

THE BERKS CONSERVANCY

The Berks Conservancy is a non-profit, charitable organization who is the leading agent for the conservation of the environment in Berks County. The Berks Conservancy connects people to nature through land protection, trail creation, water protection, land use projects, community gardens, municipal relationships, education, and events, such as nature walks, for the community.

We welcome your involvement! Learn more about our local programs that help keep Berks County a nice place to live, work, learn and play!

- Eco-Adventure Camp www.ecoadventurecamp.com
- Greater Reading Trails www.greaterreadingtrails.com
- Land and Water Protection
- State of the Environment
- Guided Hikes and Nature Walks
- GreenBerks.com
- Urban Gardens
- Green Drinks
- Events and Lectures
- Nature Preserves

BECOME A MEMBER!



25 North 11th Street
Reading, PA 19601
Phone 610-372-4992
Fax 610-372-2917
info@berks-conservancy.org
www.berks-conservancy.org

Hike the Trails?
Get the gear!

Greater Reading Trails
hats, shirts and trail
patches available at
www.greaterreadingtrails.com

Visit the Berks Conservancy at
www.berks-conservancy.org.



EARL POOLE SANCTUARY TRAIL GUIDE



explore. enjoy. right at home.

GREATER READING
TRAILS

www.greaterreadingtrails.com



Brought to you by the Berks Conservancy

EARL POOLE SANCTUARY



ABOUT THE SANCTUARY

Earl Poole Sanctuary is a 30+ acre Conservancy-owned property and is the result of a generous land donation in the late 70's. The site is located in the Antietam Creek Watershed and is managed for wildlife. It includes a barn, trails, wooded areas, a stream, picnic areas, and is a popular birding site. We look forward to sharing this special place with you to introduce you to the native wildflowers, birds, and insects that call our property "home".

THE SANCTUARY'S HISTORY

The rich soils of the property provided a successful working farm and apple orchard up until about 1970. The farm sold vinegar, cider, potatoes, eggs and butter. The only building that remains from the farming days is the barn. A unique cider press was removed from the property in 2003 and relocated to a local business in Bowers, PA.

ABOUT DR. EARL L. POOLE

This natural area sanctuary has been named in honor of Dr. Earl L. Poole (1891-1972), famed ornithologist and artist. Dr. Poole's illustrations have graced the pages of many books and endeared the peering eyes of many to the birds of Berks County. Dr. Poole was an artist, scientist, teacher, and author. In 1930, Poole wrote *The Bird Life of Berks County, Pennsylvania* and in 1932 he wrote *A Survey of the Mammals of Berks County*. Poole was one of the founders of the Baird Ornithological Club, still active locally today. In 1947, Poole's *A Half Century of Bird Life in Berks County* was published by the Reading Public Museum.

Earl Poole Sanctuary is for the birdwatcher, nature explorer, hiker or someone who is looking for native wildflowers and birds. A quiet place to explore nature on your own...





www.greaterreadingtrails.com

The Berks Conservancy's vision for the Greater Reading Trails partnership is to assist Berks County in implementing the Greenway, Park and Recreation plan for the metro region of "Greater Reading". We believe in enhancing our public greenway and recreational opportunities to enhance the quality of life in Berks County. Through greater use and appreciation of these natural resources and recreational assets by our citizens, improved stewardship and interest in the environment will ensue.

You can view and download additional free trail guides, a large Greater Reading Trail Map, and other trail links at www.greaterreadingtrails.com. Get outside and explore what Greater Reading has to offer today!



**SUPPORT OUR TRAILS!
BECOME A MEMBER.**

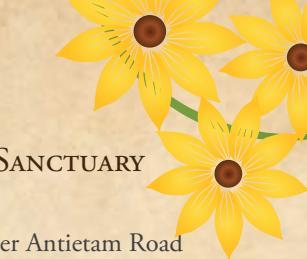


www.berks-conservancy.org

The Berks Conservancy is grateful for the support of the William Penn Foundation. They have helped to make our Greater Reading Trail projects and partnerships a great success.

EARL POOLE SANCTUARY

THE EARL POOLE SANCTUARY includes a variety of habitats for wildlife-including woodlands, meadows and successional fields. Native species of shrubs, trees and wildflowers were planted to encourage indigenous birds and wildlife. The sanctuary is a headwater of the Antietam Creek providing cool sourcewater downstream into Antietam Lake in Lower Alsace Township. Birdwatchers can spot numerous species at Earl Poole Sanctuary, including the Scarlet Tanager, Downy Woodpecker, Baltimore Oriole, Wood Thrush and Towhee. Seasonal pools serve as breeding grounds for amphibians such as the Wood Frog.

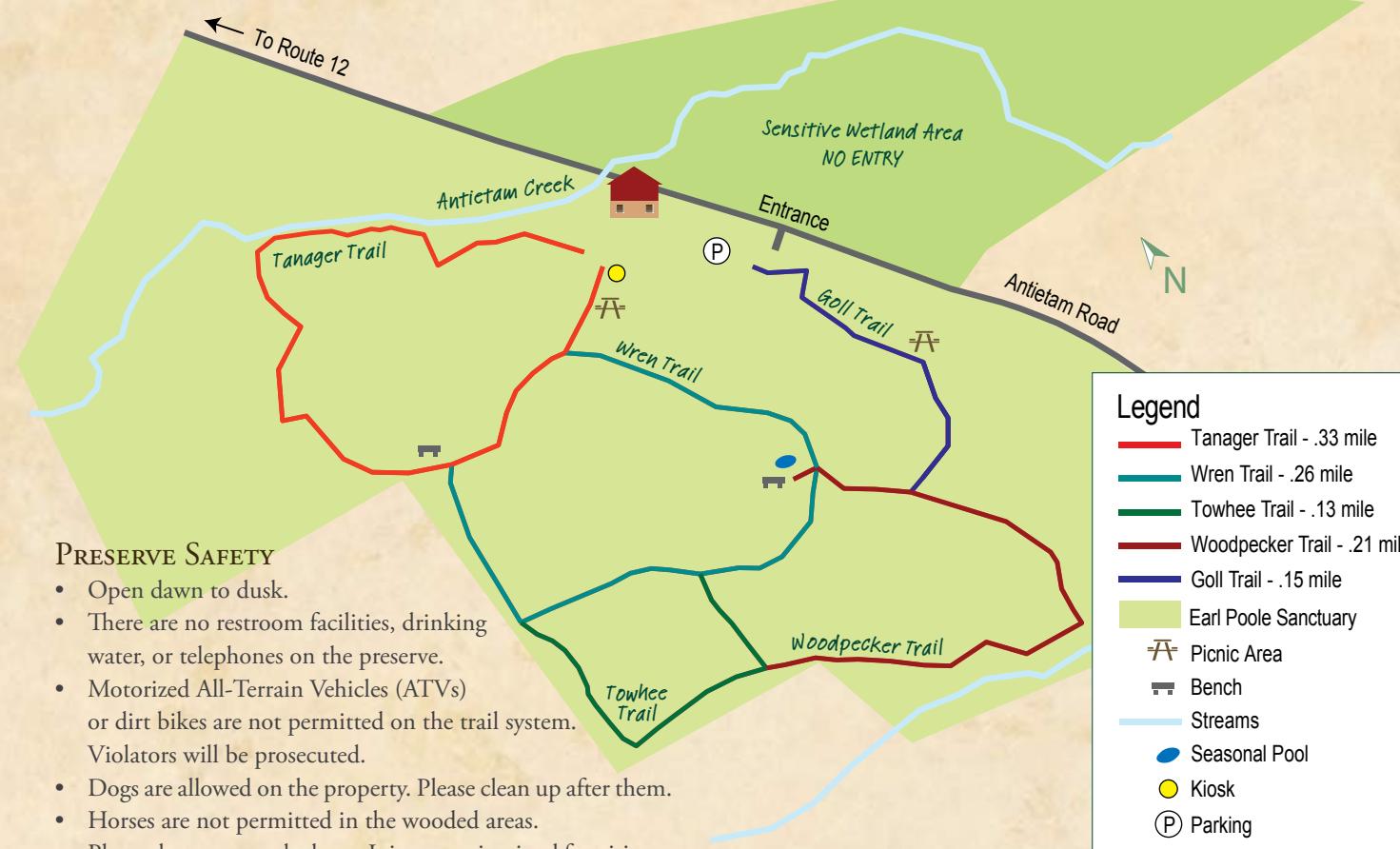


DIRECTIONS TO EARL POOLE SANCTUARY

Antietam Road, Alsace Township
From Pricetown Road (Route 12): Enter Antietam Road (across from Giannotti's Restaurant) next to Alsace Manor Fire Company and travel 1.2 miles to the Earl Poole Sanctuary. Entrance will be on your right, between Beckers Road and Blankenbiller Road. (Drive slowly. The entrance is easy to miss!)

From Lower Alsace/Mount Penn region: Follow Antietam Road north into Alsace Township. The Earl Poole Sanctuary will be on your left, 0.7 mile from the intersection of Antietam Road, Basket Road, and Church Hill Road. (Drive slowly. The entrance is easy to miss!)

An unlocked chained gate is at the entrance of the preserve. You can unhook the chain to park your car. Please rehook the chain when you leave to prevent vandalism and illegal dumping.



PRESERVE SAFETY

- Open dawn to dusk.
- There are no restroom facilities, drinking water, or telephones on the preserve.
- Motorized All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) or dirt bikes are not permitted on the trail system. Violators will be prosecuted.
- Dogs are allowed on the property. Please clean up after them.
- Horses are not permitted in the wooded areas.
- Please do not enter the barn. It is not maintained for visitors.
- We recommend that you carry a phone with you during your visit. In case of an emergency, dial 9-1-1.

SUPPORT OUR TRAILS!

Become a member of the Berks Conservancy.

Your member support provides:

- Continued free admission to all visitors every day of the year.
- A unique sanctuary for the community to experience nature.
- Educational experiences to promote green living.
- Newsletters to update you on events and our ongoing efforts.

Giving Levels:

William Penn Society	\$5,000+
Schuylkill River Society	\$2,500-4,999
Leadership Circle	\$1,000-2,499
Watershed Circle	\$500-999
Conservationist	\$250-499
Land Steward	\$100-249
Family	\$50-99
Friend	Up to \$49
Amount of Donation	\$_____

You can also donate online. Visit our website at berks-conservancy.org.

Payment Information

Name: _____ Please print your name as you wish to be listed.

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

My check payable to the Berks Conservancy is enclosed.

Please charge my: VISA MC

Card #: _____

Exp. Date: _____ CVC Code _____
(Security code on the back of the credit card)

I would like more information about the Berks Conservancy.

Volunteer opportunities.

Protecting my land.

Please subscribe me to the e-newsletters, "Conservation in your Community" and "Green Tips".

(Be sure to include your email address in the space provided above.)

Remembering the Berks Conservancy in my will or estate plans through the Woodland Society.

The official registration and financial information of Berks County Conservancy may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.