



# Nature Center Trail Map

16146 Daniel Street NE • Minerva, OH • 44657  
(330) 823-7487 • naturecenter@mountunion.edu



## LEGEND

Stream	Bridges	Map
Accessible Trails	Points of Interest	Parking
Service Road	Private Property	



Trails open daily from dawn to dusk • Remain on trails at all times • Pets must be leashed at all times  
Do not pick or collect living or non-living specimens • Review posted signage for additional info

Find us online at [www.mountunion.edu/nature-center](http://www.mountunion.edu/nature-center) • Share your experience



## About the trails

As you walk through the Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center, you will discover a diverse forest ecosystem where thousands of species thrive. Along our 4.5 miles of trails, you will see successional and old growth forest, peaceful ponds, ephemeral streams, and an assortment of small wetlands and meadows, each teeming with plant and animal life. Close inspection will reveal clues to the property's agricultural heritage via the presence of historical structures, dead row furrows on the forest floor, and trees growing along old fencerows. Each trail, visit, and season provides a different experience in our forested preserve.

- Huston Farm Loop (.49 mile)** – This half-mile loop provides access to nature for people of all ages and abilities on boardwalk and compacted gravel surfaces. It leads hikers to the Visitors Center and barnyard through the forest dominated by maple and cherry trees with a thick understory of spicebush. Hikers can access the remainder of the trail system from this trail. *An easy trail with gradual inclines.*
- Brumbaugh Woods Trail (1.78 miles)** – Take a grand tour of the Nature Center's preserve. You will pass the barnyard, cross foot bridges, rest near a pond, pass a meadow, traverse a 100+ foot elevated bridge, and experience the majesty of old growth forest. *A moderately strenuous trail with inclines exceeding 5% grade.*
- Succession Trail (.42 mile)** – Observe forest succession in real time as you walk west to east across the heart of the preserve. See the forest mature from early- to mid-successional forest before crossing the electric utility corridor and enter mature, old-growth forest. Two benches are available to rest at the intersection with Tulip Trail. *A moderately strenuous trail with inclines exceeding 5% grade.*
- Pond Trail (.11 mile)** – An extension of the boardwalk system providing access to the pond for people of all ages and abilities. The pond has three observation platforms to view pond life and three benches to take a brief rest. *An easy trail with gradual incline.*
- Spicebush Trail (.20 mile)** – A narrow trail carved through the dense spicebush understory. Walk slowly to catch glimpses of many of the Nature Center's birds in the surrounding thicket and canopy. *A moderately strenuous trail with inclines exceeding 5% grade.*
- Maple Trail (.15 mile)** – Pass through a small meadow before entering the forest dominated by Red Maple trees. Look for wildlife trails and animal tracks crossing the trail as you head south toward the Brumbaugh Woods Trail. *A seasonally wet trail with gradual incline.*
- Tulip Trail (.09 mile)** – A connecting trail between Succession Trail and Brumbaugh Woods Trail dominated by tall, straight Tulip Poplars. *A moderately strenuous trail with incline exceeding 5% grade.*
- Beech Trail (.22 mile)** – A connecting trail between Brumbaugh Woods Trail and Succession Trail dominated by American Beech trees. The eastern half runs alongside a steep-sided hollow in the old growth forest. Look for Barred Owls in the tree canopy overhead. *A moderately strenuous trail with incline exceeding 5% grade.*
- Oak Trail (.14 mile)** – A connecting trail between Succession Trail and Brumbaugh Woods Trail dotted with extraordinarily large Red Oak trees among other giant specimens in the old growth forest. The north facing slope is a great place for spring ephemeral wildflowers from March through May. *A moderately strenuous trail with incline exceeding 5% grade.*
- Hickory Trail (.08 mile)** – A shortcut between the east pond and elevated bridge lined with American Beech and Shagbark Hickory trees. Can only be accessed via the Brumbaugh Woods Trail. *An easy trail.*
- Big Valley Trail (.21 mile)** – The trail has an ever-changing stream crossing on the east end before meandering through mature, bottomland forest and entering a small wetland. A narrow, 2-plank boardwalk provides access through the wetland. *A moderately strenuous trail with stream crossing (no bridge) and incline exceeding 5% grade.*
- Forest Buchanan Trail (.57 mile)** – Like its namesake naturalist and adventurer, this trail provides an adventure for explorers of all ages through the North Woods section of the Nature Center. Great for families, the trail provides a little bit of everything the Nature Center has to offer including forest, meadow, and stream habitats. A checkerboard and labyrinth provide structured activity, and an observation deck allows for rest or quiet observation. *Unimproved surfaces are easy to moderately strenuous with some incline exceeding 5% grade.*

## Suggested Hikes

**Huston Farm Loop (up to 1 hour):** Easily explore improved surface trails. Look and listen for common wildlife in the surrounding forest. Look and listen for amphibians in the vernal pool. Visit the chicken coop and barn to see our livestock. Touch and smell plants in the herb garden. If time or energy allow, take a detour to the pond using an extension of the boardwalk on the Pond Trail. Benches available in several locations. *Distance is about .5 mile.*

**Succession, Tulip, Brumbaugh Woods, Maple Trails (up to 1 hour):** Explore the heart of our preserve in a loop with slight changes in elevation. Great opportunities for wildlife watching. A pair of benches available to rest on Succession Trail. Unimproved trail surfaces. *Distance is about .75 mile.*

**Brumbaugh Woods Trail (up to 2 hours)** – Explore many of the habitats at the Nature Center on a loop of the entire property. Elevation changes about 130 feet from the parking lot to the east pond. Great opportunities for wildlife watching, botanizing, or simply finding a quiet place to enjoy nature in every season. Many intersecting trails can shorten your trip at any time. *Distance is about 1.75 miles.*

