

RADNOR LAKE TRAIL

Distance	11 miles from Vanderbilt
Directions	From Nashville, take I-65 south from I-440, and take Harding Place exit west to US Highway 31 (Franklin Road). Turn south on Franklin Road to the second traffic light, which is Otter Creek Road. Turn right onto Otter Creek Road; this leads you right through the middle of the park, starting approximately 1.5 miles from the exit. There is parking for the Lake Trail at both ends of Radnor Lake. One of these lots is at the visitor center. There are signs that will direct you to the trailhead.
Description	This trail is located within Radnor Lake State Natural Area. This natural area is in the Oak Hill area of Nashville, so urban dwellers frequent the park for quick nature fixes. The park is heavily used; regardless, it is highly praised by the people who visit it. The area has a long preservation history: from water sources to private hunting grounds and from a bird sanctuary to almost a construction site. Finally, in 1973, the park was purchased by the state. Since then it has been designated as a state natural area. This park offers free activities like bird walks and publishes a program schedule for the different activities. The total miles of the trails at Radnor is 5.6.
Hiking	Radnor Lake Trail follows around Radnor Lake. It is 1.7 miles long, with the access trail, and as the hiker goes through the forest, he/she can witness the wildlife species that exist because of the tall cherry, oak, and sycamore trees. In the spring, hikers and other visitors to the park can enjoy the dense wildflowers that cover the forest floor. Visitors will also enjoy the colors of leaves in the fall and the solitude of the trails during the winter months.
Cautions	Summers can be very hot but less so than the sun reflecting from hot pavement in the city.
For More Information	See pages 82-87 of Hiking Tennessee by Kelley Roark for more information about the natural area and the trail.