

Route

- Leave Symphony Woods and turn left onto sidewalk along Little Patuxent Parkway (LPP). Turn left onto sidewalk along Broken Land Parkway (BLP) continue to Hickory Ridge Road (HRR).
- Cross BLP and continue on sidewalk along HRR. Cross HRR at Martin Road and continue on sidewalk following crosswalk markings around the circle at Owen Brown Road to continue along Martin Road.
- Turn right on Audubon and continue to path on left across from Launcelot Lane. Pass tot lot HR 9, continue to Athol Marker.
- Turn left on path immediately after marker and continue to Quarterstaff Road. Turn left onto Quarterstaff Road and cross at pedestrian crossing. Continue on Quarterstaff Road. Turn right on Martin Road and follow sidewalk to crossing at bus stop. Turn left and pick up the path around Martin Road Park to Athol.
- Return to cross Martin Road at bus stop. Turn left to continue on Martin Road to Locust United Methodist Church and Graveyard.
- CAUTION THERE IS NO SIDEWALK OR SHOULDER ON CURVE. WATCH FOR CARS.
- Turn right onto Freetown Road to Grassroots. Continue and turn right on Fair Oaks. Turn left on Quarterstaff to Freetown, cross at crosswalk, turn right and then right on Cardinal Lane. Turn left onto sidewalk along Owen Brown Road. Continue to Cedar Lane.
- Cross Cedar Lane. Turn right, using sidewalk to Harmel Drive. Continue on Harmel to cul de sac and take path on the right.
- Follow path, pass tot lot HR 20, then left over bridge and then right. Stay on path, make first left after tot lot HR 19 and follow to LPP. Turn left on sidewalk and cross LPP at Dark Fire Way. Turn right on sidewalk and pick up path on the left.
- Follow path, make a right at the tee. Pass tot lot HR 17 and continue to LPP. Make left onto sidewalk, cross LPP intersection and continue to sculpture at The Greens.
- Continue to path on left after Peartree Way. Make right at 4-way intersection and right at next intersection, follow to Swansfield Road. Cross Swansfield Road and continue on path. Pass tot lot HC 17 follow path to Swansfield Elementary School. Turn right on Rock Coast Road. Turn right and use pedestrian bridge to cross Cedar Lane. Pick up path at Swansfield pool.
- Follow past pool, turning left before the townhouses. Follow path to Harper's Farm Road. Turn right using sidewalk along Harper's Farm to crosswalk at Eliot's Oak Road. Turn right on path and follow main path to Faulkner Ridge Circle and Mushroom Rock. Turn left onto path and follow path along stream to Wilde Lake.
- Continue on path, crossing bridge and follow around lake to West Running Brook and LPP. Cross LPP. Turn right onto path to Town Center. Go through the plaza, pass General Growth Properties building and make right on path to LPP at Library. Continue on LPP sidewalk to Symphony Woods.

May 2, 2009

- **Athol Marker** This stone marked the original land grant of Reverend James Macgill. He settled in the region to serve as rector of the Queen Caroline Parish Church which became Christ Episcopal Church on Oakland Mills Road. Macgill named his land Athol after his ancestral home in Scotland. The marker is inscribed on four sides reading "Athol Begins Here 1730".
- **Athol** Macgill built a home for his family not far from the marker. The house, built with local timber and quarried stones, has stood the test of time. The house has seen additions and renovations throughout the centuries of caring private ownership.
- **Locust United Methodist Church** The current church building was constructed in 1951 but the history of the church goes back 140 years. Locust Chapel was built in 1869 on a one-half acre lot. Over the years, additional land was acquired and the original building was moved to the Grove to make way for the larger building. The cemetery behind the church was established by Robert and Ellen Williams, members of one of the oldest Locust families.
- **Grassroots** In 1969, a group of community residents, professionals, and students joined together to address the growing problem of drug abuse among young people in the new community. The organization has a long history of service to the community. The newly-expanded Grassroots Crisis Intervention is an emergency and transitional shelter, a 24-hour phone and walk-in crisis center and an educational resource.
- **Untitled Sculpture at The Greens** The sculpture was placed at The Greens in 1985 by The Berkshire Corporation, the developer of the apartment complex. They commissioned Don Shepherd to create a piece to evoke the feeling of family to relate to Columbia's goal to be a place for people. Shepherd said the piece "reflects that timeless quality, the connection with the past and love and innocence" and acknowledges the inspiration of monolithic structures such as Stonehenge.
- **Mushroom Rock** This naturally formed "sculpture" was reportedly found in the woods off Oakland Mills Road and moved to this location in the village of Wilde Lake in the beginning days of Columbia development. The stone is weathered Guilford granite and estimated to be 500 million years old.
- **What is a Watershed?** A watershed is the land region draining into a stream, river or body of water. There are 20 sub-watersheds in the Columbia area. The main two watersheds are the Little and Middle Patuxent rivers. Columbia Association is developing the Columbia Watershed Management Plan with the objective of protecting and restoring the waters of Columbia.
- **Wild Wilde Lake** Thanks to photographer Michael Oberman we know that over 50 species of wildlife have visited Wilde Lake. From the common Mallard, Canada Goose and Great Blue Heron to the elusive Baltimore Oriole and Bald Eagle, Wilde Lake is indeed wild.
- **The Rouse Headquarters Building** Designed by Frank Gehry in 1974 as headquarters for The Rouse Company, the building is Columbia's most architecturally significant building, notable because of its now famous architect and the significance of The Rouse Company to the development of Columbia.

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