Here are just a few of the bird species you may see on the trail.

**Male Northern Cardinals** are brilliant red all over, with a reddish bill and black face immediately around the bill. These birds generally feed near the ground.

**Northern Mockingbirds** are overall gray-brown, paler on the breast and belly, with two white wing bars on each wing.

**Male Eastern Bluebirds** are vivid, deep blue above and rusty or brick-red on the throat and breast. Females are grayish above with bluish wings and tail, and a subdued orange-brown breast.

A warbler with a truly appropriate name, the **Pine Warbler** is a characteristic bird of eastern pine woodlands. It is rarely found in deciduous vegetation except during migration.

**The Wood Duck** male has a bright red bill and eye, as well as a variety of white accent marks, punctuate this bird’s dramatic plumage.

**The Swamp Sparrow** has rich reddish brown wings and crown along with a white throat and belly. This bird feeds on the ground and often in shallow water.

**Red Winged Blackbird** males are easily distinguished by a red shoulder patch bordered by yellow. While the females are brown streaked.

**Great Blue Herons** appear blue-gray from a distance, with a wide black stripe over the eye. Hunting Great Blue Herons wade slowly or stand statue-like, stalking fish and other prey in shallow water or open fields.

**Summer Tanager**
If you are looking for a challenging and adventurous walking experience, then the Alligator Creek/Beaver Lodge Birding Trail is for you. The trail is also recognized as a part of the Piedmont Plateau Birding Trail. This trail is roughly 3 miles long and takes about an hour to walk. With its turns and inclines, the trail offers an intermediate workout while you enjoy the scenery of the forest and the sounds of the many songbirds, animals, and insects. What makes this trail so unique is that you have the chance to observe three different habitats, a wetland area, an upland pine forest and an upland hardwood forest. A few bird species you may encounter on your walk are listed on the back of this brochure. When you finish walking the trail we invite you to continue your visit by taking advantage of our day use and campground areas in which you can go swimming, picnicking, boating, bird watching, and camping. Also our Visitor Center at the Project office is open to the public Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm eastern time. After walking the trail we hope that you feel re-energized and relaxed. Please share your experience with others.