

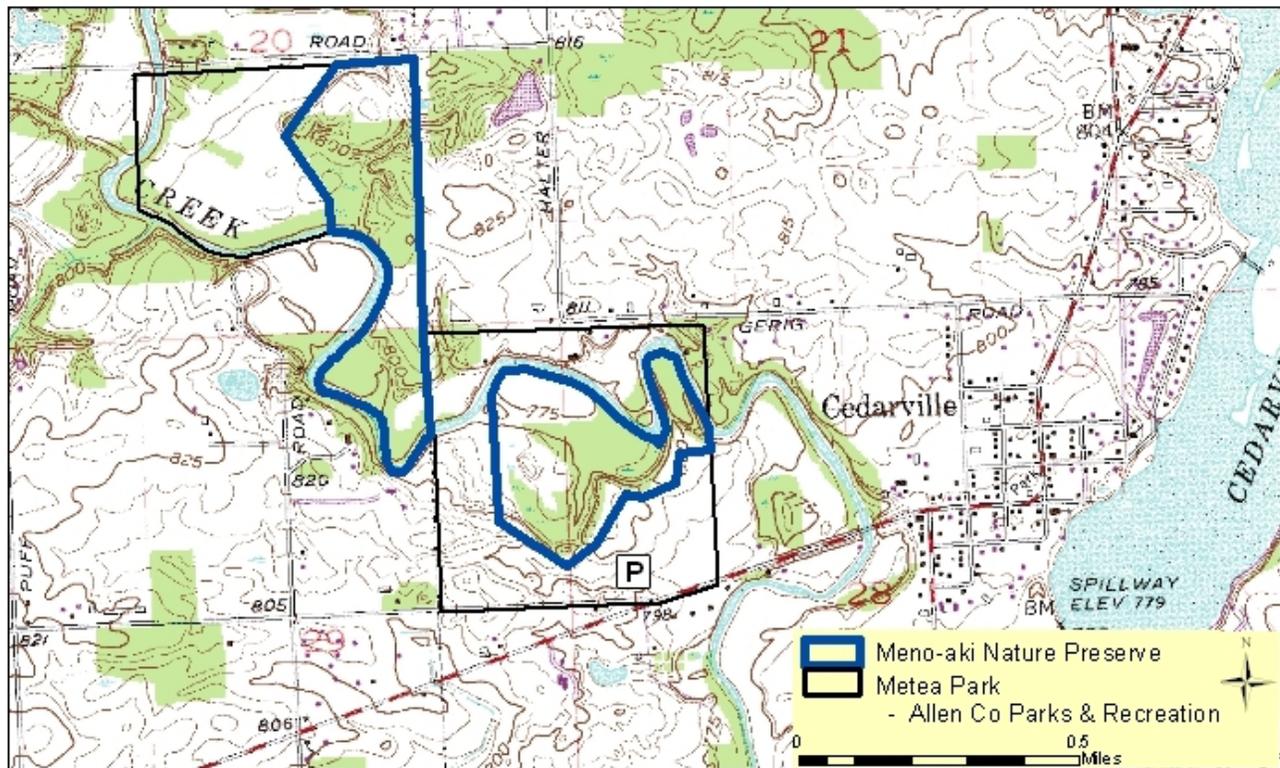
Meno-aki Nature Preserve

County: Allen Size: 120 acres
Ownership: Allen County Parks Board



Location and Access

Parking and trail to south half only. Part of Metea Park, found by taking SR 1 west from Cedarville about 0.5 mile to Union Chapel Rd. Turn right and follow to Metea Park entrance. Trails pass through the south half of the preserve. There is no parking lot or trail for the northern half. From Fort Wayne, go north on I-69/US 27 to SR 1 exit. Go east (R) on SR 1 for 3.4 miles to Hardst Rd. Go north (L) on Hardst to Union Chapel Rd and turn east (R). The park will be on the left.



Description: A number of natural communities are found in Meno-aki: namely, hill prairie, dry-mesic and mesic (moist) upland forest, and floodplain forest. Prairie vegetation is scattered along the south-facing bluffs overlooking Cedar Creek. These hill prairies are not common anywhere in Indiana and are particularly rare this far east. Prairie plants give way to oak-hickory forest farther back from the steep creek bluffs. A number of steep wooded ravines cut through the bluff down to the floodplain.

The name Meno-aki means good or blessed land in the Potawatomi language of Chief Metea for whom the park as a whole is named.

Further Information:

Allen County Parks, 7324 Yohne Rd, Fort Wayne, IN 46809. (260) 449-3180. www.allencountyparks.org/
Division of Nature Preserves East Central Regional Ecologist, Ben Hess: BHess@dnr.IN.gov