explore miles of peaceful NATURAL AREAS.

RED TRAIL 3.0 mi/68 min
STARTS FROM: Schrict Trail Parking Lot
HIGHLIGHTS: View of the Sangamon River as you walk through a secondary forest containing oak, hickory, and maple trees; and interpretive panels for woodland flora and fauna.
LOOK FOR: snow trillium, Virginia bluebells, and hepatica (spring): compass plant (summer): ringed necked pheasants (fall): piliated woodpeckers (winter)
DID YOU KNOW? Most of this area was farmed until around 1950

MCDONALD FAMILY TRAIL (BLUE) 2.4 mi/53 min
STARTS FROM: Lost Garden Parking Lot
HIGHLIGHTS: Highest quality oak-hickory upland forest in Central Illinoi: unique views of the Sangamon River and surrounding bottomland forest; a well-paved trail (one side of the road) from an old farm
LOOK FOR: shooting star and migrating monarchs (spring), nesting woodpeckers (summer), white-tailed deer (fall), white-breasted nuthatches (winter)
DID YOU KNOW? An open area along the river bluff was a local picnic spot in the early 1900's

PURPLE TRAIL 3 mi/19 min
STARTS FROM: Sun Singer parking lot
HIGHLIGHTS: early successional forest of honey locust, elm species, and a few oaks and hickories
LOOK FOR: magenta waxwings (spring): eastern wood pewee (summer): turkey vultures (fall)
DID YOU KNOW? Areas off this trail were historically used as local trash dumps - we are still trying to clean them up!
The small opening in the forest along this trail was once the site of a lower similar to the one in the Fu Dog Garden.

MCDONALD FAMILY TRAIL (GREEN) 2.2 mi/49 min
STARTS FROM: Lost Garden Parking Lot
HIGHLIGHTS: highest diversity of tree species: good examples of oak-hickory upland forest: 5 maple species and scattered large oak bottomland forest: remnants of one of Robert Albritton's formal gardens, the Lost Garden: a pioneer cemetery (south end)
LOOK FOR: booted and beawood (spring), green dragonfly (summer: wild turkeys (fall): piliated woodpeckers (winter)
DID YOU KNOW? The Petaluma Trail of Death passes through this area. More than 80 members of the Native American tribe moved through this area in 1838.

BROWN TRAIL* 2.6 mi/59 min
STARTS FROM: Death of the Last Centaur parking area
HIGHLIGHTS: Death of the Last Centaur statue: bottomland forest featuring ash, bur oaks, and sycamores (come over from the bottomland forest); new to the State Champion Swamp White Oak - 59" in diameter and 51' tall; just north of the trail section that runs along the river bluff and halfway between the yellow/brown and purple/brown intersections
LOOK FOR: Virginia bluebells, migrating song birds, and blue-eyed Mary (spring): great-hk butterflies, wood ducks, and hawks (summer): coyotes and white-tailed deer (fall); brown creepers and white-breasted nuthatches (winter)
DID YOU KNOW? Heading north from the Centaur (to the Sun Singer), one can observe a transition between upland oak-hickory forest on one side and bottomland forest on the other.

ORANGE TRAIL 1.1 mi/24 min
STARTS FROM: Southeast corner of the Main Parking Lot
HIGHLIGHTS: early successional and bottomland forest: the recently restored Goldfish Pond, the Fu Dog Garden, including the House of the Golden Buddha and Vine Walk
LOOK FOR: Smithtown Salamanders (spring), red-headed woodpeckers (summer, hawks, and beavers
DID YOU KNOW? This trail was once home to two bronze statues: Bear and Man of Stone Age and Gorilla Carrying Off a Stone-Age Woman, both by Emmanuel Fremiet.

YELLOW TRAIL* 2.1 mi/48 min
STARTS FROM: I sareen Garden
HIGHLIGHTS: excellent examples of upland oak-hickory forest: bottomland forest with large silver maple and sycamore trees: Death of the Last Centaur statue: views of the Sangamon River: views of Manor and Brook Point
LOOK FOR: large white trillium and blackroot (spring), freshwater mussel shells (summer), colorful berries (fall): red-headed woodpeckers (winter)
DID YOU KNOW? The Bear is constantly moving and redriving its channel - It is for this signs of its movement over the past 100 years.

* There may be times of the year when the bottomland portion of this trail may be flooded. Please use caution.

KEY
A: SCHRICK INTERPRETIVE TRAIL
B: MUSIC BARN
C: DEMONSTRATION PRAIRIE
D: WARD & DIANA MCDONALD FAMILY TRAILS
E: FORMER SITE OF THE LOST GARDEN
F: PIONEER GARDENS
G: GOLDFISH POND
H: HOUSE IN THE WOODS
I: THE DEATH OF THE LAST CENTAUR (SCULPTURE)
J: THE SUN SINGER (SCULPTURE)
K: ATTENTION KAYAKERS: THIS AREA IS CLOSED TO KAYAKING Outside of the following times:
A: 3PM - 7PM (Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays)
B: 11AM - 3PM (Saturdays and Sundays)
C: 2PM - 5PM (Every Day of the Year)