Public Use Policy

This document outlines general permitted and prohibited public uses of The Nature Conservancy’s preserves in Iowa. The Nature Conservancy reserves the right to limit or prohibit any activity not listed in this document. The preserves are open to the public for non-consumptive uses and we encourage visitation that does not impact the integrity or conservation values of the site. This is not a comprehensive list; if you have questions, please consult western Iowa preserve staff at (712) 568-2596 or Eastern Iowa preserve staff at (319) 726-3041.

Preserve Visitation Rules

- No motorized vehicles
- No bicycles or other wheeled devices
- Wheelchairs or other mobility devices required by visitors with mobility disabilities are allowed. Contact preserve staff for more accessibility information.
- No trail cameras are allowed on Preserve property.
- No firearms are permitted on the Preserve.
- No target shooting; no paint ball or ‘war’ games
- No horses or other domestic animals, except assistance animals required by visitors with disabilities. Leashed dogs and under the direct control of the owner are permitted.
- No releasing of wildlife without permission
- No releasing of domestic animals
- No removal, harassment, or feeding of wildlife
- No seed collection without permission
- No collecting or consumption of plants, seeds of plants, animals, mushrooms, antlers, berries in whole or in part; no removal of any natural feature.
- No cutting fences, moving posts or gates, or cutting chains or locks
- Leave gates as you found them; open if found open or closed if found closed.
- Camping, smoking, and fires are prohibited on the Preserve
- No geocaching, earth caching, letterbox or similar activity without advance permission
- Academic research is encouraged. A TNC issued permit is required and may be acquired through consultation with Preserve staff.
- Use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs or “drones”) is prohibited on or over the preserve, unless by special permission of staff.
- Use of metal detectors is prohibited on the preserve.

TNC Iowa Preserves Public Use Policy, 2013; updated November 2018