

American Chestnut Land Trust (ACLT) – South Side Trails 5 & 10 KM Year-Round Event Hosted by the Annapolis Amblers

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Trail Description:

This walk consists of two loops on the South Side of the American Chestnut Land Trust (ACLT).

Special Programs: None

Annapolis Amblers Website: www.annapolisamblers.org

Start Point:

1985 Scientists Cliffs Rd, Port Republic, MD 20676

Hours are typically daylight, but please check www.acltweb.org for current hours.

Amenities:

There is a porta-potty at the parking area and a well-maintained privy just a short distance along the trail from the start point. Nevertheless, it is highly recommended that you stop for water and restrooms at one of the establishments along Route 4 in Prince Frederick.

Driving Directions:

Take your best route to Rt. 2/4 South. From the intersection with Rt. 231 in Prince Frederick, continue South, passing the traffic light at Rt. 264, Broomes Island Road. Shortly thereafter turn left on Parker's Creek Road. Cross Rt. 765 and proceed to Scientists Cliffs Road. Turn right and proceed 0.8 miles to the ACLT parking lot on the left. The turns are also indicated by brown ACLT signs.


Walk Registration:

Registration takes place online using that AVA Online Start Box, on my.ava.org. Follow the instructions provided to create a user account and sign the AVA waiver (one time). Instructions for payment are also included. Download the directions and print as needed. The POC does not provide event directions or accept alternate payment methods.

Note: The sponsoring club only receives credit for an OSB participation when an OSB registration has been completed online by entering your participation date, distance and any special program using the OSB. See below.

Walk Completion and Walk Credit:

Once you have physically completed the walk, please log in to your Online Start Box account, click on the “My Start Box” tab, then the “Finish Table” tab, and click on “Go to Finish Table” button for the event you have completed. Use the displayed entry form to submit the date and distance of your walk as well as select applicable AVA Special Programs to generate stamped “virtual” insert cards that you may choose to print out.

	In case of Emergency: Dial 911 Event related assistance: Thomas DeHetre: 301-848-9475	These walk directions and maps may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association athletic waiver. All other uses are prohibited.
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Walk Directions for ACTL South Side Trails 5 & 10 KM Walk

1. From the starting point, walk on the grass alongside the parking lot and (A) **TURN RIGHT** onto Ridge Loop (**Post 1**) to do the 1st 5 KM loop or (B) go **STRAIGHT AHEAD** into the field towards the Laurel Loop to do the 2nd 5 KM loop and skip to step 11.
2. At the Y (**Post 2**), **BEAR RIGHT** (privy on right) to stay on Ridge Loop.
3. **TURN RIGHT** at the Chestnut Trail (**Post 4**).
4. Follow to the Trail End (B) to see the remains of the Chestnut Tree.

The American Chestnut at one time dominated millions of acres of forest from Georgia to Maine, providing food for native Americans and settlers for hundreds of years. These heavy producers also fed numerous herds of domestic cattle and swine as well. These great trees were all but wiped out by the Chestnut Blight fungus (Endothia parasitica) which was accidentally introduced in the early 1900s. The Chestnut Blight fungus is still present throughout the U.S. The stat's largest American Chestnut tree was located here.

5. Return along the trail back to the T (Post 4) and **TURN RIGHT** onto Ridge Loop.
6. Stay on Ridge Loop past the N-S Trail (Post 5) and the bridge over Gravatt Stream where the Flint Trail converges (Post 7).
7. Continue **STRAIGHT AHEAD** on Ridge Loop. At the top of the hill where a small sign reads "Hughes Trail To Bench" (caution: you are approaching the sign from the rear), **TURN RIGHT** onto Hughes Trail (Post 8) and walk to the bench. Take a moment to relax and enjoy the view. (bird observation site)
8. Return to the trail intersection by the small sign (Post 8), **TURN RIGHT** and continue **STRAIGHT AHEAD** on Ridge Loop.
9. Go past Flint Trail (Post 9) and the Y (Post 10), **BEAR RIGHT** onto Wallace Lane. Stop at the Wallace house and barn.

Lemuel Wallace Farm: Most of the former proprietors of the ACTL land were white, but Lemuel Wallas was an African American farmer who owned about 100 acres from 1909 until mid-1930s. His house and a reconstructed corn crib stand a shat distance northwest of the tobacco fields that his grandson Woodrow Wallace works today.

10. Continue on Wallace Lane, ignoring trail to left (Post 2) (yes, the privy is located there) and proceed on trail to just before the paved road (Post 1). **TURN LEFT** to the starting point to complete the 1st 5 KM loop or **TURN RIGHT** into the field to begin the 2nd 5 KM loop.
11. Continue on path past marker (Post 13). At the Y (Post 12), **TURN LEFT** onto Laurel Loop (purple blazes). You will eventually cross a wooden bridge and go up a steep hill to a bench.
12. Follow the path as it turns to the left at the bench.
13. At the T (Post L2), **TURN LEFT** to stay on Laurel Loop.
14. Stay on the Laurel Loop as it bears right at a large ravine. At the tree with four purple blazes, **TURN LEFT** and cross three adjacent small ravines.
15. Continue on Laurel Loop as the path turns to the left at the marker (Post L4) and go all the way to the marker (Post L5) near the paved road.
16. Take the short path to the paved road and cross carefully to the dirt road (Post E1) at the "No Parking/Do Not Block Entrance" sign entering the East Loop (green blazes).
17. Stay on main trail as it enters the woods. **BEAR LEFT** at the Y (Post E2) to continue on the main East Loop (green blazes).



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18. Soon you will pass a bench off to your left.
(bird and wildlife observation site)
19. Continue on trail to the T (Post E3) at the bottom of the hill and TURN RIGHT.
20. Go to the first trail intersection on the left (Post E5). TURN LEFT crossing over a small stream.
21. Continue on trail, walking uphill for quite a distance going past marker (Post E6). At the next marker (Post E8), TURN RIGHT to continue on the East Loop.
22. Follow the East Loop around the head of the ravine. (Do not enter private property.) The trail ends at the paved road (Post E10).
23. Carefully cross paved road towards telephone pole at right front looking for a tree with a purple blaze. TURN RIGHT near the marker (Post L5) to rejoin the Laurel Loop.
24. Continue to follow the purple blazes as the trail parallels the paved road and then eventually turns away from it (Post L6). At the T (Post L1), TURN RIGHT onto Laurel Loop, then another immediate right and follow the trail back to the starting point.

We hope you enjoyed your walk. If you have not already done so, please login to my.ava.org then click on the “My Start Box” tab, then the “Finish Table” tab to “complete” your walk.



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For full trail descriptions, visit:
www.actweb.org/trails

Frog Pond Trail Markers: 1 > 14 > 3
 Distance (each way): 0.52 miles. Easy.

Ridge Loop Markers: 1 through 13 > 1
 Distance (full loop): 1.41 miles. Moderate with one steep hill.

Flint Trail Markers: 11 > 22 > 7
 Distance (each way): 0.87 miles. Easy to moderate.

Laurel Loop Markers: L1 through L6 > L1
 Distance (full loop): 1.07 miles. Moderate, some hills.

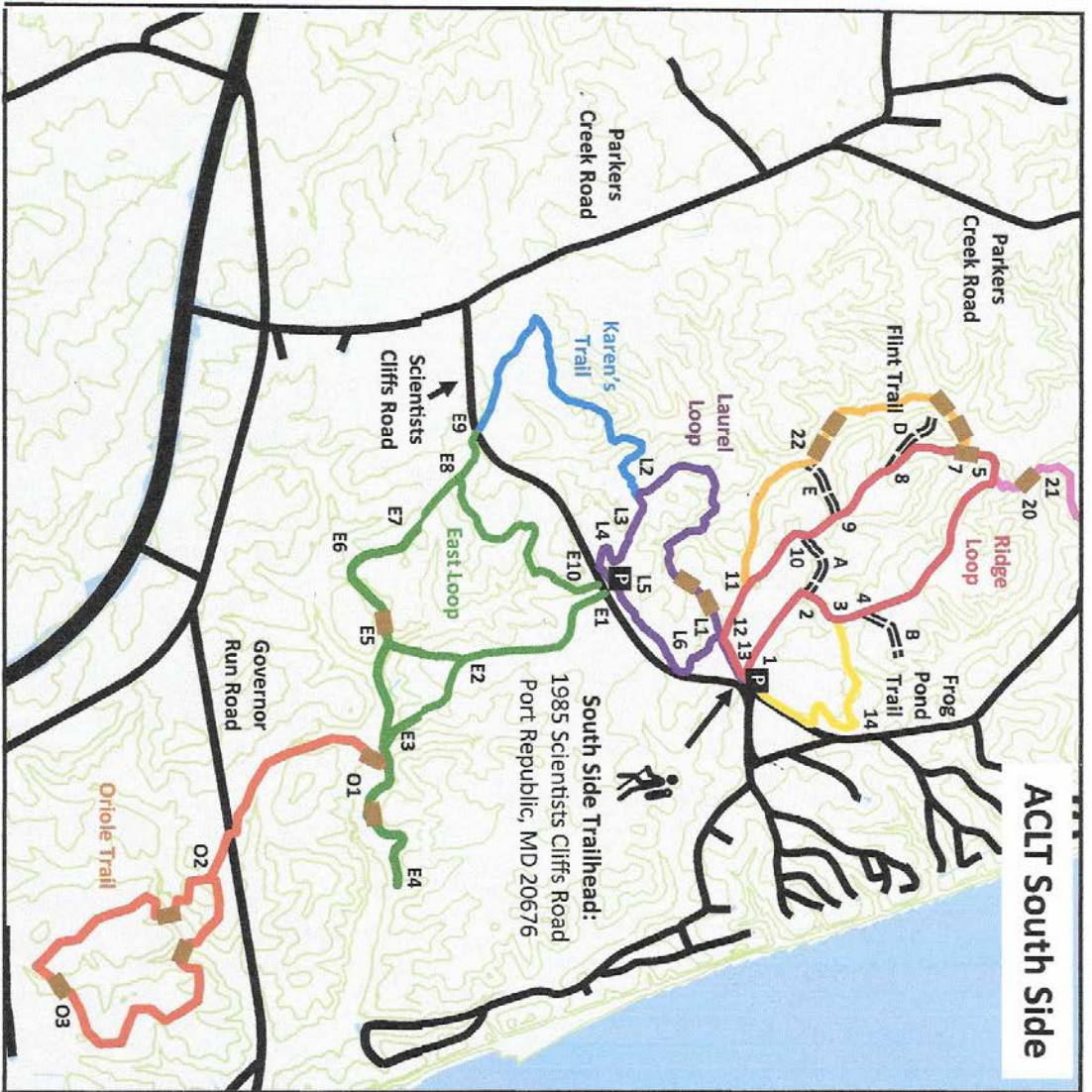
Karen's Trail Markers: L2 > E9
 Distance (each way): 0.6 miles. Moderate, some steep hills.

East Loop Markers: E1 through E10 > E1
 Distance (full loop): 2.01 miles. Easy to moderate.
 The trail is located on the opposite side of Scientists Cliffs Road. Some parking available by marker L5. **Off-road bicycling permitted on this trail.**

Oriole Trail Markers: O1 through O3 > O1
 Distance: 2.1 miles. Moderate.
Off-road bicycling permitted on this trail.

Secondary Trails

- A—Wallace Lane - Markers: 2 > 10. Easy. 0.13 miles. Site of African American-owned farm (1909-1930s).
- B—Chestnut Trail - Marker: 4. Easy. 0.1 miles. Location of ACLT's namesake American chestnut tree, which blew down in 2006.
- C—Cemetery Lane - Marker: 19. Easy. 0.16 miles. Site of Hance-Chesley Cemetery.
- D—Hughes Trail - Marker: 8. Easy. 0.12 miles. Named in memory of past ACLT President Aileen Hughes.
- E—Less Traveled Path - Markers: 9 > 22. Moderate incline. 0.2 miles. Connects Ridge Loop and Flint Trail.
- F—Spur to North—South Trail - Easy. 0.1 miles. Shortcut to the raft with fewer hills.



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