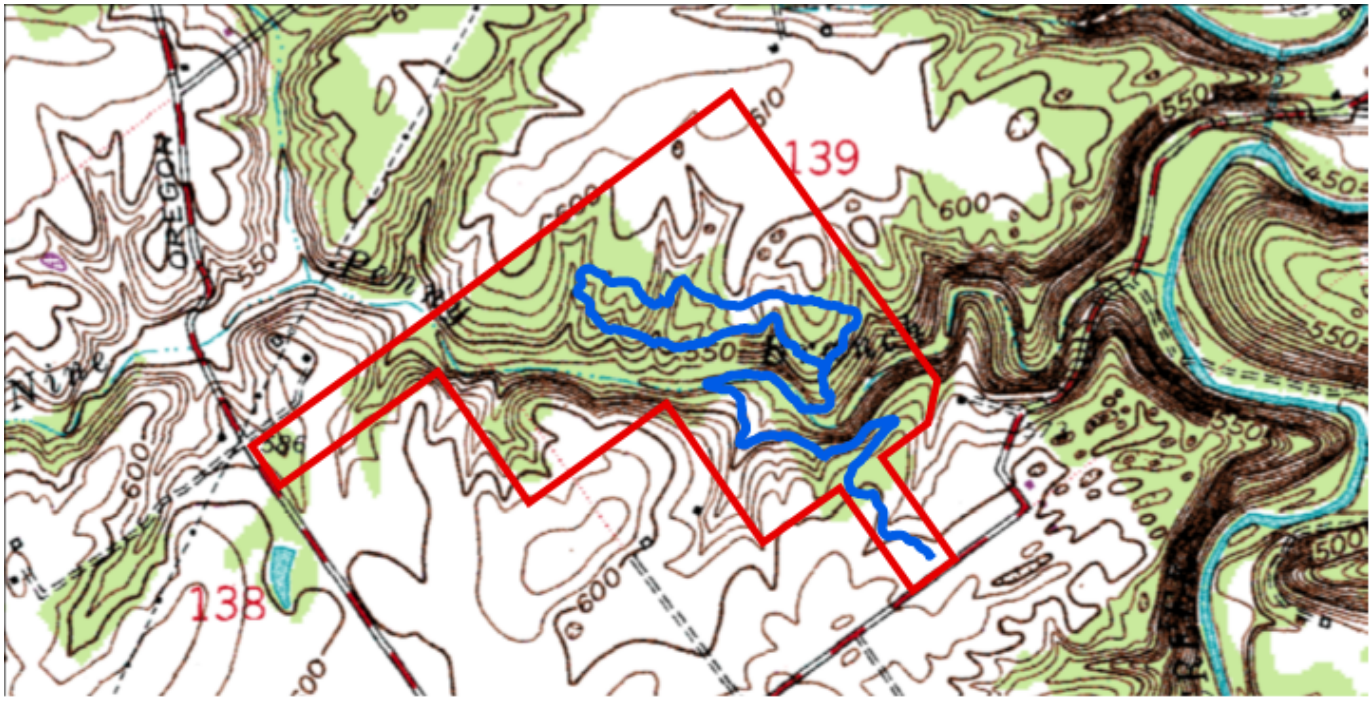
Nine Penny Branch Nature Preserve

County: Clark Size: 121 acres
Ownership: Nature Preserves - IDNR

Location and Access

Parking and trails. From SR 3 and SR 62 at the south side of Charlestown, proceed northeast on SR 62 for 0.4 miles, then turn left (northwest) onto Monroe St. Go northwest on Monroe St for 0.3 miles, turn right (northeast) onto Tunnel Mill Rd. Proceed for about 2.5 miles to the parking lot and trailhead. The trail is a 2 mile loop that crosses Nine Penny Branch. There is currently no bridge across the shallow stream, so during spring or after heavy rains one may need waterproof boots to cross with dry feet.



Description: Nine Penny Branch contains an old growth mesic upland forest, dominated by beech and tulip poplar. It also contains areas of young, second growth forest. Nine Penny Run bisects the preserve, cutting a moderately deep ravine into the limestone bedrock. The streambed is composed of slabs of limestone, with small waterfalls, pools, and riffles. A historic stagecoach route runs along the stream corridor. Remnants of early stone fences can still be seen along the stage route.

Trail Info: The new parking lot can accomodate school busses and has ADA parking. The ADA trail is 1/3 mile, and leads to an overlook. From there it remains ADA grade, but not ADA surface, for another 0.4 miles to a small waterfall. Total round trip distance down and back for the ADA trail is 2/3 mile. The entire trail is 1.5 miles round trip.

Further Information:

An excellent new hiking trail has just opened at Nine Penny Branch Nature Preserve! We have a challenge grant from a donor that would allow us to extend the trail into the old growth area along located at the northern portion of this property. **IF** we can raise matching funds!

Please send donations to **Natural Resources Foundation, 402 W. Washington, W256, Indianapolis IN 46204.** Put "Nine Penny Trail" on the memo line.