

NATURAL AREAS & TRAILS GUIDE

NATURAL AREAS & TRA

he Oneida Environmental, Health & Safety Division realizes that the natural resources and environment of the Reservation are essential to the membership and community. Please use this guide to enhance your experiences of these natural systems. We appreciate your continued support which allows us to serve you better.

While enjoying these natural properties, please keep the following in mind:

- Many trails are rough and uneven so please take precaution while walking at your own risk.
- Please remain on the identified trails.
- Use caution as some plants such as wild parsnip, nettles, poison ivy or others are potentially harmful varieties.
- If you are gathering plants, please remember to take only what you will use and leave sufficient amounts for others.
- Information listed for your benefit includes the size of properties, the length of trails, and use icons.
- Please use the properties with respect and be respectful to other visitors. The access for each property is noted.

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NATURAL AREAS & TRAILS GUIDE

The natural resources of the Oneida Tribe's Reservation are essential to our people and our distinct way of life. The preservation and enhancement of our environment is one of the Tribe's highest priorities for our community and for future generations. The Oneida Nation's guiding environmental principles state:

"The preservation and enhancement of our Mother Earth is an obligation of the members of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin. We give thanks for her well being and all other forms which come from our Mother Earth. We as Oneida people cannot turn our backs on this responsibility as caretakers, the Oneida Nation has, from the beginning of time, co-existed with all living being: the winged, the four legged, all plant life, the trees, the stones, the water and the air.

It is now time for the Oneida People to be held accountable to our children, their children, and for generations to come by creating a sustainable environment."

Keeping with these concepts, the Oneida Environmental, Health & Safety Division has created a number of opportunities for inviting people back to the land as highlighted in this Oneida Nation Natural Areas and Trails Guide.

The inviting people back to the land initiative promotes an active lifestyle for improving health. It provides a place for experiential interactions with nature, to gain new respect and knowledge of our natural environmental systems; and places for traditional gathering and recreation that support our well being.

This guide will provide information on a variety of enhanced and restored natural area sites for mixed recreational uses.

These 20 natural areas provide abundant opportunities for Oneida Tribal members, friends, family, and community members to enjoy the rich natural resources of the Oneida Nation.

Site information:

- Detailed maps of location, access, and trails
- Site descriptions
- Use restrictions
- Restoration and reforestation efforts
- What plants and animals can be seen at each site

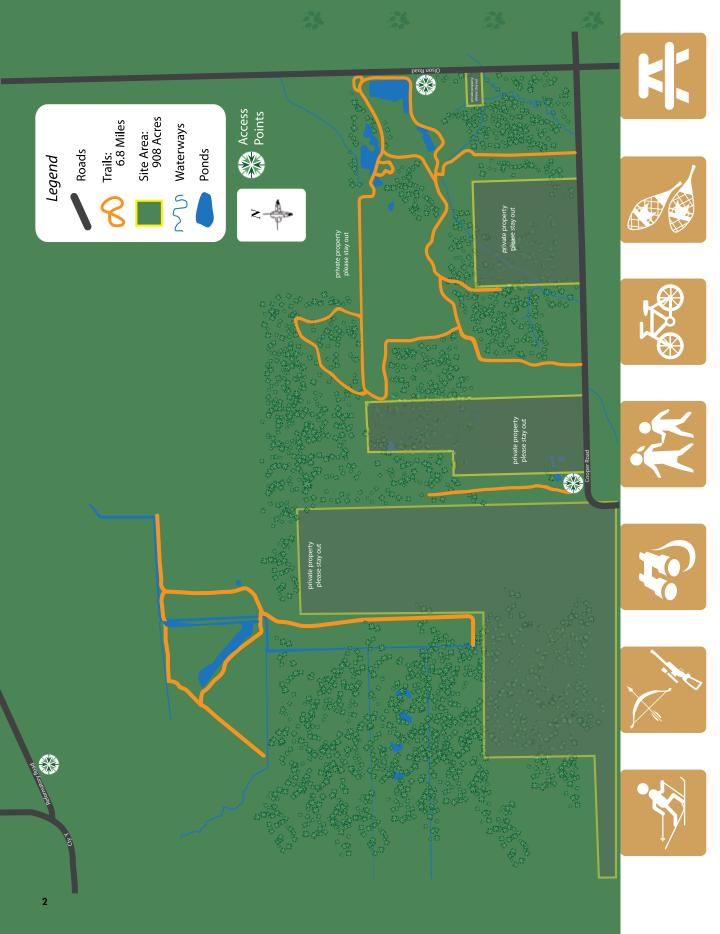
The Environmental, Health & Safety Division, Environmental Resource Board, and Health Promotion would like to invite people back to the land.



– Oneida Environmental, Health & Safety Division Staff

Monarch butterfly at Ducks Gathering

L COYOTE RUN





Numerous restoration efforts and purchases have made this the largest natural area on the Oneida Reservation. The site includes a stream restoration on Trout Creek, waterfowl ponds, wetland restorations, extensive reforestation and an observation overlook. Food plots, wild rice and wild bergamot gathering areas were established to benefit the wildlife and Tribal members.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Seasonally wet areas with relatively flat trails.

Tundra Swans at Covote Run 2012

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Various Ducks, Sand Hill Crane, Eagles, Osprey, Great Egret, Snow Geese, Pheasant, Grouse, Reptiles, Amphibians, Crayfish, Fish, Deer, Coyote, Fox, Turkey among numerous other wildlife species

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Blue Flag, Jerusalem Artichoke, Mayapple, Marsh Marigold, Queen Anne's Lace (Wild Carrot), Trillium, Wild Bergamot, Wild Grape and Wild Ginger

CAUTION

Stinging Nettle, Thistles

TREES

Lowland hardwoods including Elm, Ash, Spruce and a Cedar swamp. Upland hardwoods featuring Cherry, Hickory and Sugar Maple

Animal Track at Coyote Run 2015

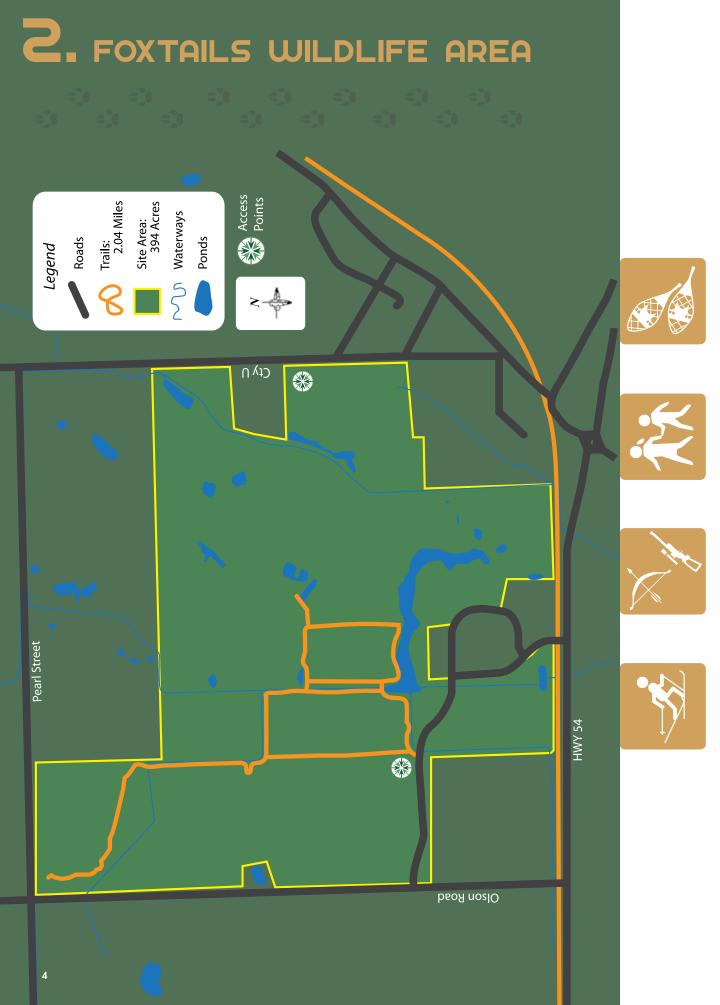


COYOTE RUN

Coyote Run has over 900 acres with multiple access points



Oneida Tribal Member Only Access



This was the first tribal designated wildlife area. Ponds are scattered across the landscape varying in size from ½ acre to 2 acres. Food plots are provided for wildlife and trails meander through open fields and small wooded parcels. Tree restoration has been completed to connect fragmented woods.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Features flat terrain with many ponds and an extensive trail system.



WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Various Ducks, Songbirds, Red-tailed Hawk, Sand Hill Crane, Red Fox, Grey Fox, Pheasant, Grouse, Deer, Coyote, Turkey and numerous other wildlife species

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Blackberry, Dandelion, Plantain, Queen Anne's Lace, Raspberry and Red Clover

TREES

This area is predominately lowland hardwood community with tree restoration of soft and hardwood mix of Spruce, Pine, Ash and Maple



C FOXTAILS WILDLIFE AREA

Foxtails Wildlife Area has 394 acres with two access points



Oneida Community Access





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Created for the recreational enjoyment of the Oneida Tribal Commnity, this site will open in 2015 with an 18 acre lake, extensive trails, parking, beach area, and natural areas. Plans for future include a boat ramp, piers, camping and changing/ restrooms.

WHAT TO EXPECT

This lake is a restoration site for a fishery in Oneida. A fisheries management plan is being developed for the lake including stocking and habitat enhancement. The main features of the lake are fishing, non-motorized boat use (electric only) and swimming. Beach is open dawn to dusk.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

- ♦ Various Waterfowl
- ♦ Songbirds
- ♦ Deer
- ♦ Coyote
- ♦ Turkey
- Numerous other wildlife species

MEDICINAL PLANTS

♦ Wild rice planted in 2014

TREES

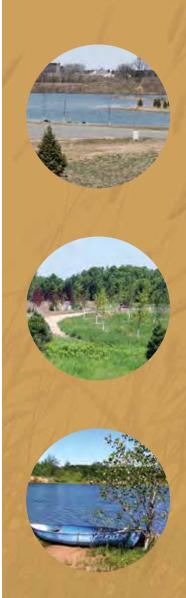
- ♦ White Pine
- ♦ Birch
- ♦ Serviceberry
- ♦ Plum
- ♦ Oak



On Nyote ? a ká Lake in winter of 2014

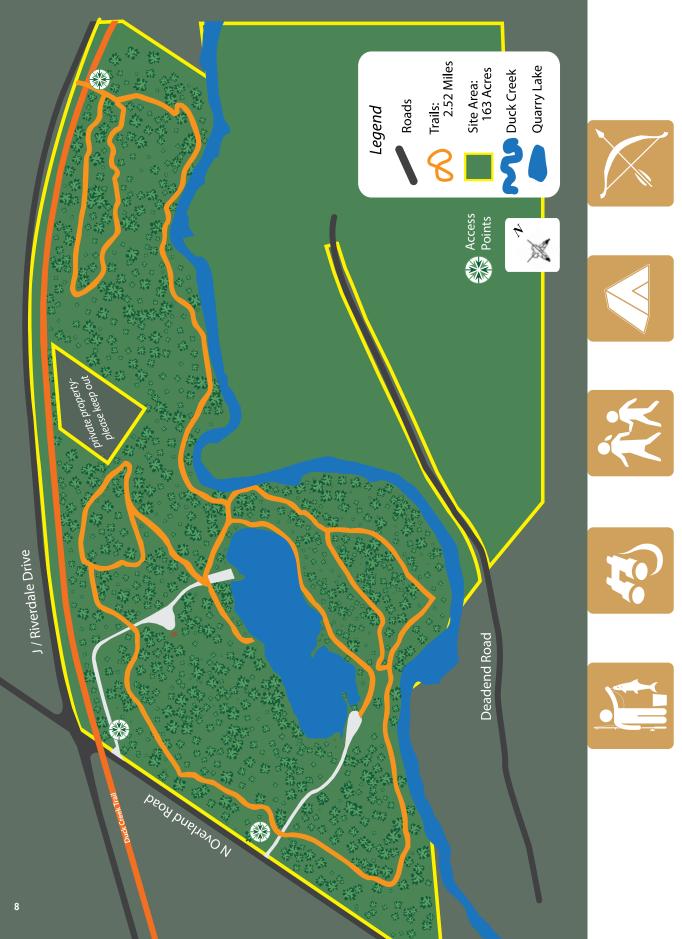
LAKE SITE

Onryote 2 a ká (Oneida) Lake Site has 40 acres with one access point



Oneida Community Access

QUARRY PARK NATURAL AREA



Recreational opportunities include a 5-acre lake with multiple fish species and a shared border with the Duck Creek. Dam removal downstream from here has increased the seasonal fish run with a variety of fish.



Snapping Turtle at Quarry Lake

WHAT TO EXPECT

This natural area features low-impact camping sites and an extensive trail system through wooded rolling hills along Duck Creek and around Quarry Lake.



WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Various Ducks, Songbirds, Pheasant, Grouse, Eagle, Osprey, Great Blue Heron, Deer, fish include Bass, Bluegill, Crappie, Northern and numerous other wildlife species

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Blue Vervain, Gooseberry, Goldenrod, Great Blue Lobelia, Heal All, Horsetail, Jack in the pulpit, Jewelweed, Lousewort, Mullein, Mayapple, Queen Anne's Lace, Raspberry, Skunk Cabbage, Spotted Joe Pye Weed, St. Johnswort, Staghorn Sumac, Strawberry, Swamp Buttercup, Swamp Milkweed, Wild Bergamot, Wild Ginger, Wild Grape, Wild Leeks and Wild Onion

CAUTION

Poison Ivy, Wood Nettle, Wild Parsnip

TREES

Upland and lowland hardwoods including Ash, Birch, Cedar, Oak, Maple, Hickory, Hemlock, and White Pine

Marsh Marigold at Quarry Park

4.

QUARRY PARK NATURAL AREA

Quarry Park Natural Area 163 acres with three access points



Oneida Community Access



Osprey flying over Where the Waterbirds Nest 2015

WHERE THE WATERBIRDS NEST

DESCRIPTION

This natural area features an overlook, a 55 acre shallow lake and is surrounded by grasslands, a tree reforestation, wetland restoration and wildlife food plots.

WHAT TO EXPECT

A trail system encircles the pond and provides an incredible opportunity for waterfowl viewing. A canoe launch is available off of South County U. Seasonally wet in areas with relatively flat terrain.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Waterfowl including various Ducks, Trumpeter Swan, Tundra Swan, Green Heron, Great Blue Heron, Snow Geese, Great Egret, Osprey, Eagles and many, many more

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Common Milkweed, Goldenrod, Wild Grape, Blackberries, Raspberries, and Highbush Cranberry

TREES

Northern Hardwood Mix of Ash, Maple, Oak, White Pine and Spruce



Where the Waterbirds Nest has 132 acres with two access points

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Oneida Community Access 10 ____

A haven for Monarch Butterflies, waterfowl and other wildlife species. Restoration efforts include wetlands, pond establishment, and nesting habitats. Food plots support productive wildlife.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Mainly open fields with seasonally wet relatively flat trails.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Various Ducks, Amphibians, Crayfish, Fish, Reptiles, Turkey, Red-tailed Hawk, Pheasant, Woodcock, Deer, Coyote, Black Bear, Butterflies, and Skunk among numerous other wildlife species

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Common Milkweed, Evening Primrose, Goldenrod, Swamp Milkweed and Queen Anne's Lace



TREES

Bottomland hardwoods dominate the site, mainly Cottonwood Willow, Elm, and Silver Maple

(Caution: Stinging Nettle)

6 DUCKS GATHERING

Ducks Gathering has 89 acres with one access point





Oneida Community Access

6. DUCKS GATHERING





ROSE HILL WETLANDS

DESCRIPTION

Visitors will find a diverse habitat including mature hardwoods, swamps, wetlands, and open meadows. This diversity provides a variety of wildlife viewing opportunities. In 2015, the property will be 30 years under Oneida stewardship.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Seasonally wet relatively flat trails through open fields and wooded areas. An electric power line runs through site.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Various Ducks, Hawks, Owls, Songbirds, Woodcock, Grouse, Deer, Coyote, Fox and numerous other wildlife species

TREES

Upland and lowland hardwoods and many pioneer species such as Birch, Black Ash, Maples, Staghorn Sumac, and American Cranberry Bush

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Blackberry, Black Eved Susan, Chokecherry, Evening Primrose, Goldenrod, Gooseberry, Nettle, Mayapple, Mullein, Milkweed, Red Willow, St. Johnswort, Queen Anne's Lace, Raspberry, Strawberry, Wild Bergamot (number 6), Wild Yam and Yarrow

(Caution: Wild Parsnip and Wood Nettle)

Rose Hill Wetlands has 200 acres with one access point

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Oneida Community Access

Mainly wooded with rolling ridges of mature hardwoods that provide a thick canopy above the trail system. This large tract borders Duck Creek and has a unique aesthetic value and is an honored property of the Oneida Nation due to its proximity to historic areas. Two springs flow through the area into Duck Creek.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Steep inclines can provide for a rigorous workout. The Oneida Nation High School utilizes these woods for an annual sugar maple harvest in the spring.

NORBERT HILL CENTER WOODS

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Various Ducks, Songbirds, Owls, Beaver, Otter, Grey Fox, Deer, Coyote, Turkey and numerous other wildlife species

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Cardinal Flower, Dandelion, Gooseberry, Horsetail, Indian Pipe, Jewelweed, Marsh Marigold, Rattlesnake Root, Red Clover, Solomon's Seal, Trillium, Trout Lily, Wild Ginger, Wild Grape, Violets

TREES

Upland hardwood species include Oak, Hickory, Maples, and Basswood

Lowland softwood community of Cedar, White Pine, Norway and White Spruce

Morel

Mushrooms

Norbert Hill Center Woods has 78 acres with multiple access points





Oneida Community Access





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Pheasant Meadows has 481 acres with two access points





Oneida Community Access

14

PHEASANT MEADOWS

DESCRIPTION

This site is mainly comprised of agricultural fields and has traditionally been a release point for pheasant stocking. Restoration projects have included the development of three ponds and some small food plots. Branches of Oneida Creek run through this site.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Mainly open former agricultural fields with a small wooded area. There are no maintained trails at this natural area at this time but are in the plans for the future.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Various Ducks, Songbirds, Pheasant, Snipe, Woodcock, Otter, Grey Fox, Deer, Coyote, Bass, Bluegill and numerous other wildlife species

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Not yet identified

TREES

Spruce, Ash, Maple, Oak and White Pine



FLYING LEAF

DESCRIPTION

The Oneida communities of Flying Leaf, Rolling Hills, and Green Earth surround this property. Hardwood flats are the feature to the north while swampy habitat proliferates in the south. Small winding tributaries are also present that flow into Fish Creek.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Seasonally wet trails with mainly flat terrain. Two restored wildlife ponds accessible from Beechtree Lane.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Various Ducks, Songbirds, Hawks, Owls, Snipe, Fox, Deer, Coyote, Turkey and numerous other wildlife species

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Mayapple, Marsh Marigold, Nettle, Queen Anne's Lace, Trout Lily, Wild Bergamot (#6), Wild Cucumber, Wild Grape, Wild Leeks

TREES

Lowland hardwood community of Aspen, Birch, Basswood, Boxelder and Elm

Upland hardwoods on the east side with Hickory, Oak, Maple and Ash

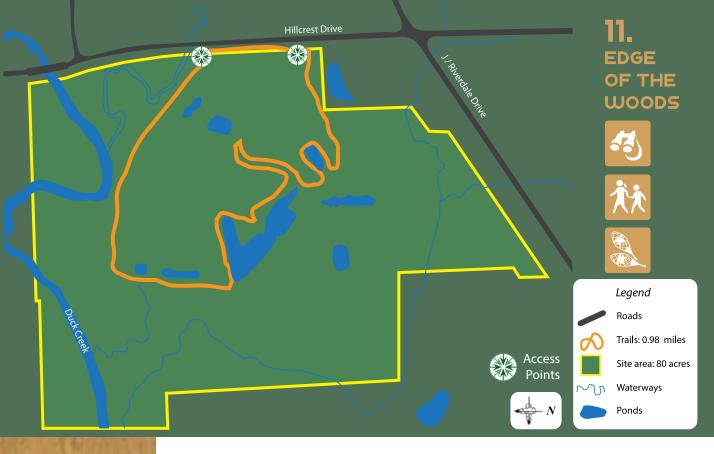


Flying Leaf has 380 acres with four access points

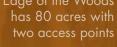


Oneida Community Access





Edge of the Woods







Oneida Community Access

EDGE OF THE WOODS

DESCRIPTION

The area consists of a series of wetland areas for waterfowl, forested land, and borders both the Duck Creek and Trout Creek. The presence of these hardwood ridges and pristine wetlands are ideal for a variety of wildlife species.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Springs form a cold water stream that flows into Duck Creek. A minimally disturbed natural area contains a wide variety of habitat and plants. Many wetlands form between many ridges.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Various Ducks, Songbirds, Owls, Beaver, Otter, Grey Fox, Deer, Coyote, Turkey and numerous other wildlife species

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Goldenrod, St John's Wort, Wild Bergamot

TREES

Northern and bottomland hardwood communities including a large variety of Oak, Ash, Maple, Eastern Hemlock, Spruce and Pine



OSNÚHSA? KANYA TÁLA

DESCRIPTION

This semi-suburban area is highlighted by a 5.5 acre pond for fishing, picnic, and relaxing. Cultural resources and facilities are on the surrounding property.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Water lilies are abundant in the lake. Recreational areas can be found adjacent to the lake. The site features a boat launch, handicap accessible fishing pier, grills, and several benches surround the lake.



ANIMALS

Various Ducks, Songbirds, Fish include Bluegill, Small and Large Mouth Bass, Rainbow Trout, Walleye, and numerous other wildlife species

MEDICINAL PLANTS

The grounds around the lake feature a medicinal plants garden

TREES

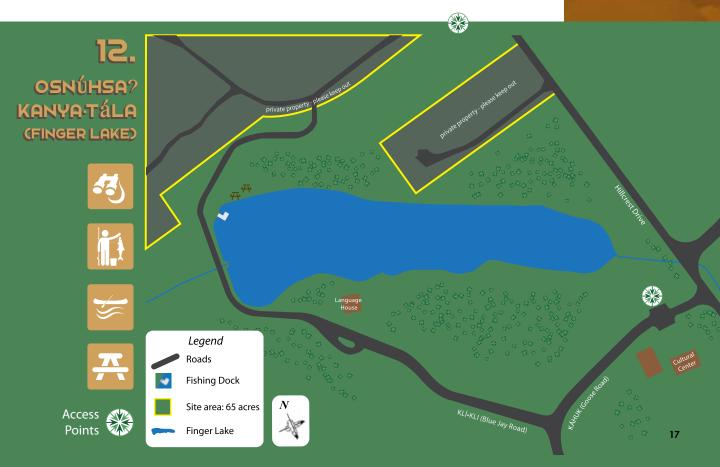
Oak, Maple, Pine, Spruce, and Ash



Finger Lake has 65 acres with two access points



Oneida Community Access



13. JORDAN'S COURT

DESCRIPTION

53) 1

This natural area has an extensive trail system with new connections being established. Woodlands feature primarily Oaks, which give abundant acorn crop for wildlife.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Visitors can enjoy a mainly flat, roughly-mowed terrain for enjoyable walks through a seasonally wet secluded forest setting. There is a meadow in the center of the property that provides a relaxing environment for a picnic or taking a break from daily activities.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Various Ducks, Songbirds, Red-Headed Woodpecker, Red-Tailed Hawk, Fox, Rabbit, White Tailed Deer and numerous small mammals

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Blue Vervain, Boneset, Evening Primrose, Heal All, Joe Pye Weed, Mayapple, Monkey flower Queen Anne's Lace, St. John's Wort, Wild Bergamot (#6), Wild Ginger, Wild Mint, Wild Leeks, Wild Rose, Wild Yam, Yarrow

(Caution—Poison Ivy)

TREES

Ash, Aspen, Elm, Oak, Maple and Birch

Jordan's Court has 250+ acres with two access points

Oneida Tribal Member

Only Access



14. BUFFALO ROAM

Where the Buffalo Roam has 400 acres of viewing area with one access point

Open Access

DESCRIPTION

This area features a ramp and pavilion constructed for visitors to have an excellent view of Buffalo in their pastures. Ponds are adjacent to the pasture with frequent waterfowl visitors. Buffalo herd routinely numbers 60-80 head depending on time of year.

WHAT TO EXPECT

No maintained trails at this location. A Wild Bergamot and wildflower mix was planted here for Tribal members gathering needs. The pavilion has tables and is a good location for a picnic.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Buffalo and waterfowl such as Bitterns, Shorebirds, Pelicans, Osprey, Tundra Swan, Great Blue Heron, and Whooping Crane



White Pine Natural Area has 151 acres with one access point

Oneida Tribal Member Only Access

WHITE PINE 15.



DESCRIPTION

This site is mainly agriculture but includes a small wooded area of mainly maple trees. The trail meanders past food plots and a small reforestation project.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Seasonally wet flat terrain with maintained trails.



WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Songbirds, Owls, Deer, Coyote, Turkey and numerous other wildlife species

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Bottle Gentian, Boneset, Heal All

TREES

Green Ash, Hickory, Maple, Oak, White Pine, Spruce





Sunray Natural Area has 91 acres with one access point

Oneida Tribal Member Only Access

DESCRIPTION

This parcel features many game and non-game species. The trail system winds through mainly wooded area with a stream and various habitat types and is comprised mainly of mixed hardwoods.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Wooded area with several offshoots, seasonally wet areas. A tributary to Fish Creek runs through the property.

SUNRAY 16.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Songbirds, Owls, Deer, Coyote, Turkey and numerous other wildlife species

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Wild Leeks, Wild Grape, Wild Ginger and many more yet to be identified

TREES

Northern hardwoods community including Ash, Maple, Oak, Aspen, Birch





Prairie Valley has 95 acres with one access point

Oneida Community Access









DESCRIPTION

This area adjacent to Duck Creek is a recent establishment featuring different habitats. The prairie established in 1995 features 25 acres of rare wildflower grasslands and is wonderful habitat for grassland birds. Seventy acres of woodlands provide diverse trees and help stabilize soil adjacent to the banks of Duck Creek.

WHAT TO EXPECT

No maintained trails, with fairly level and dry area along Duck Creek with a large reforestation area.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Various Ducks, Songbirds, Owls, Beaver, Otter, Grey Fox, Deer, Covote, Turkey and numerous other wildlife species

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Wild Bergamot, Purple Coneflower, Compass Plant and many others

TREES

Pine, Oak, Maple, and Ash

18. SPRUCE RIDGE

DESCRIPTION



Silver Creek flows through this property which features a pond and open fields. **Opportunities** for relaxing and wildlife viewing near Silver Creek.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Relatively flat terrain with a mowed trail.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Various Ducks, Songbirds, Owls, Squirrels, Deer, Coyote, Turkey and numerous other wildlife species

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Blue Vervain, Goldenrod, Joe Pye Weed, Milkweed, Sensitive Fern, Queen Anne's Lace

TREES

Mostly lowland brush species

Spruce Ridge has 36 acres with one access point

Oneida Community Access



Duck Creek Ridge has 38 acres with one access point

Tribal Member Only Access

DESCRIPTION

This restoration adjacent to Duck Creek features natural springs. Reforestation, groundwater seepage wetlands, and wildlife ponds are examples of some of the amenities. Over four acres of native prairie and wetland plants, including plantings of over 450 live wetland and prairie plants.

WHAT TO EXPECT

No maintained trails at this natural area. You will find a natural spring on a hill overlooking ponds and many different prairie flowers.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Various Ducks, Songbirds, Owls, Beaver, Otter, Grey Fox, Deer, Coyote, Pheasant, Turkey and numerous other wildlife species

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Black Eyed Susan, Blue Vervain, Milkweed, Plaintain, Queen Anne's Lace, Red Clover, Sweetgrass, Compass Plant, Wild Bergamot

TREES

There is a reforestation established in 2010 with a mix of Oak, Maple, Birch, White Pine, and Spruce



Florist Prairie has 110 acres with one access point

Oneida Community Access





FLORIST PRAIRIE 20.

DUCK CREEK

DESCRIPTION

The area was planted with 62 acres of prairie plants in 2007 and 2014. A wooded areas is south of the prairie and a tributary of Silver Creek flows through the natural area. The wooded areas open up to some small lake sedge meadows.

WHAT TO EXPECT

No maintained trails.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

ANIMALS

Various Ducks, Songbirds, Deer, Coyote, Turkey and numerous other wildlife species

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Wild Bergamot and more yet to be identified

TREES

Lowland hardwood mix; 8 acres of reforestation of Pine and Spruce



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The access to the Natural Areas of the Oneida Nation is governed by the Oneida Public Use of Tribal Land law. This law defines the type of access for each property in order to ensure the best use of Oneida lands for tribal members and community for now and into the future. Each natural area in this book has one of the following access designations defined for each:

Oneida Tribal Member Access: Open to Tribal members only. The Environmental Resource Board may designate land as Oneida Tribal Member Access to protect the land for Tribal member use due to the historical, spiritual, cultural and/or environmental significance of the land.

Oneida Community Access: Open to Tribal members, and their spouses and descendants; members of other federally recognized Indian tribes, bands or communities; authorized employees of the Tribe; and persons who are accompanied at all times by a Tribal member, the spouse or descendant of a Tribal member, or an authorized employee of the Tribe.

Open Access: Open to all persons for the land's designated use and enjoyment. The Environmental Resource Board may designate land as Open Access where such designation is deemed beneficial to the Tribe and where such designation does not pose significant risk of damage to the policies of the Tribe and/or the land's cultural or environmental preservation.

Thank you for enjoying, recreating, exercising, and respecting the lands of the Oneida Nation. If you have any **questions or concerns** about proper use of lands please contact the **Oneida Conservation Dept. at 920-869-1450**.

This booklet is printed with funding from the Oneida Diabetes Prevention Program Cooperative Agreement administered by Oneida Health Promotion and Oneida Environmental, Health & Safety Division.

ONEIDA DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAM







Oneida Environmental, Health & Safety Department P.O. Box 365 • Oneida, WI 54155

they protect the ear

BOW HUNTING CAMPING

SIGHT

SEEING



HIKING

FISHING

HUNTING

SKIING

SNOWSHOEING

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