



## Self-Guided Red, White & Blue Walks

### RED

One of the brightest red wildflowers that can be found in the parks is the dazzling cardinal flower. Cardinal flowers can be found in wet areas where they almost glow with their crimson color. You can search for this wildflower at **Veterans Park, Hidden Valley Park** and **Hell Hollow Wilderness Area**.

There are also several bird species that show off bright red feathers. Male northern cardinals are bright red with black face masks and throats. These birds can be found throughout the park system. The other bird that sports dazzling red plumage is the scarlet tanager. These birds are brilliant scarlet with jet black wings. They can be difficult to find because they tend to stay at the tops of trees. Scarlet tanagers can be found in parks with forests like **Baker Road Park, Girdled Road Reservation, Hidden Lake** and **Chapin Forest Reservation**.

### WHITE

A stunning example of white in nature is the great egret. This gorgeous bird is all white with a sharp yellow bill. These birds appear dazzling against the greens and browns of the wetlands they are found in. Great egrets can be found at **Arcola Creek Park** and **Hidden Lake**, especially in late summer.

Many wildflowers come in white, which tends to attract bees and flies as pollinators. Foxglove beardtongue has tube-shaped white flowers that are a favorite of bumblebees. These attractive flowers can be found in early summer at **Lake Erie Bluffs** and **Pleasant Valley Park**. If you fancy a walk by a wetland, the flowers of broadleaf arrowhead plants are a great one to find the color white. They can be found at **Hidden Lake, Penitentiary Glen Reservation** and **River Road Park**.

### BLUE

Eastern bluebirds can be found in any of the parks with fields like **Hogback Ridge Park, Chagrin River Park** and **Penitentiary Glen Reservation**. Blue jays can be found in every park and typically can be seen flying tree to tree while making their raucous calls. Indigo buntings prefer areas that are brushy on the edges of woods and fields and can be seen regularly at **Lake Erie Bluffs, Girdled Road Reservation** (South and Skok Meadow), **Penitentiary Glen Reservation** and **Lakeshore Reservation**.

Butterflies like the red-spotted purple and spicebush swallowtail have beautiful blue accents to their wings. Both species are commonly found in or near wooded areas. These species can be found in parks with forests and a nearby population of wildflowers like **Gully Brook Park, Indian Point Park** and **Helen Hazen Wyman Park**.

#### Hidden Lake

North Entrance  
6850 Kniffen Rd.

South Entrance  
7024 Kniffen Rd.  
Leroy Twp., Ohio 44077

- Birder's Loop Trail**
- Goldenrod Loop Trail**
- Hidden Lake Loop Trail**
- Meadow View Loop Trail**

#### Lake Erie Bluffs

3301 Lane Rd.  
2901 Clark Rd.  
Perry Twp., Ohio 44081

- Eagle View Loop Trail**
- Shoreline Trail**
- Bluff Loop Trail**
- Forest Edge Trail**

#### Penitentiary Glen Reservation

8668 Kirtland-Chardon Rd.  
Kirtland, Ohio 44094

- Red Fox Loop Trail**
- Glen Meadow Loop Trail**

#### Girdled Road Reservation

Skok Meadow entrance  
12415 Concord Hanbden Rd.  
Concord Twp., Ohio 44077

South entrance  
12926 Radcliffe Rd.  
Concord Twp., Ohio 44077

- Big Creek Valley Trail**
- Skok Meadow Loop Trail**
- South Meadow Trail**
- Oak Leaf Loop Trail**



**Scarlet tanager**

**Scarlet tanagers** are brilliant scarlet with jet black wings. Despite their bright color, they can be difficult to find because they tend to stay at the tops of trees. Listen for their “chick-burr” call. **BR, GR, HL, CF**



**Cardinal flower**

**Cardinal flowers** are utilized by butterflies and hummingbirds for nectar. They are found in wet areas where their crimson color really pops. **VP, HV, HH**



**Northern cardinal**

Male **northern cardinals** are bright red with black face masks and can be found throughout the parks. **All parks**



**Great egret**

The stunning **great egret** is all white with a sharp yellow bill. They can be found in wetlands especially in late summer. **AC, HL**



**Foxglove beardtongue**

**Foxglove beardtongue** has tube-shaped white flowers that are a favorite of bumblebees. These attractive flowers can be found in early summer. **LE, PV**



**Broadleaf arrowhead**

**Broadleaf arrowhead** plants enjoy having their roots in very wet areas and are favorites for bees and flies and also provide food for wildlife. **HL, PG, RR**



**Indigo bunting**

**Indigo buntings** prefer areas that are brushy on the edges of woods and fields. **LE, GR, PG, LS**



**Red-spotted purple**

The **red-spotted purple** butterfly is commonly found in or near wooded areas that have a nearby wildflower population. **GB, IP, HW**



**Spicebush swallowtail**

**Spicebush swallowtail** butterflies have beautiful blue moon-shaped accents on their wings and can be found in parks with forests and nearby wildflowers. **GB, IP, HW**



**Eastern bluebird**

Male **Eastern bluebirds** have royal blue on the back and head, and warm red-brown on the breast. They can be found in open fields. **HR, CP, PG**



**Blue jay**

Common **blue jays** can be found in every park flying tree to tree while making their raucous calls. Males and females look the same. **All parks**



**Wild turkey**

Male **wild turkeys** have small bare heads with blue skin, red wattles and white patches. They become more colorful during breeding season in spring. Wild turkeys tend to be elusive but can be found in the parks. **PG, LE, GR**

**Park maps and more information can be found at [goto.lakemetroparks.com/bingewalk](http://goto.lakemetroparks.com/bingewalk)**



**AC** Arcola Creek Park  
**BR** Baker Road Park  
**CF** Chapin Forest Reservation  
**CP** Chagrin River Park  
**GB** Gully Brook Park  
**GR** Girdled Road Reservation

**HL** Hidden Lake  
**HH** Hell Hollow Wilderness Area  
**HR** Hogback Ridge Park  
**HV** Hidden Valley Park  
**HW** Helen Hazen Wyman Park  
**IP** Indian Point Park

**LE** Lake Erie Bluffs  
**LS** Lakeshore Reservation  
**PG** Penitentiary Glen Reservation  
**PV** Pleasant Valley Park  
**RR** River Road Park  
**VP** Veterans Park