

TRAILSIDE EYE SPY

See if you can spot each item along the Towpath Trail in Clinton,
2749 North St., Clinton, OH 44216

BUTTONBUSH

This native shrub thrives in moist soil conditions and its stunning spherical flowers are a magnet for an array of butterflies and bees. Later in the season, its button-like spent flower heads will be enjoyed by birds.



ABANDONED FOUNDATION

Standing below Lock 2, notice the sandstone foundation. *What do you think this could have been?*

Local legend holds that it was a canal-era tavern, but archaeological evidence says this was more likely a home from that time.



MILE MARKER

How far are you from Cleveland?

With enough endurance, you could ride there by bicycle in a day. Via canal boat, the trip would take around 18 hours owing to the strictly enforced four-mile-per-hour speed limit and time spent navigating over 40 locks!

SIX-SPOTTED TIGER BEETLE

These beautifully iridescent beetles are expert hunters. Using their quick reflexes and large chewing mouthparts, they prey on smaller pest insects. Look for them flitting about on the path, always sure to take flight before hikers come too close.



COMMON MILKWEED

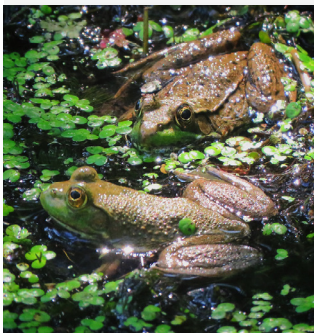
Without milkweed, the iconic monarch butterfly could not complete its lifecycle.

Consider adding one of Ohio's native milkweed species and other beneficial native wildflowers to your own yard to welcome butterflies!



EASTERN REDBUD TREE

This purple-leaved individual is a cultivar – a *cultivated variety* – bred for a particular trait. Altering the leaf color of a plant can make it less palatable to the insects that rely upon it, so consider choosing trees with true green leaves for the most benefit to wildlife.



FROGS Look down at the duckweed-covered water in the canal locks to spy for frogs. Green frogs are distinguished by a ridge running down either side of their back, while their bull frog relatives lack ridges.

Can you tell them apart in this photo?

RED-SPOTTED PURPLE

This colorful butterfly can be seen flitting through the dappled light of the forest. Its caterpillars dine on a variety of tree leaves including cottonwood, willow, aspen and cherry.



HONEY LOCUST TREE

These long spines are an evolutionary anachronism – an adaptation once useful but now seemingly out of place. The honey locust most likely developed this defense during the last ice age to ward off large herbivores such as mastodons!



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