



KU Field Station Baldwin Woods area

Prior to Euro-American settlement, the **Baldwin Woods** area encompassed about 3,700 acres of closed forest and open savanna. However, development of rural areas for agriculture and, in recent years, for suburban housing has greatly reduced the extent of native woodland. In 1980, the entire Baldwin Woods area was designated as a National Natural Landmark. The KU Field Station preserves a portion of the Baldwin Woods ecosystem in perpetuity. Scientific studies within the area are done with as little disturbance as possible so as not to damage the sensitive ecosystem.



The Baldwin Woods area of the Field Station, north of Baldwin City in Douglas County, Kansas, is used for teaching field botany and other KU courses. It has a primitive trail and limited parking.

The Field Station's Baldwin Woods area includes three tracts. The 90-acre **Breidenthal Biological Reserve** consists primarily of relatively undisturbed eastern deciduous forest, although there are remnants of savanna habitats. A small headwater stream, a tributary of Coal Creek (Wakarusa River drainage), flows through the forest. The 80-acre **Rice Woodland** is relatively undisturbed eastern deciduous forest. Thirty-one species of trees and 21 species of shrubs and vines were recorded on the tract in a 1963 study – remarkably high species richness for native forests in the central U.S. The 32-acre **Roy and Eleanor Wall Woods** is high quality woodland.

For more information about the Baldwin Woods area of the KU Field Station, or to provide financial support through the Friends of the KU Field Station, visit our website or contact Scott Campbell, Kansas Biological Survey Associate Director for Outreach and Public Service, swcamp@ku.edu, or 785-864-1502.



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