You are about to experience one of the nicest natural areas in East-Central Indiana. Take a hike on one or more of our seven trails or enjoy our Auto Tour that will wind you through a forested habitat. There are several opportunities to park along the way, so take your time and enjoy the sites.

Hayes Arboretum is a 466 acre outdoor laboratory and educational facility.

801 Elks Road
Richmond, IN 47374
www.hayesarb.org

Main Gate Open
Tuesday-Saturday
9am-5pm

East Side Trails
Open Daily
Dawn-Dusk

Hayes Museum
The Museum depicts Stanley W. Hayes’ family history and his career with the railroad. Several of his railroad safety items are on display. Learn how in 1959, Stanley and son, Brice, planned and established this beautiful private estate.

Morton Arch
This large sandstone and brick arch was the entrance to the former Morton High School in downtown Richmond. It was moved to its present location by a previous owner and left intact when Stanley Hayes purchased the property.

Beech-Maple Forest
The Beech-Maple forest, with trees up to 450 years old, is remnant of what the early Indiana settler found on this region’s land. Few forests of this caliber remain; approximately 60 acres of old growth forest are located with-in the grounds. In 1998, it was estimated that less than 2000 acres of old growth forest remained within the state of Indiana.

Woodland Chapel
Here you might see a wedding taking place at our outdoor sanctuary, our Woodland Chapel. Here is a great opportunity to pull off and enjoy the quiet, serene atmosphere offered by nature.

Springhouse
Located just off the Auto Tour, this shelter built of hand-hewn timber, commemorates a good friend of the Arboretum. The Springhouse Trail starts here; a relaxing 1/4 mile of hiking path.

Brice E. Hayes Memorial Fountain
The fountain is dedicated to former Board President, Brice E Hayes, son of Stanley W. Hayes. His vision established the facilities and programs of the Arboretum.

Mildred Hayes Memorial Sundial
Once part of the Elks Country Club golf course, this scenic hillside commemorates the wife of Brice E. Hayes. Her love for children and the outdoors inspired the move toward environmental education for young people.

Paul C. McClure Native Woody Plant Preserve
These acres have at least one specimen of every tree, shrub, or vine native to the Whitewater Valley Drainage Basin. Several trees have ID tags on them.

Nature Center
This renovated 1833 post and beam dairy barn offers a variety of information and interpretive displays. The gift shop, restrooms, and drinking fountain are here.

Walking Trails

Beech/Maple Trail
Marked with Blue Arrows.
Length: 3/4 mile.
On this trail you will see the beauty of our old-growth Beech/Maple Forest, as well as other stages of a forest’s ecological succession. The trail skirts a research pond, which is undergoing ecological succession as well. While hiking this trail you cross foot bridges and hike up and down a few hills.

Habitat Trail
Marked with Yellow Arrows.
Length: 1 mile.
In the early spring, several spring wildflowers can be enjoyed along this trail, including trillium, spring beauties, hepatica, and many more. This trail will take you up and down several hills, over our spring fed Salamander Stream, and through our beautiful Beech/Maple Forest. Stops along the way could be at the Woodland Chapel and the Scenic Overlook.

Springhouse Trail
(behind the Springhouse)
Marked with Orange Arrows. Length: 1/4 mile. This short trail begins and ends in a parking lot off the auto tour. It takes you by our Springhouse and then it’s a short hike through the forest. A wide variety of spring wildflowers can be found along the trail from late March through the middle of May.

History Trail
This trail takes you by the estate home of Stanley W. Hayes, referred to as the Hayes House. Several other significant sites can be seen along the trail including the Mildred Hayes Memorial, the Brice E. Hayes Memorial Fountain, and the Paul C. McClure Native Woody Plant Preserve. You will then re-enter a wooded area, and then stroll through a field habitat before returning to the Nature center.

Mountain Bike Trails
Hayes Arboretum’s 5 1/2 miles of Mountain Bike Trails are located on the East Side of the property, across Hayes Arboretum Road. They are open daily from dawn to dusk. To ride the trails, you must sign a one time safety waiver, and wear a helmet. This waiver, along with a mountain bike trail map can be found online at hayesarb.org or in the Nature Center. You can also find frequent trail updates on the ‘Hayes Arb Mountain Bike Trails’ Facebook Page.
The mission of Hayes Arboretum is to provide nature and recreational related education to our visitors, through instruction, experiences and amenities.

The obligation of S.W. Hayes Research Foundation, Inc. is to provide oversight, direction and funding for the educational project Hayes Arboretum.