White Oak Nature Preserve

County: Clark Size: 143 acres Ownership: Forestry - IDNR

Location and Access

Parking and trail. This preserve is located in Clark State Forest. From Henryville go north 0.9 mile on US 31, then turn left at the Forest entrance. Cross over I-65 and park in the picnic grounds on the right. The preserve is across the road. A trail guide can be obtained at the Forest Office building at the entrance.





Description: White oak is the most important tree within this fine example of an oak- hickory forest. It also supports red, black, scarlet, post and chestnut oaks, along with pignut, shagbark and bitternut hickories. There are also scattered native Virginia pines. Understory trees and shrubs include flowering dogwood, Juneberry, roundleaf greenbriar, Virginia creeper, and pasture rose. Dryland blueberry clumps indicate acid soil conditions. The wildflower display varies with exposure and soil moisture. Dry sites have pussytoes, spring beauty, shooting star, orange hawkweed, phlox, firepink, bluets, and goats' rue. Mesic (moist) sites have Jack-in-the-pulpit, wild ginger, wild geranium, mayapple, and jewelweed. Mesic sites are also rich in ferns.

Further Information:

Clark State Forest, Box 119, Henryville, IN 47126. (812) 294-4306. www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/ Division of Nature Preserves Southeast Regional Ecologist, Jason Larson: jlarson@dnr.in.gov