



Trails

The map shows the network of trails that will lead you around Merryspring. Most of these feature easy walking, but use care and watch for exposed tree roots. **Trail #2** is an old farm lane that bisects the upland center of the park and offers a good orientation to its general layout; you might wish to start your hike here. To get the full flavor of Merryspring take **Trail #1**, the perimeter trail, which is an easy 30-40 minute loop around the park. If you're a wildlife lover, be sure to visit the lower parts of our arboretum, which abuts the Goose River wetland. The quickest way to get here is via **Trail #6**. Finally, for panoramic views to the north and south, take a quick hike out **Trail #4**.

Dogs on a leash are allowed on the trails. In addition, hikers should be aware that the area labeled "North Meadow" is a leash-free zone. Pet owners are expected to collect and remove their dog's solid wastes. Please treat our park as you would your own home!

Kitty Todd Arboretum

Named in memory of Maine-and-Ohio-based conservationist Kitty Todd, the Arboretum occupies about ten acres of a south-facing slope and a portion of the adjacent bottomland, with trails leading hikers to within sight of Goose River. This whole area is one of the best spots in the park to see deer, turkeys, ruffed grouse, barred owls, and a variety of songbirds.

The heart of the arboretum is in a sunny opening where the previous landowner clearcut a grove of large pines and spruces in the early 1970's. A diverse mix of trees, shrubs, ferns, ground covers and native forbs has sprouted from seed in the ensuing three decades and been periodically thinned to showcase as many species of native plants as possible. Specimens are labeled in the field, and there is also a laminated user's guide available on loan from the main office.

Gardens

Many colorful gardens are arranged around the open greenspace in front of the Ross Center. Annuals, roses, perennials, herbs, hostas, and rock garden plants each have their own areas, while larger beds house collections of trees, shrubs and perennials chosen for winter