



TRAILSIDE EYE SPY

Check off each item as you see it along Glens Trail in Gorge Metro Park,
1160 Front Street, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223

RATTLESNAKE ROOT

Also called wild lettuce, the oddly shaped leaves of this plant were once used to treat snake bites. These perennial wildflowers bloom late in the year, providing important nectar sources for pollinators.



1.

DAM POOL

Notice the Cuyahoga River below, barely flowing. Down river, the dam creates a sort of lake here. In the future when the dam is removed, the river will once again flow freely, improving water quality for nature and people alike.



6.



2.

HONEYCOMBING

Grains of sand packed together over time in an ancient riverbed create the formations of Gorge Metro Park. As water seeps through this porous stone, it washes away the more loosely cemented grains, leaving behind unusual patterns.



7.

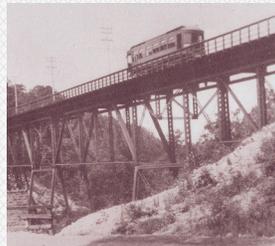
MULTICOLORED STONE

You don't have to travel out west to see colorful rocks! Like the vivid brushstrokes of an abstract painting, the rock here is decorated with beautiful, colorful bands produced by elements such as iron oxide that accumulated when this sandstone was formed.

BRIDGE REMAINS

Parallel to the Front Street bridge, notice the large stone supports rising from the water. These were the base of a trolley bridge powered by the electric plant that once stood here.

Riders could travel from Akron to Cleveland in under 3 hours!



3.

MALLARD

Although male mallard ducks are most often noted for their bright green heads, their female counterparts also sport brightly colored feathers. *Look for ducks, cormorants, herons and even the occasional eagle soaring along the river corridor.*



8.



4.

OVERHANGING STONE

Throughout the gorge, porous sandstone sits atop soft, impermeable shale. When water percolates through the sandstone, it erodes the shale beneath, leaving large overhangs enjoyed by sightseers since the 1800s.



9.

ETERNAL SPRING

Along Glens Trail, one seep is consistent through all seasons. Look closely and you will notice that this trickle provides habitat for a strange plant called liverwort which absorbs water directly into its tissues without the help of roots.

LIFE ON THE EDGE

The ledges here provide a cool, protected, shady environment that is perfect habitat for ferns, lichens, hemlocks and even hibernating bats!

How many species can you find clinging to the rock face?



5.

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