



Sadsbury Woods

P R E S E R V E



Natural Lands Trust is a nonprofit land conservancy protecting land in communities throughout the greater Philadelphia region. Since our founding in 1953, we have helped protect more than 100,000 acres of open space. Today, we continue to build on that legacy by preserving many more acres every year. We currently own and manage 46 nature preserves like this one—13,000 acres of special places that are set aside for all time.

We welcome your visit to our Sadsbury Woods Preserve. If you appreciate the existence of this preserve and are concerned about the future of your community, please consider joining Natural Lands Trust as a member. We depend on support from people just like you to continue our important conservation mission. For more information about Natural Lands Trust or to make a contribution, please contact us. Thank you.

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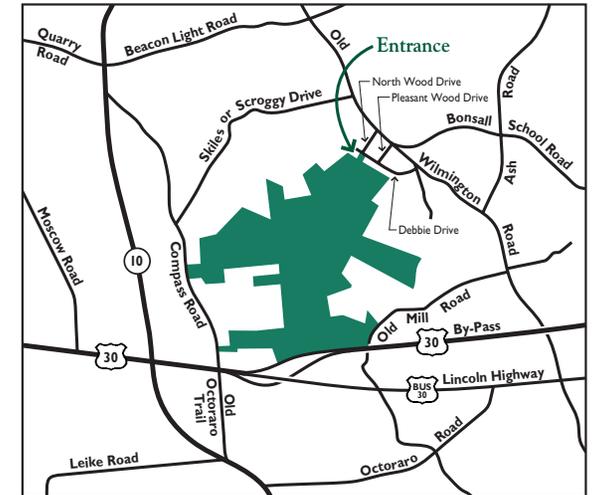
Sadsbury Woods Preserve
 tel: 610-696-6824

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Visitor Information

We welcome your visit to Sadsbury Woods Preserve. The preserve is open dawn to dusk.

Please contact the preserve manager, at 610-696-6824, for additional information or to schedule a tour.



From the east, turn right onto Compass Road just after the Route 30 By-Pass merges back into Business Route 30. From the west, turn left onto Compass Road. Follow Compass Road to Skiles/Scroggy Drive and turn right. Drive east on Skiles/Scroggy Drive until you reach Old Wilmington Road and turn right. Look for North Wood Drive on your right. Turn into the subdivision. Entrance to Preserve is at the end of North Wood Drive.

Welcome

to Natural Lands Trust's Sadsbury Woods Preserve, 430 acres of permanently protected land, including one of the largest remaining, un-fragmented woodlands in Chester County. This area, exemplary of what much of Pennsylvania might have looked like centuries ago, is an important habitat for interior nesting birds and small mammals. Because the extensive, largely undisturbed forest is rare in Chester County, Natural Lands Trust selected the Sadsbury Woods area as a priority for protection in the early 1990's.

The creation of the Sadsbury Woods Preserve is truly a conservation success story. The preserve has grown from the original 160-acre parcel, acquired in 1996, to more than 430 acres in just four years. Situated along the border between Sadsbury and West Caln Townships in western Chester County, the preserve is now a permanent refuge in an area facing dramatically increased development pressure.

History

The Sadsbury Woods Preserve has been assembled from more than one dozen parcels, an effort that was made possible thanks to landowners who were willing to sell their land for conservation purposes. One such landowner recalled exploring these woods as a child and wanted to ensure that his grandchildren and great-grandchildren would be able to do the same.

We are continuing to work to expand the preserve and hope to eventually protect a total of 600 acres.

Funding for this project has been provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Chester County Preservation Partnership Program.



PHOTOS:
cover - Lisa Tyson Ennis
inside - © 1995, Roberta Perkins



Ecology

Sadsbury Woods contains an increasingly rare area of interior woodlands (defined as an area at least 300 meters from any edge, such as road, lawn or meadow). Such deep woods provide critical habitat for many species of birds, especially neo-tropical migrant songbirds. These colorful birds winter in South America and breed during the spring and summer in North America. To survive here, they need abundant food and protection from the weather and predators. The forests of Sadsbury Woods fill these needs quite well—in fact, a recent bird count identified over 40 different species in just one morning.

Another important ecological feature of the preserve is Buck Run, a tributary of the Brandywine River. We are planting more native trees and plants along the creek to better filter nutrients from groundwater and to provide food for aquatic invertebrates. The preserve also includes a 40-acre pasture that is nestled between the woodlands and Route 30. The pasture is currently leased to a dairy farmer and we are working with him to make this area a showcase of sustainable agriculture techniques. As you walk the preserve, look for trail-side signs that explain these and other ecological features in more detail.