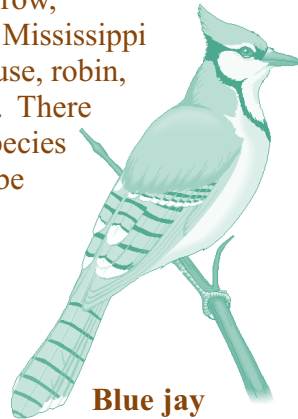


WILDLIFE

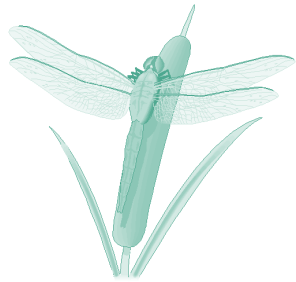
The South Arkansas Arboretum is abundant with various species of animal life. The habitat ranges from heavily canopied woodlands to open grassy areas. This range of habitats contributes to a variety of animal life.

Birds are the most commonly seen and heard form of wildlife. Examples of birds which have been seen in or flying above the Arboretum are as follows: Carolina wren, cardinal, red-bellied woodpecker, blue jay, wood thrush, fish crow, common crow, common grackle, Mississippi kite, tufted titmouse, robin, and mockingbird. There are many more species of birds likely to be present within the Arboretum.



Blue jay

Mammals and reptiles are also seen in the Arboretum. Squirrels, rabbits, terrapins, lizards, and snakes have been encountered, as well as an occasional deer. There is also abundant aquatic life in the two ponds in the Arboretum.



THE ARBORETUM MISSION

The South Arkansas Arboretum is dedicated to preserving the native, rare, and economically important flora of the West Gulf Coastal Plain region of the United States. The reestablishment of the Arboretum has created an environment where Arkansas's natural beauty will be preserved for generations of people to view, study, photograph, and enjoy.

GOALS OF THE ARBORETUM

The goals of the South Arkansas Arboretum are:

1. To provide an educational site by serving as a living laboratory for elementary, secondary, and college age groups, as well as the public. Guided tours to aid in the identification of the natural flora and fauna are offered by appointment
2. To provide a recreational site for walkers and joggers where nature's beauty may be enjoyed.
3. To provide a preservation site for the unique West Gulf Coastal Plain flora and fauna.

FRIENDS OF THE SOUTH ARKANSAS ARBORETUM ORGANIZATION (FSAAO)

A friends organization is needed to provide publicity as well as supplemental financial support. The FSAAO should readily attract people with a love of community and nature. People with a wide range of backgrounds are asked to join so that all segments of the area will be taken into consideration when decisions are made concerning the Arboretum. Business persons, law personnel, teachers, biologists, horticulturists, nature clubs, scout leaders, city and state leaders, and other citizens are invited to join. Sections or trails may be adopted by a person or group that will be responsible for its perpetual care. You may contact South Arkansas Community College (870) 862-8131 for information.

Enjoy your visit and hurry back!



Swamp Honeysuckle

Dwarf Pawpaw

SOUTH ARKANSAS ARBORETUM



El Dorado, Arkansas
(870) 862-8131

Welcome to the South Arkansas Arboretum!

As you enter the Arboretum, you will quickly begin to enjoy this natural world. The South Arkansas Arboretum is a place dedicated to environmental education and to the preservation of the flora and fauna of the West Gulf Coastal Plain.

The South Arkansas Arboretum is unique in the state because it is the only such facility directly located within an urban area. The Arboretum is a 13-acre unit adjoining El Dorado High School managed by South Arkansas Community College. It was originally developed as an educational site where the natural flora of the Arkansas West Gulf Coastal Plain could be studied and preserved.

Visit early and listen; watch the birds and other forest animals wake up to a new day. Stay late and watch them go to sleep for the night. Each day produces something new, and each of the seasons creates a different mood in the Arboretum.

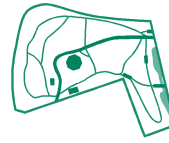
Along with its aesthetic value is the Arboretum's educational value. School groups will find its resources valuable. The South Arkansas Arboretum is a special and unique preserve nestled in the heart of El Dorado, Arkansas.



Azalea

SOUTH ARKANSAS ARBORETUM

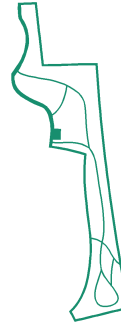
AREA CLASSIFICATIONS



Active Use
Western Area:
high development

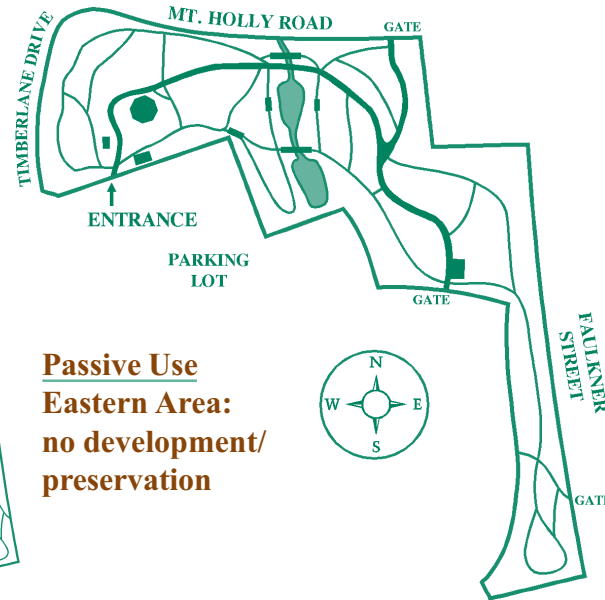


Mixed Use
Central Area:
low development



Passive Use
Eastern Area:
**no development/
preservation**

Note: All trees, plants, and animals are protected.



Follow more than two miles of paved foot trails. Each curve and hill will present to you some of the plants native to this particular area including some that cannot be found anywhere else. Come take a stroll through this area's West Gulf Coastal Plain.

The Arboretum is divided into three sections:

1. The western area of the Arboretum is designed for development and capital improvements to accommodate visitors. Within this area, the priority uses are education, scenic views, and improvements designed to facilitate social gatherings. The park-like openness of this area is to be maintained and enhanced. There are restrooms and a gazebo in this area. A variety of showy flowers, shrubs and trees are in this area.
2. As you leave the western area going east toward the ponds, you enter a transitional zone. The lowland terrain around the ponds and the creek are allowed to grow naturally. Note all the lizard-tail plants and ferns.
3. As you leave the transitional area going east, you will enter the Natural Area dedicated to the preservation of the flora typical of the West Gulf Coastal Plain. Native ground cover is allowed to grow uninhibited as well as the trees and shrubs. This area is primarily for botanical study and educational purposes with the intention of providing a reasonable flora representation of the West Gulf Coastal Plain. Note the two rare plants, the Arkansas Oak and the Dwarf PawPaw.

AN EDUCATIONAL ADVENTURE

Much beauty and interest is to be found along the Arboretum trails year-round. Upon entrance into the South Arkansas Arboretum, you will find a canopy of serene splendor. In the spring you can stroll the azalea trails and marvel at the bright pink, red, and white bouquets of beauty, or feast upon the beauty of the dogwoods robed in white. In summer, you can enjoy the crepe myrtles and gardenia in full bloom along major trails under green umbrellas of pine and oak. In the fall, you can meander down trail after trail delighting in the fiery colors of red, yellow, and orange. The black gums in their red cloaks hail the yellow poplar, witch hazel, mulberry, and chestnuts in their coats of yellow. The maples, sweet gum, and beech bow with pride in their coats of many colors: reds, oranges, yellows, golds, and browns. Wild flowers grow in abundance throughout the Arboretum during spring, summer, and fall. However, beauty does not cease to exist in the winter months. The evergreens delight in their victory and stand tall. In late winter, many varieties



Camellia

of camellias begin their show of beauty in colors ranging from pastel purples and pinks to a deep rose color.