

bridge upstream from the Cascades is part of an old stagecoach route.

Hopewell Indian Mound
Built between BC 100 and AD 400, this burial mound is on the National Registry of Historic Places.

Pompey's Pillar
This large rock column has split away from the cliffs and is slowly creeping down the slope.

Pine Forest
Originally part of the farm owned by Horace Mann, the forest was planted in the 1920s as a reforestation experiment. Today, few pines remain. The nearby School Forest was started in 1947.

Beaver Dam & Pond
The beaver dam, lodge and pond is viewable from the Inman Trail on a raised boardwalk. This pond, built by our mammal engineers in 2021, is habitat for diverse wildlife.

Recommended Hikes

Inman Trail (red dotted line)
A 1-mile moderate loop trail that provides ready access to many of the best-known features of Glen Helen, including the Beaver Dam & Pond, Yellow Spring and the Birch Creek Cascades. Park at the Steps or the Cascades Lot.

Pine Forest Loop (green dotted line)
A 2.5-mile loop that follows the Yellow Springs Creek valley to the historic Pine Forest, an expert-mental plantation from the 1920s. Park at the Steps Lot.

ADA Trail (blue dotted line and symbol)
A ½-mile all-access crushed limestone trail to the Yellow Spring and the Birch Creek Cascades. Park at the Cascades Lot.

Raptor Center Loop (orange dotted line)
This ¾-mile scenic loop is our recommended footpath to the Raptor Center. Park at the Cascades Lot.

Places of Interest in Glen Helen

The Old Dam
The bridge across the Yellow Springs Creek traverses dams that once impounded a pond popular for boating and skating. The original stone dam was built in the 1800s and failed in 1913. Its concrete replacement was constructed in the 1930s.

Traveltine Mound and Grotto
The hill below the Yellow Spring is made of reddish traveltine (calcium carbonate stained by iron) that precipitated from the water of the Yellow Spring. A small waterfall coming off the top of the traveltine mound forms the Grotto.

The Old Quarry
Limestone was quarried here after the completion of the Little Miami Railroad in the mid-1800s. Nearby lime kilns were dismantled in the 1930s and their stones were used to build many of the steps and structures of the Glen.

Covered Bridge
This bridge was part of a larger covered bridge destined to be destroyed by the creation of the Caesar Creek Reservoir in New Burlington. It was relocated here in 1975.

The Yellow Spring
The famous spring, namesake of the Village, carries 60 gallons of iron-rich water to the surface every minute. Prior to 1948, the spring flowed into a large pool. Visitors once bathed in its "healing" waters.

Helena's Stone
Glen Helen is a living memorial to poet, composer, and art patron Helen Birch Bartlett. The stone features an excerpt from her poem "Up in the Hills."

Cascades of Birch Creek
This waterfall formed because the Cedarville dolomite rock that forms the top layer is harder than the Springfield dolomite below it. The stone

Preserve Rules

- For your safety, and to protect the reserve, visitors must follow these rules of use. Please respect and enjoy this special place. Do no harm, leave no trace.
- Open sunrise to sunset
 - Stay on trails
 - No swimming or wading
 - Keep pets leashed and clean up their waste
 - No picking, collecting, hunting or fishing of plants, mushrooms, or animals
 - No smoking or alcohol
 - No hammocks, tents, campfires, or camping
 - Do not climb or deface rock formations
 - Do not release or introduce plants or wildlife
 - Firearms, drones, bikes, and amplified instruments are not permitted

Volunteer!

We have opportunities for volunteers of all ages and types of interest: welcome visitors at our Trailside Museum & Nature Shop, help with mailings or special events, work on trail maintenance, lead hikes, and more.

Become a Member!

Your Glen Helen membership allows us to maintain trails, offer educational programs, and preserve the diverse habitats of the Glen. Member benefits include free parking, Nature Shop and venue rental discounts, and news from The Glen, our seasonal magazine. Join today!

Rent the Glen

Glen Helen offers many venue options for your next event. Each unique venue is nestled in the beauty of the preserve. All rental proceeds benefit Glen Helen.

Things to Do at Glen Helen

Explore the most scenic area in Southwest Ohio. Glen Helen spans 1,125 acres, accessed from a 15-mile network of trails. View spectacular wildflowers, 200-year-old trees, limestone cliffs with waterfalls and overhangs, and the beautiful Yellow Spring for which the nearby town is named. Trails are open year-round from sunrise to sunset.

Trailside Museum & Nature Shop

Highlighting the native plants, wildlife and unique features of the Glen, Trailside Museum hosts exhibits with live turtles and fish, fossils, and more. The Nature Shop, tucked in the museum, has hundreds of nature-oriented products; proceeds benefit the Glen. Volunteer staffed. (Steps Lot: 505 Corry St.)

Raptor Center

This nationally recognized facility rehabilitates injured hawks, owls and related birds of prey. Each year we provide hundreds of birds a second chance at life in the wild. Visit the resident birds used in our educational programs. ADA accessible viewing area. (Cascades Lot: 1075 OH-343. ADA parking available at the Raptor Center.)

Grinnell Mill

Overnight accommodations are available in this beautifully restored, 1821 grist mill near the Little Miami River. Proceeds benefit Glen Helen.

Summer Ecocamp

Have fun while learning about the natural world! Day and overnight camps last five days and are led by trained naturalists.

Public Programs

Staff and volunteers offer many hikes, activities, and other programs throughout the year.

 For more information, visit glenhelen.org



Vernet Ecological Center:
Atrium Gallery, Offices & Auditorium
405 Corry Street, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387
(937) 769-1902
Open Mon-Fri: 10am-4pm, Sat-Sun: 1-4pm
Trailside Museum & Nature Shop
505 Corry Street
Raptor Center & Outdoor Education Center
1075 SR 343
Grinnell Mill
3536 Bryan Park Road





Glen Helen

Legend

--- Hiking trails

--- Inman Trail

--- Pine Forest Trail

--- Raptor Center Trail

--- ADA Trail

1 Trail intersection

Stream

Stone crossing

Cliff line

Bridge

Bike path

Public road

ADA Access

Restroom

Traffic light

Preserve road

Preserve boundary

Woods

Prairies / Meadows

Bodies of water

Closed to public

Riding Centre

= 0.25 mile

N

W

E

S

Vernet Ecological Center
» Auditorium
» Atrium Gallery
» Office

Steps Lot
Main Entrance
405/505 Corry St.

Trailside Museum & Nature Shop

Beaver Dam & Pond

Dingle Dell

The Old Quarry

Covered Bridge

Grinnell Mill

Riding Centre
(no dogs allowed)

Camp Greene
(closed to the public)

John Bryan State Park

John Bryan State Park

Places of Interest Photos:
Alan Meiss, Mark Altmeyer,
Liz Schneiders, Maribeth Joy,
Selwa Whitesell, Mark Altmeyer
Front Cover Photos:
(Cascades, Raptor Center) Eric Wright
(Yellow Spring) Gary Walker
(Pine Forest) Nikki Saddat
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