

## THE VISION

The Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Gardens exists for the advancement of environmental education, recreation, and the appreciation of nature. It provides both a cultural center and a nature preserve for everyone in the community. The Overland Park Arboretum will continue to develop and evolve on its 300-acre site. Overland Park is investing in the future quality of life of its citizens by acquiring, preserving, and enhancing land for the conservation of natural resources, environmental education and botanical gardens.

## OUR FUTURE PLANS

Our 300 ecologically diverse acres currently house 30 acres of gardens and turf, 70 acres of prairie and 200 acres of wooded natural area. Our 2006 Master Plan has designs for an additional 22 acres of gardens, including 4 conservatories and a new visitor's center. If you would like to help us grow, please contact the Friends of the Arboretum.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Gardens is open seven days a week year round closing only in extremely inclement weather.

### Hours:

April 10 to October 31.....8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

November 1 to April 9.....8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Closed December 25

Admittance is free with the exception of fees for certain special events that are held at the Arboretum. Tours and educational field trips are available. Rental of the EEVC, pavilion and garden space can be arranged by calling Leisure Services at 913-895-6390.

## LOCATION

To reach the Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Gardens, take U.S. 69 to 179th Street; go west approximately 1/2 mile. The Arboretum is on the southwest corner of Antioch and 179th Street; enter off 179th. Antioch is not a through street from the north.



## LIKE TO VOLUNTEER?

Call the Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Gardens at 913-685-3604 for more information.



Overland Park Arboretum & Botanical Gardens  
179th & Antioch Road  
Overland Park, KS 66085

913.685.3604 • [opkansas.org](http://opkansas.org)

## OVERLAND PARK

# ARBORETUM & BOTANICAL GARDENS



## OUR FIRST GARDEN

In 1996, the Erickson Water Garden opened as the first of the Botanical Gardens' displays. This part of the meadow garden is home to bird and butterfly plants (including a Buddleia collection), wild-flowers and ornamental grasses. Relax on benches and enjoy the sound of water tumbling over falls in the background. Color peaks here in midsummer. The combination of color, water and our Garden Bell fills the senses.



## WOODLAND GARDENS



The Legacy Garden & Ailie's Glade includes shade plantings in a natural environment. Our grape bower offers a quiet spot to enjoy



the garden. Don't miss our spring show of dogwoods and redbuds and join us as we watch our Bald Cypress Grove develop. The waterfall and streamway provide action and serenity in one.

The Marder Woodland Garden features regional native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers, as well as some woodland hybrids, a variety of ferns near a koi pond, and impressive wood and stone arbors. The Marder Woodland Garden was dedicated in 1999.

179th & Antioch Road  
913.685.3604 • [www.opkansas.org](http://www.opkansas.org)

## EEVC



The Environmental Education/Visitors Center (EEVC) showcases innovative and practical environmental building features such as geothermal heating and cooling, passive solar and utilizes a radiant fireplace insert. It can be reserved for weddings, meetings and other social engagements.

## ARBORETUM

The Arboretum offers homeowners, landscapers and arborists an opportunity to view and evaluate a wide variety of hybrid trees and shrubs. Carefully selected for suitability to local soil and climate conditions, insect and disease resistance, and overall low maintenance requirements, the trees in this area offer visitors alternatives to currently over-planted and less desirable species. Trees, shrubs, flowerbeds, benches and other structures are opportunities for commemorative donations.

## MONET GARDEN

The Monet Garden captures the subtle blending of soft colors and shapes typical in the original Monet gardens. Trees, perennials, and



annuals surround ponds, creating a colorful palette that is delightful.



## XERISCAPE GARDEN

Xeriscape (zer-i-scape) gardens are based on key principals demonstrating that water-efficient landscaping can be not only practical and functional, but also visually pleasing. Plants are selected for and grouped by their water needs. A demonstration xeriscape garden is adjacent to the EEVC.

## CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY GARDEN

In this delightful garden feature, young visitors can climb to the top of the Sky Watch, and visit the inhabitants of the Frog Pond. Other features include a Story Tree, Shrinking Tunnel, and a Council Ring. The garden was dedicated in 2000.



## MILES OF TRAILS



Nearly five miles of paved and wood chip hiking trails wind their way through the Arboretum and across two 75-foot bridges that span Wolf Creek. A

major tributary of the Blue River, Wolf Creek bisects the Arboretum. Trails become more challenging along the limestone bluffs, which rise high above the creek's southern bank and continue on to our prairie restoration. A detailed trail map is available at the Visitors Center. For those less adventuresome, a half-mile asphalt "country road" trail is available for an easy saunter. Sidewalks extend from the parking area into all gardens and meet ADA standards for accessibility.

## SEASONAL SPLENDOR

Regardless of the time of year, the Arboretum offers unique and unexpected pleasures. In spring, wildflowers drape the hillsides in glorious displays of color; in summer, its recesses offer welcome respite from the heat. When the sumac and persimmon glow with fiery hues, fall takes on a glory all its own. Bundle up and explore the beauty of texture and contrast in the wintertime woods.

