

Fill out and submit the form below to finish your application to designate a Certified Nature Therapy Space.

The information you provide is used by our expert review panel to make a decision on whether the space qualifies as a Certified Nature Therapy Space as defined by the Nature Therapy Center.

Please answer all fields completely, concisely, and honestly. The survey helps us to understand your space and how visitors might engage with it. Please do not worry that selecting a certain option will automatically “disqualify” your space as ineligible, as our panel considers the gestalt of your space, rather than any single metric.

Our holistic approach allows us to recognize more traditional as well as unconventional nature therapy settings. We emphasize and celebrate the unique attributes of each nature space. At core, our panel asks, “Does this setting encourage being present with nature?” *We look forward to learning about your nature space!*

Your Contact Information

Your name

Your email

Mailing address (for certificate)



NATURAL WELLNESS
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Space Basics

Name of the nature space

Name of person or entity in ownership of the space

Physical address (where the nature space is located)

How would you classify the space?

- Local park
 Regional park
 Preserve
 Garden
 Sanctuary/Refuge
 Trail
 Farm/Ranch
 Retreat/Resort
 Shrine/Labyrinth
 Play space
 Sit spot

Some spaces might not fit exactly into one of these classifications, while others could fall under multiple classifications. Select the one that fits best. There is a narrative section later where you can expand on your space.

How many acres is the space (approximately)?

For a sit spot, you can enter 0.

How many miles of paths/trails does space include (approximately)?

For spaces (such as sit spots) that do not incorporate a significant walking component, you can enter 0. If more than 10, you can indicate >10 if exact mileage is not known.

Generally speaking, is the space open to the public?

- Public
 Private

Generally speaking, when is the space open to guests?

- Always open
 Defined hours
 By appointment
 Private use only

Major Features & Attractions

What major ecosystems and/or nature features can be seen at the space? (Select all that apply.)

- Forest/Woods
 Grassland/Meadow/Field/Savanna
 River/Stream
 Lake/Pond
 Wetland/Swamp/Marsh
 Shrubland/Scrub/Bush
 Desert/Tundra
 Rocks/Boulders
 Hills/Mountains
 Estuary/Sea/Ocean
 Farm/Garden/Sanctuary

Does the nature space have any of these types of flora and fauna? (Select all that apply.)

- Natural vegetation
 Exotic vegetation
 Crops or horticultural goods
 Large shade trees
 Wildlife
 Farm, therapy or rescue animals

Please provide a brief description of the nature space.

What do visitors remember or talk about first when they think about this place?

Tours & Amenities

By what means does the space facilitate exploration? (Select all that apply.)

- Unstructured, self-guided experiences/tours
- Semi-structured, self-guided (via signage or other instructional material) experiences/tours
- Guided experiences/tours or activities

How does this setup, combined with the features of the space, encourage presence and connection with nature?

How is competence verified for guides, trail designers and/or other staff responsible for leading guests and/or overseeing experience elements that facilitate human-nature connection?

- Practical experience
- In-house training
- Independent professional certification
- Postsecondary education
- Not applicable

Does the space have any of these amenities? (Select all that apply.)

- Maintained, unpaved trail/path
- Paved trail/path
- Sit spot
- Pavilion or other shelter
- Picnic area
- Boardwalk
- Museum or visitor's center
- Viewing area
- Bathroom
- Wading/swimming
- Planned activities
- Children's area

How are facilities/amenities/trails maintained and/or improved?

- Maintenance schedule in place
- Repairs performed as issues are discovered
- Responsive to visitor reports
- Proactive upgrade/improvements plan in place
- None or not applicable

Accessibility

What is the difficulty of paths/trails available at the space? (For spaces with multiple paths/trails, select all that apply.)

- Very easy: short walking distances over curated paths on even terrain with plentiful shade options, such as within a garden or arboretum
- Easy: well-maintained trails characterized by even terrain, gentle slopes, and short distances, usually a few miles or less
- Moderate: well-maintained trails with steady inclines; uncomfortable for unconditioned hikers
- Difficult: hikers must have conditioning and experience; characterized by long distances, steep or rough segments, poorly defined trails or off-trail sections, and/or presence of obstacles
- Strenuous: long trails characterized by large elevation gains and steep inclines, often over difficult/exposed terrain with rough footing and/or rock scrambles

Does the space include any wheelchair-friendly areas?

- Yes No

What shade conditions typify the space?

- Indoors/Covered (little exposure to direct sunlight) Plentiful shade trees
- Some shade structures available (e.g., pavilions, some trees)
- Mostly exposed to direct sunlight, with little to no shade available

Are there any special safety considerations guests should be aware of at this space?

Examples include venomous snakes, farm equipment, significant tripping hazards, sheer drop-offs, etc.

Visuals

Uploaded files may be .gif, .png, .jpg, .jpeg, .doc, .docx, or .pdf files up to 20 MB in size.

Please upload one photo (or collage) that best visually represents a scene from the nature space.

No file chosen

Please provide a link to 5- to 15-minute walkthrough video demonstrating highlights of the nature space.

Upload the video to a sharing service, such as Google Drive or YouTube, then provide the link above. Please ensure that your sharing/privacy settings for the video will allow us to see the file.

Please upload a map of the space (use a screenshot from Google Maps if needed).

No file chosen

Miscellaneous

If your space is successfully certified, do you want it to be featured in a public blog post on the Academy's website?

Yes No

I verify that I have the authority to sponsor this space for certification. I also agree to the Academy's terms of service.

Yes

Submission

Please review your application to ensure accuracy and that all fields are completed. When you are ready, click the button below to submit your application to the review panel. After submission, an initial recommendation will be provided by the panel within 30 days. In that time, we will contact you if additional information or clarification is needed. For questions, email cortney@naturalwellnessacademy.org.