



*Friends of Dragon Run*  
*PO Box 882, Gloucester, VA 23061*

## **The MASCOT TRAIL GUIDE**

The Mascot Trail (MT) is a dry, easy, level, loop-trail located on FODR property near Mascot, Virginia, where Dragon Run crosses Route 603 (Farley Park Road/New Dragon Bridge Road). About 1/3 mile long, it has unrestricted access, and, generally, a clearly-defined footpath that begins at the metal guard rail on the streamside edge of the grassy parking lot where Dragon Run crosses Route 603.

The MT proceeds from that guard rail down the bank to the Dragon, then swings to the right and follows the high ground along the Dragon for some 200 yards. Two benches in this area overlook the Dragon. The MT then swings again to the right and away from the Dragon as it circles back to the far end of the grassy parking lot.

An offshoot path, going to the right near the beginning of the MT, leads 75 feet back to a kiosk that describes ecology of the Dragon and provides an alternate 50-yard long route back to the main trail. A series of wooden posts, identifies flora along the Trail. The MT is also Site 3 on the Mattaponi Loop of the Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail.

### **Table 1. Sequential List of Floral Posts on the Left (L) and Right (R) Sides of the Mascot Trail**

**START: GUARD-RAIL AT DRAGON RUN END OF GRASSY PARKING LOT.**

**END: FAR END OF GRASSY PARKING LOT.**

1) American Sycamore, Platanus occidentalis R

2) Overcup Oak, Quercus lyrata L

3) River Birch, Betula nigra R

4) Bald-cypress, Taxodium distichum L

5) American Beech, Fagus grandifolia L

**TURN RIGHT ON CENTRAL PATH TOWARDS KIOSK**

6) American Hornbeam, Carpinus caroliniana L

**JUST BEFORE KIOSK TURN LEFT ON CENTRAL PATH**

7) Loblolly Pine, Pinus taeda R

8) Sweetgum, Liquidambar styraciflua R

**RETURN TO KIOSK AND THE MAIN TRAIL**

9) Red Maple, Acer rubrum L

10) Water Oak, Quercus nigra L

- 11) American Holly, Ilex opaca L
- 12) Green Ash, Fraxinus pennsylvanica R
- 13) Pale Hickory , Carya pallida L
- 14) Swamp Chestnut Oak, Quercus michauxii L
- 15) Sassafras, Sassafras albidum R
- 16) Hackberry, Celtis occidentalis R
- 17) Tuliptree, Liriodendron tulipifera L -- 15' off trail
- 18) Black Walnut, Juglans nigra L -- 15' off trail
- 19) Northern Red Oak, Quercus rubra L -- 20' off trail
- 20) Willow Oak, Quercus phellos L
- 21) Virginia Pine, Pinus virginiana R
- 22) Running Cedar, Diphasiastrum digitatum R
- 23) Grape, Vitis sp. L
- 24) Pawpaw, Asimina triloba L
- 25) Coralberry, Symphoricarpos orbiculatus L
- 26) Black Oak, Quercus velutina L
- 27) Redbud, Cercis canadensis L
- 28) Flowering Dogwood, Cornus florida R
- 29) Eastern Red Cedar, Juniperus virginiana L
- 30) Persimmon, Diospyros virginiana R
- 31) American Elm, Ulmus americana R
- 32) Black Cherry, Prunus serotina R
- 33) Black Willow, Salix nigra R