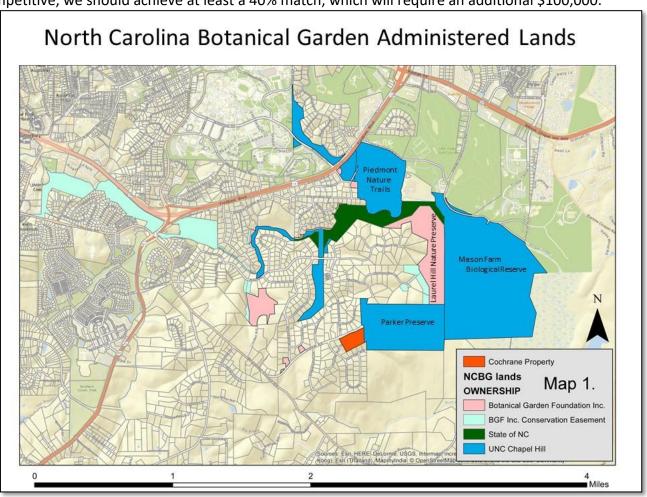
## **Forest Conservation Opportunity**

The Cochrane property is 12.8 acres of mature forest, to the south side of the gravel portion of Parker Road in Chapel Hill, which is for sale at \$725,000. The site is ecologically important because of its natural value—ranked "exceptional" by the NC Natural Heritage Program for its biological diversity importance—and because it is contiguous with established North Carolina Botanical Garden and Botanical Garden Foundation nature preserves. In addition to its intrinsic natural value, the Cochrane property provides opportunities for the public to enjoy these natural areas.

The Botanical Garden Foundation, Inc. (BGF)—the non-profit support organization and land trust of the North Carolina Botanical Garden—has applied for funding from the NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF), which contributes to conservation land purchases. The BGF paid \$12,000 to secure an Option to Purchase the Cochrane property (and will be lost if not successful). If we are successful, the property will be added to the existing nature preserve system and receive permanent conservation protection.

Successful CWMTF proposals require a substantial cash match, and we currently have 26%. Contributions thus far include Orange County (\$100,000), Town of Chapel Hill (\$50,000), and the BGF (\$40,000). To be competitive, we should achieve at least a 40% match, which will require an additional \$100,000.



Please visit the Cochrane property to see for yourself its "exceptional" natural value. Feel free to contact Johnny Randall — <u>jrandall@unc.edu</u>, 919-923-0100 — for more information.

Thank you for your pledge toward Cochrane property conservation by completing the accompanying Commitment Form.