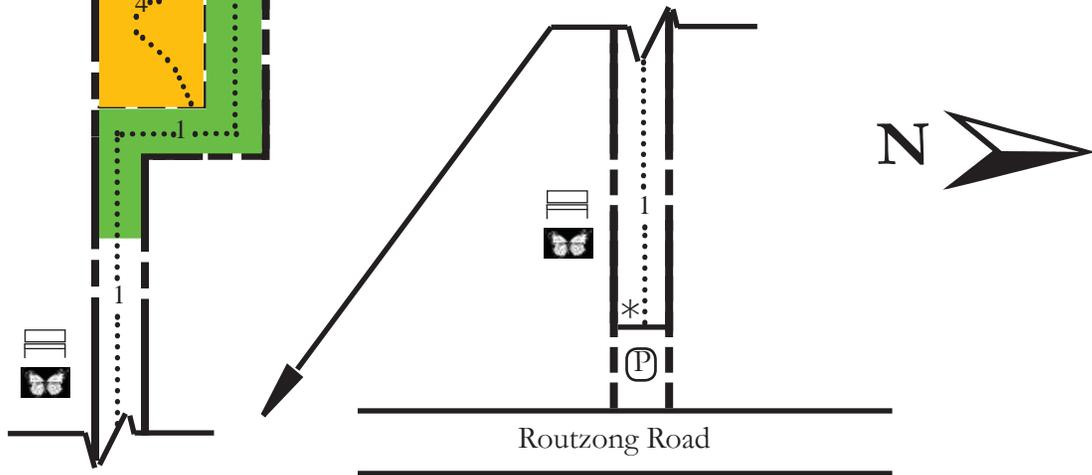
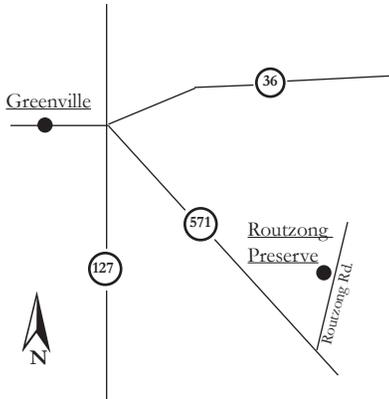


Legend

- Parking
- Butterfly Garden
- Bench
- Bulletin Board
- Bridge
- Wet Area
- Mature Woodland
- Managed Prairie

Trails (1.5mi.)

- Butterfly Trail (.4 mi.)
- Paw Paw Trail (.7 mi.)
- Loop Trail (.3 mi)
- Memorial Tree Trail (.3 mi)



Welcome to Routzong Preserve

The following is part of a report authored by Paul E. Knoop, noted naturalist and former Education Director of the Aullwood Audubon Center, on the eve of park designation for Routzong Preserve, then known as Johnson Woods.

“On the evening of May 7, 1984...I had the opportunity of walking through the 35-acre Johnson Woods. As we left the cultivated fields and entered the woodland, we felt a sense of quiet and peacefulness. We sank into the leaf litter on the woodland floor and had to walk carefully to avoid tramping on wildflowers. The wildflower carpet here is outstanding and very likely representative of Darke



Trillium



White Baneberry

County prior to European settlement. Of special note were Running Strawberry, White Baneberry and Blue Cobosh.

The topography of the woodland is gently rolling so that small wet areas occur throughout. These wet areas typically have Spicebush, Sensitive Fern, and other wetland species.

The dry/wet character of the woodland is also indicated by the trees. The wet areas contain Sycamore, Red Elm and American Beech. The dry areas contain various species of Oak and Hickory.

It is a joy to walk in a woodland such as this and encounter large trees. Of note was a 36-inch Red Elm, large Buckeyes and Oak trees. Trees this size are rapidly disappearing...and here in this “living museum” they will be allowed to live out their natural life spans.”



Sycamore

It is the wish of Darke County Parks that you, too, discover this joy. Join us at 5352 Routzong Road for a walk in the woods.

DARKE COUNTY PARKS

Park Hours

All of the Darke County Parks are open sunrise to sunset. Visitors are encouraged to exit the park while there is still enough light to navigate the trails safely.

Park Programs

Darke County Parks naturalists lead programs throughout the year. Many programs are nature-related, such as bird hikes, wildflower walks, or programs to explore the world of nature at night. Other programs may focus on the rich history of our area or outdoor skills such as fishing and camping. Schools, clubs and other groups are encouraged to contact Darke County Parks to schedule a program to support school curriculum or other special interests. Darke County Parks publishes a free quarterly newsletter that provides information on programs, clubs and other park related information.

How to Reach Us

The Parks' Offices are located in the Nature Center at Shawnee Prairie Preserve, 4267 State Route 502 West at the edge of Greenville. See the website for current hours of operation. More information about programs and activities is available at the Center, by calling 937.548.0165 or by logging on to www.darkecountyparks.org.

Enjoy, Don't Destroy

Help us protect Darke County Parks. Do not pick, collect or disturb plants, animals or artifacts of any kind. Please stay on designated trails. Motor vehicles are restricted to roadways. Parking is in designated areas only. Please do not litter. Please keep dogs on leash at all times.

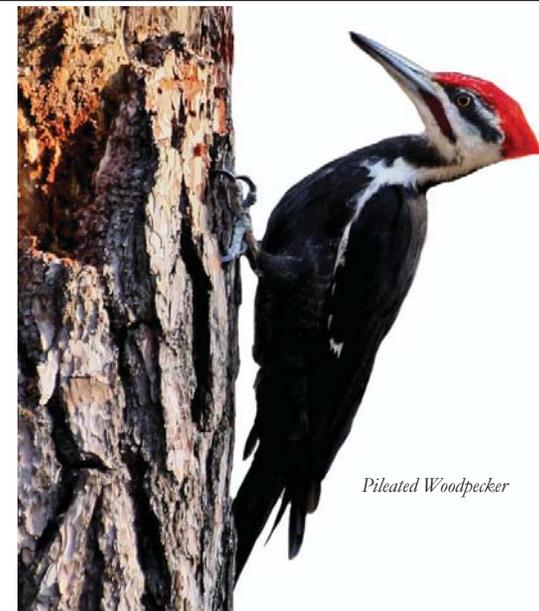


Darke County Parks

4267 State Route 502
Greenville, Ohio 45331
(937) 548-0165
www.darkecountyparks.org

PATHFINDER

Routzong Preserve



Pileated Woodpecker

From spectacular spring wildflowers to brilliant fall leaves, the Beech-Maple forest of Routzong Preserve makes it an area of interest during every season of the year. Visitors will find over 1.5 miles of trails to explore in this 55-acre park with countless opportunities to enjoy the many seasonal natural events. Ron and Betty Johnson donated a portion of this preserve to Darke County Parks.

