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A tour through the Jackson School Forest.

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A TOUR THROUGH THE

JACKSON SCHOOL FOREST

**Aerial View of the
JACKSON SCHOOL FOREST**

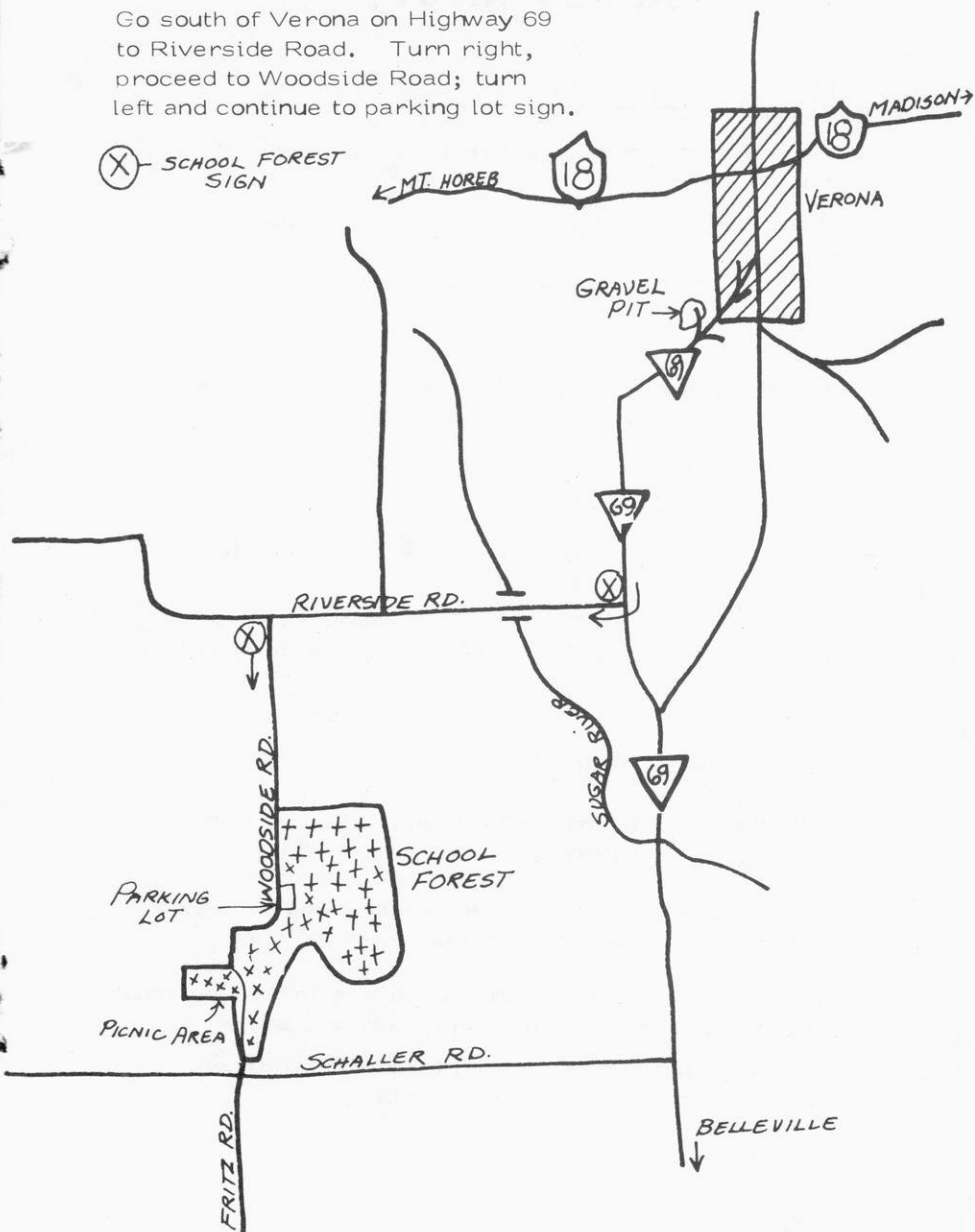
N



HOW TO GET TO THE SCHOOL FOREST

Go south of Verona on Highway 69 to Riverside Road. Turn right, proceed to Woodside Road; turn left and continue to parking lot sign.

(X) - SCHOOL FOREST SIGN



WHAT IS A TOUR THROUGH THE SCHOOL FOREST?

A. IT IS A LOOK AT AN "OAK COMMUNITY"

1. Oaks are the predominant trees. Four kinds of oaks can be seen:

white oak black oak bur oak red oak

2. Other trees often found with oaks are:

black cherry shagbark hickory

3. A dense shrub layer grows under oaks. Prominent among these shrubs are:

blackberry black and red raspberry
gray dogwood hazelnut

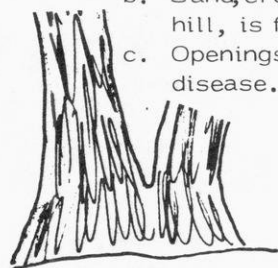
4. Many other plants grow under the trees and shrubs. Examples are:

tick trefoil	bedstraw	sweet cicely
hog peanut	wild geranium	false Solomon's seal
ferns	mosses	fungi

B. IT IS A LOOK BACK IN TIME

1. Effects of glaciation can be seen on the way to the Jackson School Forest.
2. Evidence of a colder climate is suggested by a few remaining plants now associated with the north.
3. Evidence that southern Wisconsin was an "oak opening" before the coming of the white man includes:
 - a. Open-grown trees among forest-grown trees.
 - b. Some remaining prairie plants.

4. Evidence of fire can be seen.
5. Effects of recent changes in the landscape are:
 - a. Weeds now are common in the parking lot and along the paths.
 - b. Sand, eroded from layers of sandstone higher on the hill, is found on the trail.
 - c. Openings have been made in the forest by wind and disease.



Double Trunk



Fire Scar

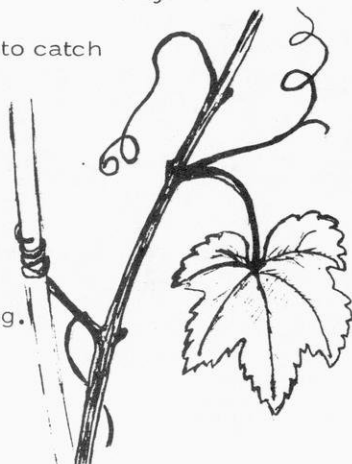
C. IT IS A LOOK FORWARD IN THE LIFE OF AN OAK FOREST

1. "Climax" forest trees are coming in:
maple elm basswood ironwood
2. The effect of these trees on the understory can be seen.

D. IT IS A LOOK AT HOW PLANTS ADAPT TO SPECIAL CONDITIONS

For example, plants adapt to shade by:

1. Having large leaves held horizontally to catch maximum sunlight.
2. Climbing or growing tall to obtain more light.
(Several vines are common.)
3. Moving about by growing runners.
4. Growing late in fall and early in spring.
5. Growing slowly.



E. IT IS AN INTRODUCTION TO PLANT IDENTIFICATION

1. Trees can be known by their bark, leaves, flowers, and seeds.
2. Plants can be identified by their leaves, flowers, and seeds.

F. IT IS A LOOK AT THE SOIL

1. The process of soil formation can be observed.
2. The effect of soil on plant life is evident. An example is the difference in size and species of plants in dry and moist areas.
3. The problem of soil erosion can be seen.

G. IT IS A LOOK FOR SIGNS OF WILDLIFE

1. Birds may be heard and seen at any time of year, but especially in the spring. Bird nests and woodpecker holes can be seen.
2. Few mammals are actually seen, but evidence of their presence can be found.
3. Insects and signs of insects can be found.

H. IT IS A LOOK AT THE PUZZLES AND SECRETS OF NATURE'S WAYS

1. How do trees and small plants, growing together, benefit each other?
2. Why do some plants have burs or stickers on their seeds?

3. Why do oaks and squirrels need each other?
 4. Why are dead trees important to woodpeckers and vice versa?
 5. Do galls on leaves hurt a tree?
 6. Who are the housecleaners in a forest?
 7. Is it true that moss grows only on the north side of a tree?
- I. IT IS A CHANCE TO LEARN ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF NATURAL AREAS AND HOW TO PROTECT THEM
- J. IT IS A LESSON IN SAFETY AND COURTESY IN THE OUTDOORS
- IT IS A PLEASANT WALK IN THE WOODS !





TOUR'S END!

Refer to the Forest Program Manual in your school IMC for information on:

1. Arranging tours and how to get there
2. Arranging school camping
3. Summer "Work-Learn" program
4. Teacher Institutes
5. Occasional family and informal use