



The Driftless Area is a unique unglaciated landscape. The land in this part of the state is ancient compared with 10,000 years of ice-free land in the rest of the state. Rare species are numerous owing to the diversity and quality of habitats.

**Driftless Area Important Natural Features—**  
 Large River Systems, Southern Forests, Prairie and Savanna, Springs, Cliffs and Talus Slopes, Relict Conifers, Bog Relicts, and Dendritic Landforms.

### Ecology & Significance

Wisconsin Responsibility – Mod High  
 Irreplaceable Features – Low  
 Diversity of Natural Features – Mod High  
 Rare Species – A Few  
 Conservation Concern Species – Mod High  
 Vulnerability to a Warming Climate – Mod Low  
 Conservation Status – Unknown

This site has promising conservation opportunities.

Large blocks of southern maple forest are quite rare in the Driftless Area. Even more special are places where patches of older trees reside. English Run Forest harbors these characteristics.

The forest lies on both side of English Run Creek. Spring seeps emanate from the steep hillsides and coalesce into the high quality stream. The forest growing on the land is diverse with many patches of trees that have been growing well over a century. Multiple valleys lying in nearly every direction provides plants and animals with warm ridges in spring and cool summer hide-outs.



Photo courtesy Wikipedia.com

### Flora and Fauna

Roadside bird surveys indicate an extremely high quality block of woods. Our most common bird species are very adaptable and can live in greatly modified woodland habitats. English Run Forest has territorial Cerulean, Hooded, Worm-eating, and Kentucky Warblers. These species are very sensitive to habitat alteration. They prefer large blocks of high quality forest with patches of older trees and understory thickets.



Photo courtesy Wikipedia.com

The same roadside views indicate and equally diverse plant community. Species such as wild ginger, great waterleaf, trilliums, and abundant ferns suggest an extremely high quality forest. These bird and plant species have a direct relationship with other species that indicate insects, herptiles, and mammals are equally diverse.

English Run Forest is one of only six large blocks of maple forest in entire Driftless Area with such high quality characteristics.

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