The Spirit of Bernheim

I am
  the heat of summer
    the chance to disconnect
       unending reflection

I am
  the roots covered in moss
    the glow of the full moon
       the bobwhite quail chicks, all in a row

I am
  standing in the glade on a hot summer day
    at Golden Eagle Ridge
       feeling alive

I am
  the healing waters of Wilson Creek
    the Spring flow of Rock Run
       the lush green forest banks

I am
  the dogwood blooming
    the Whip-Poor-Will call
       the sacred instruments of winter

I am
  curiosity
    gratitude
       a sense of peace

I am
  standing on top of the knobs
    looking out over the forest
       feeling everything is right with the world

I am
  a place to feel free
    intricate systems
       the bigger picture
I am tranquil beauty
    a generous spirit
    the go-to happy place

I am laughter
    climbing a tree
    scuttling crayfish

I am the lens of nature
    the A-ha! moment
    insights gleaned

I am the opportunity to be inspired
    the intersection of art, nature and science
    seasonal change

I am a gathering space for wild ideas
    experimental
    thoughtful

I am the stretch of boundaries
    the needle gently moving
    the gift of nature’s elegance

I am a storied landscape
    a place of respite in troubled times
    a space to be

I am the meadow opening up
    a great-grandfather’s dream
    a land and a legacy

I am
the depth of the forest
   wilderness
   land for the masses

I am
   freedom of creativity
      the license to explore without boundaries
      memories of family fun

I am
   the citric smell of walnuts when they fall
      the shaky climb to the top of the Fire Tower
      the rewarding view

I am
   spring flowers poking leaf or stem above the earth
      a sense of hope and fascination
      sitting under the weeping beech tree

I am
   a feeling of being transported to a new world
      hidden treasures waiting for curious people
      discovery - the only constant

I am
   restoration
      interconnection
      the greatest blessing

I am
   the open book
      the careful librarian
      earth’s wisdom.

Written in collaboration with the people of Bernheim
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