

The Nature Conservancy



Protecting nature. Preserving life.™



Shelby Moritz/The Nature Conservancy

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Kentucky's only known occurrence of June grass thrives here along with other typical glade species such as prickly pear cactus, rush foil, hairy lipfern, little bluestem, pinweed, and poverty grass. Scattered deep soil pockets are dominated by gnarled and stunted post oak, blackjack oak, farkleberry, and red cedar.

Fragile sandstone glades interspersed throughout the surrounding upland forest provide some of the best examples of these rare habitats in the state.



LARRY HUBBERT/The Nature Conservancy

Indiangrass

Indiangrass is a tall prairie grass that is native to Kentucky. It provides excellent cover and food for wildlife, such as insects and songbirds.



CHRIS HUBBERT/The Nature Conservancy

Dickcissel

The dickcissel is a prairie songbird that has adapted to the agricultural landscape. During migration, flock size can reach thousands of birds.



BOB HARRISON/UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Sweet Goldenrod

There are over 30 species of goldenrod found in Kentucky. In autumn, these yellow wildflowers can spread a blanket of gold over entire fields.



Tom Barnard/University of Kentucky



Shelby Moritz/The Nature Conservancy

What's At Stake

The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to preserve the plants, animals, and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive.

This preserve contains extraordinary biological diversity, including cliffs that become carpeted with wildflowers during springtime and a small babbling stream.

Mantle Rock also hosts plentiful forest and grassland wildlife species that include grassland birds, turkey, rabbits, and deer.

You can help protect this special place by following these simple guidelines.

What To Bring:

- Binoculars
- Camera
- Compass
- Field guides
- Insect repellent
- Rain gear
- Snack
- Sunscreen

What You Can Do:

- Birdwatching
- Hiking
- Nature study
- Photography

What You Cannot Do:

- No motorized vehicles
- No bicycling, horseback riding, or climbing
- Don't collect specimens or artifacts
- Don't hunt or harvest plants or animals
- No pets, except service animals
- Don't feed wildlife
- No fires or camping