

Woodland Trails at Planting Fields

There are five miles of woodland trails throughout nearly 200 acres of native forest located in the southwest corner of Planting Fields Arboretum. The former Gold Coast estate of William Robertson Coe and his wife, Mai, Planting Fields spans more than 400 acres and includes the estate house Coe Hall and other architecturally significant estate buildings, greenhouses, vast woody plant collections and the woodland trails. From 1913 until the 1950s, the family walked and rode their prize horses on these trails.

The uneven hilly topography of the woodlands is atypical of Long Island with the exception of a few areas of the north shore. This terrain is ideal for the plants and wildlife of the area. The primary conifer of the area is Eastern White Pine. Hardwood and understory shrubs include Oak, Beech, Hickory, Sassafras, Dogwood, Mountain Laurel and Rhododendron. Among the herbaceous plants are Ferns, Violets, Trilliums and the Lady Slipper Orchid, generally pink and occasionally white.

The wildlife of the woodlands includes fox, raccoon, possum, rabbit, squirrel and chipmunk. A wide variety of migratory birds: Robin, Baltimore Oriole, Cardinal, Finch, Indigo Bunting, Scarlet Tanager, Sparrow and Starling, along with Red-tailed Hawk, Great Horned and Screech Owls, is present throughout the year.

Wedell and Costich Gardens and Bird Sanctuary

These two gardens are woodland gardens and a bird sanctuary named for horticulturists and plantsmen Carl Wedell and Edwin Costich, and are located on the southwest drive as you enter the Woodland Trails. They feature berry-producing shrubs that are a food source for birds, ornamental perennials, grasses, a small pond and a covered bridge. Mr. Wedell was the chair of the Department of Ornamental Horticulture at SUNY Farmingdale, New York, and Mr. Costich, for many years Henry Hick's right-hand man, ran Hick's Nurseries, Westbury, New York, after Mr. Hick's death.

Seasonal Highlights

Each month there is something special to see along the five miles of walking trails throughout the nearly 200 acres of native forest located in the southwest section of Planting Fields Arboretum.

January – February	Bark textures of Beech, Oak, Hickory and other native trees including Eastern White Pine can be seen.
March	Early Rhododendrons, Mountain Laurels and Hollies begin to bud.
April	Trilliums, Ferns and Lady Slipper Orchids appear.
May	Dogwoods, Mountain Laurels, Viburnums and Lady Slipper Orchids come into bloom.
June	Cranesbill, Solomon's Seal, Dog-toothed Violets and Mosses are abundant.
July	Mushrooms, rich green foliage and Daylilies abound.
August – September	Mushrooms and Mosses are at their peak.
October	Fall foliage, fruiting Hollies and Mosses sparkle.
November	Fall foliage and fruiting shrubs continue their display.
December	Bark textures, Yews, Eastern White Pines highlight the winter landscape.

This brochure is a publication of Planting Fields Foundation. The Foundation, in collaboration with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, preserves, interprets and enhances Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park as a premier intact Long Island Gold Coast estate and arboretum, by providing educational and enriching experiences.

Printed on recycled paper.

Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park

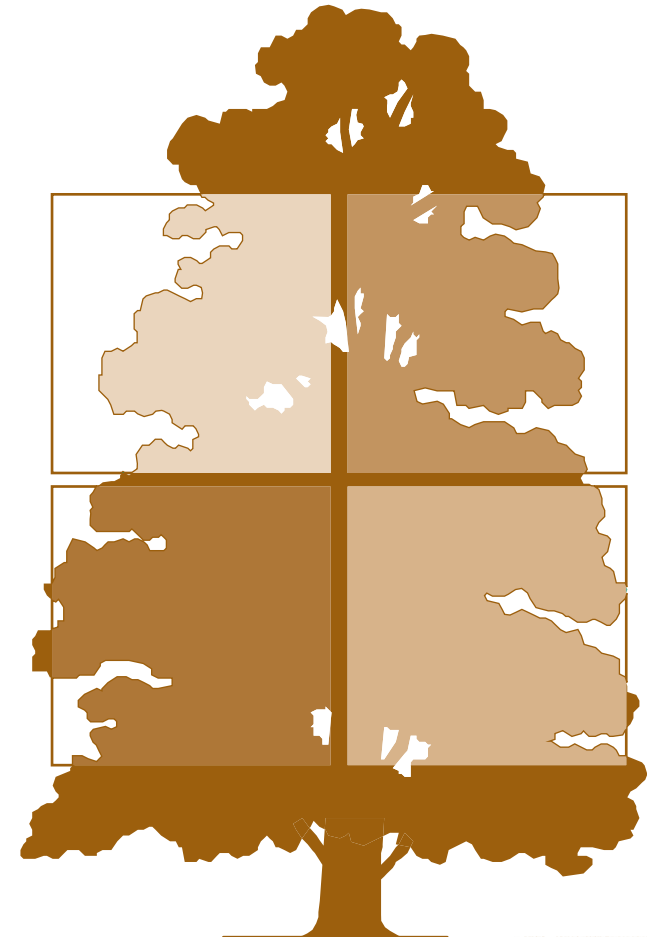
OYSTER BAY, NEW YORK

Woodland Trails Map and Guide

Explore Nature

Discover History

Experience Planting Fields



Planting Fields Arboretum
State Historic Park
1395 Planting Fields Road
Oyster Bay, New York
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Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park Woodland Trails

Please stay on the trails and watch your footing. After heavy rain, the trails may be slippery. Avoid poison ivy and be aware of ticks. No restrooms on trails.

S = Steep Trail
X = Entrance

DISTANCES OF TRAILS (approx.)	
Beech Path (light blue) - 1/10 mile	Big Wash (white) - 1/4 mile
Boundary Road (pink) - 1/4 mile	East (dark blue) - 1/4 mile
Little Wash (brown) - 1/4 mile	Lowland (purple) - 1/2 mile
Memorial (red) - 2/10 mile	Oak (green) - 1/2 mile
Rocky Way (orange) - 2/10 mile	Steep Wash (black) - 2/10 mile
Yew Path (yellow) - 1/10 mile	Zig Zag (grey) - 1/10 mile

