

WARNER PARKS HIKING TRAIL SYSTEM

The hiking trail system of Percy and Edwin Parks includes 9 color-coded trails ranging in length from 150 yards to 4.5 miles. The trails in Percy Warner Park were started by the Works Progress Administration in the 1930s, while those in Edwin Warner Park were started by the Youth Conservation Corps and Nature Center staff in 1974. All of the trails have been expanded, improved, and maintained by the Nature Center staff with the aid of seasonal workers and volunteers. In 1980, all Warner Parks hiking trails were listed in the Tennessee Recreation Trails System, so designated by the State Department of Conservation. Trails are open from daybreak until the Park closes at 11 p.m.

****Please understand** – The Warner Parks are a very fragile and unique natural area in an urban setting and can remain productive and enduring for future generations only if we respect and protect them today.

Under the management of the Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation, certain rules and regulations must be followed by all trail users:

- All plants, animals, rocks, and other natural features are strictly protected and may not be misused, removed, altered, or destroyed.
- Hikers must remain on the trail at all times.
- All pets must be on a leash at all times.
- Horses, motorcycles, and bicycles are not permitted on hiking trails.

Enjoy the Warner Parks hiking trails and remember: Take only time and photographs here and leave only troubles and footprints behind.

PERCY WARNER TRAILS

The **TRAILHEAD** and parking for both trails are located at the Deep Well picnic area off Highway 100. Follow the lead trail and the Warner Woods Trail begins 200 yards from the trailhead, and the Mossy Ridge Trail begins 300 yards from the trailhead.

1. The **WARNER WOODS TRAIL** is a **2.5-mile loop**, blazed **WHITE**, and rated **MODERATE**. The entire trail is in the heavily wooded interior of the Park, and about a third of the trail is in one of the Park's most secluded regions. Also, hikers can experience a breathtaking view from the cleared knob of Luke Lea Heights at an elevation of 922 feet by walking down a paved road that the trail crosses (see map).
2. The **MOSSY RIDGE TRAIL** is a **4.5-mile loop**, blazed **RED**, and rated **MODERATE**. The trail winds up and down wooded hills and hollows, crosses several springs and open meadows, and offers users a unique opportunity to see the wide variety of plants and animals that may be found in the Park. Two especially nice features are a short spur trail that leads to a "quiet point" (see map) and a steep, rocky ridge near Scott Hollow (also on map), with trailsides carpeted in moss; both sections have resting benches.

THE CANE CONNECTOR TRAIL

C. The **CANE CONNECTOR TRAIL** is **1-mile (one-way)** with a **CANDY-STRIPE** blaze and rated **EASY**. Opened in 1997, the trail runs between the Mossy Ridge and Hungry Hawk trails, thus connecting the entire Warner Parks trail system. Following the old Natchez Trace, hikers should exercise **CAUTION** when crossing Old Hickory Boulevard.

EDWIN WARNER TRAILS

There are three **TRAILHEADS** in Edwin Warner Park. The main trailhead is located on the Nature Center grounds and is the only one that contains maps, trail guide booklets, Nature Center program schedules, and other literature. The Natchez Trace Trailhead, just west of the Nature Center, is a covered shelter with resting benches and a large Park map. The Owl Hollow Trailhead provides access to the trail system across from picnic area #6 by the Little Harpeth River.

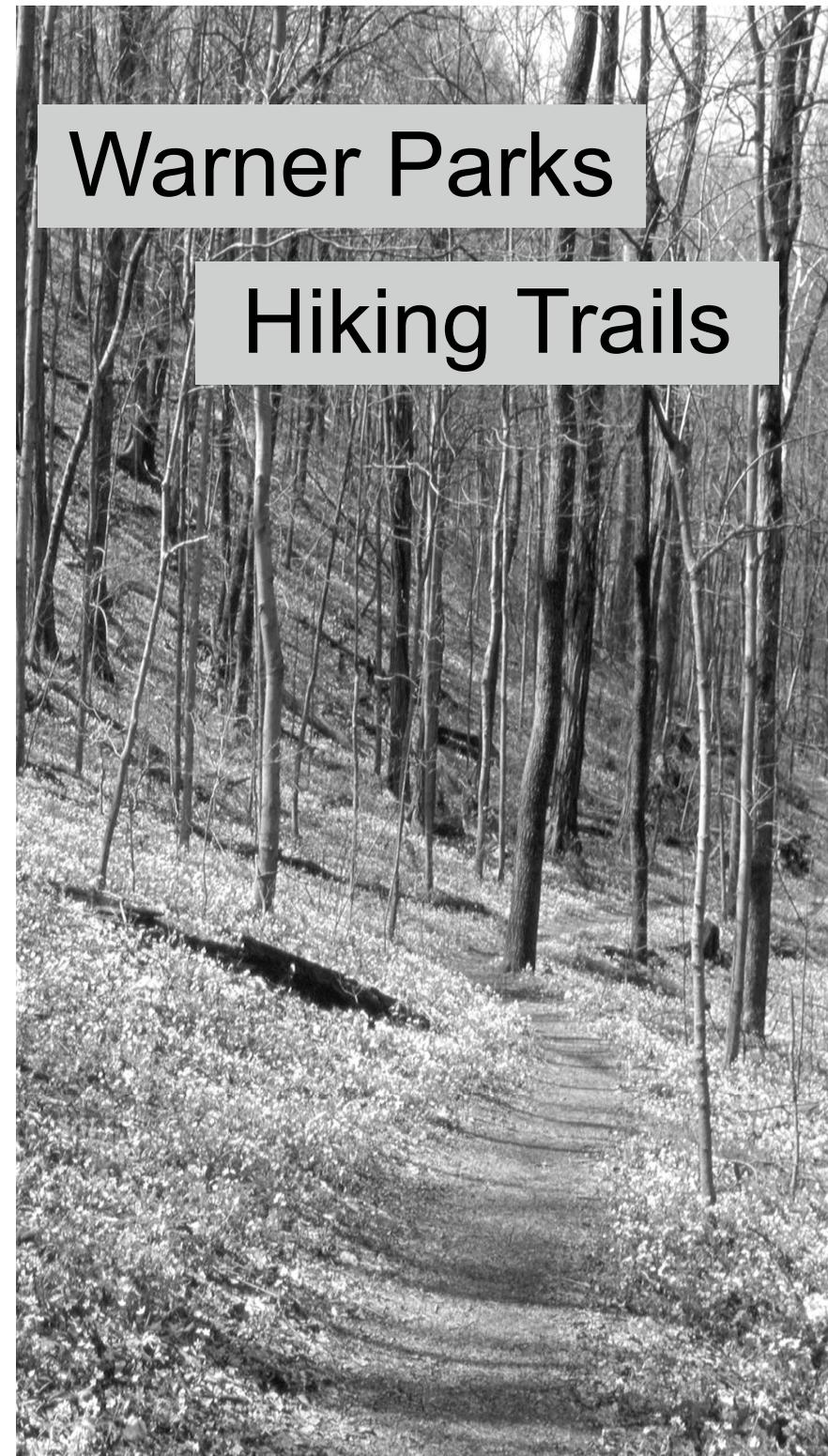
1. The **HUNGRY HAWK** trail is a **1/3-mile loop**, blazed **PURPLE**, and rated **EASY**. The trail passes by a wet-weather stream and goes through woods, field edges, and an open meadow. Special features include a **bird blind**, an **observation platform**, a **wildlife tracking station**, and a well house near a small cemetery marking the site of an old homestead. An activities booklet and backpacks are available for this trail.
2. The **LITTLE ACORN TRAIL** is a **150-yard loop**, blazed **GREEN**, rated **EASY**, and begins 200 yards from the trailhead. The total distance from the trailhead, around the trail, and back again is just under 1/3 mile. This trail has a self-guiding booklet with five stops designed especially for children aged six years and under, although visitors of all ages will find it informative. Of interest is the large triple-trunked Red Oak tree.
3. The **AMPHITHEATER TRAIL** is **200 yards one way**, blazed **BROWN**, and rated **EASY**. It passes an old home-site and leads to **The Nature Theater**, a secluded stone amphitheater and stage that visitors may use on a first come, first served basis.
4. The **NATURE LOOP** is a **3/4-mile loop**, blazed **YELLOW**, and rated **MODERATE**. A self-guiding booklet with 20 stops is available to inform visitors about many trail features including a wet weather spring and creek, a variety of trees, and a section of trail that is the historic **Natchez Trace**.
5. The **HARPETH WOODS TRAIL** is a **2 1/2-mile loop**, blazed **BLUE**, and rated **MODERATE**. Hikers may begin this trail at any of the three trailheads to enjoy a rich variety of forest types—especially large Beech, Oak, and Cedar trees. Also cross a rock quarry that was active in the 1930s through the early 1940s when the Works Progress Administration was doing stonework and building roads in the Parks. **Collecting fossils is prohibited!** Part of the trail, about 3/4-mile, also follows the historic **Natchez Trace**.
6. The **OWL HOLLOW TRAIL** is a **1/3-mile loop**, blazed **ORANGE**, and rated **EASY**. Closest access is from the Owl Hollow trailhead. This trail was built in 1974 by the Hillwood Environmental Group. It has an informative, interpretive booklet with 15 stops. Enter this tranquil, deep hollow and listen for the Barred Owls that may be heard or seen here.

Warner Park Nature Center
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Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation, Karl Dean, Mayor
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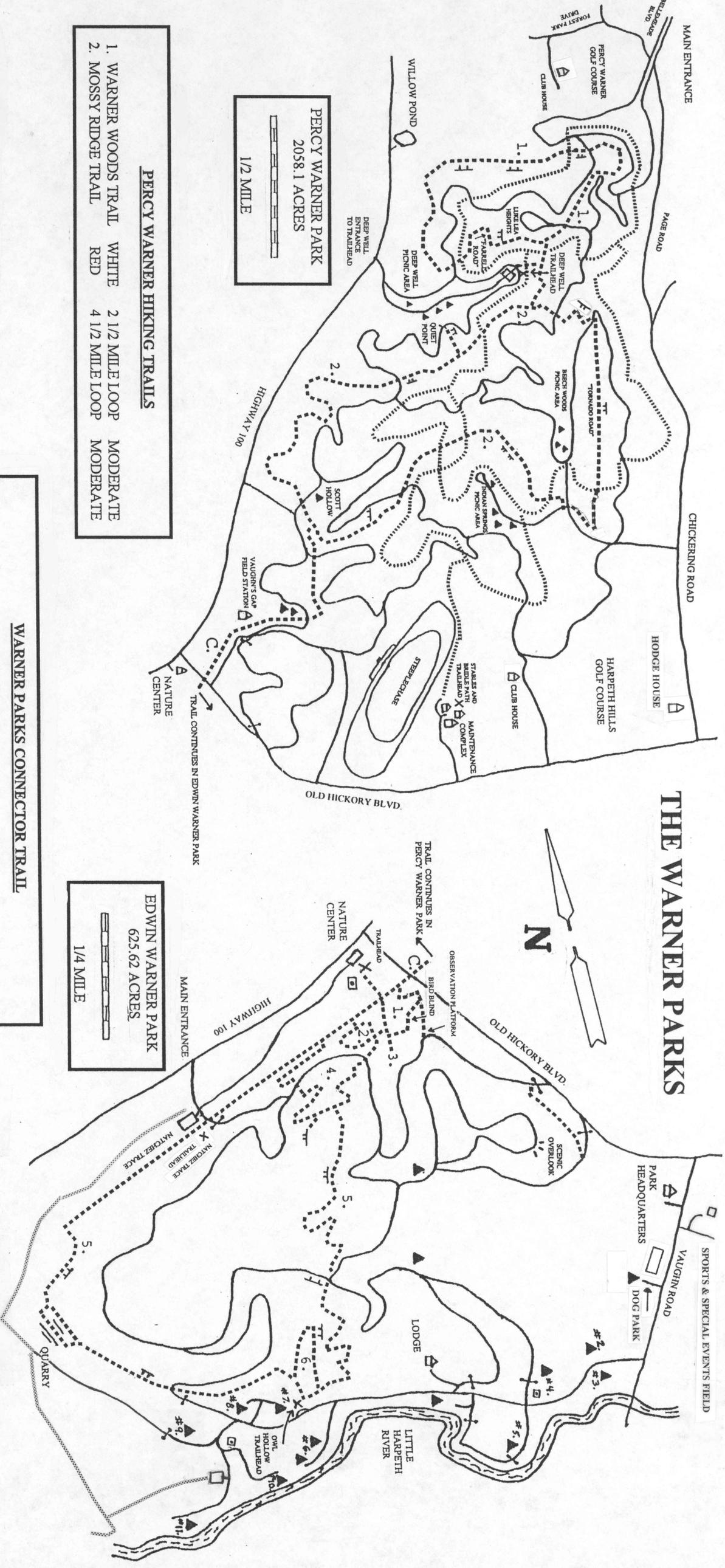
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Warner Parks

Hiking Trails

THE WARNER PARKS



- PERCY WARNER HIKING TRAILS**
- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------|-----------------|----------|
| 1. WARNER WOODS TRAIL | WHITE | 2 1/2 MILE LOOP | MODERATE |
| 2. MOSSY RIDGE TRAIL | RED | 4 1/2 MILE LOOP | MODERATE |

PERCY WARNER PARK
2058.1 ACRES

1/2 MILE

- WARNER PARKS CONNECTOR TRAIL**
- | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------------|------|
| C. CANE CONNECTOR TRAIL | CANDYSTRIPE | 1 MILE ONE WAY | EASY |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------------|------|

EDWIN WARNER PARK
625.62 ACRES

1/4 MILE

- LEGEND**
- PAVED ROAD
 - HIKING TRAIL
 - BRIDLE PATH
 - PICNIC SHELTERS
 - RESTROOMS
 - GATES - INDICATING THAT ROAD CLOSED TO MOTORIZED VEHICLES
 - TRAILHEAD
 - TRAILSIDE RESTING BENCHES

TRAIL INFORMATION STATION

Maps, booklets, brochures, and schedules
Located at the Nature Center trailhead
7311 Hwy 100, near Old Hickory Blvd.

- EDWIN WARNER HIKING TRAILS**
- | | | | |
|------------------------|--------|-------------------|----------|
| 1. HUNGRY HAWK TRAIL | PURPLE | 1/3 MILE LOOP | EASY |
| 2. LITTLE ACORN TRAIL | GREEN | 150 YARD LOOP | EASY |
| 3. AMPHITHEATER | BROWN | 200 YARDS ONE WAY | EASY |
| 4. NATURE LOOP | YELLOW | 3/4 MILE LOOP | MODERATE |
| 5. HARPETH WOODS TRAIL | BLUE | 2 1/2 MILE LOOP | MODERATE |
| 6. OWL HOLLOW | ORANGE | 1/3 MILE LOOP | MODERATE |

HARPETH RIVER GREENWAY

..... A ONE-MILE SECTION IS IN EDWIN WARNER PARK