

# BUZZARD'S ROOST NATURE PRESERVE TRAILS

## South Point Lookout Trail: Blazed in Red. 1.6 mile loop from Parking Lot.

The SPLO Trail Leads the walker along the edges of the Paint Creek Gorge. The spectacular cliffs of sandstone and shale were once the sea floor and have been eroding for 250 centuries! Paint Creek didn't originally flow through this valley, but when ice and sediment blocked its original course a couple of miles north of here during the last glacial maximum, Glacial Lake Bourneville was formed behind the dam, which eventually overflowed through the low saddle in the hills. The meltwater from the new spillway carved out the present day Paint Creek Gorge.

## Chilo Trail: (chee-low) Blazed in orange. 0.4 miles

The Chilo Trail is a short trail that dead ends into the South Point Lookout Trail very near the lookout (Just turn right and you are there). There are three vernal pools along this trail - leftover farm ponds from a century ago. The trail is named after Chilo, "the prince of the mound builders" in the 1936 booklet, "Chilo Speaks." Chilo implores the reader to preserve the natural beauty of the "Valley of the Kings," referring to the Paint Creek Gorge.

## Hoggard Trail: Blazed in Red. Short Loop - 2.4mi Long Loop 3.7mi

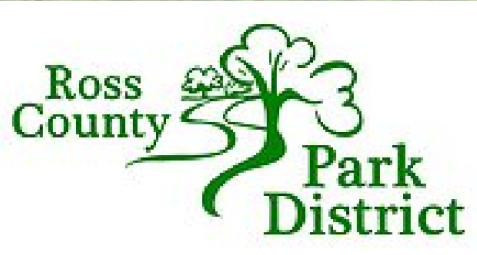
A portion of this trail follows what was once a road that connected Redbird Lane with Hatmaker Lane in Slate Mills. The road was closed during the Great Depression of the 1930's due to lack of use. The Trail meanders through the old Hoggard Homestead (the cemetery still stands along the side of the trail), past the remnants of an old farm and two abandoned agricultural ponds (now valuable habitat for wildlife), and through a beautiful pine forest on the long loop.

## Blueberry Trail: Blazed in Blue. 1/2 mi

This short segment introduces the walker to the western most cliffs (where blueberries once grew) on this side of Paint Creek. Watch for buzzards warming up in the tree tops along the cliffs in the morning sun.

### A word of Caution....

The cliff trails provide some spectacular views but please, stay on the trails for everyone's safety. Trust us...you do NOT want to fall from these cliffs, if you don't die, you'll probably wish you did.



- SOUTH POINT LOOKOUT TRAIL
- - - - SOUTH POINT LOOKOUT CONNECTOR (PAVED LANE)
- CHILO TRAIL
- HOGGARD TRAIL
- HOGGARD TRAIL SHORT LOOP
- HOGGARD TRAIL LONG LOOP
- BLUEBERRY TRAIL
- POND TRAIL
- PAVED LANE
- - - - MAINTENANCE ROAD

