

## A. G. Beaman Park

This wild and rugged land is a unique treasure in Nashville's park system. The area was once known as Paradise Ridge, and while the beauty of the land might inspire one to envision paradise, the name actually comes from two early settlers, the Paradise brothers.

Early land use included homesteads, farming, orchards, logging and even moonshining. In the 1970s the 1500-acre parcel that is now Beaman Park was purchased by a group of doctors, known as the Blueberry Hill Partners, who used the land as a hunting preserve. In 1996, the Partners sold their preserve to the Metro Nashville government for roughly half of its appraised value.

The land purchase was made possible by a generous gift from Mrs. Sally Beaman in honor of her husband, Alvin G. Beaman, a prominent Nashville businessman and civic leader who served on the Park Board from 1955 to 1963. This wonderful park represents the largest single gift of land in the history of the Metro Nashville Parks Department. In 2007, 188 acres were added when Mary O'Neil and Catherine Grose donated the Proctor Family Farm. In 2015, 568 more acres were purchased to bring the total park land to 2,256 acres.

Beaman Park lies on the Highland Rim, just outside of the Nashville Basin, in the northwest edge of Davidson County. Its terrain features steep, forested slopes, with drier ridge tops and elevations just under 1000 feet. Deep hollows contain pristine springs and streams. Most of the park is drained by Little Marrowbone Creek on the north and Bull Run Creek on the south. The surface geology exhibits limestone, cherty limestone, shale, siltstone and a unique mudstone that is often a beautiful yellow or rust color.

The vegetation is incredibly diverse. Oak/hardwood forests dominate the mid to upper slopes while mixed alluvial hardwoods lie in the creek bottoms. A rare community type, known as woodland barrens, occurs and contains post oak trees and native perennial grasses. And there are many delicate bluff communities.

Some common trees at Beaman Park are blackjack, northern red, scarlet, chestnut and white oaks,

hickories, beech, tulip poplar, sourwood, sassafras, redbud, and dogwood. Less common are virginia and shortleaf pines, witch-hazel, carolina willow, hazelnut and butternut. The shrub layer includes spicebush, farkleberry, blueberries, wild azalea, mountain laurel, and even gooseberries.

Wildflowers abound here, especially in spring, with such beauties as dwarf larkspur, wild geranium, shooting stars, fire pinks, and even the rare lady's slipper orchid. Summer brings blazing stars, coreopsis, new jersey tea, bergamot, and the state listed threatened species, Michigan lily. In the fall visitors may see blue lobelia, turtlehead, joe-pye weed, beardtongue, and ladies tresses orchids. Most notable is the federally listed threatened species, Eggert's sunflower. Many ferns, sedges, mosses, mushrooms and lichens carpet the forest floor, and a large patch of ground cedar thrives near the native pine woods.

Beaman Park is home to countless other species of wildlife as well. Deer, bobcat, fox, coyote, raccoons, flying squirrels, and bats are some of the mammals here. Reptiles such as snakes, turtles, skinks and lizards move around as they adjust to seasonal temperatures, while amphibians like salamanders, frogs and toads seek protection in microclimates. Clear, shallow creeks support darters, dace, minnows, snails, crayfish, and aquatic insects. Dense forests provide shelter for many birds including woodpeckers, thrushes, wrens, warblers, owls and hawks. Beaman Park is a rich, fertile, living laboratory and the potential is great for many new discoveries.

Visitors to this wild and rugged land will find a unique opportunity to enjoy nature first hand and experience the wonderful solitude and serenity of our natural world.

## PARK RULES & REGULATIONS

- Park opens at daylight and closes at dusk
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited
- Keep pets on a leash at all times.
- All motorized vehicles are prohibited except in designated parking areas.
- All animals and plant life are strictly protected and shall not be removed or disturbed.
- Horseback riding and bike riding are prohibited.
- Speed limit in the park is 20 m.p.h.

***IN CASE OF EMERGENCY,  
CALL 911.***

***METRO POLICE  
NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER  
615-862-8600***

**For more information contact  
Beaman Park Nature Center  
5911 Old Hickory Blvd. 37015  
615-862-8580  
beamanpark@nashville.gov  
www.bpnc.nashville.gov**

Welcome to  
**Beaman Park**



Eggert's Sunflower



ESTABLISHED  
1901

# BEAMAN PARK

## and NATURAL AREA

### R U L E S

#### HELP PROTECT BEAMAN PARK AND NATURAL AREA

##### PARK HOURS: SUNRISE TO SUNSET

The rare and incredibly rich habitats of Beaman Park are extremely fragile and will remain so only if all hikers respect and protect all natural features by staying on designated hiking trails.

##### YOU ARE ENTERING A SENSITIVE NATURAL AREA

- Respect and protect wildlife and all natural features
- Stay on designated trails
- Motorized vehicles prohibited on all trails
- Horse riding is not allowed

##### ALL METRO PARK ORDINANCES APPLY AND ARE ENFORCED

- Alcoholic beverages prohibited
- Hunting is not allowed
- Pets must be on a leash not exceeding 6 feet
- Pick up pet waste and place in trash receptacle
- Put litter in its place
- Park in designated areas only

##### SAFETY IS OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY

- Plan your route, Know your limits, Go Prepared!
- Remain alert, be mindful of your surroundings
- Enjoy the park with a friend
- Leave valuables at home
- Take car keys with you

##### PROHIBITED

- Drugs and alcohol
- Mountain Bikes
- Hunting
- Motorized Vehicles

##### FOR EMERGENCIES, CALL 911

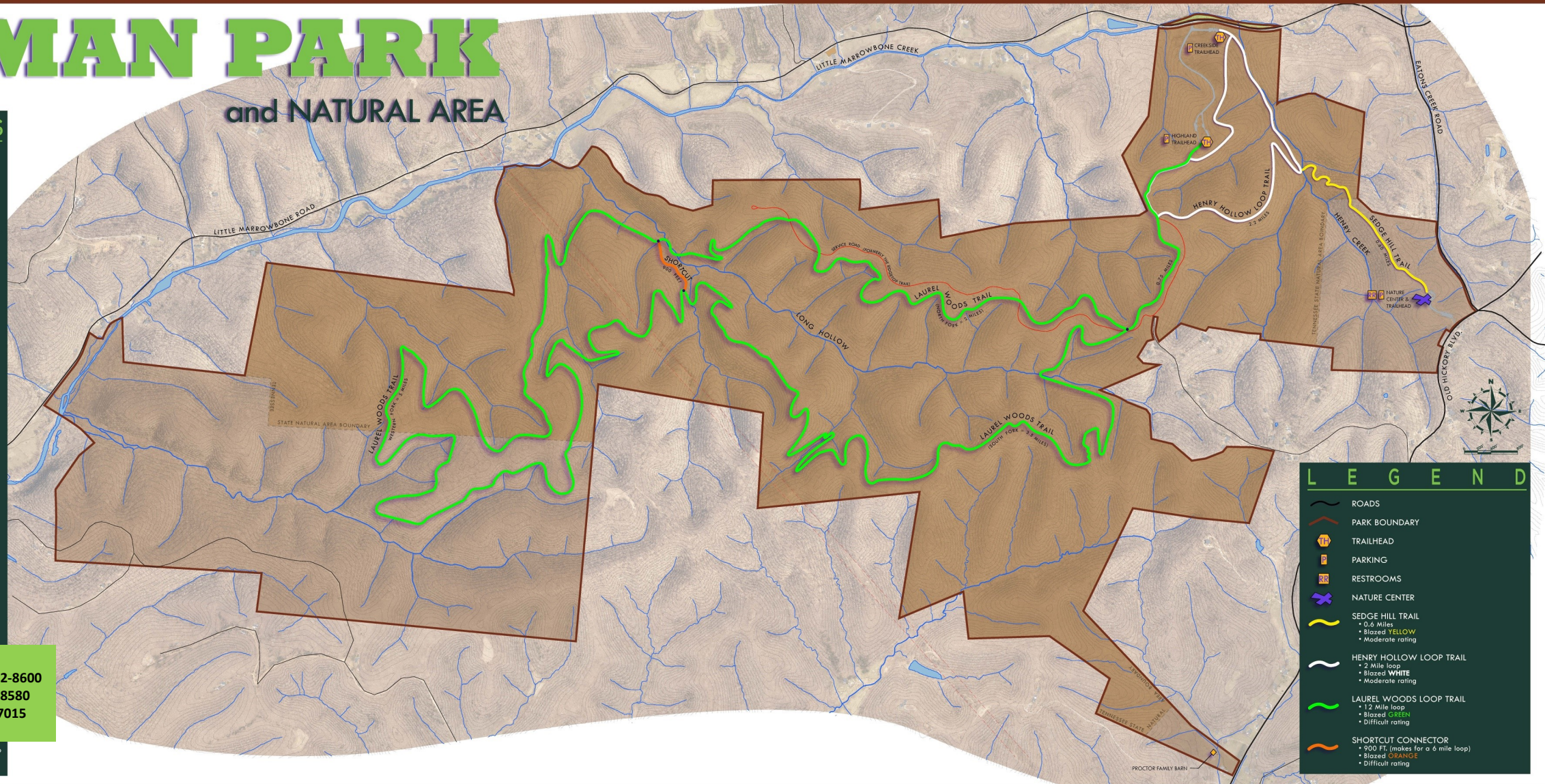
**Metro Police Non-Emergency: (615) 862-8600**

**Beaman Park Nature Center (615) 862-8580**

**5911 Old Hickory Blvd. Nashville, TN 37015**



Requests for ADA accommodations should be directed to Metro Parks Headquarters. 615-862-8400.



### LEGEND

- ROADS
- PARK BOUNDARY
- TRAILHEAD
- PARKING
- RESTROOMS
- NATURE CENTER
- SEdge HILL TRAIL
  - 0.6 Miles
  - Blazed YELLOW
  - Moderate rating
- HENRY HOLLOW LOOP TRAIL
  - 2 Mile loop
  - Blazed WHITE
  - Moderate rating
- LAUREL WOODS LOOP TRAIL
  - 12 Mile loop
  - Blazed GREEN
  - Difficult rating
- SHORTCUT CONNECTOR
  - 900 FT. (makes for a 6 mile loop)
  - Blazed ORANGE
  - Difficult rating

Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation & the Friends of Beaman Park

