Lake and Hills President's Project 2026 - 2027

Bryson Children's Nature Walk

The Bryson Children's Nature Walk is a 63acre site that was donated to the town of Six Mile. In 2023 it was officially made a Conservation Easement with the Land Trust Non-Profit, Upstate Forever. Upstate Forever manages and monitors the site for compliance with the Conservation Easement.

No money for this project comes from the town of Six Mile, but improvements rely on donations and grants. Many building suppliers have donated and Upstate Trees have planted several trees along the area that will be the main entrance.

In the past few months, a walking trail has been cleared and marked with signs created by Dennis Chastain, a naturalist, who has identified many native plants. The trails have several benches to rest and there is a handicapped accessible viewing platform at the pond. An outdoor learning center has been constructed in the garden area. The garden center has 12 in ground planting beds and 12 raised beds that children can reserve for the season. Clemson University extension has helped with planning the garden area. Water lines have been added from the street with hoses to water the gardens. A picnic area has been added, and plans are to expand this feature.

Clemson University Extension plans work with Upstate Forever to remove the invasive plants in the front field and plant wildflowers. Plans also include a roadway to the site with the help of State of South Carolina grants. Other needs are improvements to the garden area, construction of a well structure and hanging an antique bell near the garden center. Maintenance of the trails is another need. Gates also need to be added to keep motorized vehicles off the one and a half trails on the property.

Our project is to support the Bryson Children's Nature Walk with a financial donation. We will also give assistance with projects needed at the gardens by communication with James Atkinson, Mayor of Six Mile.

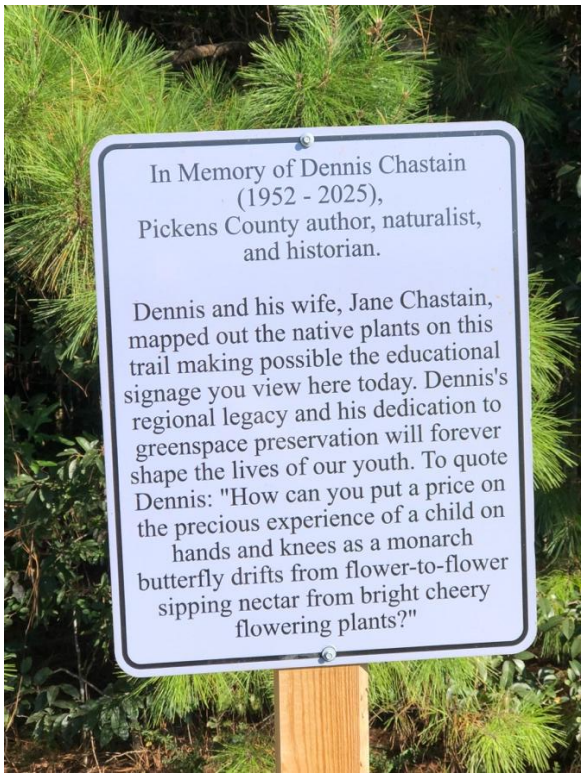


*Figure 1 Dennis Chastain Memorial*

*Figure 2 Main Trailhead with resting bench*

*Figure 3 Environmentally-friendly parking lot*

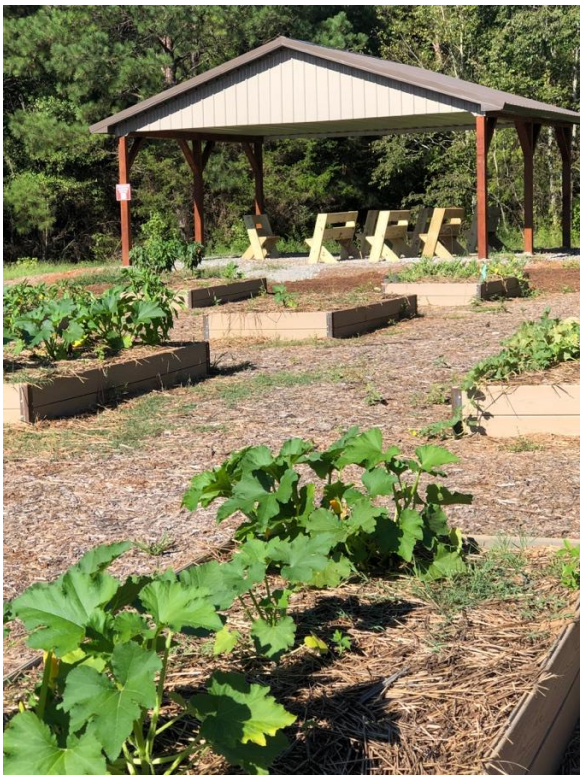

*Figure 4 Education building and garden beds*

*Figure 5 Future wildflower field*

*Figure 6 Picnic area*

*Figure 7 Mayor James Atkinson, Six Mile mayor, with Margaret Schmidt*

*Figure 8 Native plant trail markers*