



ENJOY THE DAY!

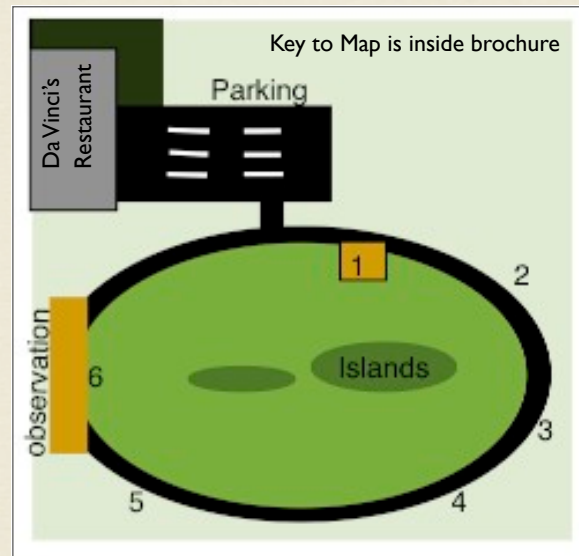
Just a few feet from where you have parked your car, you enter the Williamstown Wetlands Recreation Trail. Take a walk. Take your time. Take advantage of what Williamstown Wetlands has to offer.

The wetlands is bordered by a level path that goes from smooth blacktop to ample boardwalk. Ducks quietly call to each other, calling you to join them in this green patch of nature. Have a seat on one of the several benches conveniently placed along the path. Stop. Look. Listen. Watch a mother Wood duck gently guide her young brood through the cattails. Hear songbirds as they flitter from Sumac tree to Button bush.

A sunny morning may find you watching a Painted turtle or a Green-eared slider basking on a semi-submerged log. If you are very quiet you may see the triangular shaped nose of a giant Snapping turtle as it pokes its head through the duckweed.

Williamstown Wetlands
GFWC Williamstown Woman's Club
112 7th Street
Williamstown, West Virginia 26187

For free group tours please contact:
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HOW TO FIND US

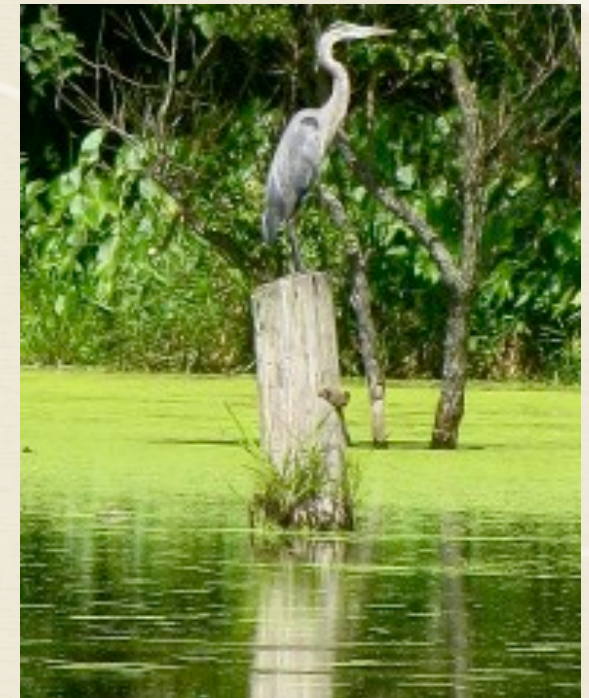
Located in Williamstown, West Virginia, near the Ohio River, across from, Marietta Ohio, The Williamstown wetlands is one of our most accessible wetlands. Find us just 8/10 mile from interstate 77, at the intersection of Highland Avenue and Third Street in Williamstown. Parking is behind DaVinci's Restaurant. At the back corner of the parking lot you will find the Welcome Kiosk and wetlands entrance.



Williamstown Wetlands is open during daylight hours every day and is handicapped accessible.

All photographs and drawings by Nellie Howard
beyondmygarden.blogspot.com

WILLIAMSTOWN WETLANDS



Williamstown,
West Virginia



gfwcwilliamstown.org

WILLIAMSTOWN WETLANDS

WHAT TO SEE

Like many wetland areas, here you will find Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*), Arrow arum (*Peltandra virginica*) and Cattail (*Typha augustifolia*) but you will also see red-berried Sumac, as well as Field mint (*Mentha arvensis*), Wild grape (*Vitis rotundifolia*) and many other species.

Bat houses and Bird boxes provide protection for bats and several bird species that help control the insect population.

** The numbered items below refer to the numbers on the map found on the other side of this brochure.

ABOUT WILLIAMSTOWN WETLANDS



What began as a vision inspired by potential became a reality after years of hard work, and many volunteer hours as well as help from Federal and State biologists. Here at the Wetlands we humans get a rare chance to share space with Wood ducks and Green herons as we walk between pale pink Swamp rose mallows and sharp green Teasels.

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

Plans for the Williamstown Wetlands began in 2002 when a few members of the Williamstown Woman's Club first saw the potential in this important natural resource. Working with the Little Kanawha Resource Conservation District with plans from the US Army Corps of Engineers the group obtained approval for the wetland trail. Once leases were obtained from property owners, then grants received from the W.Va Department of Transportation, work could begin on improving the site to remove invasive species of flora and fauna. The site was then improved to allow visitor access.



There are many types of wetlands. Some are wetter than others. The Williamstown Wetlands fluctuates between wet and less wet. There are times during summer that it almost becomes dry. During the dryer season, the wetlands is visited by several species of waders, walking across the mudflats picking up readily available morsels of food.



1. OBSERVATION DECK

From the deck you may see turtles sunning on the small island immediately in front of the deck. Songbirds often land in the brush around the observation deck. Looking left and right you can see both ends of the Williamstown Wetlands.

2. BUTTERFLIES

Sulfurs, swallowtails, monarchs & skippers are some of the many types of butterflies you might find feeding, hatching or resting in the Williamstown Wetlands. Stand still and watch the mud flats and flower blossoms while you quietly wait for one to land.

3. TREE SWALLOW

Tree swallows frequently use Bluebird houses to raise their young. Aerial acrobats, Tree swallows will entertain you as they dip and dive for the thousands of insects they devour.

4. DUCK FAMILY

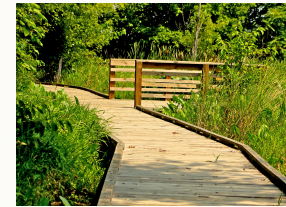
Wood ducks are among the several duck species that may nest in the wetlands. While mothers often keep the ducklings hidden among the cattails you will see them in the Spring if you wait and watch.

5. GREEN HERON

From the upper boardwalk observation deck you may look the entire length of the wetland. From here you may see a Green heron perched on a log or on a mud flat near the water's edge, quietly waiting for its next meal. Be patient. Take the time to quietly watch then you might see it quickly strike; its head submerged for a split second as a small fish or frog is plucked from the water with the heron's beak.

6. WILDFLOWERS

As you walk around the Williamstown Wetland look around you at the numerous species of wildflowers blooming from early Spring through late fall. Several types of small yellow sunflowers, berry blossoms Mallows and Teasels are among numerous flowering plants that naturally occur across the wetland.



1. Observation Deck



2. A Sulfur finds a meal in the mud



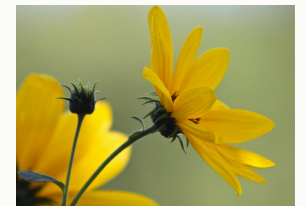
3. Families of Tree swallows find their niche, eating many insects



4. Several breeds of ducks find the Wetlands a safe place to rear their young



5. A Green Heron patiently waits for a meal



6. A variety of flora help make your visit enjoyable