

## **Description of Properties to be Managed**

### Collier Preserve

Acquired in 2006 and 2007, the Collier Preserve (formerly known as the “Mill Creek Preserve”), consists of 303-acres located along Western Reserve Road in Boardman Township (Mahoning County, Ohio). The Collier Preserve hosts a wide array of habitat types including tall-grass prairie, wooded ravines, reverting fields, and perhaps most notably the eastern portions of the property are dominated by emergent and forested wetlands, some identified as category 3 (highest quality). Public access at this facility is restricted to a primitive, but extensive trail system which allows for various form of passive recreation such as hiking, birding, photography, etc.

### Sawmill Creek Preserve

Acquired in 2002, the Sawmill Creek Preserve consists of 155-acres along South Turner Road in Canfield Township (Mahoning County, Ohio). The Sawmill Creek Preserve is primarily dominated by hardwood forest; however, several areas can be characterized as emergent wetland, or intermediate shrub/scrub brush. Public access at this facility is restricted to a primitive, but extensive trail system which allows for various form of passive recreation such as hiking, birding, photography, etc.

### Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary

Acquired partially in 2004 and in 2022, the Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary consists of 482-acres along Calla Road in Beaver Township (Mahoning County, Ohio). The Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary is primarily dominated by emergent wetlands and open water ponds, however, several areas include hardwood forest and early successional grasslands. Public access at this facility is restricted on the western side of Mill Creek, allowing access by permit only for approved activities such as birding or photography. The eastern portion of the facility is open to the public but currently lacks any formal amenities for public access such as a parking area or trails.

### Springfield Forest

Acquired in 2021, the Springfield Forest consists of 89-acres along Springfield Road in Springfield Township (Mahoning County, Ohio). As a result of previous mining activities on the property, the Springfield Forest is dominated by intermediate successional shrubs and small trees, with some limited areas of mature hardwoods and early successional hardwoods. This facility is open to the public, with a parking lot, fishing pier, and a partially improved trail system to allow for various form of passive recreation such as hiking, fishing, birding, photography, etc.

### Hawkins Marsh

Acquired in 2022, the Hawkins Marsh consists of 161-acres along W. Western Reserve Road in Smith Township (Mahoning County, Ohio). The Hawkins Marsh is primarily dominated by mature hardwood forest with large areas classified as forest wetland (category 3). This facility is open to the public but currently lacks any formal amenities for access such as a parking area or trails (scheduled for installation in 2023).

### Vickers Nature Preserve

Acquired in 1993, the Vickers Nature Preserve consists of 264-acres located on Akron-Canfield Road (U.S. Route 224) in Ellsworth Township (Mahoning County, Ohio). Vickers Nature Preserve is primarily dominated by hardwood forest, but some areas of early successional grassland, emergent wetland, and an open water pond are present. Public access at this facility is restricted to a partially improved and extensive trail system which allows for various form of passive recreation such as hiking, fishing, birding, photography, and unique to Vickers Nature Preserve, equestrian trail riding.

### Huntington Woods

Huntington Woods consists of 383 acres located directly south of U.S. Route 224 in Boardman Township. Huntington Woods is dominated almost exclusively by dense hardwood forest, with some areas of forested wetland present within the extensive floodplain of Mill Creek. This facility is not open to the public as currently there are no parking lots or trail systems to facilitate access.

### Hitchcock Woods

Hitchcock Woods consists of 665-acres located along Hitchcock Road in Boardman Township (Mahoning County, Ohio). Hitchcock Woods is comprised almost entirely of dense hardwood forest, with some areas of forested or emergent wetland present within the extensive floodplain of Mill Creek. Public access at this facility is restricted to a primitive trail loop which allows for various form of passive recreation such as hiking, birding, photography, etc.

### Mill Creek Park

Established in 1891, Mill Creek Park is considered Ohio's First Park District and consists of approximately 1600 acres located north of U.S. Route 224 in Boardman Township and the City of Youngstown (Mahoning County, Ohio). Mill Creek Park is highly developed, with interspersed natural areas consisting of hardwood forest, emergent wetlands, and several open water lakes and ponds. Mill Creek Park is highly accessible to the public including both active and passive recreation such as golf, fishing, jogging, biking, hiking, organized sports, etc.