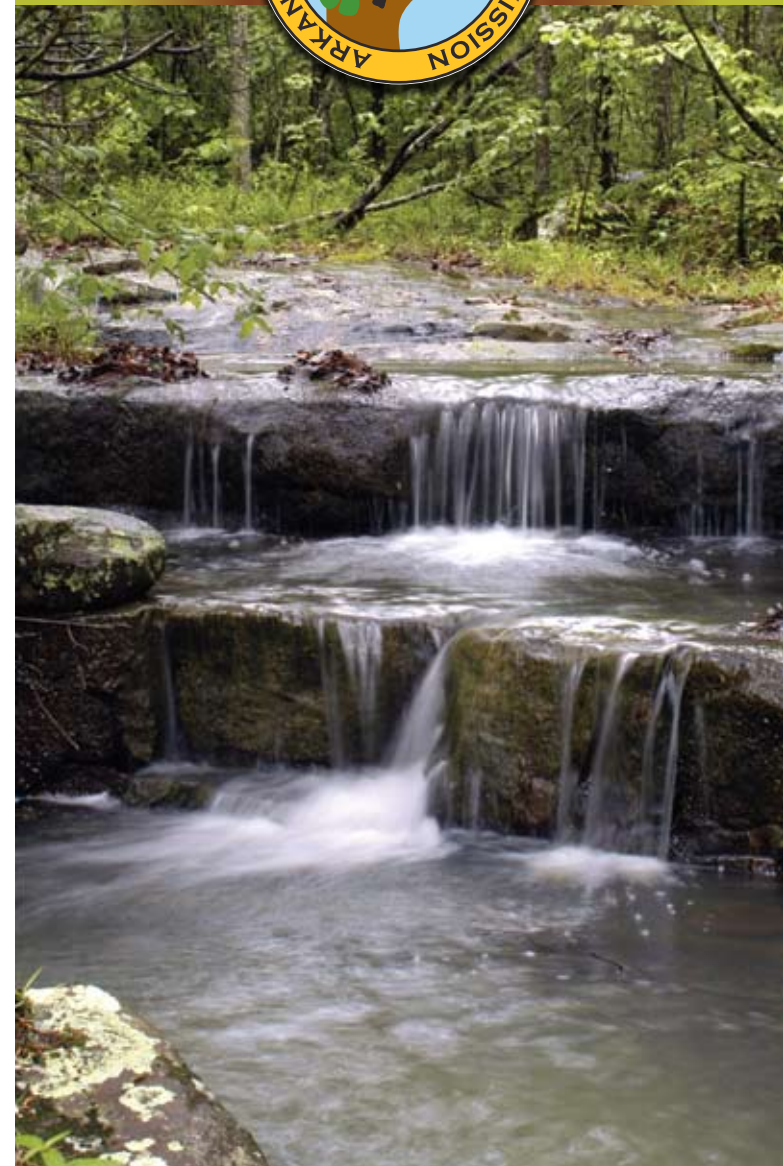




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ARKANSAS NATURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION



Since 1973, the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission has been working to conserve Arkansas's natural landscape.

The commission's professional staff conducts field explorations to discover and rediscover locations of rare plants and animal species and to document locations of unique ecosystems and natural communities.

Often published in scientific journals and presented at national, regional and state forums, these

research findings and results are organized, analyzed, managed and housed in the Arkansas Heritage Program biodiversity database. This wealth of information about more than

800 rare species is used to evaluate the relative imperilment of native species and shared for environmental planning purposes. We offer the data to organizations and individuals involved with conservation efforts, economic development, scientific research and education.

Based on this sound scientific research, and often working with conservation partners, the commission evaluates the state's ecologically

important sites to set priorities for conservation in the System of Natural Areas. Stewardship of system

lands requires proven techniques to preserve and sometimes restore Arkansas's unique ecosystems. The ANHC's System of Natural Areas currently includes 65 sites and more than 45,000 acres across the state.

On the ground, public access to natural areas varies, as some have terrain that could be treacherous. While only a few areas contain developed trails, several are ideally suited to low-impact activities such as hiking and bird-watching. Many natural areas offer hunting opportunities in accordance with regulations established in cooperation with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.

ANHC's public-outreach efforts strive to make biodiversity information interesting, easy to find and easy to understand. We blend high-tech tools for large audiences, such as our website, e-newsletter, and Facebook page, with face-to-face presentations conducted by our subject-matter experts. Educational programming is often offered to teachers and students to address state and national science standards using Arkansas-specific information, while our citizen science projects encourage all Arkansans to get outdoors, look around and learn more about our state's natural heritage. The commission's goal is to provide an introduction to the natural treasures that are the heritage of every Arkansan.



Visit NaturalHeritage.com to find:

- rare species data
- natural area descriptions, driving directions, hunting information and maps
- latest annual report
- subscription information for our e-newsletter
- downloadable materials for teachers and students
- citizen science survey information and data forms

Become a fan of the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission on our Facebook page!

