

We'll meet at 9:45–10 am on Saturday, October 1, at **Charleston Falls Preserve** (2535 Ross Road, Tipp City, Ohio 45371), which is near the intersection of Interstates 70 and 75.

Directions from Interstate 70: take Exit 36 (SR 202) north about 3 miles to Ross Road, turn west to the preserve entrance.

Directions from Interstate 75 from the north: take Exit 68 (Tipp City, SR 571) east through Tipp City and across the Great Miami River to SR 202, turn south and go about 2½ miles to Ross Road, turn west to the preserve entrance.

Directions from Interstate 75 from the south: take Interstate 70 east to Exit 36 (SR 202), north about 3 miles to Ross Road, turn west to the preserve entrance.

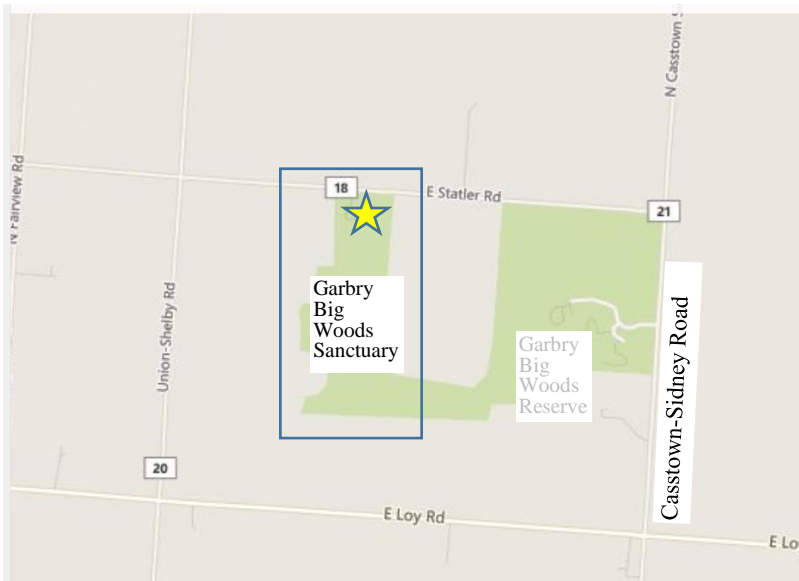


This 216-acre preserve has a variety of wooded and open habitats, a spring-fed stream and various outcrops of limestone/dolostone. We'll pass out copies of our collecting permit to keep with us while we're collecting.

NOTE: Please avoid collecting on the cliffs along the trail/stairways near Charleston Falls, because this is a very popular, heavily traveled scenic area. There are a number of other outcrops in less visible places, and these appeared to have the same flora as the Charleston Falls cliffs. We may have access to the dripping area at the base of the falls (not readily accessible), we'll have more information on this at the foray.

We'll have lunch (bring your own lunch) in the picnic area of Charleston Falls Preserve, then travel about 15 miles north to **Garbry Big Woods Sanctuary** (2540 E. Statler Road, Piqua, Ohio 45356). Directions from Charleston Falls: take Ross Road east less than a mile, then north on SR 202 about 5 miles, turn northeast on S. Childrens Home Road and go about 4 miles to Troy Pike in Casstown, turn west for less than a mile, then turn north on Casstown-Sidney Road and go about 5 miles (with a short jog to the west at Troy-Urbana Road) to E. Statler Road, and turn west about a mile to the Garbry Big Woods Sanctuary entrance. (Notes: 1. There are signs saying that Casstown-Sidney Road is closed ahead, but we'll turn off before we get to the barrier. 2. You'll see Garbry Big Woods Reserve on

Casstown-Sidney Road, but this is primarily a picnic area. We'll be collecting at Garbry Big Woods Sanctuary, which is just around the corner on E. Statler Road).



Garbry Big Woods Sanctuary is a 100-acre, undisturbed wet beech-maple forest.

After collecting, we'll go to the **Piqua Comfort Inn**. There are various restaurants nearby, and we'll have our microscope room there in the evening. From Garbry Sanctuary, take E. Statler Road about a mile west, turn north on Union-Shelby road for about 1 mile and take US Route 36 west about 3 miles to the Comfort Inn (just past I-75, turn left at the main entrance to Miami Valley Centre Mall).



On Sunday, we'll collect at two adjacent parks west of Piqua: 260-acre **Stillwater Prairie Reserve** (9750 State Route 185, Covington, Ohio 45318) and 120-acre **Maple Ridge Reserve** (10430 State Route 185, Covington, Ohio 45318). These parks are along the Stillwater River, and feature open areas, woods, floodplains and limestone-dolostone bedrock along the river. From the hotel, take Ash Street (US Route 36) west to Broadway Street, go north a few blocks and turn west on Park Avenue (SR 185), follow SR 185 west about 7 miles to Stillwater Prairie.



Along the river at Stillwater Priarie.

As an alternative, a few people may wish to visit one of two smaller sites.

Greenville Falls State Scenic River Area (92 acres) has two entrances: 9140 Covington-Gettysburg Road and 4720 Rangeline Road, Covington. The entrances are on opposite sides of Greenville Creek, which is too deep to ford. The area has rock outcrops along Greenville Creek, open areas, woods, and remnants of an old dam and power plant.

Panther Creek Gorge is an undeveloped park not yet open to the public. It is a half-mile-long area of deciduous woods on Panther Creek and consists of a shaded stream bed and floodplain with limestone walls up to 20 feet high. There is very limited parking, for about two or three cars. We'll have further details, maps and directions at the foray.

Maps of all the parks (except Panther Creek) are available at <http://miamicountyparks.com>.