

## Start your Experience at the Visitors Center Depot & Railway Garden

- 2 Railway Garden-** This award-winning garden features model trains in a miniature conifer and woody plant landscape. **Only service dogs are permitted in the garden.**
- 4 Ed's Oasis-** Offering one of the best views of the prairie, this structure was donated in 2011 in honor of Ed Peglow, one of our many dedicated docents.
- 5 Window on the Wetland-** This restored Savanna wetland is home to a pair of endangered Trumpeter Swans.
- 7 Oak Islands & Signature Bur Oaks-** Taltree offers one of the most diverse oak species collections in the world. The majority of the species can be seen in the Oak Islands exhibit, where each "island" presents a different microclimate. The collection's centerpieces are the Bur Oaks that dot the prairie-scape.
- 8 Joseph E. Meyer Memorial Pavilion-** Located on Heron Pond, this open-air facility is the backdrop of many classes, events and weddings.
- 10 Audrey M. & Leonard J. Hitz Family Rose Garden-** This garden features rose family plants landscaped in a Scrabble™ board shape.
- 11 ArcelorMittal Adventure Garden-** This garden enchants with its draped arbor, musical instruments, animals and "go green" projects.
- 12 Native Plant Garden-** Home to our Monarch Butterfly Waystation, this garden attracts monarchs and other butterflies from April to October.

## Trail Descriptions



**Bluebird Trail** begins at the main parking lot and is comprised of a combination of mowed grass and mulch. Named for the bluebird nesting boxes in the prairie, Bluebird Trail offers the most diverse flora and fauna viewing. (1.63 mile)



**Cardinal Trail**, a gently-sloping, mulched trail that twines through a landscape of untouched woodland populated by mature oak and shagbark hickory trees and an understory of spring ephemerals, Jacob's Ladder and Jack-in-the-Pulpit. (0.62 mile)



**Goldfinch Trail** is named for the American goldfinch found throughout Northwest Indiana. Goldfinch is the property's southernmost trail and is enveloped by a 1998 oak and hickory seedling reforestation project. This mowed grass trail is our highest elevation trail. (0.63 mile)



**Heron Trail**, a paved and mulched trail, is named for the Little Green and Great Blue Herons that frequent the pond it encircles. Various aspects of small pond and woodland life can be seen. (0.28 mile)



**Owl Trail**, a mulched trail, runs through the woods from the Meyer Pavilion to Oak Islands Exhibit, then east to connect with the Bluebird Trail. (0.51 mile)



**Woodcock Trail**, a mulched and mowed grass trail, runs through our East property. Home to one of the most interesting birds in the Eastern United States, the American Woodcock or Timberdoodle. See if you can spot one on this trail. (0.96 mile)



**Pheasant Trail**, a mulched and mowed grass trail, explores our new prairie restoration on Taltree's East Property. An ideal habitat for the common pheasant this trail blends the tall grassland prairie with mature woods and farmland. (1.11 mile)

## Taltree Arboretum & Gardens

# GUIDE



Welcome! Taltree Arboretum & Gardens is 501(c)3 non-profit dedicated to preserving the environment, educating the public, and conserving a natural space for guests to enjoy. Situated on a beautiful 330-acre oak preserve of formal gardens, and restored woodlands, wetlands, and prairie, we host a variety of public classes, exhibits, and events.

 **Taltree**  
arboretum & gardens®

Valparaiso, Indiana • 219.462.0025 • [Taltree.org](http://Taltree.org)

Open year-round • 7 days a week

April-October: 8am-7pm • November-March: 10am-4pm

## Trails

- |                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ■ Bluebird Trail (1.63 Miles)  | ■ Owl Trail (0.51 Miles)      |
| ■ Cardinal Trail (0.62 Miles)  | ■ Woodcock Trail (0.96 Miles) |
| ■ Goldfinch Trail (0.63 Miles) | ■ Pheasant Trail (1.11 Miles) |
| ■ Heron Trail (0.28 Miles)     |                               |

## Legend

- I** Information
- Dog Waste Station
- First Aid
- Bench/Rest Area
- P** Parking
- Train Garden
- Bathroom
- Signature Oaks

## Gardens & Facilities

- 1 Gatehouse
- 2 Visitors Center Depot & Railway Garden
- 3 The Side Track
- 4 Ed's Oasis
- 5 Window on the Wetland
- 6 Outdoor Classroom
- 7 Oak Island Exhibit
- 8 Joseph E. Meyer Memorial Pavilion
- 9 Welcome Garden
- 10 Audrey M. & Leonard J. Hitz Family Rose Garden
- 11 ArcelorMittal Adventure Garden
- 12 Native Plant Garden & Monarch Waystation
- 13 Woodcock Habitat
- 14 Pheasant Habitat

See back page for Arboretum highlights.

## Etiquette

Taltree exists to protect trees, plants and animals. You can help protect this delicate ecosystem by following these simple steps:

- Stay on trails.
  - Do not feed any animals
  - Collecting plants or capturing animals and insects is prohibited.
  - Properly dispose of trash in waste & recycle containers.
  - Smoking is prohibited.
  - Dogs must remain on leashes and marked trails.  
Clean up after them using our dog waste stations.
- Only service dogs are permitted in the Visitors Center Depot & Railway Garden.** For non-service dogs, there is a shaded hitch post to the left of the Visitors Center Depot entrance.

