



# Edge of Appalachia Nature Preserve

**Location:** Southeast of West Union in Adams County OH.

4274 Waggoner Riffle Rd, West Union, OH 45693. 937-544-2880

**Website:** <http://www.cincymuseum.org/nature>

**Map:** <http://www.cincymuseum.org/sites/default/files/2014-Edge-of-Appalachia-Trailheads.pdf>

**Driving Directions:** From 275 in Northern KY, go southeast about 49 miles on KY-9 / AA Hwy into Mason County KY. Exit left to go north on Clyde T Barbour Blvd / KY-3071 / US-62 / US-68. In 4 miles cross the Ohio River on the William Harsha Bridge. At intersection with US 52, turn left on US 52 / US-62 and go east about 2.2 miles into Aberdeen OH. Turn left on Market St / OH-41 then meander north and east through rural Ohio counties Brown then Adams for 16.9 miles. In West Union OH, turn right on W Main St / OH-125 / OH-41 then go east on OH-125 for 6.5 miles, staying straight on OH-125 when OH-41 departs left. About 0.3 miles past OH-348 and Ohio Brush Creek, there are 4 options depending on which trail. See map.

**Trail Features:** The trails offer hikers access to different sections of the 16,000-acre nature preserve, one of the most bio-diverse natural areas in the region, with many cliffs, forests, streams, plant diversity and rare wildlife species

- Charles A. Eulett **Wilderness Preserve Trail** is a 2.5 mile loop. Trailhead is on Shivener Rd which runs north off Lynx Rd. Lynx runs northeast off OH-125 near Buzzardroost Trail.
- Christian and Emma Goetz **Buzzardroost Rock Preserve Trail** is a 4.4-mile round trip hike traversing the front of the Appalachian Escarpment to a rock promontory 900 ft above Ohio Brush Creek. Trailhead is on OH-125, east of Waggoner Riffle Rd.
- E. Lucy Braun **Lynx Prairie Preserve Trail** is a 1.4-mile trail meandering through 10 prairie openings in an otherwise forested area. Lynx is one of the preserve's cradles of plant diversity, topping more than 600 recorded species. Trailhead is at end of Cline Rd which runs off Tulip Rd south of OH-125. The north end of Tulip Rd intersects Lynx Rd.
- Joan Jones **Portman Trail** is a 1.6 mile trail opened in 2014. It climbs from the Ohio Brush Creek Valley to a rock promontory with breathtaking views. Trailhead is on Waggoner Riffle Rd, south of OH-125.

**Dogs:** No prohibitions noticed but keep dogs on leash.

**History:** The Richard and Lucile Durrell Edge of Appalachia Preserve is one of the largest privately owned preserves east of the Mississippi, with 11 unique preserves: Ohio Brush Creek, Cedar Falls, The Wilderness, Buzzardroost Rock, Red Rock, Lynx Prairie, Cave Hollow, Hanging Prairie, Germany Hill Prairie, Abner Hollow and the Rieveschl Preserves. Four are recognized as National Natural Landmarks—a testimony to their significance. Cincinnati Museum Center has partnered with the Ohio Chapter of the Nature Conservancy to protect these areas for over 50 yrs.

**Other Activities:** Advanced Naturalist Workshops continue the Edge's study and cataloging of preserve resources and offer field training for those interested in nature study. Science Camp for children to reconnect with nature and have the time of their life. Eulett Center (on Waggoner Riffle Rd between OH-125 and Portman Trail) is a new facility available to rent for conferences, business meetings, and community events.

