JOE 2018 Leader Packet for West Virgina Botanic Garden

Day: Sunday	Start Time: 10:00 am	End Time: 3:00 pm
Co-Leader:	Co-Leader:	Limit: 15 people
Transportation: Bus	Driver:	Bus Captain:
Fees: none	Travel Distance: 10 Miles	Travel Time: 25 Min

West Virginia Botanic Garden

Imagine beautifully landscaped gardens reflecting on a shimmering pond. Trails weave from bright flowering meadows into a cool, shaded woodland. Streams sparkle beneath stately hemlocks. Some visitors stand silently, resting in the splendor of the vista; others energetically explore this wonderful community resource, the West Virginia Botanic Garden. The WVBG features a large variety of plants appropriate to the region's climate and soils in both designed and natural settings. Most of the land is wooded, and much will remain undisturbed except for trail construction and some plant enhancement.

Open Weekends



Who We Are

The West Virginia Botanic Garden (WVBG) in Morgantown is a unique 85-acre botanical garden that features plants that are endemic to the Appalachian region. Developed on the site of the Tibbs Run Reservoir, which once provided water to the residents of Morgantown in the early to mid-1900s, the West Virginia Botanic Garden includes old growth forest, small designed gardens, hiking trails, and a boardwalk meandering through a pristine wetland area. Approximately 4 miles of trails and boardwalks connect forests, gardens and wetlands. Here, the West Virginia Botanic Garden, Inc. a non-profit organization, is working to develop the state's first and only Botanic Garden.

This is our mission: The West Virginia Botanic Garden, in harmony with nature, seeks to enhance the quality of life through public enjoyment and education involving inspirational landscapes and displays of a rich variety of ornamental plants appropriate to region.



Websites of interest:

http://www.wvbg.org/

https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g59335-d2514217-Reviews-West_Virginia_Botanic_Garden-Morgantown_West_Virginia.html

https://diyoutdoors.wvu.edu/hiking/wv-botanic-garden

https://iserve.wvu.edu/agency/detail/?agency_id=50512

https://vacationidea.com/attractions/west-virginia-botanic-garden.html

https://youtu.be/8_IN8QDqG1s

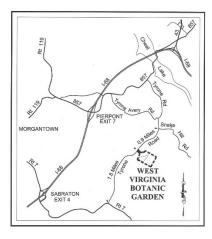
WV Botanic Garden Location

Garden Location: 1061 Tyrone Road, Morgantown, WV 26508 (do NOT mail to this address)

GPS position is 39.630912,-79.869699

Mailing Address: 714 Venture Drive, PMB 121, Morgantown, WV 26508

The WVBG is located at 1061 Tyrone Road - 1.8 miles from Rt. 7 and 0.9 miles from Snake Hill Road.



The Hours and Access Information for the West Virginia Botanic Garden

The WVBG is free and open to the public during daylight hours. The gate to the lower parking lot will be open weekends (weather permitting) and for special events. At other times access is limited to those who can hike down the road into the Botanic Garden from the upper parking lot beside Tyrone Road.

To access the WVBG or for directions try the following:

Directions: From I-79 go north/south to I-68. Take Exit 7. At the top of the ramp, turn on to Route 857 (Cheat Road) north toward Pierpont Road and Cheat Lake. Go 2 miles and turn right onto Tyrone Road and travel 2.4 miles. The Garden is located on the left.

Alternatively, if you are in or near Sabraton you may also consider taking Route 7 (do not confuse with Exit 7). Go east from I-68 toward Kingwood about 2 miles where you will come to Tyrone road on your left. The WVBG is about 2 miles up Tyrone road on your right.

Garden Location: 1061 Tyrone Road, Morgantown, WV 26508 (do NOT mail to this address)

Mail: WVBG, PMB #121, 714 Venture Drive, Morgantown, WV 26508-7306

Office: 304-322-2093 / E-mail: info@wvbg.org / www.wvbg.org/

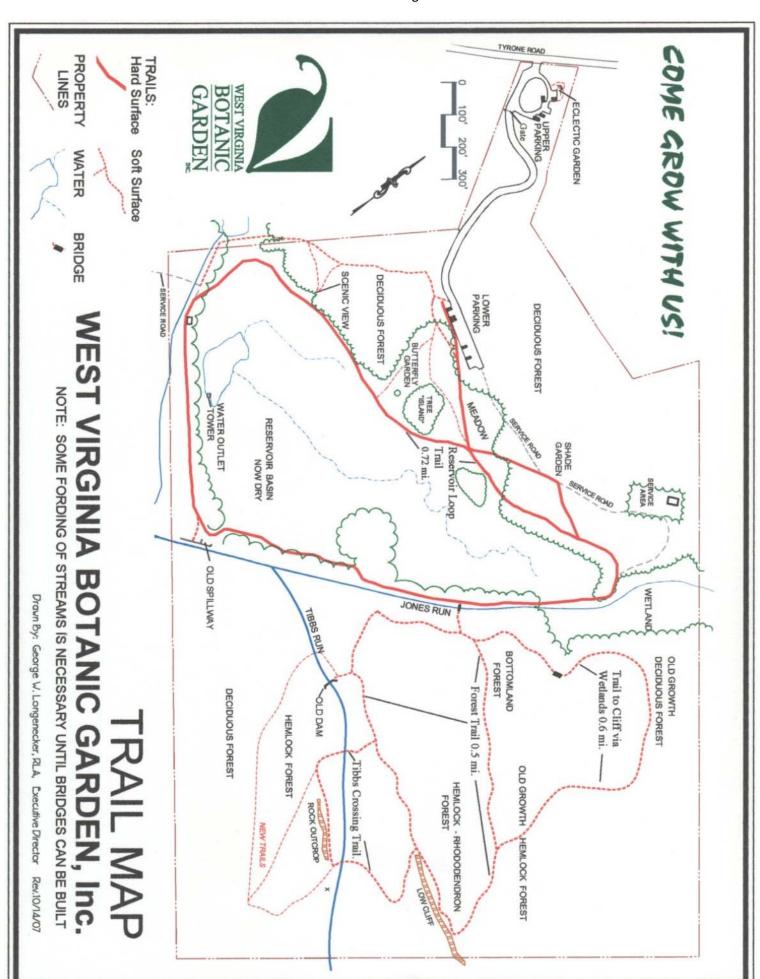
Executive Director, Bill Mills 304-552-7943 / billmills@wvbg.org

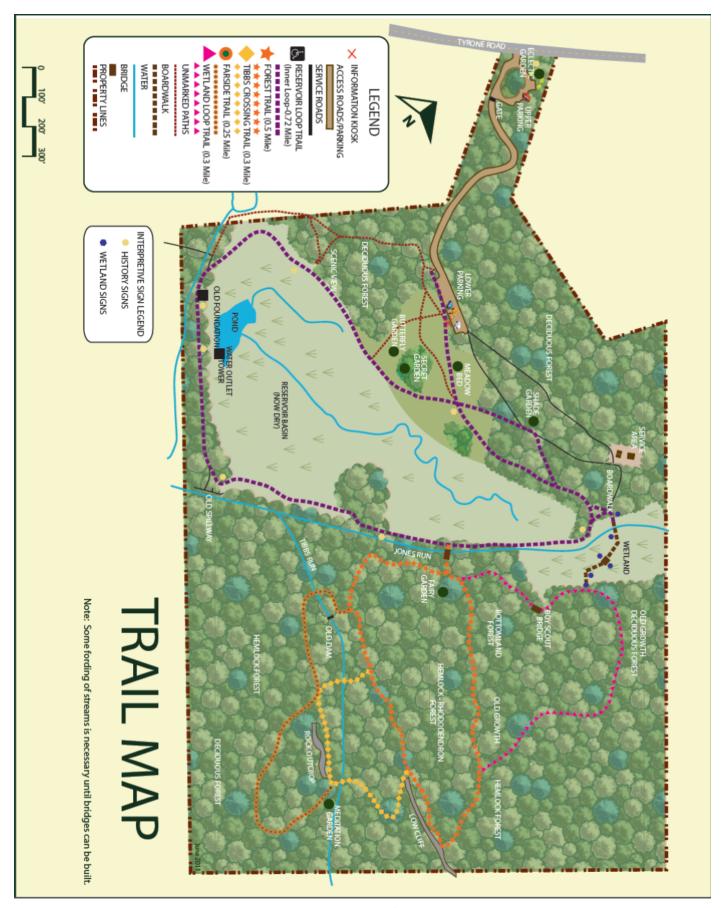
Activities and Educational Programs: For inquiries related to educational walks, workshops, camp, or school programs please contact Education Director Erin Smaldone at: Erin@wvbg.org or call 304-322-2093.

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Frequently Asked Questions about WVBG

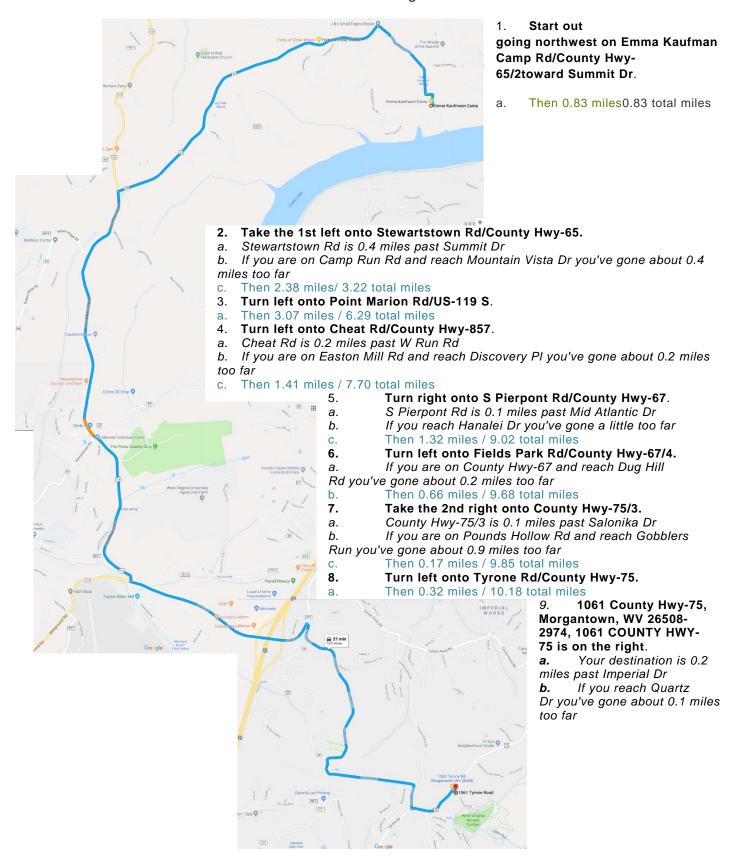
- 1. When is the Garden open for visitors? You may park in the upper parking lot and enjoy the Garden from dawn to dusk. The lower parking lot is generally open on pleasant summer weekends on Fridays from 1-4 p.m. and on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and also during special programs or events. Admission is free!
- 2. How large is the site? The entire site is 85 wooded acres. This includes all of the areas encompassed by the gravel walkway as well as the forested area. The former Tibbs Run Reservoir, early water supply for Morgantown, was located in the basin now encircled by the Reservoir Loop Trail.
- 3. Who owns the WVBG? The West Virginia Botanic Garden, Inc. is a non-profit organization. The organization leases the property from the City of Morgantown and is responsible for management of the property. The organization sometimes receives some funding from the City of Morgantown and the Monongalia County Commission but relies heavily on public contributions. Donation boxes are located at the kiosk in the lower parking lot and inside the Welcome Center. Donations can also be made online at www.wybg.org.
- 4. How many trails are there, and how long are they? There are 5 marked trails, each less than a mile long, and a wetland boardwalk. All are loop trails and connect to other trails, enabling you to make your walk as long or short as you would like. The Reservoir Loop Trail is 3/4 mile, gravel, and universally accessible. There are also several smaller gravel trails that pass gardens and connect to the Reservoir Loop Trail on the parking lot side of the reservoir. The other four trails are in the forest on the far side of the reservoir. Please see the WVBG map and guide. Two new trails were added in 2017. The Hillside trail goes from the upper parking lot down behind the Welcome Center where it connects with trails to the Shade and Rhododendron Gardens, and Noah's trail, which is on the far side of Tibbs Run. These are now marked on the new map and guide.
- 5. What are the gun shots that I am hearing? The Mason Dixon Rifle Club is adjacent to the WVBG property on the Wetland/Boardwalk side. The targets are in the opposite direction of the Garden and there is no risk of stray bullets. During hunting season, people do hunt on properties surrounding the WVBG. Be sure to stay on designated blazed trails at all times.
- 10. Can I ride my bike here? No, the trails are only for walking, running, or cross-country skiing when the Reservoir Loop Trail is sufficiently covered in snow.
- 11. Can I push a stroller here? Yes, you may push a stroller on the gravel paths. Please leave enough room on the path for others to pass by. Some wheelchairs may handle the Reservoir Loop Trail satisfactorily.
- 14. Can I bring an organization or group here for a tour? Absolutely, please e-mail info@wvbg.org to make arrangements for this visit.
- 16. What is the bird sculpture near the Butterfly Garden? Sylvia is a red-tailed hawk eco-sculpture created in 2014 by Ben Gazsi, a previous student at WVU, who has also created some sculptures for Cooper's Rock State Park. To learn more about him visit his website: http://liveseasoned.com/creative-corner-artist-benjamin-gazsi/. Silvia is an Italian female given name of Latin origin, with English-language cognate Sylvia. The name originates from the Latin word for forest, Silva, and its meaning is spirit of the wood.
- 17. What are the metal sculptures near the Rhododendron Garden? A queen bee, a caterpillar, a butterfly, and a lady bug were created by Michael Loop for the Hammock Haven fundraising event in 2016. He is the Museum Preparatory at WVU Museum of Art. Learn more about him: http://www.michaelloop.com/about/.
- **18.** Who created the old man in the tree along the Reservoir Loop Trail near the Wetlands? George Longenecker, a founding father of the Garden, allowed one of the trail blazers to carve that figure in the tree with his chainsaw.





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Entrance to Gardens





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BUS 1 (Coopers Rock / WV Botanic Garden)

https://goo.gl/maps/uu6foaxGErk

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8:00 am Arrive at Emma Kaufmann Camp
8:30 am Depart Emma Kaufmann Camp
9:00 am Drop-off at Coopers Rock Clay Furnace Trailhead
9:20 am Drop-off at Coopers Rock Main Parking Lot
10:00 am Return to Emma Kaufman Camp
10:15 am Depart Emma Kaufmann Camp
10:45 am Drop-off at West Virginia Botanic Garden
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2:30 pm Pickup at West Virginia Botanic Garden
3:00 pm Drop-off at Emma Kaufmann Camp
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