

## Green Valley Community Park

<http://www.greenvalleypark.org/>

**Location:** 3896 Big Hill Rd, Todd, NC 28684; two entrances to the park approximately 0.1 mi apart, the first one at river level and the next one at the picnic shelter above the playing fields (GPS 36.2892421,-81.6070756)

### **Species of Interest**

#### **Spring**

Wood Duck

American Black Duck

Hooded Merganser

Red-breasted Merganser

#### **Summer**

Spotted Sandpiper

Willow Flycatcher

Barn Swallow

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

Tree Swallow

Cedar Waxwing

Tennessee Warbler

Yellow Warbler

Indigo Bunting

Chipping Sparrow

Field Sparrow

Song Sparrow

Baltimore Oriole

#### **Fall**

Common Nighthawk

Chimney Swift

Tennessee Warbler

#### **Winter**

Swamp Sparrow

White-throated Sparrow

**eBird Bar Chart:** <https://ebird.org/barchart?r=L3349012&yr=all&m=>

**Habitats:** early successional, river/stream, bog/wetlands, playing fields

**Access & Parking:** open daily from dawn to dusk

**Parking:** ample unpaved parking both above the picnic shelter and at river level

**Drinking water:** not available

**Restrooms:** open May through October near the picnic shelter

**Accessibility:** parking and trail accessibility at river level entrance; accessibility for picnic shelter and restrooms by prior arrangement with park

## **Site Description**

**Property ownership:** non-profit Green Valley Community Park organization

**Trails:** two approximately 0.25 mile loop trails in the 19-acre park which includes a large stretch of New River frontage, open fields, brushy borders and wetland features; the paved Clawson Trail circles the playing field, passing a willow thicket on one side; the Blackburn Trail winds along the riparian border, through hawthorn thicket and early successional areas that are good habitat for migrating and breeding sparrows

**Trail surface and elevation gain:** trails are mostly unpaved with the exception of the 0.25 mile Clawson Trail which circles the playing field; the playing field and loop trails are at river level; bathroom and picnic tables are at the upper parking lot;

**Likely spots for species of interest:** Indigo Bunting, Field Sparrow, and other early successional species along edges of park near agricultural lands; during fall migration, large numbers of Common Nighthawks, Chimney Swifts, migrant sparrows, Indigo Buntings, and others; warblers and Acadian Flycatchers near the river on Big Hill Rd. going north from the park toward Todd

## **Special Considerations**

**Hunting:** not allowed

**Need for boots/waterproof footwear:** waterproof footwear on some paths if the weather has been wet

**Directions:** From the New Market Shopping Center in Boone, take NC 194 north for 5.2 miles. Turn right on Big Hill Rd.(SR 1350) and follow it for 3.6 miles to the Park entrance on the right. **NOTE:** Be sure to stay on Big Hill Rd. which makes several turns, including a left turn at a stop sign after 2.5 miles where it changes to SR 1347. (36.2892421,-81.6070756)