



Pitcher Plant

Cranberry Glades Botanical Area Gauley Ranger District Monongahela National Forest

[D.] There are many kinds of grasses and sedges around the edges of the bogs. In late summer, the soft tufts of cotton grass give a white speckled appearance to the area.

[E.] Look for skunk cabbage in the Alder Thicket. It pushes its pointed brown and green flower up through the snow as early as February; its large "elephant ear" leaves appear in summer. If you happen to notice a funny smell, you will know how skunk cabbage got its name.



Skunk Cabbage

[C.] Also in Round Glade, look for the tiny vine of the cranberry plant which grows in the sphagnum moss. The leaves are no bigger than an eighth of an inch and the flowers, when in bloom, require a keen eye and close observation to see.

[B.] In Round Glade, you can look closely at the bog floor. Sphagnum moss covers the floor while dead and decaying moss, called peat, extends beneath the surface several feet. These layers of moss and peat gives the area its "sponginess."



[A.] As you first walk through the bog forest, notice the wetness of the forest floor. Red spruce, hemlock, and yellow birch grow here. These trees have the shallow roots needed to survive in this wet area.

[F.] On the left side of the boardwalk, you might notice a tree that has fallen over. The shallow roots so necessary for survival here, do not adequately anchor trees against strong winds. Thus, the very adaptation which allows these trees to live here, can also result in death.

[G.] Orchids grow in Flag Glade. Both the Rose Pogonia, also called the snake-mouth orchid, and the grass-pink orchid can be seen here in late June and early July.

[H.] The tiny sundew, a carnivorous plant, can be seen on the left side of the walk in Flag Glade. You must look closely though, as its leaves are smaller than a fingernail.



Sundew

[I.] This portion of the walk is most colorful in middle and late summer. Watch for the bright red of oswego tea or the yellow and orange splashes of jewelweed.



Cinnamon Fern "fiddle-heads"



Oswego tea

[J.] On the left side of the walk, look for some trees all standing in a row. Do you see what happened? They began growing from seeds that fell onto a log. The survival of trees on the "nurse log" was better than on the surrounding wet ground because of the higher, drier conditions.



Rhododendron



Legend

- Interpretive Sign
- Rest Room Facility
- Boardwalk Trail
- Accessible Trail
- Parking Area
- Yew Creek

0.025 0.0125 0 0.025 Miles

Disclaimer: Original data were compiled from multiple source data and may not meet the U.S. National Mapping Accuracy Standards of the Office of Management and Budget. This map has no warranties to its content or accuracy. Produced during November 2005.

South Fork Gate (1 mile)

Highway 39/150 (1 mile)