#### TRAIL GUIDELINES

The trails are open dawn to dusk, 365 days a year (unless noted), free of charge.

Respect plants and animals by leaving them in their natural habitat and by staying on the trails. Pets are permitted at this location but please keep them leashed and on the trails.

All outdoor activities involve some risk, including falling trees and branches, wet or slippery conditions, and interactions with animals and insects. In using the trails at Succop Nature Park, you are agreeing to assume those risks and to hold harmless Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania for those risks.

Consider becoming a member of Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania to help us maintain this special place.

# WHEN VISITING SUCCOP NATURE PARK, TAKE ONLY PHOTOGRAPHS; LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS.

Visit aswp.org for information about Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania's events and education programs.



Connecting the people of southwestern Pennsylvania to birds and nature through our programs, projects, and places.

#### SUCCOP NATURE PARK 185 W. Airport Road • Butler PA 16002 (724) 586-2591

#### ASWP HEADQUARTERS

Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve
614 Dorseyville Road • Pittsburgh, PA 15238
www.aswp.org • (412) 963-6100

## TRAIL Descriptions

#### CATBIRD LOOP: BLUE

This loop is named for the Catbird, which frequents the area during its breeding season. The successional field habitat contains thick stands of Grey Dogwood and Arrowwood Viburnum. A Cattail marsh, where many birds nest, runs along the western section. There's also a small open area that allows a 360 degree view of maples and willows.

Length: 0.3 miles
Walking Time: 10 minutes

#### CONNECTOR TRAIL: GREEN

Running alongside the back pond, this trail is a place to see turtles, dragonflies, and frogs. Grey Birch trees dominate the pond's edge and provide a nearly year-round food source for birds.

Length: 0.1 miles
Walking Time: Less than 5 minutes

#### OLD FIELD LOOP: PURPLE

This loop includes a riparian zone and a dense grove of Walnut Trees where, during spring and summer, Praying Mantis egg cases and wild strawberries may be found. The enormous coppiced white pine trees are remnants of the land's past use—serving as a wind break between fields. *Length: 0.35 miles* 

Walking Time: 15 minutes

#### BUTTERFLY TRAIL: RED

Wild animal tracks abound on this trail. Goldenrod flowers are abundant in late summer—as are the calls of Eastern Towhees. During mid-to-late summer, look for Monarch Butterflies near the milkweed, the only plants on which these butterflies lay eggs. This trail has numerous species of trees, including Larch, Hickory, Sassafras, and Flowering Dogwood.

Length: 0.25 miles
Walking Time: 10 minutes

#### WHITE PINETRAIL: YELLOW

This trail threads through a wooded area with thick stands of Eastern White Pine and Red Maples. There is a vernal pool that provides seasonal habitat for toads and tree frogs to lay their eggs. Young Ash trees also grow under the forest canopy.

Length: 0.3 miles
Walking Time: 10 minutes

#### POND TRAIL: OR ANGE

Starting at the T.W. Phillips Barn, this trail skirts the nature play area and loops around the front pond. Belted Kingfishers and Great Blue Herons frequent the pond in search of food.

Length: 0.35 miles
Walking Time: 15 minutes

### OurHISTORY

Succop Nature Park dates back to John Maharg, who settled in Penn Township in 1805 when he received a deed for a farm that would encompass the property. In 1921, the home and property were sold to T.W. Phillips Jr., son of the founder of T.W. Phillips Gas and Oil Company. The house eventually passed to Phillips' daughter Margaret and her husband, A. Craig Succop. At the time, the estate was a working farm with chickens, cows and horses—and the public was invited to use the property for picnics and to collect fresh eggs from the onsite hens.

The Succop's eldest son Tom and his wife Jo Ann acquired the family estate in the late 1990s and donated the estate to the Butler County Community College Education Foundation in 2001. Succop Nature Park was owned by the foundation until 2011 when Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania acquired the property.





