

## Accessibility Information for the Trails at Armentrout Preserve

# **Milkweed Trail**

- **Surface:** Mostly hard-packed natural dirt with some exposed roots (up to 3" high), channels and ruts; mown grass; loose crushed stone.
- **Distance:** 0.6 mile loop
- **Gradient:** Mostly 5%; one short 17% section, and another 12% section near the footbridge.
- Width: 24"
- Cross slope: Moderate in some places due to channeling
- **Benches:** Two, both near picnic tables and parking lot
- **Shade:** Almost entirely shaded in the warmer months, except for the short section through the open field in the Whitpain Township Property.
- **Drainage issues:** Significant channeling in some places
- **Obstacles:** Steep slopes; channeling; some exposed roots
- **Footbridge:** 72" wide with no steps on one side, and a 5" step on the other side. Safety barriers on both sides are 42" high with a 5 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" capping rail, and 1 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" horizontal metal bars separating 3" of space.







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## **Armentrout Preserve to Camp Woods Connector**

- Surface: Hard-packed natural dirt
- Distance: 0.2 miles each way
- **Gradient:** The first 0.1 miles from Armentrout Preserve is 12-15%, with a short 20% climb after crossing a private asphalt roadway. After this climb, the final 0.1 miles on the Camp Woods side of the private roadway is less than 5%.
- Width: 8"
- **Cross slope:** Moderate in some places due to channeling
- Benches: None
- Shade: Mostly shaded in the warmer months
- **Drainage issues:** Significant channeling in some places
- **Obstacles:** Steep slopes; channeling; some exposed roots

### **Trail Description:**

Beginning at the trailhead to the left of the parking lot, the first 0.2 miles of the Milkweed Trail slopes gently downhill, no steeper than 5%. As you get closer to Morris Rd, which borders the preserve to the northeast, traffic noise gets louder. The trail bends to the right and descends sharply at 17% down three 'steps' with some exposed rocks up to 3" high, before crossing a 72" wide bridge made with wooden planks and a 42" high safety barrier on both sides. A 5" step down is required at the end of the bridge.

From here, the trail begins traveling uphill, with a section of 12% gradient. At the intersection, continue straight, parallel to the road, on the Connector Trail — this connects to Camp Woods in 0.2 miles — or veer to the right to stay on the Milkweed Trail and return to the Armentrout Preserve parking lot.

The Connector Trail continues uphill at 12-15% with some channeling and exposed roots for another 0.1 miles, before the vegetation opens out at a private asphalt road. Cross directly over the road and continue up the grassy 20% inclined slope. Vegetation closes in around the trail again, leaving an 8" wide tread on the gentle uphill, before it flattens out and widens to 40" as the trail transitions into woods and the Camp Woods Preserve.

Back at the intersection of the Connector Trail in Armentrout Preserve, the Milkweed Trail turns to the right and the trees quickly give way to lower shrubs. This part of the trail is very grassy, with only about 8" of exposed dirt, and nearby shrubs may encroach upon the trail. The narrow trail continues a gentle less than 5% incline until you arrive in an open grassy field – this is Whitpain Township property. Turn right on the mown grass trail, then right again on a mown grass trail back into the woods. This quickly opens up to two picnic tables and a loose crushed stone trail that leads back to the Armentrout Preserve parking lot.

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