ABOUT THE TRAILS

Various colored directional arrows on a white background have been fastened to trees along the major trails. The major trails within the Broughton Nature and Wildlife Area have been marked with durable three inch diameter metal signs in the shape of a hiker. These signs have been mounted to a white background and firmly attached to trees and posts along the appropriate trails.

| Eastern Ridge Trail - yellow hiker markers |
| Northern Ridge Trail - yellow hiker markers |
| Western Ridge Trail - blue hiker markers |
| Valley Trail - orange hiker markers |
| Southwest Overlook Trail - green hiker markers |
| Powerline Trail - red hiker markers |

- The combined Eastern Ridge Trail and Hesson Trail (yellow hiker markers) are accessible from the southern end of the Powerline Trail. Either of these trails will lead you back to the Powerline Trail.

- Northern Ridge Trail (yellow hiker markers) - Visitors entering the Wildlife Education Area from the East Entrance will climb a gentle incline to a small pond. The trail passes to the right of the pond and climbs a bit more steeply to the crest of a ridge. The trail is mostly level with only a couple short relatively mild climbs.

- Powerline Trail (red hiker markers) - This trail follows the service road along the power lines. The trail is fairly wide and easily distinguished and joins the Valley Trail shortly after you pass the oil well.

- Valley Trail (orange hiker markers) - This trail will most likely be wet and muddy on various sections. At its southern most end the trail actually has two options, one follows the stream bed and the other option is to take the higher trail which climbs a relatively steep hill then drops down to meet the stream trail below the oil well.

- Indian Trail (yellow hiker markers) - This trail starts where the Hesson Trail ends at the Powerline Trail continues on to cross the Valley Trail and ends at the Western Ridge Trail.

- Western Ridge Trail (blue hiker markers) is a fairly level, dry trail that starts at the West Entrance parking lot and eventually joins the Northern Ridge Trail (yellow hiker markers). Some excellent views of the Muskingum River can be seen through gaps in the trees to the west.

- Southwest Overlook Trail (green hiker markers) intersects the Western Ridge Trail and heads south. The trail exits the wooded area into a field that has been planted with various grains and offers a scenic overlook across a meadow frequently visited by whitetail deer and various other forms of wildlife. To pick up the trail after leaving the wooded area, turn right and follow the pole line along the edge of the woods. Turn right and re-enter the woods after the third pole. The trail ends overlooking Ohio 821 and Second Creek.

Remember
- Blue leads back to the West Entrance behind the Marietta Bible College.
- Yellow leads back to the East Entrance (parking lot with the red barn).
- Orange leads back to the Main Entrance.
The main entrance and parking area is located on State Route 821 .6 of a mile north from State Route 60. The Nature Area is open during daylight hours.
The Education Area is also the home of the Marietta High School Tiger Cross Country Teams. The teams train on the challenging trails regularly. The Elizabeth S. Broughton Invitational Meet is hosted every year and athletes from many schools compete on the challenging 5 kilometer course shown in multi-colors. The mowed course provides a smoother path for those who want or need an alternative to trails but is nevertheless challenging.

A second meet is hosted in the Education Area by the Marietta College Cross Country team named The Carl Broughton Invitational. The men cover the entire nature preserve while running the 8 kilometer course (5 miles). The women run the same challenging course but complete their race at 5 kilometers (3.1 miles). The course is a test of one’s will power as it climbs and descends in multiple areas.
The wildlife area is a part of the Broughton Foundation, a tax exempt non-profit organization organized in 1991 by Carl and Elizabeth Broughton. The wildlife area contains more than 500 acres of land and is available for wildlife and environmental study by groups and individuals. It is an educational area with several trails, two ponds, a natural stream, waterfall and several areas of undisturbed nature located about one mile from Marietta. We are easily accessible from Interstate 77, Ohio 60 and Ohio 821 and have public parking areas.

**Wildlife Area Rules**

1. No alcohol or illegal substances allowed on the premises.

2. No weapons (firearms or bows)

3. No fires permitted, except in fire ring provided at pavilion.

4. No altering of land without permission.

5. No unauthorized motorized vehicles.

6. No littering.

7. Overnight camping for scouts or juvenile groups with park permission only.

8. No fishing without permission.

9. Any pet should be accompanied and controlled by its owner.

10. Park is open daily, Daylight till Dark. (Closed during Ohio Deer Season)

11. Mountain bike riding with permission only.

*These rules will be enforced by the Washington County Sheriff’s Department.*

The wildlife area is sponsored by the Carl and Elizabeth Broughton Foundation.

*For trail information and/or maps call: 740-376-0831, fax: 740-374-9924 or email: george@gwbsales.com*

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