

Bendix Woods County Park

Bendix Woods is located west of South Bend on State Road 2 and is the former test-grounds for the Studebaker Corporation. One hundred and seventy five acres were donated to the Park Department in 1966 and another fifteen acres were purchased in 1969. The park now covers 195 acres and contains a twenty-seven acre nature preserve, extensive picnic facilities, over five miles of hiking trails, a nature center, sugar camp, fishing ponds and sledding hill. The second highest point in the county is found here. A six-mile mountain bike trail was completed in 2013.

The pine trees planted to spell "STUDEBAKER" in the 1930s grow here and are listed in the Guinness Book of Records and the National Historic Register. The sign now includes about 2,000 trees.

The 75th anniversary of the sign is being marked with a restoration, which includes removing dead trees and clearing thick underbrush.

This park is the site of the popular Sugar Camp Days festival and many interpretive programs for schools.

