

## Forest Dwellers



The slopes of Bender Mountain are home to diverse woodland animals. You can see many bird species, including the pileated woodpecker. Keep an eye out for deer, snakes, and even elusive coyotes.

## Four-Season Adventure!

Bender Mountain's trails have so much to offer, whether you hike on your own or join in events such as Great Outdoor Weekend, the Wildflower-a-Thon, honeysuckle control projects, or bird-watching outings.



## What is the Western Wildlife Corridor?

The work of the Western Wildlife Corridor, Inc. is vital to protecting the very significant area along the Ohio River from the Mill Creek to the Indiana state line.

A locally based conservation organization dedicated to preserving the environmental heritage of the Ohio River Valley, the Western Wildlife Corridor was founded in 1992. It is the most active of all regional land trusts in removing non-native, invasive plant species from its properties, and its goal is the restoration of native plants and habitat imperative to local wildlife. An additional goal is to educate people about the benefits of preserving the Ohio River greenway corridor.

## Contact Us

Western Wildlife Corridor

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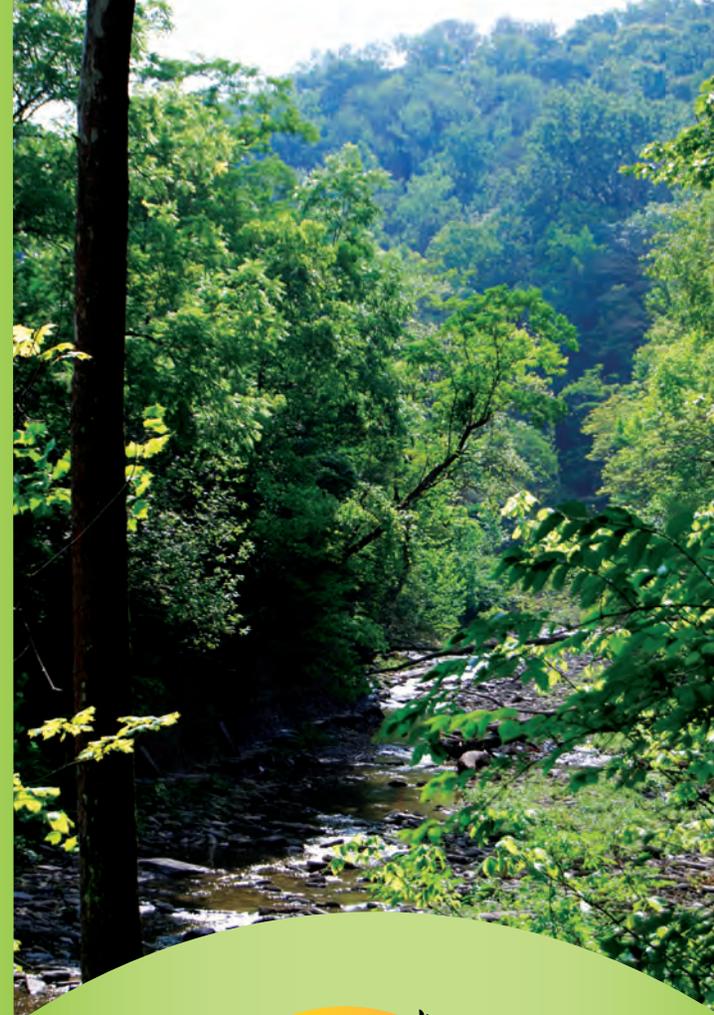
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Bender Mountain  
Nature Preserve

# Making Space for Native Species

Volunteer efforts to remove invasives such as garlic mustard and Amur honey-suckle have allowed abundant native plants to reclaim their forest habitat. A recent survey by Dr. Denis Conover found over 390 plant species in the preserve. "Bender Mountain Preserve is now the best place in Hamilton County to observe native wildflowers," Conover said.



Green Dragon



Zig-Zag Spiderwort



Purple Cress



Harbinger of Spring



- Sisters' Hill Trail – 0.97 miles (easy)
- Bender Valley Trail – 0.60 miles (easy)
- Ridge Trail – 0.25 miles (moderate)
- North Paw Paw Gap Trail – 0.40 miles (moderate)
- South Paw Paw Gap Trail – 0.20 miles (strenuous)
- Eagle Scout Trail – 0.32 miles (strenuous)
- - - Ohio River Trail West (proposed)
- ⊥ WWC sign
- Trail marker

Bender Mountain Nature Preserve consists of property owned by Delhi Township Parks and Recreation, as well as land owned and managed by the WWC.

- Bender Mountain's trail system ranges from easy strolls to challenging workouts. Some sections of moderate and strenuous trails climb steep slopes and include rocky, uneven steps.
- Dogs are welcome on the trails, but please be considerate of other hikers. Clean up after your pets and keep dogs on a leash.
- Mountain bikes, horses, and motorized vehicles are prohibited on the trails.
- Be prepared for trail conditions. Many trails (especially the steep South Paw Paw Gap trail) are slippery in wet weather.
- Leave wild things in the wild! Do not collect or damage live plants, fungi, or animals.

"The WWC's mission is to restore protected land to its natural state, seeking to provide small bits of wilderness within the greater metropolis. Such urban wilds offer a unique perspective on green space: the purpose of green space is not only a matter of human enjoyment or recreation. The wooded riverbanks and hillsides remove pollutants from the air and water, in addition to providing a home for native wildlife. The WWC's aim is to foster harmony with nature, not to contain it."

– K.G. Koch, [TheEcologicalCity.com](http://TheEcologicalCity.com)