

Trailside Eye Spy

Check off each item as you see it along Redwing Trail. Good Luck!

1



 MILKWEED TUSSOCK CATERPILLAR: Monarch butterflies share their favorite plants with the milkweed tussock moth. These caterpillars resemble hungry pipe cleaners, using their bright colors and spiky hairs to ward off predators.

5



 CATTAILS: These wetland plants provide food and shelter to many creatures, including red-winged blackbirds for which this trail is named. In spring, these birds weave nests within the safety of the cattails.

2



 ONE BIG ROCK: What's a massive boulder doing in the field? This stone is made of granite which does not naturally occur in Ohio. Large boulders like this are called "erratics" and were pushed here by glaciers all the way from Canada!

6



 RED OAK: On higher elevations you will come upon oak trees which prefer drier soil. Oak leaves provide food for over 400 species of caterpillars and over 100 animals are known to eat its acorns, including wild turkeys and even bears!

3



 COTTONWOOD LEAVES: A sure sign that fall is here, is when the cottonwood tree starts to drop its heart-shaped leaves. These mighty trees have deeply furrowed bark and grow in damp areas.

7



 GRAY DOGWOOD BERRIES: Many plants produce berries this time of year which are food sources for migratory birds as well as many mammals, even coyotes! Along the trail, look for other berries in shades of red, white, blue and green.

4



 GREAT BLUE HERON: These tall birds wade in the waters of ponds and rivers on the prowl for food. Since the Tuscarawas River is constantly flowing, keeping ice off the surface, these birds can be seen fishing here year-round.

8



 TUSCARAWAS RIVER: The headwaters of the Tuscarawas wind through Firestone Metro Park. The surrounding woods help to filter rainwater on its way to the river, helping to provide clean water for wildlife and people alike.

9



 JEWELWEED: These beautiful plants are annuals, sprouting fresh each year and providing nectar for many insects. The name comes from the way rain and morning dew bead on its leaves, sparkling like jewels in the sun.