

# Garden Trail Information

## *Nature Center Trail*

This trail connects the Nature Center with the Botanical Garden entrance; passing the Wildflower and Azalea Gardens, the Vernal Herb Garden, the *Cherokee Garden*, the Rock Outcrop Garden, and ending at Howell Garden. **Average walk, some stairs. Distance: <0.1 mi.**

## *Woodland Loop*



The Woodland Loop Trail begins at the Howell Garden entrance to the Botanical Garden and winds through a hardwood-dominated forest, typical of the Highlands Plateau. It passes a variety of woodland wildflowers and understory trees and shrubs. Includes interpretive signs on forest wildflowers and stream habitats. **Average, few stairs. Distance: 0.1 mi.**

## *Foreman Loop*

The Foreman Loop Trail also begins at the Howell Garden entrance to the Botanical Garden, crosses a bridge through a hemlock-hardwood forest, turns right at the beginning of Falls Trail and joins Woodland Loop at a shaded stream. **Average walk, some stairs and roots. Distance: 0.1 mi.**



## *Falls Trail*

Falls Trail begins at the corner of the Foreman Loop at an interpretive sign on cove forest habitats. It continues along a shaded stream and loops past a small cascade at the border of the Botanical Garden property. **Average to somewhat difficult, rocks and stream to cross. Distance: 0.1 mi.**

## *Fern Trail*

The Fern Trail is a bypass option between the Foreman Trail and Lower Lake Trail. It crosses silty soil hosting some wetland species and an array of ferns native to the Southern Appalachians. Includes an interpretive sign on fern species. **Easy, sometimes muddy. Distance: < 0.1 mi.**



## *Lower Lake Trail*

The Lower Lake Trail begins at the Foreman Loop Trail and follows the stream through riparian hardwood forest, crossing a boardwalk over a Southern Appalachian bog, and ending at the Upper Lake Trail. Includes an interpretive sign on bog plant species. **Easy walk, level. Distance: 0.1 mi.**



## *Upper Lake Trail*

The Upper Lake Trail forks from Foreman Loop and winds through a heath forest along the eastern shore of Lindenwood Lake, across a boardwalk through a former beaver pond area, and eventually ending on Lower Lake Road. **Moderate walk, some narrow bridges, roots and stones. Distance: 0.2 mi.**

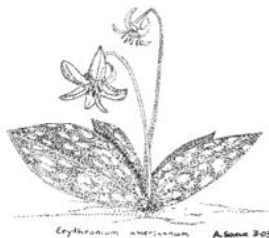


## *Coker Rhododendron Trail*

The Coker Rhododendron Trail (not pictured in this map-brochure) begins on Lower Lake Road, near the junction of Upper Lake Trail. This trail leads through a gorgeous old-growth hemlock-hardwood forest, nestled in a rhododendron covered cove, overlooking a stream complete with musical cascades. **The trail dead ends at a stream crossing.**



Hikers should turn around and hike back towards Lower Lake Road. **Moderate to challenging, with steep inclines and roots. Distance: 0.2 mi.**



Visitors should walk back to Upper Lake Trail and through the Botanical Garden to the Nature Center, or follow Lower Lake Road around the lake and cross the dam.

This will pass the Biological Station main office and laboratories, weather station, and the **Butterfly Garden.**



Look for posted maps of the entire Station grounds on the dam, at the end of Upper Lake Trail, behind the Nature Center, and at the Botanical Garden entrance near Howell Cottage.

**Highlands Botanical Garden is free and open to the public year-round, from sunrise to sunset.**



# HIGHLANDS BOTANICAL GARDEN

## *Trail Map*



Part of the NC Birding Trail

**930 Horse Cove Road  
P.O. Box 580  
Highlands, North Carolina 28741  
(828) 526-2602**

Original Trail Map design by Jeremy Schewe 2003  
Revised by Cyndi Banks & Patrick Brannon 2008



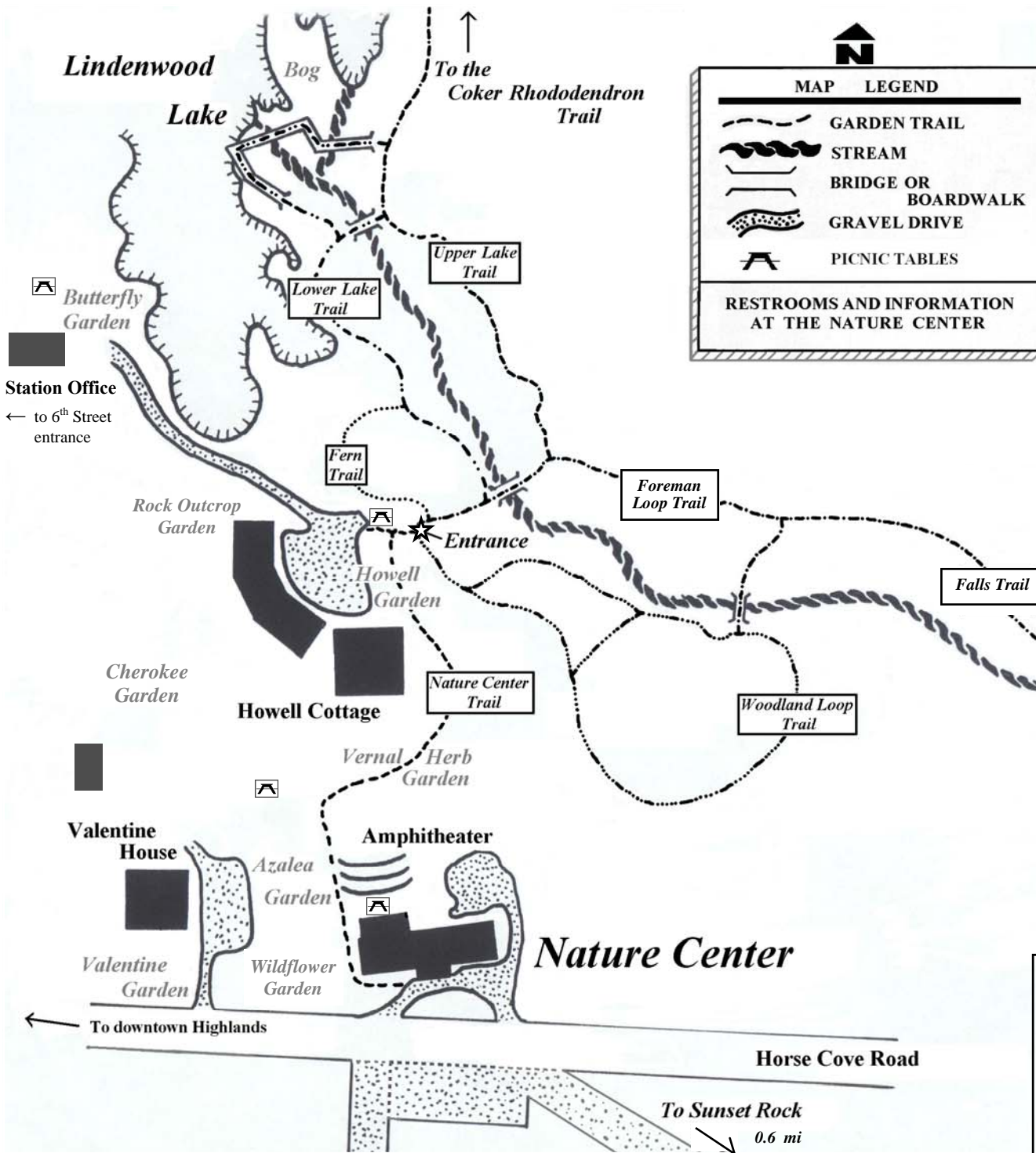
# HIGHLANDS BOTANICAL GARDEN

Highlands Botanical Garden serves as a refuge and demonstration garden for the diverse flora of the Southern Appalachian Mountains. Over 500 species flourish in natural forest, bog, and wetland plant communities. Trails and boardwalks lead to display gardens for native azaleas, butterfly-pollinated plants, carnivorous plants, edible and medicinal herbs, and examples of native plant landscapes for homes and businesses.

The Garden also includes natural areas, such as the Coker Rhododendron Trail, an old-growth hemlock-hardwood forest. The Garden covers approximately 11 acres on the shores of 4-acre Lindenwood Lake.

*The Botanical Garden is a museum of living plants; please watch your step and do not pick or remove plants.*

*Support for the Botanical Garden* comes from Highlands Biological Foundation membership, donations, and proceeds from the annual *Conference on Landscaping and Gardening with Native Plants*, held in September. Contact the Highlands Biological Station at (828) 526-2602 for additional information.



**MAP LEGEND**

- GARDEN TRAIL
- STREAM
- BRIDGE OR BOARDWALK
- GRAVEL DRIVE
- PICNIC TABLES

**RESTROOMS AND INFORMATION AT THE NATURE CENTER**