



HIKING AND WALKING AREAS

Horticulture Park

“Hort Park” is one of the great things about sharing a community with Purdue University. It is located on the west side of McCormick Road just north of State Road 26 W. The park has about 21 acres and a large portion of it first belonged to Professor Charles W. and Mrs. Ione J. Beese. They planted many trees and plants while living in the home that once stood in the middle of the park. The Beese family wanted others to benefit from their land, so in 1957 they sold it to the Purdue Research Foundation. The Horticulture Department took over the development and care of the park and added new trees and plants. Since the park is open-landscaped, it is an excellent place for picnics, peaceful walks and exploring the beauty of its natural settings. Many forestry, art, and horticulture classes use the park as an educational tool. It is also a wonderful spot for finding unique species of trees, loved by leaf collectors of all ages. The park is free to the public and open year-round from dawn to dusk. Purdue University Horticulture Department, 765-494-1300.

Clegg Gardens

Just a little north of Lafayette, on the banks of the Wildcat Creek is one of the loveliest places in our area. Wildflowers, ravines, and natural surroundings make this a wonderful place to enjoy nature and take a breather from hectic schedules. Harold and Ruth Clegg opened the gardens on Easter Sunday, 1965 as a memorial to their son, Jerry. He had found the area fascinating as a boy and it seemed only appropriate to remember him by providing the same opportunity for others. The gardens have been expanded to around 13 acres. Bluebells, shooting stars, daffodils, redbud and dogwood trees greet the spring visitor. Summertime makes the shade a welcome relief as you travel the trails and, of course, nothing can rival the beauty of the fall colors. Visitors can find the gardens by traveling east on Union Street to Creasy Lane, turn north on Eisenhower Road and left on 400 E; the gardens will be on the left and the parking lot on the right. They are open from 10 a.m. to sunset and there is no fee. The Tippecanoe County Park Department offers programs there throughout the year. Tippecanoe County Park Department, 765-463-2306.

Wabash Heritage Trail

Hiking the Trail is a great experience if you are a bird watcher, outdoor enthusiast, history buff, enjoy wildlife or just taking a walk! It starts at the Battlefield and follows along the river for about 13 miles. A brochure is available listing parking areas, restroom facilities, picnic tables, and specific places of interest. Parts of the trail around Reihle Plaza and on the West Lafayette side are paved and therefore, easily accessible for all. Tippecanoe County Park Department, 765-463-2306.

West Lafayette Trail System

This unique 10.5 miles of paved trail network is located in West Lafayette. The city also has 3 miles of additional paved trail and 14 miles of bike lanes as well as partnering in the operation of the over 13 mile Wabash Heritage Trail mention above. The system links the city, Purdue campus areas, the Purdue research park, residential neighborhoods, ballfields, playgrounds, parks, and outlying districts. The U.S. Department of the Interior recently recognized the quality of design and construction of the trails by naming the Northwest Greenway and Cattail Trails as “National Recreation Trails.”

LAFAYETTE – WEST LAFAYETTE CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

301 Frontage Road • Lafayette, Indiana 47905 • 765.447.9999 or 800.872.6648 • fax: 765.447.5062

web: www.HomeOfPurdue.com • email: info@HomeOfPurdue.com

Amanda Gordon, Sports Marketing & Communication Manager – agordon@HomeOfPurdue.com

Jo Wade, President – jwade@HomeOfPurdue.com

