

Petals in the Pines

Map and Interpretive Trail Guide

SAFETY & COURTESY NOTES: PLEASE READ!

Visits are at your own risk. Amidst the beauty there are stinging insects, poisonous mushrooms, steep drops, and slippery rocks and roots. Please apply bug spray in the parking area only, away from plants (to protect our pollinators). Please stay on trails and garden paths. Trails to the west of the parking area/driveway are steeper than those to the east.

Leaves, fruits, seeds, flowers, moss, critters, and everything growing in nature is here for ALL to enjoy. Do not pick anything, unless you are purchasing flowers, and then only from the Pick-Your-Own Flower Field (in-season, and following instructions on the Farm Stand Porch).

There is a First Aid Kit and “After Bite” in the Pavilion at the Resource Area (front right corner). Please use items from it if needed. We are happy to refill water bottles for you—do **NOT** use water from hose or sinks for drinking.

We believe that you will best enjoy your visit if everyone treats this special place, and all that you will find here, with respect.

If you are here with children, please follow additional detailed **Notes** on the sign in front of the Pavilion.

I'm a Hummingbird Parent

*I hover nearby, but not over my kids.
I remain distant enough to let them explore
and learn to solve problems.
I teach them skills, mainly by example.
I zoom in only when their survival is threatened
(or they are hurting someone or something).
My goal for them isn't a risk-free childhood,
but a resilient life.*

Are you a hummingbird parent?

SUGGESTED WALKS

Welcome to a magical place, and to the trails and paths that criss-cross through it! We hope this guide will make your visit more enlightening and wonder-filled!

“**Love & Grace Labyrinth Out-and-Back**” O (orange) Trail to P (pink) Trail to R (red) Trail out-and-back (at bridge over Brook off P Trail) to visit the Love & Grace Labyrinth; reverse to return to Parking Area (distance 0.8 mi)

“**Peace Labyrinth Short Loop**” Uphill on Woodland Loop to Ridge Trail; turn right (behind chickens) onto explorer trail; bear right at outhouse to visit Peace Labyrinth; left onto P Trail; left onto V (violet) Trail; left onto P Trail; right onto O Trail (distance 0.2 mi)

“**Two Labyrinths Loop**” O Trail to P Trail to R Trail out-and-back (at bridge over Brook off P Trail) to visit the Love & Grace Labyrinth; left onto P Trail to visit the Peace Labyrinth; left onto explorer trail; bear right at outhouse, then right onto Ridge Trail; walk through meadow to O Trail (distance 0.9 mi)

“**Outer Limits Loop**” O Trail to P Trail to S (silver) Trail; left onto B Trail; left onto Y Trail (distance 0.4 mi). *OPTION to extend:* Add on R Trail out-and-back (at bridge off P Trail) to visit the Love & Grace Labyrinth (+ 0.6 mi; total distance 1.0 mi)

“**Eastside Wobble**” Y Trail to first junction with B Trail; right onto G Trail; after most of G Trail, right onto connector then right onto S Trail; left onto B Trail; right onto Y Trail; left onto Woodland Loop; end at Farm Stand (distance 0.3 mi)

“**Short Loop**” O Trail to explorer path through Meadow to Ridge Trail to behind chickens; [*OPTION:* add steps walking garden paths]; then downhill on Woodland Loop; end at Farm Stand (distance 0.2 mi)

“**Zigzag Heights**” O Trail to P Trail to R Trail out-and-back; left on P Trail to V Trail; left onto O Trail to explorer path through Meadow to Ridge Trail; left around Woodland Loop (distance 1.1 mi)

POINTS OF INTEREST

- There are about 3 dozen tree species on the property, many marked with informational signs. Some you can see just a few yards off-trail. How many can you find?
- Large tree specimens can be found on or near most of the trails, including 24 majestic red oaks along the R Trail. Particularly large/old trees from 8 species are marked on the map with a “T” (see key). One curved black birch is over 150 years old, but the trunk is not especially large (age for this species is based on bark appearance, not girth).
- The short explorer path loop (north side of the O Trail, from the parking area) takes you next to an unusual ledge of curved granite; watch your footing on this short rocky path.
- Look for curved, joined, stilt-legged, and distorted trees as pictured here, on the P and G Trails and Woodland Loop.



- Look for snags—dead trees, often broken off part-way up, and “hotels” for birds and other wildlife.
- Sit on the bench atop the Overlook (behind Sand Village) to watch for birds over the Meadow.
- When you crest the hill on the Woodland Loop, going up from the Farm Stand, look at the beautiful green mossy area to the left. Please do not walk on the moss.
- The beds in the PYO Flower Field (at the junction of Ridge Trail and Woodland Loop) showcase over 100 of our flower varieties, as well as many pollinator species. Open for pick-your-own customers mid-July through mid-September.
- Our certified Pollinator-Friendly Meadow (on the explorer path that connects Ridge and O Trails) features many native species of grasses, shrubs, and flowers, plus many bees, butterflies, and birds.
- Small colored flags mark Pink Lady’s Slippers (*Cypripedium acaule*, in bloom late May to early June).