



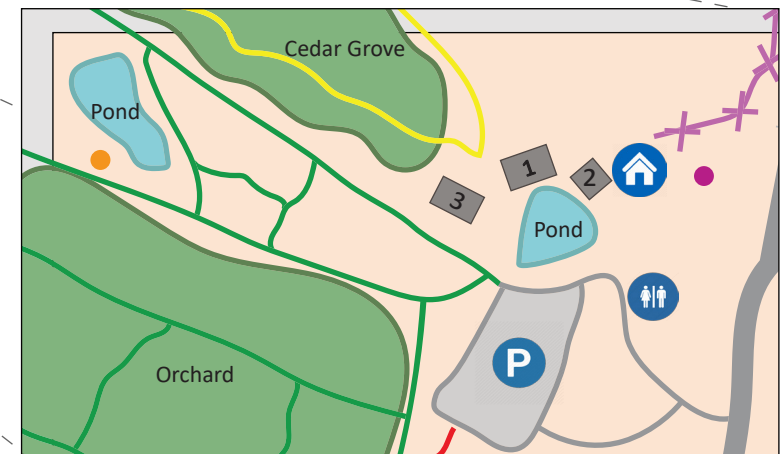
- Visitor Center
- Parking
- Portable Restrooms
- Creek Platform
- Birding Platform
- Pond Platform
- The Old Oak

Trail Difficulty

- Easy
- Medium
- Strenuous

- Sharp Creek
- Service Vehicle Access Only Road
- Private Road

- 1 Owl Enclosures
- 2 Teaching Barn
- 3 Russell Pavilion
- 4 Equipment Barn



Primary trails at Owl's Hill Nature Sanctuary are marked with 3" metal blazes color coordinated with the colors on this trail map.

Owl's Hill Trails

Sharp Creek Trail - 1.0 mi



Offering a moderately easy hike through the variety of habitats found at Owl's Hill, the Sharp Creek Trail winds through the shallow soils and limestone outcroppings of the cedar grove and a rich deciduous forest of ash, oak, hickory and tulip poplar. The lower portion runs along Sharp Creek before returning to a cedar thicket where blue-eyed Mary, a rare spring wildflower can be found.

Old Oak Overlook - 500 ft



This short side trail takes visitors uphill for a closer look at one of the largest and oldest trees at Owl's Hill, a 350-year-old white oak.

South Ridge Trail - 1.2 mi



This is a moderately strenuous hike through mature forests and variable terrain up to an elevation of 1,000 feet at the top of the ridge. The trail begins in hardwood forest with a spicebush understory. The drier ridgeback features trees that are adapted to the more challenging conditions of thin soil and weathering. This trail is ideal for wildlife watching and in the spring offers prime wildflower viewing.

Orchard Family Trails - 1.2 mi



These un-blazed paths link the open areas near the Visitor Center, the upper and lower ponds and the orchard. The pond platform is an excellent spot for bird and butterfly watching.

Hilltop Trail - 0.1 mi

Haircut Loop - 0.4 mi



The loop trail offers a glimpse into the past as visitors travel up through a loblolly pine planting. These trees were planted for timber harvest but are now protected as part of the sanctuary. The trail climbs to the loop of Haircut Hill, where yellowwood, sassafras, yellow buckeyes and large ash trees can be found. Climb the Hilltop Trail to the top of Haircut Hill for a bit of fresh air and a rest.

Loblolly Trail - 0.4 mi



This trail is a trip through succession in action, as one community of plants replaces another over space and time. Pioneer trees - those that move in quickly after disturbance - dominate the southern portion of this trail below Haircut Hill. The southern portion passes above the loblolly pine planting through hardwood forest.

Owl's Hill Arboretum

Owl's Hill Nature Sanctuary is certified as an Arboretum by the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council. Visitors can find trees labeled with their species name and information throughout the property. Scan the code for more information and a trail map with tree locations.



Welcome

We hope you enjoy your time hiking the trails of Owl's Hill. Here you will find habitats suited for a diverse grouping of native plants and animals. Mixed deciduous forests house some of the oldest trees on the property and many species of wildflowers. Our creek is home to salamanders, crayfish, and small darters. The meadows provide food and nesting sites for songbirds.

As you immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of the natural world, please remember that Owl's Hill is a protected habitat for wildlife.

Practice leave no trace.

- Travel only on marked trails.
- Pack out your trash - do not litter.
- Collecting is prohibited. Rocks, sticks, flowers, soil, feathers, or anything that belongs in nature should stay there for the wildlife and other visitors to enjoy.

Thank you for visiting Owl's Hill. We hope you leave with good memories and a sense of restored peace.