

Hikers Knob & Wheelers Hollow



The 25-acre gift from the Hoosier Hikers Council is part of one of the most unique land forms in Indiana – the Knobstone Escarpment.

I remember the first time I saw it and the amazement I felt that something like this existed in Indiana. Its rugged features are accentuated by the Scottsburg lowland, a very flat flood plain that creates the eastern border of the Knobstone Escarpment.

I later found out that this was a part of the unglaciated section of Indiana which retains much of its original topography; the glaciers could not go over this land.

The topography is unique, and so are the plants and animals here. Early on, Charles Deam (Indiana's first

state forester) recognized that the Chestnut Oak and Virginia Pine were found only in this region (with a few exceptions for the Chestnut Oak, as a few trees over look Big Clifty Falls and Marble Hill).

Other plants include Deam's foxglove (found nowhere else in the world), rattlesnake hawkweed, stout-ragged goldenrod and Harvey's buttercup.

Rare animals include two small snakes, the scarlet snake and the crowned snake, both of which are nonvenomous. The red salamander is also a resident.

Today, the Knobstone Trail traverses the preserve, giving visitors the chance to get to know this uplands habitat.

Two things are certain: when we visit

to monitor this conservation land, we need good climbing legs; the other is that we always have a spectacular view if we make it to the top.

We wish to thank the Hoosier Hikers Council and all their current and past volunteers and staff for their care for the land and their partnership with us.

— Based on an article by Paul Carmony in the 2010 Oak Heritage Conservancy newsletter



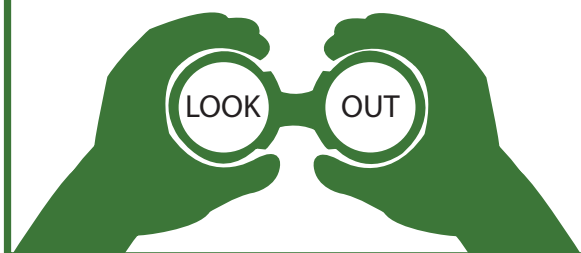
OAK HERITAGE
CONSERVANCY

Stand on an Escarpment*.

An "escarpment" is a large ridge of rolling hills that rising abruptly out of a plain. In this case, the lowland plain is an ancient sea bed – including the Muscatatuck River bottomlands. Rolling hills run from north to south, just west of Scottsburg, to form the Martinsville Hills - Knobstone Escarpment. The Knobstone Trail runs along this ridge.

Look for signs of wildlife

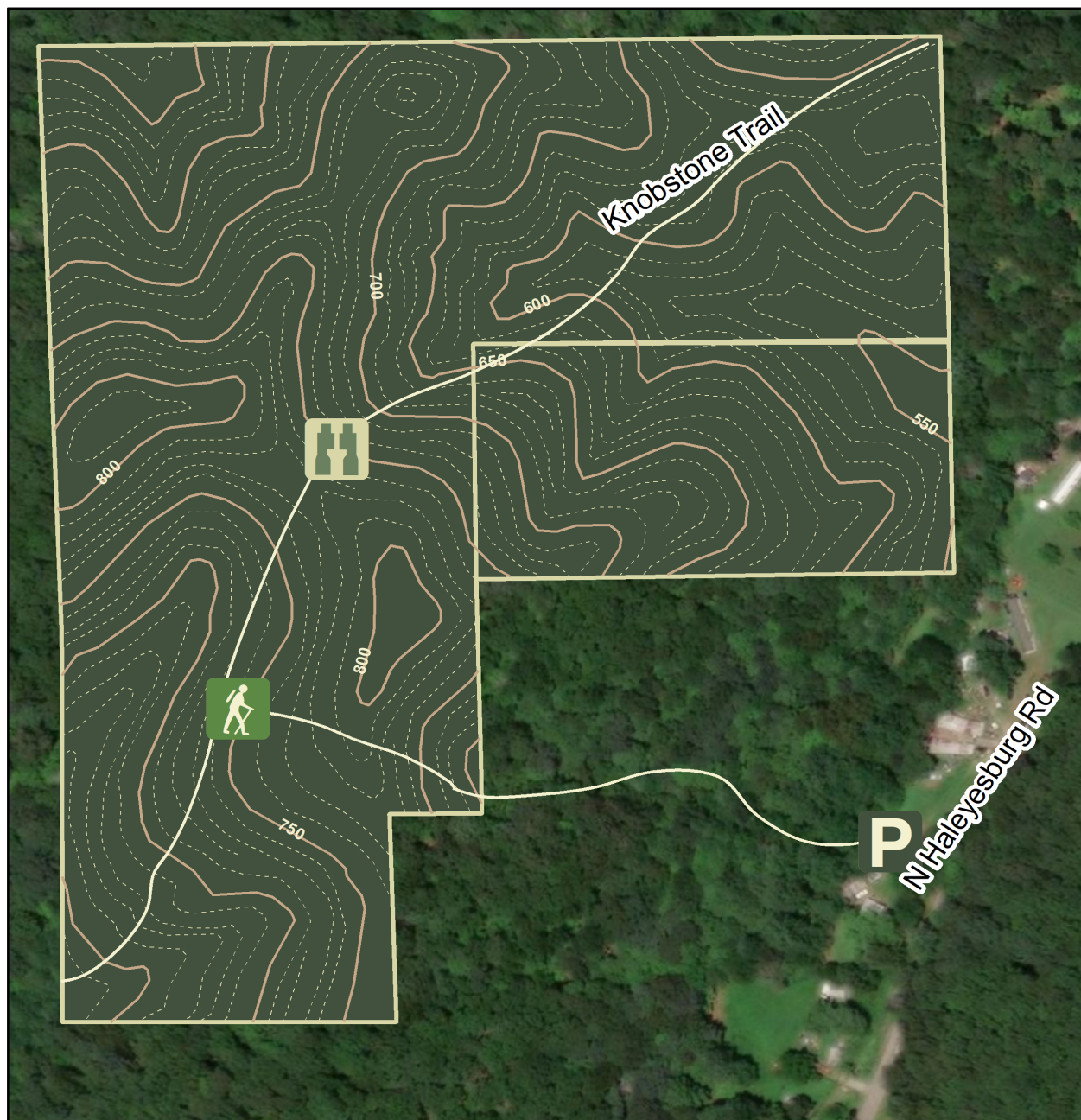
From bobcats to red salamanders, the unique upland, rocky, dry habitat is home to wildlife not found in other parts of Indiana. Have fun looking for signs of life large and small.



Consider helping expand the Knobstone Trail.

The Knobstone Hiking Trail Association is working hard to connect the Tecumseh Trail (which runs for 42 miles in central Indiana) with the 45 miles of the Knobstone.

Why not join in the fun? Learn how to get involved at www.knobstonehikingtrail.org.



Points of Interest



Educational Sign



Observation



Parking



Trailhead

Streams

Trails

Minor Contours

Major Contours

Property Lines Light

Access

Hay Field

Immature Forest

Mature Forest

No Access

Old Growth Forest

Open/Meadow Area

Open Water

Pollinator Habitat

Restoration Area-Forest

Restoration Area-Pollinator

Native Wildflowers

0 0.0225 0.045 0.09 Miles

