

## Clues Continued...

The water beneath creates a beautiful scene.  
Streams at Oak Hill are the park's most pristine.  
Just after crossing, walk around the right side—  
Between rocks and bridge, the treasure hides.

Make a stamp and return the box without being spied.  
Back onto the trail you must stealthily stride.  
You've found the treasure! We hope you had fun,  
But there's more to see—you're not really done.

When the trail splits ahead, be sure to go straight.  
For the remainder of Oak Hill Trail awaits.  
Pass crooked, thorny trees covered in lichen green.  
Keep your eyes to the right, you'll have to be keen.

Two stone blocks are what is sought.  
From Deep Lock Quarry, they may have been brought  
To be used for a structure from long ago.  
Now they're just a place for moss to grow.

At the next marker, go straight once more.  
From it walk 83 steps across the forest floor.  
Left is an incredibly large, old sassafras tree  
With holes in its trunk. Peek inside—what do you see?

Look in the back—see the grooves inside?  
Is that where carpenter ants used to hide?  
At the last trail marker, make sure to go right—  
Over bridge, through tunnel, and back into the light!

You're almost finished with your hike today.  
Before returning to your car to drive away,  
Take a last look at the farmland that nature's reclaimed.  
We hope you enjoyed your quest—so glad you came!



*This quest was written by Sharon Custer and Karen Wickiser,  
both teachers in the Cuyahoga Falls City School District.  
The map was created by volunteer Bill Kolosi.*

## How to Quest

Quest clues and maps—created by teachers, volunteers, and/or park staff—will help you discover the natural and cultural gems of the Ohio & Erie Canalway. At the end of each quest is a hidden treasure box. Sign your name in the logbook, stamp this page, and return the box to its hiding place.

**STAMP HERE**

**The questing season runs from  
April 15 through November 15.**

Notice a problem or have suggestions for improving this quest? Contact Arrye Rosser at 440-546-5992 or [arrye\\_rosser@nps.gov](mailto:arrye_rosser@nps.gov).

## About This Program

I'm Arrye Rosser, interpretive and education specialist at Cuyahoga Valley National Park. I'd like to thank everyone who helped fulfill my dream of bringing questing to Ohio. This project was made possible by the generous support of a 2010 Parks as Classrooms grant from the National Park Service and is a partnership between many organizations.

So far, more than 70 teachers, volunteers, and park staff have been involved in writing and field testing our initial series of Canalway Quests. Our plan is to create many more in the years ahead. If you would like to volunteer, contact me at 440-546-5992 or [arrye\\_rosser@nps.gov](mailto:arrye_rosser@nps.gov).

Special thanks to Emily Bryant and Steven Glazer.

The Ohio & Erie Canalway celebrates the rails, trails, landscapes, towns, and sites that grew up along the first 110 miles of the canal that helped Ohio and our nation grow.

**For more information and to get copies of other quests,  
visit [www.nps.gov/cuva](http://www.nps.gov/cuva) and search for keyword "questing."**



Sylvan Pond. ©D.J. REISER

## Canalway Quest



### A Quest for Who Lives Here

Search for living things along the easy  
Oak Hill Trail.

## Planning Ahead

This treasure hunt takes about 45 minutes. The unpaved trail is relatively flat. It can be muddy at times. Poison ivy is common along the edges. Drinking water, insect repellent, and walking shoes are recommended. You will need a pen or pencil to answer questions and sign the logbook. Some people prefer using their own signature stamp and ink pad or marker.

## Getting There

Start at Oak Hill Trailhead, 3901 Oak Hill Road, 1.3 miles south of Major Road, Peninsula, Ohio 44264.

## Clues

Oak Hill was once a 19th-century farm  
In a rural area with plenty of charm.  
Once part of John Gilson's home,  
Now a place where wildlife does roam.

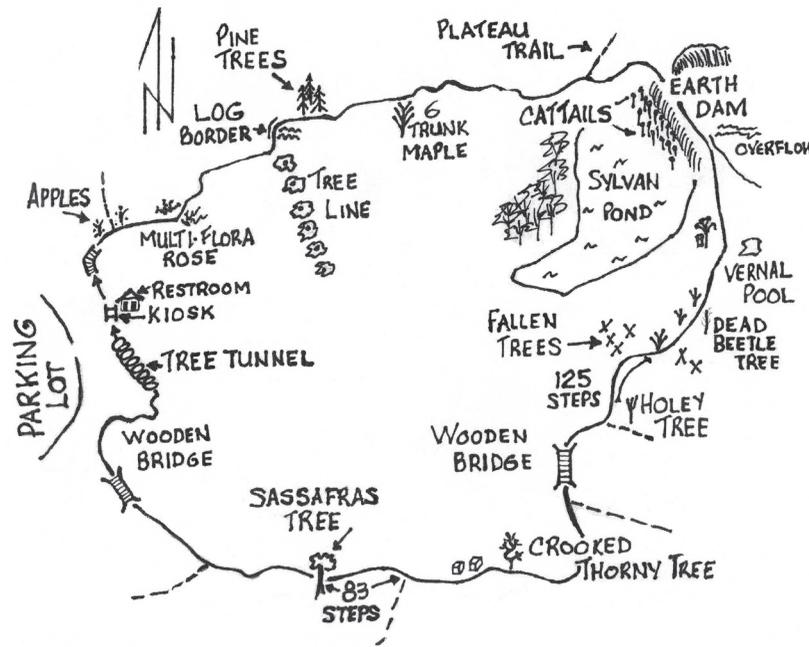
As you stand in the parking lot, survey  
Where many kinds of animals live today.  
In the bordering meadow, you may spy  
Sparrow, robin, vole, rabbit, or butterfly.

Read the kiosk display for more detail.  
Go left around the loop of Oak Hill Trail.  
Cross over the bridge; on the left you will see  
What once was an orchard of apple trees.

By the first apple trees, the path forms a Y.  
Right is the way you should definitely try.  
This is a transitional forest of trees needing sun.  
Taller species will move in; it's called succession.\*

*\*Succession is the natural process by which one plant community replaces another over time.*

Stop at the trail bend, for it shows  
The thorny invasive shrub, multiflora rose.  
Invasive means it came from another land,  
Chokes out native plants, and is quick to expand.



Ahead, with a log border left, at a rocky culvert\* spy  
A sight that may not have caught your eye.  
Turn right, log border at back, and see just fine  
A straight row of trees along an old fence line.

*\*A culvert is a pipe placed under a trail for water drainage.*

35 steps from the culvert, see where pine trees grow?  
These were planted, as you can tell—they're in a row.  
Can you figure out their age? Here's a simple way—  
Count layers of branches, a new one for each birthday.

Challenge: How old is the oldest pine you see? \_\_\_\_\_ years

White pines have gray bark from top to ground.  
Can you find a bundle of their needles lying around?  
Here's a cool trick! When five per bundle you sight,  
Remember this tree spells its name of W-H-I-T-E.

A red maple with six trunks is what you next seek.  
It stands just right of the path and is quite unique!  
Although nature can teach you many facts,  
Its sounds and beauty can also help you relax.

Challenge: Stand quietly and listen.

How many animal sounds can you hear? \_\_\_\_\_

At the next trail marker, bear to the right.  
There you will see SYLVAN POND—a lovely sight.  
Some birds line their nests with soft cattail fuzz.  
Cattails prefer pond edges where dragonflies buzz.

The dam you cross was made years ago.  
See the overflow stream left, far down below?  
Along the pond's border, do cattails quake?  
Look—it may be a frog, newt, or water snake!

Have you ever seen a vernal pool? Here's the plan—  
At the end of the dam, find the trash can.  
Walk 25 steps and look left; a tiny wetland is near.  
Spring is when amphibians come to breed here.

Ahead, two trees with three trunks are right of the trail.  
On the left, between them, is a dead tree so pale.  
Its wood has squiggly tracks of beetle larvae feeding.  
Walk 50 steps ahead, the landscape you're reading.

Stand next to a tree with trunks of four,  
A good spot to notice trees lying on the forest floor.  
Because of storms or humans—why did they fall down?  
Go 125 steps. On the left is your next sight; look around.

Peer into the forest far on the left to see  
Many holes up the trunk of a particular tree.  
Hungry woodpeckers made each hole.  
Catching insects under bark was their goal.

As you've been walking along the trail today,  
Have you seen any squirrels out to play?  
The noisy red squirrels in evergreens stay;  
Leafy trees are preferred by squirrels of gray.

Challenge: What color squirrels have you seen? \_\_\_\_\_

You will come across a trail intersection.  
Be sure to go straight—it's the right direction.  
Onto the wooden bridge you should go.  
Pause in the middle and look below.

