### **About Wilton Hemlocks**

This 89.14-acre property is Mississippi Valley Conservancy's first nature preserve in Monroe County. The site was protected for its nearly halfmile stretch of the meandering Kickapoo River, diverse sedge meadows and forested seeps, alder thickets, hemlock relict, and oak forest.

Hemlock relict is considered an ecological gem that is unique to this area and is considered an imperiled habitat worldwide. Hemlock trees 150 to 200 years old grow above the river, which is flanked by coniferclad sandstone cliffs, springs and seeps. Wilton Hemlocks is one of the Conservancy's best sites for early spring wildflowers, with the woodlands carpeted in pink spring beauties and false mermaid weed, and the wetlands with marsh marigold, swamp saxifrage, and skunk cabbage. The bird-life is exceptional and is within one of the "priority blocks" of the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas.

The Wilton Hemlocks property was generously donated to the Conservancy by Eric and Inese Epstein for education, research and multi-faceted opportunities for enjoyment of the natural world for future generations to enjoy.

#### Activities allowed

The property is open to the public for hiking, birdwatching, nature photography, fishing, canoeing, and snow-shoeing.

Activity NOT allowed

Hunting.



Please respect landowners near Conservancy tracts by observing property boundaries.

#### Interesting wildlife found at Wilton Hemlocks

Swamp saxifrage	Joe pye weed
🗌 Skunk cabbage	🗌 Manna grass
□ False mermaidweed	Nannyberry
Spring beauty	Hemlock
Showy orchis	Sandhill crane
Wild sarsaparilla	☐ Yellow-billed cuckoo
Blue cohosh	🗌 Louisiana
Yellow birch	waterthrush
Lake sedge	Swamp sparrow
☐ False rue anemone	Yellow warbler
Fragile fern	Warbling vireo







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#### PROPERTY MAP

# Wilton Hemlocks

Monroe County, Wisconsin









## Wilton Hemlocks 25690 Hwy 131, Wilton, WI

How to get there from Wilton: At the intersection of Main Street (CTH-M) and Hwy. 71, head south on Main Street. In one block turn right at Center Street. Go three blocks and turn left (south) onto WI-131 S (S Water St). Go approximately 1.25 mi and park along the road near the northwest corner of the property. Aerial Source: USDA 2015

# Key to Symbols Parking Tract boundary Road River

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