

2021 WETLAND TREASURES OF THE CAROLINAS



RICHARDSON TAYLOR PRESERVE

Photos courtesy of Guilford County.

Beaver Marsh

ECOLOGY & SIGNIFICANCE

Richardson Taylor Preserve is located on the northern edge of Greensboro in Guilford County North Carolina and encompasses over 440 acres of preserved land. The property is composed primarily of mature forest and beaver marshes. There are about 4 miles of trails, a portion of which is part of a future alternative route of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail. Several perennial creeks flow through the property, primarily through the Southern half of the property. These creeks are all part of the watershed for Jordan Lake, which make them very important to water quality, supplying essentially hundreds of thousands' drinking water.

The Richardson-Taylor Preserve, "passive use park", was the first of several County Nature Preserves to be opened to the public in Guilford County. It was officially opened on May 25, 2013. It is one of about fourteen properties that were acquired and protected as nature preserves by the now-defunct Guilford County Open Space Program with bond money set aside for the purpose of land preservation by County citizens.



Actias luna (Luna Moth)

FLORA & FAUNA

The property has a mix of pine and hardwood woodland. Pine stands include Virginia, Shortleaf, and Loblolly Pines. Hardwoods stands include varieties of oaks, maples, and hickory species.

Many varieties of birds, specifically songbirds and birds of prey can be found on-site. This is one of the best sites in Guilford County for Red-headed Woodpeckers. Raptors can be seen or heard all year; Broad-winged Hawks, American Kestrel and an occasional Osprey in summer, Red-tailed, Red-shouldered, and Cooper's Hawk all year.

THREATS

Encroachment issues and nonnative invasive species make up the biggest threats to this preserve. The property is surrounded entirely by residential communities and individual landowners. Threats from these adjacent landowners include trails and connections being cut into the property, illegal dumping, and landowners "expanding their yard". Invasive plant species are also found on-site, and gone unchecked, can take over and eradicate all other flora and fauna within the vicinity.

ACCESS/SOURCES

The site is open to the public and is located in Northeast Greensboro at 300 Plainfield Road, Greensboro, NC 27655. Click here for more information www.guilfordparks.com.



Wetland
Treasures
of the Carolinas

RICHARDSON TAYLOR PRESERVE

Property Owner: Guilford County

Recognitions & Designations: Guilford County Passive Use Preserve