TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS

A – Riverview Boardwalk (1.0 miles) Boardwalk in three connected loops, allowing for shorter and longer routes. Wheelchair and stroller accessible. Our most popular trail; recommended for all first-time visitors.

B – Ridge (0.32 miles) Traverses either side of a narrow ridge leading to a bluff overlooking the Missouri River.

C – Hickory (0.2 miles) Descends form Third Loop of Boardwalk down steep slope to Childs Hollow and across the railroad tracks to the Missouri River.

D – Linden (0.21 miles) Follows gently sloping ridge to meet up with Hackberry at Hawthorn.

E – Hackberry (0.39 miles) Winds on moderate slopes to connect with Linden at Hawthorn.

F – Habitat Hollow (0.08 miles) Short connector trail from Wren to Hackberry.

G – Wren (0.12 miles) Level connector trail from Wren to Hackberry.

H – Childs Hollow (0.13 miles) Mostly level path in hollow named for Charles Childs, an early pioneer who owned much of the land that is now Fontenelle Forest.

I – Hawthorn Trail (1.06 miles) Passes unmarked earth lodge sites dating from 1200 A.D.; leads to Mill Hollow.

J – Chickadee Trail (0.37 miles) Moderate climb from Childs Hollow up to Hawthorn on ridgetop.

K – Oak Trail (1.2 miles) Parallels Mill Hollow stream, then climbs steeply to a broad ridge with 250-year old bur oaks. Steep descent to Gifford Rd. on south end.

L – Handsome Hollow (0.52 miles) Gentle, scenic route up a deep, steep-sided ravine, from floodplain to ridgetop.

M – Indian (0.34 miles) Level ridgetop trail; passes several unmarked earth lodge sites.

N – Bladdernut (0.48 miles) Short loop trail from Camp Logan Fontenelle building and back.

O – Signal Ridge (1.0 miles) Access from Gifford Rd. or from Camp Wakonda; mostly level ridgetop trail; steep at north end.

P – Mormon Hollow (0.6 miles) Traces the path of Mormon pioneers; traverses length of deep ravine, gentle to moderate grade.

Q – Prairie (0.42 miles) Ridgetop path through young oak woodland; steep to moderate grade.

R – History (1.35 miles) Moderate to steep loop from Prairie. A self-guided History Trail brochure is available at the visitor’s center; describes the historic sites along this trail and Prairie Trail.

S – Cottonwood (0.95 miles) Level path through mature floodplain forest. Beaver activity sometimes floods the south end of the trail.

T – Missouri (1.12 miles) Level floodplain trail along banks of the Missouri River.

U – North Stream Spur (0.14 miles) A short, flat, spur trail along the stream north of Gifford Rd.

V – Stream (0.37 miles) Flat floodplain trail, heads south to the Great Marsh from Camp Gifford Rd.

W – Pond (0.16 miles) Floodplain trail leading from the Wetlands Learning Center to a small teaching pond. Connects with Stream Trail.

X – Gifford Memorial Boardwalk (0.34 miles) Wheelchair and stroller accessible, flat, boardwalk; leads from the Wetlands Learning Center through the Missouri River floodplain to Great Marsh, ending at a two-story observation blind.

Y – Marsh (0.42 miles) Follows shoreline of Great Marsh; excellent views of aquatic life, especially waterfowl in spring and fall. Great Marsh is a “river scar” marking a former channel of the Missouri River. The Fontenelle Trading Post (ca. 1822) was located just west of the present-day marsh, on a site which was then on the riverside.

Z – Hidden Lake (1.87 miles) Level trail skirts the east end of the Great Marsh to reach Hidden Lake. Southern portion prone to flooding. Connects with Gifford Memorial Boardwalk.

RULES OF THE FOREST

• *No dogs allowed.* Pets and horses not permitted.

• *PLEASE carry your trash out with you.*

• *No collecting or picking is allowed.* Leave all plants and animals undisturbed for others to enjoy.

• *No smoking, vaping, or fires are allowed.*

• *Respect all signage, including trail closures!* Stay on the trails at all times.

• Use caution when crossing the railroad tracks, which remains in active use. Do not walk on the tracks.

• Camping, jogging, and bicycling are not permitted. No motorized vehicles are permitted beyond the parking lots unless needed due to disability.

• Picnic only in areas designated for that purpose.

• Hunting and fishing are not allowed.

• Firearms and weapons are not allowed on Fontenelle Forest property.