

WELCOME TO SADDLER'S WOODS

The self-guided tree tour and trail map point out a variety of trees, major trails, and points of interest. You can enjoy the tree tour in any order. Simply match the number on the 4"X4" post to this guide!

1. Northern Red Oak (*Quercus Rubra*)

This mature northern red oak, has pointed leaves and a dark, deeply fissured bark, like ski tracks. This tree is over 150 years old. The northern red oak is the state tree of New Jersey.

2. Hackberry (*Celtis Occidentalis*)

This small understory tree with warty ridges is a hackberry. Hackberry is a favorite host plant of the spiny elm caterpillar, which later becomes the mourning cloak butterfly. The hackberry has berry-like drupes which are a favorite of birds, which give the seeds wide distribution. The leaves are often dotted with small raised growths called nipple galls

3. "See-Through Tree", White Oak (*Quercus Alba*)

Can you find the "see-through tree"? This is a mature white oak and has a cavity you can see through. Cavities in older trees and around their roots provide nests and dens for animals. How many other tree cavities do you see in the woods?

4. Edge Effect

If you look towards the Van Sciver School soccer field, you will see trees that are growing sideways. This is known as edge effect. It happens when a clearing is created causing trees to grow towards the increase of sunlight and open space. This sideways growth makes trees more susceptible to storm damage.

5. White Oak (*Quercus Alba*)

White oaks, are named for their bark, which is much lighter and flakier than oaks in the black oak family. In the fall, white oak leaves can sometimes turn a bright pink or red. Native Americans and early settlers used to ground white oak acorns to make a type of pancake. Yum!

6. Chestnut Oak (*Quercus Prinus*)

The bark of chestnut oaks was once used extensively for tanning leather because it has the highest tannin concentrations of any of our native oaks. The chestnut oak has a lobed leaf and very large or "chestnut" sized acorn. While some chestnut oaks have fallen due to summer storms, new saplings will emerge from their many acorns. See if you can spot any seedlings!

7. Witchhazel (*Hamamelis Virginiana*)

These multi-trunked, shrub like trees are witchhazel, unique for their small yellow flowers present in late fall. Their seedpods snap open, shooting seeds 20 to 30 feet. Native Americans showed the settlers how to boil the bark to make a medicine to clean wounds and stop bleeding. This is still used today.

8. Pignut Hickory (*Carya Glabra*)

Look for a tree with diamond shaped bark; this is a pignut hickory. Its nuts have a small nose-like bump. Pignut hickory wood has been used for tool handles, baseball bats, and to smoke meat.

9.Saddler's Run

From this area you can see the stream, Saddler's Run. This is the headspring of the main branch of the Newton Creek. Please cross the stream and the wetland area carefully as this is habitat for macro-invertebrates, box turtles, and salamanders.

10. Doug Hefty Trail

Next to the hollow remnant of an old growth American beech tree, the Doug Hefty trail leads to MacArthur blvd. Doug Hefty was a key steward of Saddler's Woods. In 1973 at the age of 15, Doug wrote an 82 page woods report and gave it to a developer who owned the property at that time. His report ultimately convinced the developer to not build more housing here. Over the years there were various attempts to develop Saddler's Woods for housing and most recently, athletic fields. Thanks to grassroots activism, Saddler's Woods was permanently preserved via a conservation easement in 2003.

11. Old-Growth Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron Tulipifera*)

Poet Walt Whitman referred to tulip poplar branches as the "Arms of Apollo" and the branches of this tulip poplar are massive. Antlered branches are just one of the signs of an old-growth tree. Other telltale signs of an old-growth tree (older than 150 years) are large root swellings that project from the trunk base. As a tree ages the bark tends to bald at the base and sag, often losing its fissured grain. Compare the bark of this large tree over 200 years old with the young tulip poplar on stop #13.

12. Arrowwood and Hackberry(*Viburnum Dentatum and Celtis Occidentalis*)

Across from the post 11 tulip poplar, you will see an example of the diverse understory layer in the woods. An arrowwood shrub (*Viburnum dentatum*) has draping branches and notched leaves. The young hackberry, (*Celtis occidentalis*) with its telltale bumpy bark, is behind. A healthy native forest is comprised of diverse species in all of forest layers from the ground, to the mid level understory, and up to the canopy of dominant trees.

13. Young Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron Tulipifera*)

This tulip poplar is approximately 30 years old. Tulip poplars grow a yellow tulip like flower in the spring, which then becomes a seed-bearing cone in the fall. The seeds are a favorite feast for squirrels. Notice the bark and compare it with the old growth tulip poplar on stop #11. What's different?

14. Black Cherry (*Prunus Serotina*)

This black cherry tree has dark flaky bark. Black cherry trees are one of the first to grow in fields. Deeper in the woods it is an understory tree that will emerge when a tree falls. Black cherries are a food source for wildlife. The Lenni Lenape would also train the cherry trees to grow along the ground so they could easily reach the cherries for harvesting.

15. Meadow & Boxelder Maple (*Acer Negundo*)

Next to the post you will see a boxelder tree. Like the black cherry tree, boxelder is a pioneer species, meaning they are some of the first trees to take hold in a previously cleared area. It can be identified by its glaucous (waxy blue-green) stem. Like most maples, the boxelder is one of the first trees to bud out in the springtime.

Beyond post 15 you will see a meadow. This area was clear-cut in the 1970s and prior to preservation was a wasteland of litter and debris. Where grasses and flowers now grow, there were dumped car engines, refrigerators and over 10 tons of concrete. SWCA has worked vigorously to remove the construction debris, eradicate invasive species, and plant native vegetation.

After 15 years of restoration efforts, this former wasteland was certified as an essential Monarch butterfly waystation in 2019. SWCA continues to manage and restore this critical habitat.

Saddler's Woods Trail Map & Self Guided Tour

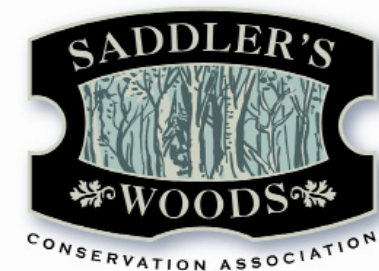


DISCOVER SADDLER'S WOODS

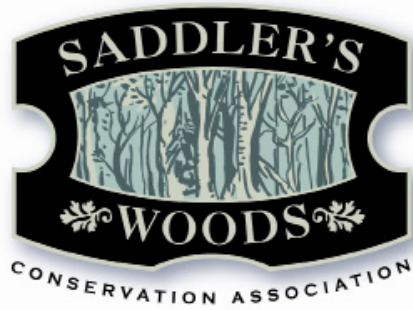
Saddler's Woods is a small urban forest located in Haddon Township, New Jersey off of MacArthur Boulevard. Saddler's Woods contains a meadow, young woodlands, wetlands, and a unique stand of old-growth trees with some trees between 100 and 400 years old.

Saddler's Woods is named in honor of Joshua Saddler. Joshua Saddler escaped slavery on a Maryland plantation in the early 1800s and settled on the border of these woods. Joshua Saddler wrote into his will in 1868 that: "*in no instance to commit waste, none of my heirs shall cut the timber thereon...*"

For his preservation ethic, these historic woods were named in Joshua Saddler's honor in 2004. Take a stroll in the woods and use this map of the major trails for orientation. Enjoy!



Saddler's Woods



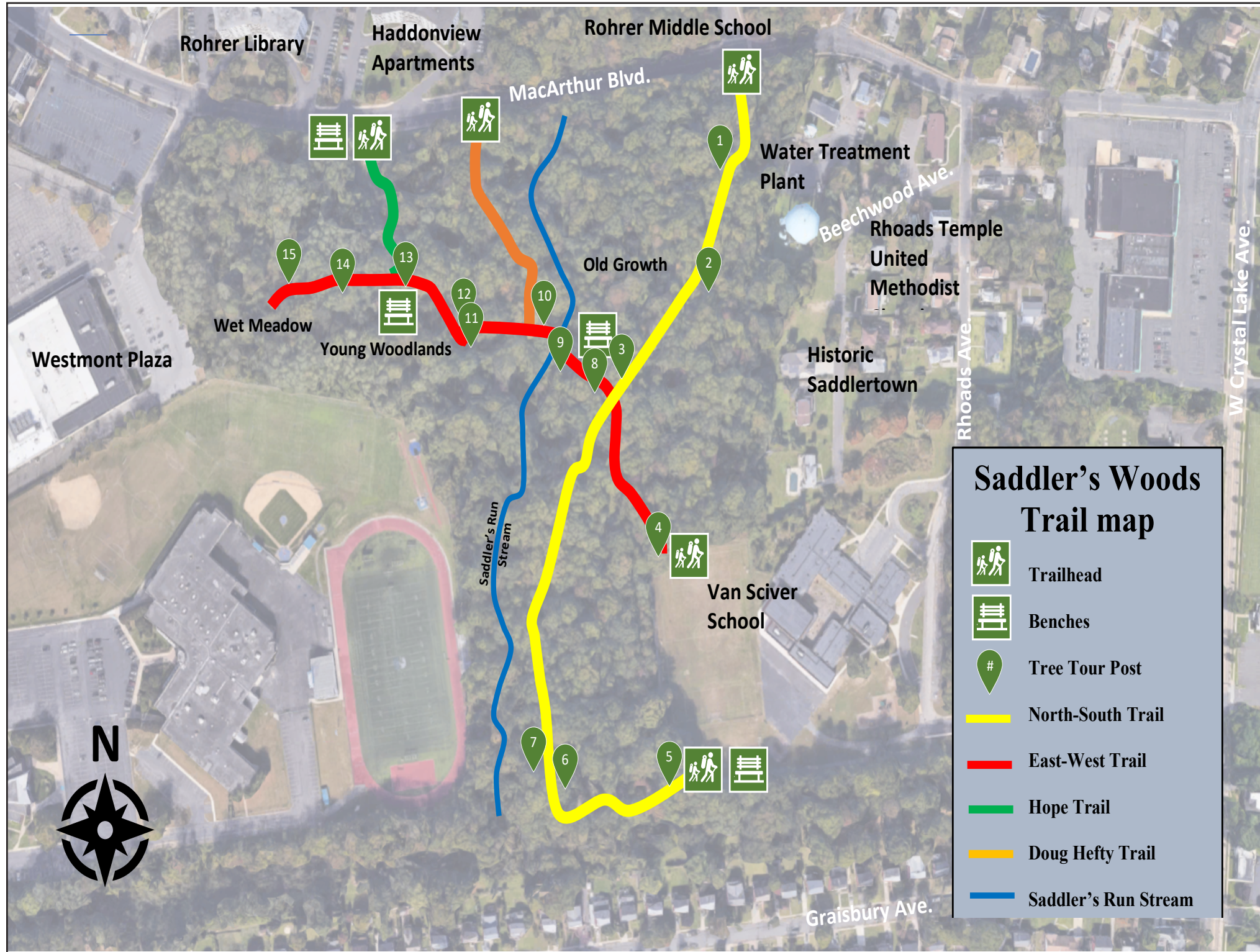
Saddler's Woods Conservation Association (SWCA)

is a 501 (c) 3 organization of volunteers dedicated to preserving the natural and cultural resources of these historic woods.

Visit our website at: www.saddlerswoods.org

Major Trail Lengths

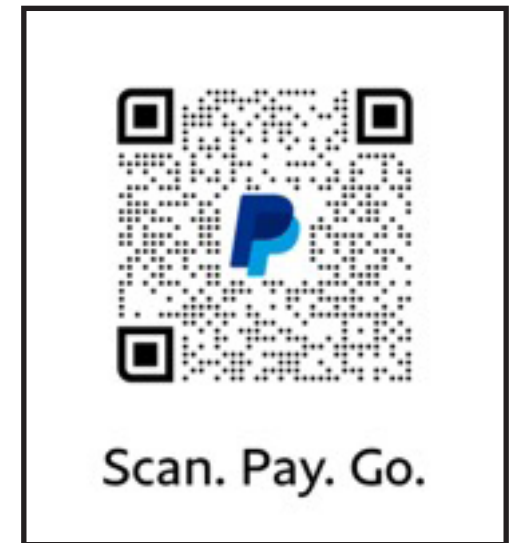
- Hope Trail - 267 ft.
- East /West Trail - 1,350 ft
- North/South Trail - 1,812 ft
- Doug Hefty Trail - 320 ft



Saddler's Woods Conservation Association

Donations are gladly accepted on our website or via Venmo and Paypal. Venmo handle is: @saddlers-woods

PayPal is : [PayPal.me/saddlerswoods](https://www.paypal.com/payto/saddlerswoods)



Please leave not trace and comply with all rules as posted. Want to know more? Guided tours and education programs are available by appointment. Contact: 856-869-7372 or info@saddlerswoods.org for scheduling and rates.