



# CONSERVATOR

THE NEWSLETTER OF CARDINAL LAND CONSERVANCY / AUGUST 2022

Issue XIII

## The trails are open on Cardinal's 4 new Nature Preserves!

**Todd's Fork Nature Preserve** Clinton Co.



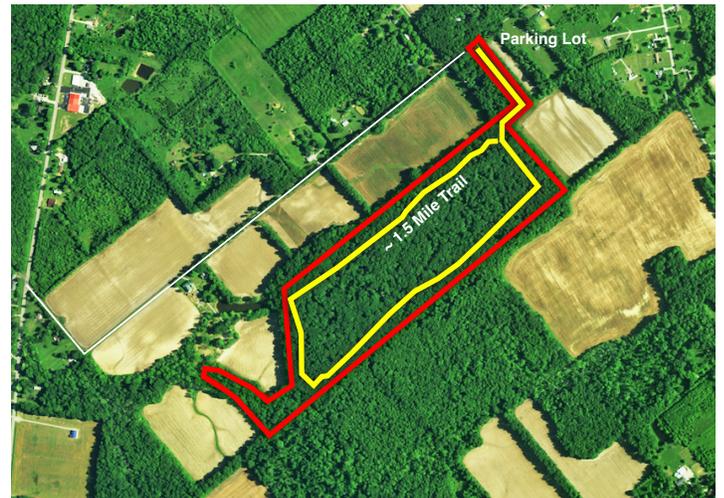
**Kope Hollow Nature Preserve** Brown Co.



**Bortz Family Nature Preserve** Hamilton Co.



**Rinsky Woods Nature Preserve** Clermont Co.



## Take the Passport Challenge —

Cardinal Land Conservancy challenges our members and friends to visit four of Cardinal's Preserves this summer. Snap a photo of each Preserve's signage that includes

yourself and/or your group, and share these photos to [info@CardinalLandConservancy.org](mailto:info@CardinalLandConservancy.org). Do this by August 30, 2022 and receive a free T-shirt from Cardinal!

For DIRECTIONS to Cardinal's Preserves visit our WEBSITE:

[www.CardinalLandConservancy.org](http://www.CardinalLandConservancy.org)

# Take the Passport Challenge!

## Todd's Fork Nature Preserve

Todd's Fork Nature Preserve in Clinton County protects 221 acres of mature woods and broad meadows — with a fork of the Little Miami River running through it. The property is located at Center and Nelson roads in Wilmington.

*This green gem will stay forever wild*



A 1-mile mowed hiking trail offers excellent opportunities to experience nature first hand.

Cardinal is restoring 50 acres of prairie and 50 acres of native woods. This preserve is also a known location where Indiana bats raise their young.

Also, Cardinal is restoring native plum thickets what were reported in the region by the famous botanist Lucy Braun. The plums' white flowers are believed to attract insects that increase the chance of feeding success by Indiana bats.



## Kope Hollow Nature Preserve

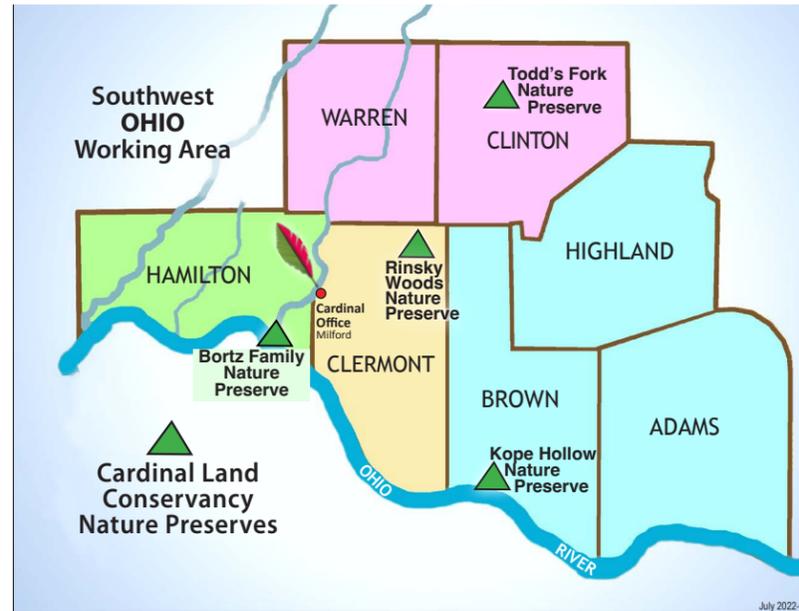
Kope Hollow Nature Preserve, 53 acres of heavily forested land located in Brown County, Ohio welcomes visitors to its 1.5 mile walking trail.

### Many conservation values

Kope Hollow Nature Preserve is protected for its scenic, natural and historic conservation values. The forested property abounds with wildlife and native plants, and hosts a perennial stream with five waterfalls.

The property embraces both sides of Kope Hollow. It extends to Route 52, two miles W of Ripley along the Ohio River, and has public access to the river.

The Preserve has an interesting history. In the past it was a vineyard planted by early Swiss-German settlers. In the 1960s, geologists discovered and named its now-famous geological feature—Kope Formation—after finding it on site.



VISIT these 4 Cardinal Nature Preserves this summer. See the **PASSPORT** for details.





**Cardinal Preserves**  
**PASSPORT**

Send photos to:  
info@CardinalLandConservancy.org

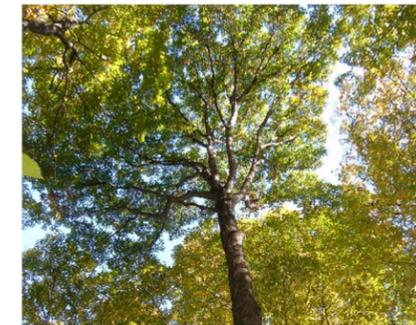
<input type="checkbox"/> Rinsky Woods Preserve	<input type="checkbox"/> Kope Hollow Nature Preserve
<input type="checkbox"/> Todd's Fork Nature Preserve	<input type="checkbox"/> Bortz Family Nature Preserve

For DIRECTIONS to Preserves visit our WEBSITE:  
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## Rinsky Woods Nature Preserve

Cardinal's Rinsky Woods, now a Nature Preserve, protects 59 wooded acres in Clermont County. It is located just E of Stonelick State Park, adding to open space already in the area.



Cardinal maintains a 1-mile loop trail inside the Preserve for visitors.

### Precious family land

Named for the preservation-minded landowner, the woods is preserved for all time. The landowner reported that this stand of forest has never been cut, contributing to a superb diversity of huge trees, as well as a relatively open herbaceous layer.

Rinsky Woods is characterized by a unique community of American Beech, Swamp White Oak and Red Maple, and checkered with wetlands.

It is one of the few wet flatwoods of this type in the world. Those that still exist are found only in SW Ohio and SE Indiana. It is designated an Ohio Natural Landmark by the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources. In fact, Rinsky Woods is the second largest and most biodiverse woods of this kind in the world.

The protection of this property helps to maintain a functioning wetland which provides a buffer between working farms and the headwaters of Moore's Fork and Greenbush Creek.



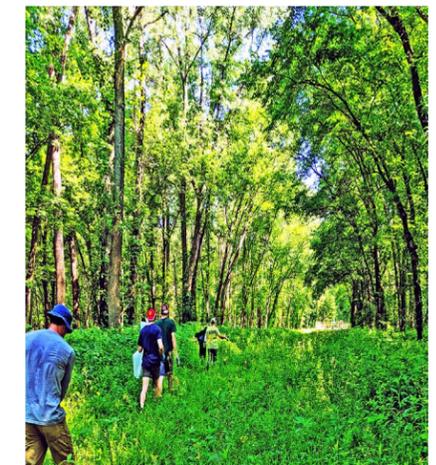
## Bortz Family Nature Preserve

The Bortz Family Nature Preserve occupying 122 acres on a forested floodplain at the confluence of the Little Miami and Ohio rivers—and a 1.8 mi. trail—awaits you!

### Eagles call the Preserve home

Overlooking the confluence of these two great rivers is the Bald Eagle nest atop a towering cottonwood tree. The feathered couple occupying this nest fledged one eaglet this season. Our Eagle Cam will begin live streaming on the Cardinal website again in Feb. 2023 when the eagles return to raise a new clutch.

Opening in August, the Preserve offers respite in deep and cool woods, as well as views of both rivers. The property contains 7 threatened or endangered species and several additional habitats. This preserved property is adjacent to the Four Seasons Marina. A short drive from Kellogg Ave. in downtown Cincinnati will bring you to it.





Taking a break during a hike on the trail at Kope Hollow Nature Preserve



# Cardinal LAND CONSERVANCY

[www.CardinalLandConservancy.org](http://www.CardinalLandConservancy.org)

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*A land trust working for you in the  
7 counties of Southwest Ohio:*

- Adams ■ Brown ■ Clermont ■ Clinton
- Hamilton ■ Highland ■ Warren

## Congratulations, Grace. Well Done!



Over the last few years, Cardinal has been fortunate to have the dedication of high school volunteer **Grace Fuller**. She has spent 65 hours volunteering at our Todd's Fork Nature Preserve.

While working towards her Girl Scout Silver and Gold awards, Grace built and installed nest boxes for eastern blue birds and wood ducks. She created a hiking trail complete with a bridge to improve accessi-

bility for hikers with more limited mobility.

She has also attended volunteer events at Todd's Fork to remove honey locusts on the property and to plant trees.

Grace graduated with honors (!) from Wilmington High School at the end of May. We wanted to make a special announcement highlighting all the great work she has done for Cardinal and share her accomplishments with our members. Thank you, Grace!

### Connect with Cardinal!

E-mail  
[andy@CardinalLandConservancy.org](mailto:andy@CardinalLandConservancy.org)

Website  
[www.CardinalLandConservancy.org](http://www.CardinalLandConservancy.org)

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Coalition of Ohio Land Trusts:  
[www.ohiolandtrusts.org](http://www.ohiolandtrusts.org)

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### Cardinal's Mission

*Preserve natural habitats, waterways, agricultural lands and open space we love in Southwest Ohio by working with individuals, families and communities.*