Evans-Mumbower Mill [K-3]



Over 70 mills once lined the banks of the Wissahickon Creek using and reusing the Creek's water to power industries that sawed wood, made paper, ground grain, and manufactured felt. Today nearly all of these buildings are gone, having been destroyed or converted to other uses. WVWA's Evans-Mumbower Mill still stands, preserved and open to the public on selected days, offering a glimpse into the past. A visit provides an understanding of the history of an old Wissahickon mill and how important such buildings were to the Wissahickon Valley economy.

In 1987, through the generosity of the Betz family, ownership passed to the Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association. A team of dedicated volunteers continues to repair and restore the Mill bringing it back to an operating gristmill. In 2008, this property was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Parking is available at the Mill and in the neighborhood.

Gywnedd Wildlife Preserve [J-4]



Natural Lands Trust (NLT) owns and manages the Gwynedd Wildlife Preserve; a 279-acre oasis of meadows, woodlands, and wetlands nestled among highly developed suburbs. After more than a century in agriculture, the Preserve's fields are being carefully restored. A walk along the over 5 miles of unpaved trails reveals a re-emerging ecosystem of native flora, including native grass meadows with big bluestem, little bluestem, and Indian-grass as well as native wildflowers such as New York ironweed, purple coneflower, and swamp milkweed. Grasslands birds that frequent this Preserve include Eastern Meadowlark, Northern Harrier, Eastern Bluebird, and Woodcock.

Parking is in a lot off Swedesford Road.

King's Woods [K-5]

These 15- acres of majestic woodlands along the Wissahickon Creek were once the site of ice-skating parties and summer gatherings. A stone fireplace still remains from these early 20th century years and is a reminder of the area's past. The trail can be steep and challenging as well as low and wet but offers a beautiful view of the Creek. The entrance goes along the train tracks, near the Gwynedd Valley Train Station, where parking is available.



Penllyn Natural Area (PNA) [N-6]

This was WVWA's first nature preserve, the gift of Judge and Mrs. Benjamin Dintenfass in 1962. The 17 acres of wooded land along the Wissahickon is located in Lower Gwynedd Township and is adjacent to Penllyn Woods, a 77-acre community park that was protected from development by the citizens of Lower Gwynedd in 1994.

The entrance is on Lantern Lane off Penllyn Pike, and parking is on the shoulder of Penllyn Pike.

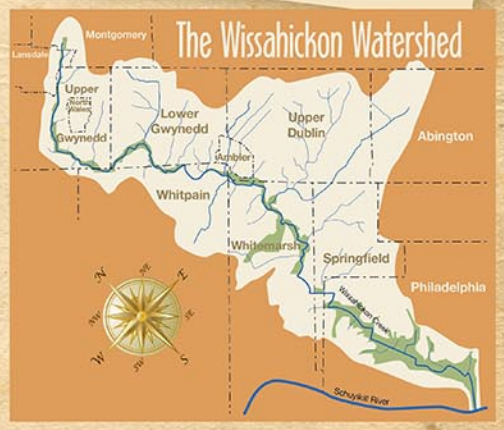




Timoney Preserve [K-4]

This 10.5 acre preserve is the gift of Dee and Roger Hillas to honor Thomas J. Timoney, the late WVWA trailblazer and long-serving Board member (1963-2010). It is an excellent example of open space preserved in perpetuity that is home to a variety of flora and fauna. It lies along Route 202, a busy highly traveled roadway, in Lower Gwynedd Township. It is best accessed from the Green Ribbon Trail, entering from Swedesford Road at Township Line Road.





WISSAHICKON WATERSHED valley ASSOCIATION



General Rules for Trail Use

1. Trails are open during daylight hours only.
2. No bikes or vehicles of any kind are allowed on trails.
3. Please behave in a safe and courteous manner.
4. Streams and springs are not safe for drinking.
5. Do not litter.
6. Dogs must be on a leash. Clean up after your pet.
7. No hunting, fishing, or trapping in preserve areas.
8. Please do not disturb plants, animals, or soils. Do not remove wood.
9. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.
10. No fires are allowed.
11. Please respect private property. Do not trespass.
12. Specific regulations may be posted at individual locations along the trail.

Note: The Green Ribbon Preserve is a collection of various parcels of land, both public and private. The trail that winds through the Preserve is a path intended mainly for pedestrian use. The surface is mostly natural and variable. In some places it is bare earth, whereas in others it is paved with stone or asphalt. Mud and uneven surfaces are not uncommon. Not all stream crossings have bridges. The overall gradient is gradual. Steep or difficult sections are limited (these are noted on the map). In a few segments the path is not well defined. Follow the green paint mark in these areas. Hikers should exercise caution at all road and stream crossings. There are locations where the trail user will have to walk on public sidewalks or road shoulders. Because of its rustic nature, most portions of the trail are not handicap accessible.

WVWA Field Guide Android App

Get the preserve maps on your Android phone and see your position in a preserve or on a trail in real time! The app also allows you to call WVWA directly and email key staff members.

Download the field guide by reading the QR code at the right with **Google Goggles** or **Barcode Scanner** (both available from the Android Market) or by visiting **http://goo.gl/0lt3W**

QR Code works for Android only. Other users can visit our website: www.wvwa.org

Photos by Jamie Stewart
© Copyright WVWA
Published by WVWA

ISBN-13: 978-0-9792171-1-1
ISBN-10: 0-9792171-1-3

Green Ribbon Trail

Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association
12 Morris Rd, Ambler, PA 19002-5499
www.wvwa.org
215-646-8866

Armentrout Preserve [C-13]

This 58-acre preserve is named for the Armentrout family, the former owners of this beautiful property that was preserved in 1998 in a partnership with Whitpain Township.

Armentrout contains a wide diversity of wildflowers and songbirds, and the fall goldenrod is especially dramatic.

The entrance is on Beale Road, which is off Penllyn Pike west of Morris Road. Follow Beale Road to its end and look for the Armentrout signs. There is ample parking and easy walking on grassy trails.



Willow Lake Farm [E-15]

Pastures and woodland provide habitat for fox, deer, coyotes and many species of birds all of which share this Preserve with horses. This 109 -acre preserve was a gift from the O'Neill and Lea families, visionaries who understand the importance of open space. The trail entrance is nestled in the back of this parking lot on the corner of Butler and Skippack Pikes. Parking is available in this lot.



Camp Woods [B-14]

This 68- acre preserve includes one of the few stands of mature forest in the Wissahickon Watershed. The towering Beech and Oak trees have not been cut since the Revolutionary War when Washington's troops bivouacked here in 1777 after the Battle of Germantown. Generals Washington and Lafayette were headquartered in an adjacent private residence known as Dawesfield. Camp Woods Preserve was the gift of Phoebe Wetzel, James Cheston IV and Francis and William Carey, as well as other generous donors.

Signage at the edge of the woods marks the entrance. From the end of Mason Drive, walk straight back to the sign.

The adjacent property owner has granted an easement for the purpose of public access to Camp Woods. Please be mindful that this is private property. Parking is on Mason Drive or Harrow Lane.



Wissahickon Waterfowl Preserve [C-16]

The Wissahickon Waterfowl Preserve (WWP) is a 15-acre site between the Wissahickon Creek and Maple Avenue, three blocks from downtown Ambler that was acquired in 2006. It includes an old reservoir of approximately 12 acres. The National Audubon Society has designated the reservoir as an Important Bird Area (IBA). The IBA designation indicates that several Pennsylvania species of special concern (PA State endangered, threatened, at risk, or rare) and many species of waterfowl and other birds use that particular site for breeding and resting during migration. Wintering waterfowl include Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Ring-necked Duck and Canvasback.

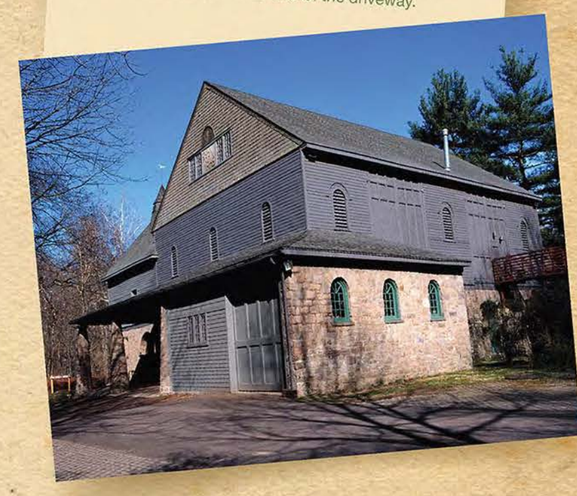
Future improvements to the Wissahickon Waterfowl Preserve will make the area more accessible and attractive. New landscaping and sitting areas along Maple Street are planned and an observation platform overlooking the water will be erected. When these are completed, WWP will be not only a natural resource worth preserving but a community asset that will enhance downtown Ambler as well.

Four Mills Barn [D-17]

Four Mills Nature Reserve is the 52-acre site of the headquarters of the Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association (WVWA). Purchased from the Natural Lands Trust in 1976, this land was once part of the country estate of Charles Bergner and the McLean family. Prominent architect Horace Trumbauer designed the Four Mills Barn in 1891, and it now serves as WVWA offices and the McLean loft.

The Ambler Rotary Bridge (2008) and Rose Rubenstein Stepping Stones (2011) now connect this Reserve to Ambler Borough and The Green Ribbon Trail.

Limited parking is available at Four Mills Barn, and access to the Trail is at the end of the driveway.



0 0.5 1 Mile 1.5 2 Miles

12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19

map continues on other side

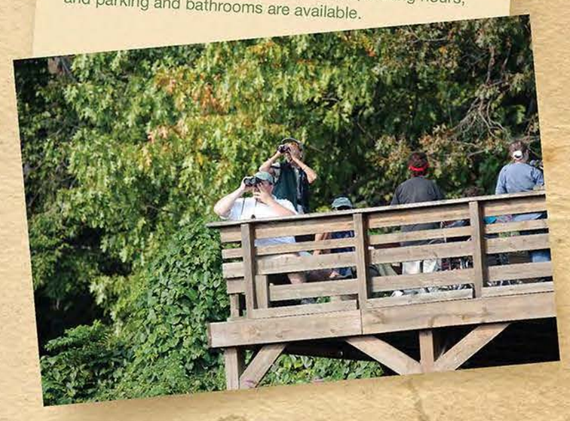


Militia Hill Hawk Watch [H-17]

Established in 1988, the Militia Hill Hawk Watch (MHHW) at Fort Washington State Park connects people with birds, nature and the natural world. The MHHW is active in the months of September and October, with volunteer compilers on duty from 9am to 5pm every day, weather permitting. Children are welcome, and the hawk watch platform offers easy access to the lower deck for the handicapped.

A host of dedicated volunteers compile the migration totals that are sent to HMANA (the Hawk Migration Association of North America). From these totals, and the totals received from hawk watching sites throughout North America, there is greater understanding of our raptor populations.

The platform is open during State Park operating hours, and parking and bathrooms are available.





Fairmount Park [N-17]

Fairmount Park is Philadelphia's park system and with over 9,200 acres, it represents 10% of the land in the City. Fairmount Park is noted as one of the largest urban parks in the country and is comprised of 63 regional and neighborhood parks. The Wissahickon Valley Park, the section on this map, is a Registered National Natural Landmark. Forbidden Drive extends along the Wissahickon Creek from the Montgomery County border all the way down to the Schuylkill River. This multi-purpose trail features beautiful scenery, rustic bridges, historic buildings, and many fascinating natural formations.

WISSAHICKON WATERSHED valley ASSOCIATION

Mission Statement

The mission of the Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association is to protect the quality and the beauty of the Wissahickon Creek and to enhance life in the Wissahickon Watershed by:

- Protecting and enhancing open space and natural areas in the Watershed and providing opportunities for the enjoyment of these natural areas;
- Promoting awareness and appreciation of environmental issues through education so that the community can make sound choices for a sustainable, ecologically healthy future;
- Promoting wise land use and management of natural resources in the Watershed, especially when dealing with issues which affect the water quality of the Wissahickon Creek;
- Preserving historic and cultural sites that are of significance to the Wissahickon Creek.

Green Ribbon Trail

General Rules for Trail Use

1. Trails are open during daylight hours only.
2. No bikes or vehicles of any kind are allowed on trails.
3. Please behave in a safe and courteous manner.
4. Streams and springs are not safe for drinking.
5. Do not litter.
6. Dogs must be on a leash. Clean up after your pet.
7. No hunting, fishing, or trapping in preserve areas.
8. Please do not disturb plants, animals, or soils. Do not remove wood.
9. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.
10. No fires are allowed.
11. Please respect private property. Do not trespass.
12. Specific regulations may be posted at individual locations along the trail.

Note: The Green Ribbon Preserve is a collection of various parcels of land, both public and private. The trail that winds through the Preserve is a path intended mainly for pedestrian use. The surface is mostly natural and variable. In some places it is bare earth, whereas in others it is paved with stone or asphalt. Mud and uneven surfaces are not uncommon. Not all stream crossings have bridges. The overall gradient is gradual. Steep or difficult sections are limited (these are noted on the map). In a few segments the path is not well defined. Follow the green paint mark in these areas. Hikers should exercise caution at all road and stream crossings. There are locations where the trail user will have to walk on public sidewalks or road shoulders. Because of its rustic nature, most portions of the trail are not handicap accessible.

- Green Ribbon Trail
- Future Green Ribbon Trail
- Montgomery County Multi-Use Trail
- Future Montgomery County Trail
- Forbidden Drive
- WVWA Preserved Property
- preserved private property
- preserved open space
- private open space
- rivers and streams
- public restrooms
- railroad stations (SEPTA R5)
- parking
- bridge crossing
- stepping stone crossing
- steep area on trail
- dam
- bridge

Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association
12 Morris Rd, Ambler, PA 19002-5499
www.wvwa.org
215-646-8866

WVWA is a member-supported organization. Individuals, foundations, businesses and organizations all fund WVWA's conservation efforts. Members provide support for land acquisition, management protection and maintenance, water quality monitoring and operating funds.

Members have the satisfaction of knowing that they make a critical difference in protecting the health and beauty of the Wissahickon Creek and its watershed. Visit www.wvwa.org or call 215.646.8866 for membership information.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O