

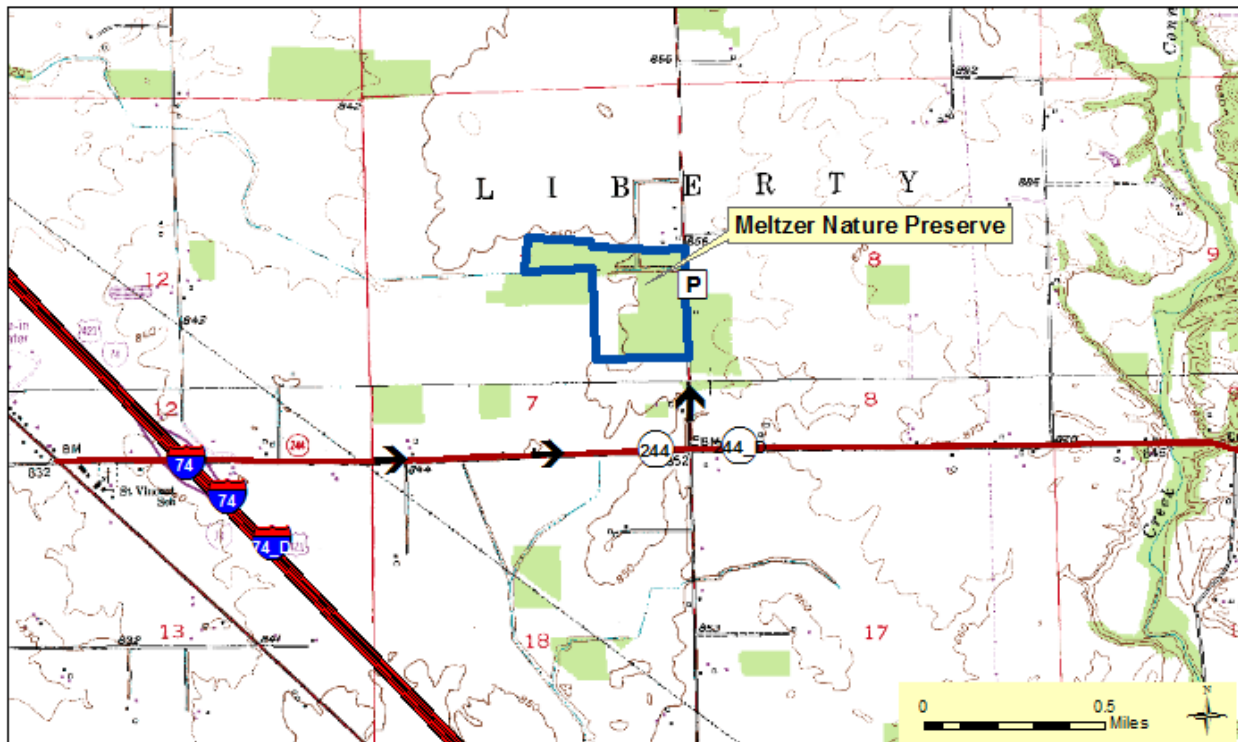
Meltzer Nature Preserve

County: Shelby Size: 59 acres
Ownership: Central Indiana Land Trust, Inc.



Location and Access

Parking and trails. From Indianapolis; Take I-65 South to I-74 to IN-244 E in Liberty. Exit I-74 and continue on IN-244 E. From IN-244 E drive on S 600 E and the destination is at 1855 S 600 E.



Description: This nature preserve protects an example of high quality mixed mesophytic forest communities, the wetter forest dominated by Beech/Shumard Oak and the drier forest dominated by Beech/Maple. It is located within the Tipton Till Plain Section of the Central Till Plain Natural Region. Approximately 48 acres of the Meltzer property were never cleared. That old-growth stand was placed in the Indiana's Classified Forest Program in 1928. In 1973, this property was designated a National Natural Landmark. It is the last unprotected old growth forest in Indiana. In 2016, it was dedicated as the 50,000 acres protected by the Division of Nature Preserves and partners. A goal 47 years in the making.

Acquisition funding came through the cooperative effort of the Meltzer family, CILTI Land Trust, the Indiana Heritage Trust, and the Bicentennial Nature Trust.

Further Information:

Central Indiana Land Trust, Inc. 1500 N Delaware St, Indianapolis, IN 46202. Phone: (317) 631-5263
Division of Nature Preserves Central Regional Ecologist, Andrew Reuter: AReuter@dnr.in.gov