All of our trails provide easy to moderate hiking. Choose from trails of various distances and combine trails for longer distances.

**Trailhead on the south side of the Nature Center:**

- **Green Trail** (south) - This 1.2 mile trail loops through Ewing Grove making for a pleasant hike through prairie and forest. Two shortcut trails (black) shorten the distance if desired.

- **Yellow Trail** - On this .5 mile trail you can take a self-guided interpretive hike. Pick up a trail guide at the trailhead or in the Nature Center that includes 18 interpretive stops. This is also the perfect trek for families with young children. Your hike will conclude in Imagination Grove, our nature play area.

- **Purple Trail** - This .8 mile side trip from the green trail ventures across the creek (cobble crossing) and provides access to the seep lookout.

- **Brown Trail** - This short loop can also be accessed from either the Nature Center parking lot or the Illinois Department of Natural Resources gravel lot. A bench along the way provides a pleasant viewing spot of the prairie/savannah habitat.

- **Red Trail** - This short .33 mile trail is a favorite of visitors. Enjoy the diversity of the prairie and a short jaunt across the road along the railroad line where spring wildflowers are prolific. Tree identification signs are also posted on this route.

- **Blue Trail** - This is the longest trail loop at just under 2 miles, and takes visitors from the Nature Center to the Funks Grove Church and Chapel of the Templed Trees.

- **Pink Trail** - Enjoy a walk through the Sugar Grove prairie and reforestation project. A diversity of insects and birds delight hikers in the warmer months.

- **Green Trail** (north) - This .37 mile trail features beautiful scenery, the scent of pines, and great birding.

- **Orange Trail** - This .5 mile section of trail follows the edge of Timber Creek. Barred owls are frequently heard and seen in this area.

- **Black Trails** - These designate short-cuts or trail access points.

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**BUILDINGS AND FEATURES**

- **Nature Center** - Explore this renovated machine shed/cattle barn where you will find live animals, interpretive exhibits, a bird viewing sanctuary, and children’s discovery area.

- **Picnic Shelter** - Available to visitors unless previously reserved.

- **Blacksmith Forge** - Illinois Valley Blacksmith Association members demonstrate the 3rd Saturday of every month and at special events. Blacksmithing classes are also offered.

- **Astronomy Observatories** (Silo-style building) - The Twin City Amateur Astronomers offer frequent public observing sessions and conduct club activities throughout the year.

- **Corn Crib Prairie Lookout** (White barn-like building) - Don’t miss the spectacular view and cozy atmosphere of the prairie viewing room in the corn crib!

- **Beautiful Gardens** - Enjoy our monarch waystation, butterfly garden, herb garden, and many native plantings throughout the immediate grounds.