

HISTORY

The origin of the name "Six Nations" is lost in time. Two possible sources are the six nations of the Iroquois Confederacy or the homelands of the original European settlers.

Beginning in the 1930s, the people of New York State purchased these lands for timber production, watershed protection, recreational use and wildlife habitat. During that decade, the area was the site of many work projects per-

formed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC).

The Franklin D. Roosevelt administration established the CCC to provide employment opportunities during the Great Depression. Conservation projects

completed at this location include construction of roads and planting of thousands of pine and spruce trees. Remnants of a CCC camp remain on CR 22

(Pine Creek Road). In 1941, the CCC built the Sugar Hill Fire Tower, which was used until the mid-1980s when aerial detection became more efficient and economical. The

tower is 68 feet tall and sits at an elevation of 2,100 feet above sea level.

State forests provide opportunities for many informal recreational activities.

They also provide wood for New York's forest products industry, a major part of the state's economy.

FOREST LAND MANAGEMENT

The forests in this area are managed to produce forest crops, maintain

diverse wildlife habitat and provide recreational opportunities, while protecting water quality and aesthetics. The main method of accomplishing these

objectives is by careful harvesting of trees. For further information, see the Six Nations Unit Management Plan, which includes these forests.

TRAIL SYSTEM

The trail system is a series of loops and spurs covering about 40 miles. The trailhead at Sugar Hill Recreation Area offers toilets, parking, camping, running water, picnic tables, a pavilion, hitching rails, an accessible horse-mounting ramp and 16 covered horse-tie stalls. All are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Other parking lots are scattered throughout the area.

During winter months, horse trails are open for snowmobile use. In addition, hikers and cross-country skiers are welcome to use the trail system. Caution should be taken on some of the steeper sections along the trails.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Sugar Hill Archery Course, located near the Fire Tower Recreation Area, is the site of several tournaments each summer. In addition, hunting opportunities for waterfowl, big game and small game are available and vary with the habitat.

Another attraction is the Finger Lakes/North Country Trail for hiking. The Finger Lakes Trail is 559 miles long, approximately 15 miles of which cross the Goundry Hill and Sugar Hill state forests. The North Country National Scenic Trail is about 4,600 miles long and crosses seven northern states from New York to North Dakota. More than 300 miles of the Finger Lakes Trail are part of the North Country Trail, including the portion in these state forests. Because the Finger Lakes Trail System is designed for foot travel, horses and snowmobiles are prohibited.

For more information:

State Forests
NYSDEC
7291 Coon Road
Bath, NY 14810
607-776-2165

Police/Fire
Ambulance
Schuyler County Sheriff
911

For speech or hearing-impaired people, the New York Relay Service numbers are:
Voice: 800-421-1220
TTY: 800-662-1220

Forest Ranger
William Meehan
4393 Co. Rte. 25
Dundee, NY 14837
607-592-1730

www.dec.ny.gov

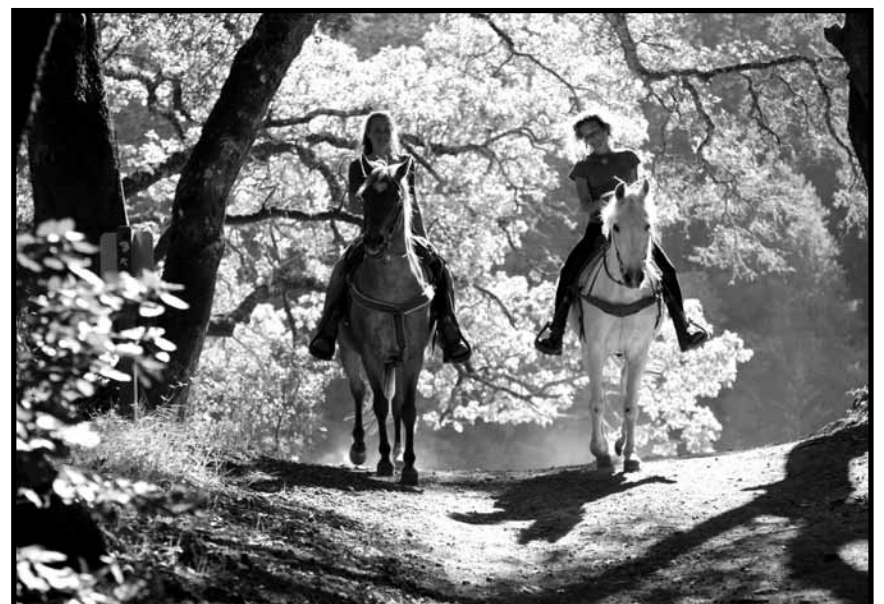
- Respect the rules and regulations that apply to use of public lands, and always seek permission before crossing private lands.
- Don't litter! If you carry it in, carry it out! Keep camping, parking and corral areas clean. Leave them as you would like to find them.
- Camping is free. Groups of 10 or more must obtain a camping permit from the forest ranger on duty. Anyone staying more than three nights also must obtain a camping permit from the forest ranger. Quiet must be observed from 10 PM until 6 AM.
- Fires are allowed. Use fire rings where provided. Do not leave fires unattended. Extinguish fires completely before leaving. Use only dead or down wood. Do not cut, chop or damage living or standing trees. Be careful with fire and cigarettes in the forest.
- Park trailers and vehicles in spaces provided. Do not block roadways or trail entrances.
- Human waste: Use the facilities provided. When in the forest, dig a trench (150 feet or more from water sources), and cover waste completely.
- Horse and other animal waste: Please remove manure and place it in the wagon provided. Leave stalls clean for the next person.
- Registered snowmobiles and mountain bikes are allowed. ATVs are prohibited on state forest lands, trails and roads.
- Horses must have negative Coggins Test results. Do not tether horses to live trees.
- Stay on designated trails. Do not cause damage by heedlessly trampling trail-side vegetation.
- Respect other trail users. Do not force others off the trail! Dismount and walk your horse or mountain bike when encountering other hikers or entering someone else's camp.
- Hunting is allowed during open season. Permanent tree stands are prohibited. It is illegal to damage trees in any manner, such as by piercing them with screws, nails or staples, or by wrapping them with wire.
- Rabies may be present in warm-blooded animals. Please do not feed or harass any wildlife on public land.

STATE FOREST REGULATIONS

Six Nations Recreation Trail System

Map and Guide 

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation



This area comprises almost 12 thousand acres west of Watkins Glen in Schuyler County. Among its many attractions is the Six Nations Recreation Trail System, primarily designed for horses and snowmobiles. The trail system traverses the hills separating Keuka and Seneca lakes. Also located here is a portion of the Finger Lakes/North Country Trail, the Sugar Hill Fire Tower and the Sugar Hill Archery Course.

Goundry Hill and Sugar Hill state forests offer spectacular views, miles of forests and opportunities to glimpse the wildlife that calls these forests home.

www.dec.ny.gov

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Six Nations Trail System

Enjoy your visit. It is your public forest land.
Please sign in at the register.

For more information:

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NYSDEC
7291 Coon Rd.
Bath, NY 14810
607-776-2165

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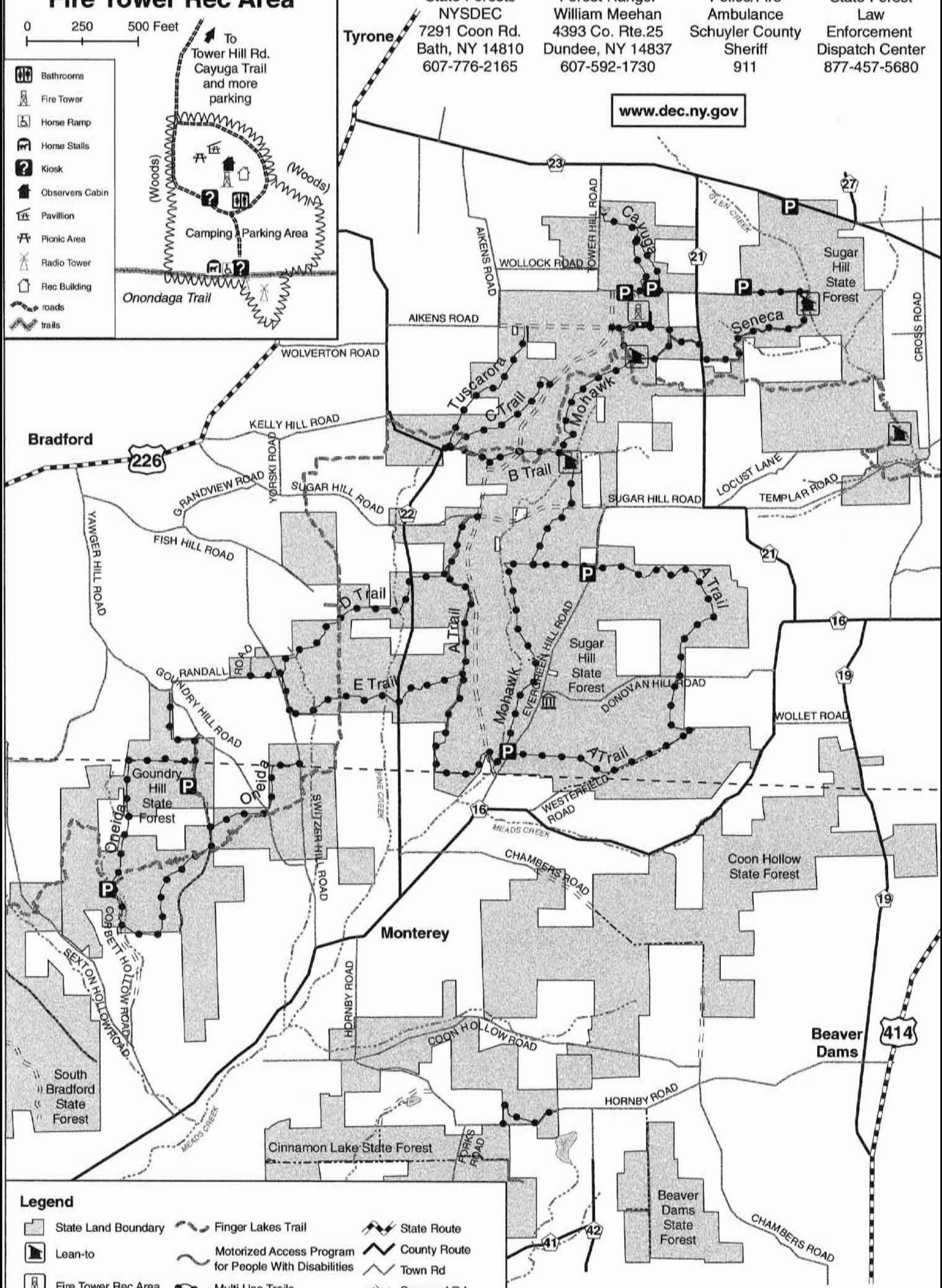
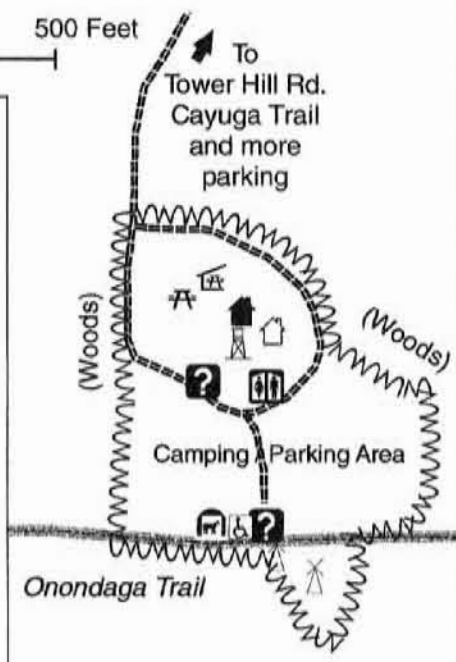
State Forest
Law
Enforcement
Dispatch Center
877-457-5680

www.dec.ny.gov

Fire Tower Rec Area

0 250 500 Feet

- Bathrooms
- Fire Tower
- Horse Ramp
- Horse Stalls
- Kiosk
- Observers Cabin
- Pavillion
- Picnic Area
- Radio Tower
- Rec Building
- roads
- trails



Legend

- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------|--|---|--|--------------|
| | State Land Boundary | | Finger Lakes Trail | | State Route |
| | Lean-to | | Motorized Access Program for People With Disabilities | | County Route |
| | Fire Tower Rec Area | | Multi-Use Trails | | Town Rd |
| | Parking Lot | | Creeks | | Seasonal Rd |
| | Prison | | Gated Access Rd | | powerline |
| | Ponds | | | | |

