

JOHN AND HESTER LANE CEDAR GLADES
CLASS II NATURAL-SCIENTIFIC STATE NATURAL AREA

COUNTY: Wilson

7.5' QUADRANGLE: Gladeville

PHYSIOGRAPHIC PROVINCE: Central Basin

OWNERSHIP: State of Tennessee

ACREAGE: 45

YEAR DESIGNATED: 2009

The John and Hester Lane Cedar Glades is a 45 acre natural area located in Wilson County within the Central Basin Physiographic Province. The natural area is near the Vine community and is located just west of Highway 231 approximately half way between the cities of Murfreesboro and Lebanon. It is also within close proximity of Cedars of Lebanon State Forest and State Natural Area. The natural area is a part of a farm previously owned by John and Hester Lane who sold the property to the State in 2008.

The natural area is picturesque and comprised mostly of open grassland with some patchy woodlands associated with cedar glades. The grassland was once grazed by livestock that kept woody species from invading and becoming forest. Because of past land use, there is a mix of non-native pasture (degraded barrens) and high quality habitat. The high quality habitat is comprised of cedar glades and barrens which supports two federally endangered species, the Tennessee coneflower (*Echinacea tennesseensis*) and the leafy prairie clover (*Dalea foliosa*) along with many other rare species.

The leafy prairie clover is located in the barrens along a seasonally wet wash that runs through the center of the natural area. This is one of the highest ranked populations of this rare species in the state. Tennessee coneflower number in the thousands on the property and occurs on the slightly higher gravel glades on each side of the wash. The coneflower population is one of the three largest known populations in the state. The abundance of both species makes this a highly ranked natural area.

In addition, there are at least seven other rare species that occur here that are state listed including: *Evolvulus nuttallianus*, Tennessee milk-vetch (*Astragalus tennesseensis*), Pope's sand parsley (*Ammoselinum popei*), pale umbrella-wort (*Mirabilis albida*), Missouri primrose (*Oenothera macrocarpa*), glade cleft phlox (*Phlox bifida ssp. stellaria*), and limestone fame-flower (*Talinum calcaricum*).

The karst topography, shallow soils, and exposed limestone found at the John and Hester Lane Cedar Glade are preferred habitat for these globally rare cedar glade and barrens plant communities. These site conditions, that support cedar glades and barrens, are found throughout this part of Middle Tennessee. Fortunately, many of these cedar glades and barrens are protected as state natural areas.

SITE MANAGEMENT: Natural Resources Division, 401 Church Street, 7th Floor L&C Annex, Nashville, TN 37243, phone (615) 532-0431

PUBLIC ACCESS: No public access has been developed

DIRECTIONS: Will be provided upon request. Click on the map link to view the natural area location.