



Holston Hills Dogwood Trail

Welcome to the Holston Hills Dogwood Trail, in an area where native dogwood trees abound! To beautify the entrance to the Trail and busy Asheville Highway, many young specimen trees have been planted by the Garden Clubs of Holston Hills.

Follow the street markings on Chilhowee Drive to the top of a hill. Just beyond the crest the trail turns left onto East Sunset Drive that affords sweeping panoramic views of the Great Smoky Mountains. A swift descent and a sharp curve to the right lead to Marilyn Drive and Green Valley Road, to new homes, lush green lawns, and an Open Garden filled with rare and beautiful wildflowers.

For a short distance, the route parallels the Holston River with its lovely riverside homes and then climbs quickly on Crestwood Drive where a forest of wild dogwoods form a white background for colorful foreground plantings of azaleas.

When the trail turns right on Holston Hills Road, look left for a glimpse of Holston Hills Country Club. After two more right turns, the trail enters a curving valley that provides a woodland setting for attractive houses. It returns to Holston Hills Road (allowing a second glimpse of the clubhouse on the right) and turns left. Here many handsome residences overlook the Holston Hills Golf Course, which is famed for its excellence and difficulty.

Rounding a curve, the road arrives at a bluff overlooking the Holston River. One and a half miles downstream, the Holston and French Broad rivers join to form the mighty Tennessee River. This "confluence of waters" is 3 miles east of downtown Knoxville.

The trail descends to river level, turning left to reach Green Valley Road again. It angles right on wooded Shady Dell Trail, dips down to cross Chilhowee Drive, and continues uphill on the other side.

After veering right onto the top of a ridge and then turning left, the route meanders with a winding creek through a cove starred with wild white dogwoods. It turns sharply left, and zigzags upward to reach yet another overlook. Below in the foreground is the rolling green expanse of the Holston Hills Golf Course. Beyond it, the Holston River coils like a broad silver ribbon; behind the river are the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains and in the distance, the mountains themselves.

Coming down from this high point, the trail passes the Holston Hills Community Club's hillside park where dogwoods, azaleas, and flowering shrubs create a beauty spot. Here we invite you to "Stop and Stroll", or take a picture.

A final left turn onto broad Chilhowee Drive reveals gracious homes with well-established plantings; colorful rock gardens, drifts of violets, flowering crabapples, weeping cherries, and the ever-present dogwood.

The trail ends where Chilhowee Drive joins Asheville Highway. Turn left for downtown Knoxville; turn right to reach I-40.

We hope you have enjoyed the beauty of Holston Hills Dogwood Trail and we cordially invite you to see it in a different guise, on our night-lighted Trail. Please come back!