## **Blue Cast Springs Nature Preserve**

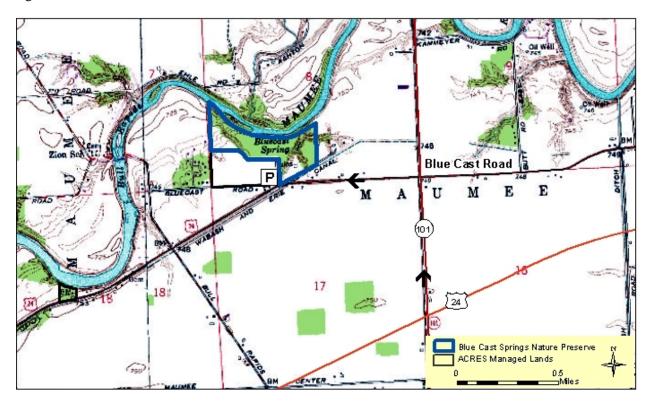
County: Allen Size: 54.3 acres

Ownership: ACRES Land Trust

## **Location and Access**

**Parking and trails.** Parking lot and trailhead, easy trail is 1.1 miles in length. From Woodburn take SR 101 (Fahlsing Rd) north 2.0 miles to old US 24 and turn left (west). Travel 0.7 miles to the curved intersection of old US 24 and Bluecast Rd. Continue west onto Bluecast Rd., leaving old US 24, to the preserve on the right.





**Description:** Consisting primarily of riparian topography with river frontage, upland forest, floodplain forests, ravines and 30 foot bluffs, this preserve has several elements of significant cultural importance; it borders the Wabash and Erie Canal for 960 feet, and contains a natural spring. This nature preserve protects an example high quality oak dominated flatwoods forest community, natural springs, and a riparian zone along 3,150 feet of the Maumee River and located within the Black Swamp Natural Region, the first nature preserve in this Natural Region. These community types, along with their expected component flora and fauna contain many species that are hydro-sensitive plants and animals, will play an important role in maintaining regional populations of these species.

## **Further Information:**

ACRES Land Trust, 1802 Chapman Rd, Huntertown, IN 46748. (260)637-2273. www.acreslandtrust.org Division of Nature Preserves East Central Regional Ecologist, Ben Hess, BHess@dnr.IN.gov