

Nature Preserve and Natural Areas

Map and Guide

The Nature Preserve and Natural Areas are open year 'round

Visitor Parking

~~Visitor parking permits are available for \$5 per day and after 5 p.m. for \$1 per evening. During the summer, permits cost \$1 per day.~~ No charge from 4 p.m. Friday until Monday morning. Observe parking lot restrictions. You may inquire about parking and purchase a visitor-parking permit at the Information Booth at the main entrance to Binghamton University.

Access to the Natural Areas:

From the west: top of Parking Lot M, by Susquehanna Community
From the east: south end of Lehigh Avenue (park on pavement)

Emergency contacts and information:

Parking Services 777-2279
University Police 777-2393

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Welcome to the Binghamton University Nature Preserve and Natural Areas!

The Nature Preserve was established in 1970 to recognize natural areas on campus and to preserve the area for minimal-impact research and quiet contemplation. The University is unique in having such a large preserve right on campus: Its approximately 600 acres of natural areas, including 190 acres designated as Nature Preserve and 400 acres of untouched land, are open to all nature lovers. 🌿 Lowlands flooded by beavers, forested hills, old fields and shrub lands create a mosaic of plant communities that offer habitat for a wide variety of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and insects. This diversity is especially reflected in the number of bird species recorded in the preserve (over 200), perhaps the most for any area in Broome County.

Guidelines for Exploration

In order to minimize potential harm and to preserve the land for wildlife and future visitors, all visitors are asked to observe the following rules:

- 🌿 No tampering with markers, research materials or trail work
- 🌿 No unleashed dogs (All Town of Vestal dog ordinances apply in the natural areas. Please have the courtesy to clean up after your dog.)
- 🌿 No biking (allowed only on Connector Road)
- 🌿 No camping
- 🌿 No littering
- 🌿 No hunting
- 🌿 No fires
- 🌿 Stay on trails



Seasonal Highlights

Spring

Thousands of spring peepers calling: loud peeping sounds mainly after dark in the wetlands

Mid-Spring

Canada goose goslings, best seen around the boardwalk

Summer

Dragonflies hovering over the wetlands, luxuriant and colorful vegetation

Fall

Rich colors of fall's foliage: maples flashing bright reds and vibrant oranges; birches, aspens and hickories shimmering with yellows; and ashes and oaks adding subtle shades of maroon

About the Friends of the Nature Preserve

This nurturing group of faculty, students and community members provides stewardship, trail maintenance and educational opportunities within the preserve, and welcomes new friends. To donate your time, send an e-mail to naturepr@binghamton.edu. To donate funds, kindly send a check to the Binghamton University Foundation, PO Box 6005, Binghamton, NY, 13902-6005, with a note indicating it is for the Nature Preserve.

To help sustain the pristine Nature Preserve, stop by the University Bookstore and order a copy of *Love Notes* by Jennifer Ivan or buy a green bracelet. Proceeds from both benefit the Nature Preserve.

For more information, visit <http://naturepreserve.binghamton.edu>