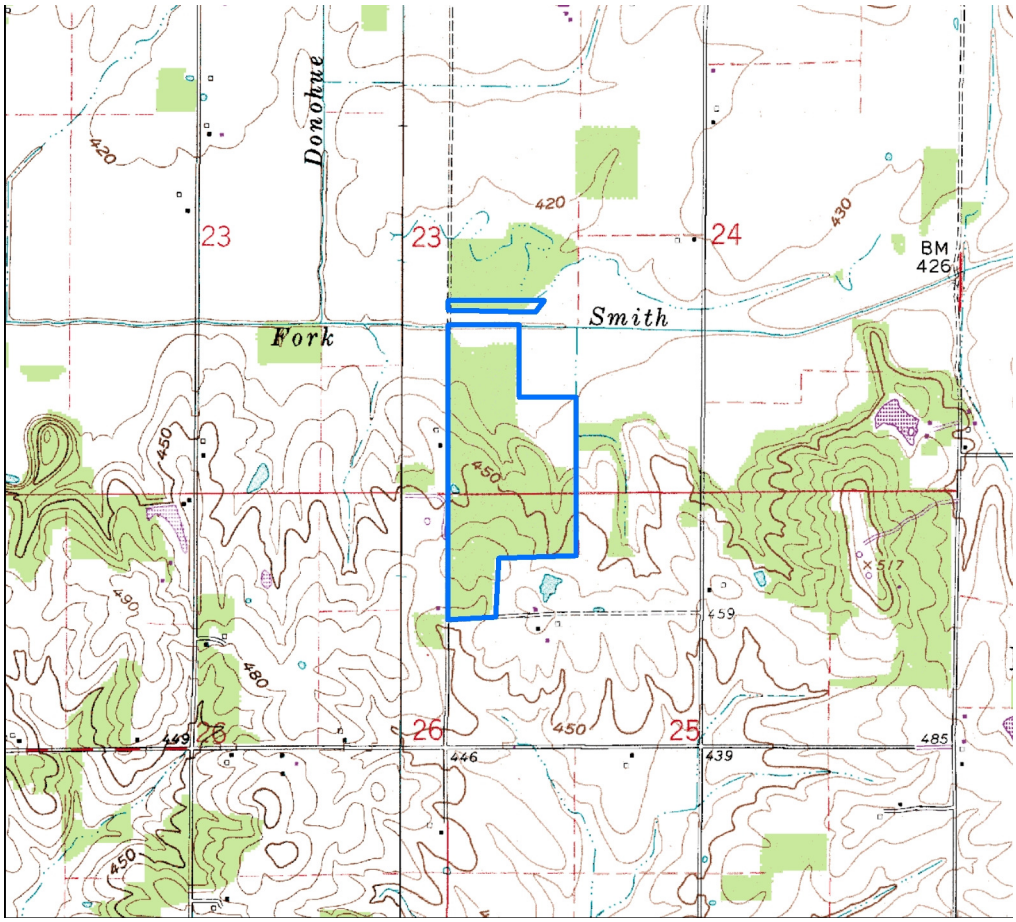
Hemmer Woods Nature Preserve

County: Gibson Size: 73 acres
Ownership: Nature Preserves - IDNR

Location and Access

Parking lot and trail. From Buckskin on S.R. 57 take Co. Rd. 900S about 2.5 mi. east to Co Rd. 1050E, the 4th intersection after the railroad tracks. Then go 0.5 mi. north to a marked parking lot. A self-guiding nature trail circles through the upland forest.



Description: This old-growth woods is a portion of the forest which originally covered southwestern Indiana. The larger upland section supports oak-hickory forest, with white oak and black oak as dominant trees. There are also large specimens of white ash, red oak, and sassafras, along with pignut, small-fruited and shagbark hickories. The bottomland has sweetgum, tulip, river birch, sycamore, wild black cherry, and mixed oaks. The strong southern influences on this woods are particularly evident in the bottomland area. Hemmer is one of the best examples of a woods with southern affinities in the preserve system. Because of the outstanding communities present here, the woods has been registered as a National Natural Landmark. Note: in June 1999 Hemmer Woods was hit with some straight-line winds which caused much damage.

Further Information:

Division of Nature Preserves. 402 W. Washington St., Rm W267. Indianapolis, IN 46204. 317-232-0209. www.in.gov/dnr/naturepr