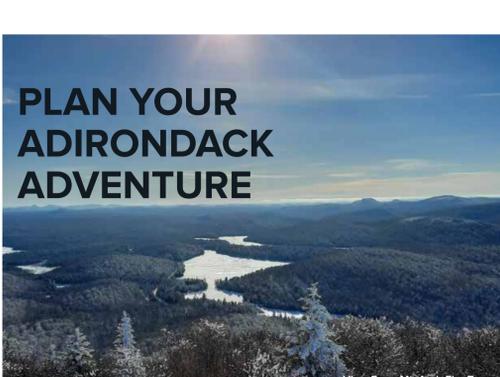


PLAN YOUR ADIRONDACK ADVENTURE



View From Mt. Arab Fire Tower

The 6-million-acre Adirondack Park is a unique mix of public and privately owned lands, with mountains, forests, lakes, rivers, and small towns and hamlets scattered throughout. The combination of more than 2.6 million acres of Forest Preserve and more than 700,000 acres of privately owned lands under conservation easements makes the Adirondacks the largest area of publicly protected lands east of the Mississippi River. The mountains are home to the headwaters of five major watersheds, and the undeveloped natural landscape of the Adirondacks is a haven for many plants, fish, and wildlife, some of which are found exclusively in this area.

Outdoor recreation and tourism are important to the economies of the local communities, which are home to 130,000 permanent residents and 200,000 seasonal residents. Attracting 12 million visitors each year, the Adirondacks offers a range of recreation for every taste, from hiking, skiing, and camping to fishing, hunting, and snowmobiling. Like a slower pace? Try relaxing on a porch and watching the sun set over a lake from the comfort of a classic Adirondack chair.



Common Loon



Paul Smith's College VLS

OUTDOOR SAFETY AND ETIQUETTE

While enjoying the wonders of the Adirondacks, please remember to do your part in preserving these lands. By following the Leave No Trace Seven Principles, you can help ensure your own safety and protect the pristine beauty of the Adirondacks.

- 1. PLAN AHEAD AND PREPARE**
 - Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit.
 - Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies.
- 2. TRAVEL AND CAMP ON DURABLE SURFACES**
 - Durable surfaces include established trails and campsites, rock, gravel, dry grasses or snow.
 - Good campsites are found, not made. Altering a site is not necessary.
- 3. DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY**
 - Pack it in, pack it out. Inspect your campsite and rest areas for trash or spilled foods. Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter.
 - Deposit solid human waste in catholes dug 6 to 8 inches deep at least 200 feet from water, camp, and trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished.
- 4. LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND**
 - Preserve the past observe, but do not touch, cultural or historic structures and artifacts.
 - Leave rocks, plants, and other natural objects as you find them.
 - Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.
 - Do not build structures, furniture, or dig trenches.
- 5. MINIMIZE CAMPFIRE IMPACTS**
 - Where fires are permitted, use established fire rings or mound fires.
 - Keep fires small. Use only sticks on the ground that can be broken by hand.
 - Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out campfires completely, then scatter cool ashes.
- 6. RESPECT WILDLIFE**
 - Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them.
 - Never feed animals.
 - Control pets at all times, or leave them at home.
- 7. BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHER VISITORS**
 - Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
 - Be courteous. Yield to other users on the trail.
 - Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises.



ADIRONDACK FUN FACTS

- 110 waterfalls, 3,000 lakes, and 30,000 miles of rivers and streams
- 2,000+ miles of trails, 1,400 primitive tent sites, 200 lean-to shelters
- 200 peaks higher than 3,000 feet in elevation
- 78 trailered boat launches, 44 campgrounds, 44 day use areas
- 53 species of mammals, 150+ species of breeding birds, 74 species of butterflies and moths, 35 species of reptiles and amphibians
- 20 fire towers, 2 locks, 1 lighthouse

WATCHABLE WILDLIFE

Want to hear woodland warblers, watch playful otters, or see signs of the elusive fisher? The Adirondacks contain a wide range of wildlife habitats where you can spot these creatures and so many more. Add some of these popular wildlife viewing areas to your next visit:



FERD'S BOG, PIGEON LAKE WILDERNESS: TOWN OF INLET: Designated as an "Important Bird Area" by the National Audubon Society, this boreal bog is home to three-toed and black-backed woodpeckers, olive-sided and yellow-bellied flycatchers, northern parula and palm warblers, Lincoln's and swamp sparrows, and gray jays. With a short, 0.3-mile (one-way) trail that leads to a floating walkway and viewing platform, Ferd's Bog is one of only a handful of publicly accessible boreal bog habitats in New York State.

MOOSE RIVER PLAINS WILD FOREST: TOWNS OF INLET AND INDIAN LAKE: The Limekiln Lake-Cedar River Road (the Moose River Plains Road) provides great access to this area in the West Central Adirondacks. The area sustains healthy deer, bear, and moose populations with its low lying river valleys, hills and low mountains, and two 3,500-foot-high mountain summits. Beavers, bobcats, otters, coyotes, fishers, and martens are found here as well.

AUSABLE MARSH WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (WMA): TOWN OF PERU: Part of the Lake Champlain Marshes Bird Conservation Area, the Ausable Marsh WMA is a popular year-round birding site due to its wetlands. A variety of waterfowl, wading birds, and marsh birds, including endangered, threatened, and special concern species, can be viewed from the ADA-accessible viewing platform or while paddling the waterways. Examples of birds found here include American and least bitterns, vesper and grasshopper sparrows, blacked-crowned night herons, black terns, marsh wrens, upland sandpipers, pied-billed grebes, and more.

ANIMAL TRACKS

WHITE-TAILED DEER



White-Tailed Deer and Moose

The most commonly seen large-animal tracks in the Adirondacks, deer tracks are heart-shaped, with a line down the middle. Moose tracks are considerably larger versions of the same track.

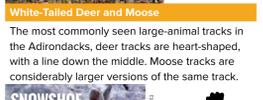
EASTERN COYOTE



Eastern Coyote

The tracks of the eastern coyote are similar to medium-sized dog tracks, with four toe pads, claw marks, and a rear pad.

SNOWSHOE HARE



Varying/Snowshoe Hare

The distinctive Y-shaped pattern of rabbit tracks is created because the much larger back feet land ahead of the smaller front feet. The back feet of the varying hare are even larger than other rabbits', earning it another name: the snowshoe hare.

FISHER



Fisher and American Marten

The only difference in the tracks of these two large weasels found in the Adirondacks is the size, with fisher tracks being larger than the marten tracks. Both show five toes on all feet, typically with claw marks visible. The pattern is either a pair of paw marks with one slightly in front of the other, or four prints in a repeated diamond-like pattern.

BLACK BEAR



Black Bear

Bear tracks show five toe pads, often including claw marks. The front paw is smaller and rounded while the back paw resembles a human foot. However, the bear's "big toe" is on the outside of the paw, not the inside, like a human's.

RUFFED GROUSE



Grouse

The tracks of ruffed grouse and the state-endangered spruce grouse are very similar, with three forward-pointing toes and one backward-pointing smaller toe. The center forward-pointed toe is typically crooked.

FISHING AND HUNTING

FISHING THE ADIRONDACKS

In the Adirondacks, anglers can troll for lake trout, cast for bass or walleye, or fly fish for native brook trout. The cold winters make for a long ice fishing season as well. Here are some of the fishing experiences found in the Adirondacks:

- Cranberry Lake** has 70 miles of shoreline from which you can fish for smallmouth and largemouth bass, northern pike, black crappie, yellow perch, and brook trout.
- Fulton Chain of Lakes** offers eight lakes' worth of fishing fun. Their deeper waters support lake trout, rainbow trout, and Atlantic salmon, while anglers targeting the shallower, warmer waters will find yellow perch, smallmouth bass, and northern pike.
- West Branch Ausable River** is renowned for fly fishing for rainbow, brown, and brook trout. Catch-and-release sections and plenty of access through both Forest Preserve lands and private lands with public fishing rights make this a popular and high-quality fishing experience.
- Pharaoh Lake Wilderness** and the adjacent **Hammond Pond Wild Forest** contain many remote waters with plentiful brook trout.
- Great Sacandaga Lake** is a great spot for finding walleye, but also contains other warmwater and coldwater gamefish.

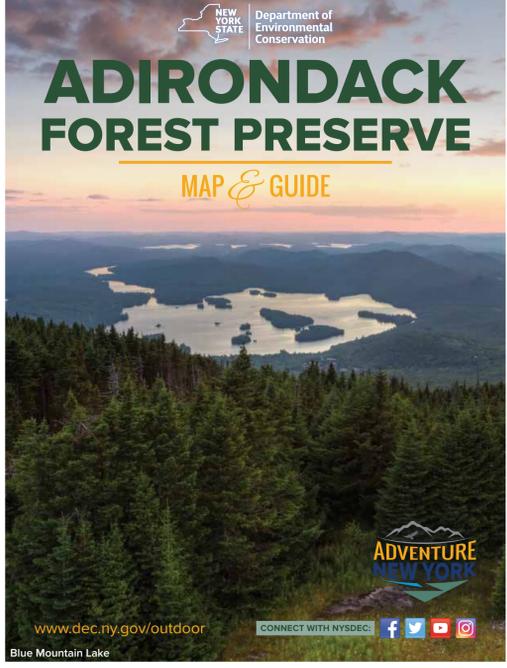
Visit www.dec.ny.gov and search Adirondack Fishing, for more information.

HUNTING AND TRAPPING

Hunting and trapping have been part of the Adirondack way of life since the first indigenous people settled here. In the mid- to late-1800s, hunting also drew the first tourists to the Adirondacks. Today, hunting still helps feed many families and attracts those seeking the unique experience of wilderness hunting. Most of the Forest Preserve and many of the conservation easement lands are open to public hunting and trapping. Many serious big game hunters join hunting camps or camp in the backcountry via a free permit.

Visit www.dec.ny.gov and search NYS Hunting & Trapping Regulations Guide, for big game, small game, waterfowl, and trapping seasons.





Department of Environmental Conservation

ADIRONDACK FOREST PRESERVE

MAP & GUIDE

www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor

CONNECT WITH NYSDCE: [f](#) [t](#) [v](#) [i](#)

Blue Mountain Lake

CAMPING

CAMPING IN THE ADIRONDACKS

From island camping to equestrian excursions, each of DEC's 44 Adirondack campgrounds offer a unique experience regardless of age, interests, or outdoor skill level.

CAMPGROUND RESERVATIONS

1-800-456-CAMP (2267)
<https://newyorkstateparks.reserveamerica.com>

NORTHWEST REGION

- Cranberry Lake
- Fish Creek Pond
- Meacham Lake
- Rollins Pond
- Saranac Lake Islands

SOUTHWEST REGION

- Alger Island
- Brown Tract Pond
- Caroga Lake
- Eighth Lake
- Forked Lake
- Golden Beach
- Indian Lake Islands
- Lake Durant
- Lake Eaton
- Lewey Lake
- Limekiln Lake
- Little Sand Point
- Moffitt Beach
- Nicks Lake
- Northampton Beach
- Point Comfort
- Sacandaga
- Tioga Point

EASTERN REGION

- Ausable Point
- Buck Pond
- Meadowbrook
- Taylor Pond
- Wilmington Notch

SOUTHEAST REGION

- Crown Point
- Eagle Point
- Frontier Town
- Heartstone Point
- Lake George Battleground
- Lake George Islands (Glen, Long & Narrow Islands)
- Lake Harris
- Lincoln Pond
- Luzerne
- Paradox Lake
- Putnam Pond
- Rogers Manor
- Scaroon Manor
- Sharp Bridge

You can also choose from numerous privately-run campgrounds in the Adirondacks. See www.visitadirondacks.com for more information.

Looking for more of a remote experience? There's plenty of backcountry camping available throughout the Adirondacks. Backpacking the extensive trail system is a challenging yet rewarding way to experience quiet ponds and scenic peaks. Search "backcountry camping" at www.dec.ny.gov for more information.

TRAILS

More than 2,000 miles of trails make hiking the most popular outdoor recreational activity in the Adirondacks. Whether your destination is a mountaintop, a waterfall, a forest, a shoreline, or a fire tower, there is a hike for you. When selecting a trail, be realistic about the abilities and fitness levels of you and your hiking partners. Visit www.dec.ny.gov and search Hiking for specific information on these and any other hikes.

DRINK IN THE VIEW

Severance Hill, Hoffman Notch Wilderness TOWN OF SCHROON	Gleasant Falls, Independence River Wild Forest TOWN OF WATSON
The Severance Hill Trail extends 1.2 miles (one-way) and ascends 790 feet from the trailhead to the summit of the mountain, which provides a scenic view of Schroon Lake and the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness.	Take the Beach Mill Trail 2.5 miles in to enjoy a view of the falls on the Independence River. The trail is mostly flat with some gentle slopes and continues another three miles past the falls, intersecting with Panther Pond and Fish trails.
Split Rock Trail System, Split Rock Mountain Wild Forest TOWN OF ESSEX	Nicks Lake Trail, Black River Wild Forest TOWN OF WEBB
Experience the "wild side" of the Lake Champlain Valley by hiking this 11.5-mile trail system. Views from the trail and scenic overlooks include the Adirondack High Peaks, Lake Champlain, and Vermont's Green Mountains.	This 4.5-mile loop will take you on an easy walk with gentle slopes that leads to a steeper section with a nice view of the lake. The trail is versatile and includes a bridge to cross the inlet of the lake, small streams, and a lean-to. The trail also connects to others that lead deeper into the Black River Wild Forest.
Camp Santanoni Historic Area TOWN OF NEWCOMB	
Hike, bike, or ride a horse (or horse-drawn wagon) to one of the most sophisticated and distinguished of all the surviving Adirondack Great Camps. Take in the Gate Lodge and Farm Complex before arriving at the Main Camp on the shore of Newcomb Lake.	

WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE

Waterfalls in Grass River Wild Forest
TOWN OF CLARE

Several rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds are located in the Grass River Wild Forest, providing plenty of opportunities for paddling, boating, and fishing.

Lampson Falls Trail takes you to one of the most spectacular waterfalls in the Adirondacks, with a vertical drop of approximately 100 feet.

Harpers Falls Trail is a short, easy hike with a designated primitive tent site near the falls.

Copper Rock Falls Trail brings you along the South Branch of the Grass River, providing scenic views of the falls and its associated rapids.

Rainbow Falls Trail extends 0.3 mile (one-way) from the trailhead to the edge of a gorge, where the river crashes over the falls, twenty feet below.

FIRE TOWERS

Azure Mountain, Debar Mountain Wild Forest TOWN OF WAVERLY	Auger Falls in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness TOWN OF WELLS
The 10-mile (one-way) trail climbs 944 feet to the 2,518-foot summit, where the Azure Mountain Fire Tower offers a 360-degree view.	Hike to the heavily forested banks of the Sacandaga River to view water plunging between moss-covered rocks and flowing into the rapids of a narrow gorge.

WINTER WONDERLAND

Peavine Swamp Ski Trail, Cranberry Lake Wild Forest TOWN OF CLIFTON	
This 8.5-mile trail is a great choice for cross-country skiing or snowshoeing. It begins on the south side of Route 3 east of Peavine Swamp, and contains three loops. The last half of the trail passes through lands that feature large specimens of hardwoods, red spruce, and eastern hemlock—offering peaceful views for a snowy day.	

MOUNTAIN BIKING IN THE ADIRONDACKS

Forest Preserve and conservation easement lands offer both challenging mountain biking trail networks and pleasant off-road biking trails amid the striking scenery of the Adirondacks. (Note: E-bikes are prohibited on all Forest Preserve trails.)



Wilmington Wild Forest TOWN OF WILMINGTON	Long Pond Conservation Easement Tract TOWNS OF COLTON AND CLARE
Novice and expert mountain bikers will find thrills on the 18.4 miles of looping, single-track trails in the Beaver Brook (Hardy Road) and Flume Trail Systems. The 0.4-mile (one-way) River Trail provides scenic views of the West Branch Ausable River and connects with other easy trails in the Flume Trail System.	Families and others seeking a less challenging bike ride to enjoy the scenery of the river plains, mountains, and hills can head to this easement in the Grass River complex. The 53 miles of roads and trails available offer several route options and varying terrain, for a diverse biking experience. Take a break during the ride to enjoy the scenic shores of Long Pond or the North Branch of the Grass River.

BOATING AND PADDLING

More than 3,000 lakes and ponds, thousands of miles of rivers and streams, and 200 hand-launch and trailered boat launches and access sites are spread across the Adirondacks, making it a paradise for boaters and paddlers. Adirondack waters offer boundless choices: paddle a remote, quiet waterway; raft a whitewater river; motor across a large lake; drift down a forested river; or try one of these popular excursions:

Golden Beach	Saranac River
Sailing is popular on this large lake, and numerous launches and marinas along its shore make it easy to get on the water.	Boat the Saranac River and through the 5 lakes of the Saranac Chain of Lakes to experience more than 20 miles of boat travel, access more than 5,000 acres of water, and pass through 2 locks.
Lake Champlain	Saranac River
Raquette River	Essex Chain
Just a few short overland carries. Do it as a day trip or spend the night in one of the primitive tent sites along the shore.	You can paddle all seven lakes of the chain with just a few short overland carries. Do it as a day trip or spend the night in one of the primitive tent sites along the shore.
Fulton Chain of Lakes	
Old Forge, on the western end of First Lake, serves as the starting point for both the 90-mile Adirondack Canoe Route and the 740-mile Northern Forest Canoe Trail (which ends in Fort Kent, Maine). Paddlers can travel from First Lake to Eighth Lake with the use of a couple of overland carries, and boat launches are located on Fourth Lake, Seventh Lake, and Eighth Lake.	

Hudson River

Numerous outfitters can help you suit up to enjoy 17 miles of wilderness rafting through the spectacular Hudson River Gorge, which is considered one of the most exciting water-based adventures in the state.

Essex Chain Lakes

You can paddle all seven lakes of the chain with just a few short overland carries. Do it as a day trip or spend the night in one of the primitive tent sites along the shore.

Fulton Chain of Lakes

Old Forge, on the western end of First Lake, serves as the starting point for both the 90-mile Adirondack Canoe Route and the 740-mile Northern Forest Canoe Trail (which ends in Fort Kent, Maine). Paddlers can travel from First Lake to Eighth Lake with the use of a couple of overland carries, and boat launches are located on Fourth Lake, Seventh Lake, and Eighth Lake.

Visit www.dec.ny.gov and search Boat Launch Sites, for more details.




ACCESS FOR ALL

People of all abilities can enjoy the beauty of the Adirondacks, as many DEC sites offer accessible features. Whether you are seeking accessible wildlife viewing and fishing areas, picnic spots, duck-blinds, equestrian mounting platforms, or a wide trail with gentle slopes and a smooth surface—there is something for everyone. Look for the Accessible Feature icons on the map. For more specific information, visit www.dec.ny.gov and search Accessible Recreation.

CHECK OUT THESE POPULAR SITES AND THEIR ACCESSIBLE FEATURES:

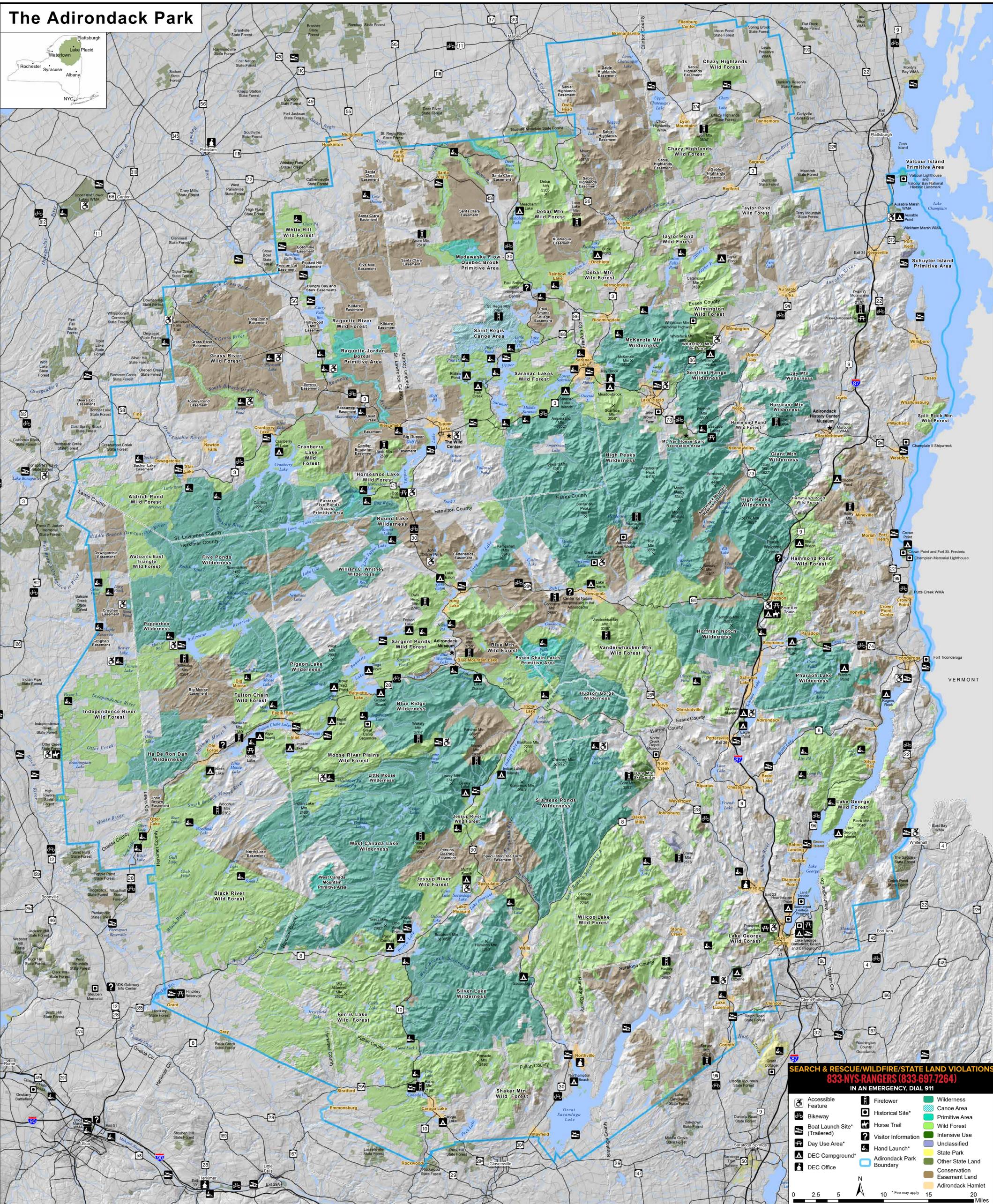
Prospect Mountain Veteran's Memorial Highway TOWN OF LAKE GEORGE	Prospect Mountain
Take in the spectacular 360-degree, 100-mile view from the 2,030-foot summit of Prospect Mountain. A shuttle takes you the last 0.2 mile to the summit, where you can view Vermont's Green Mountains, New Hampshire's White Mountains, and the Adirondack High Peaks as you enjoy lunch in the picnic area. This site also features a viewpoint at the first vista along the highway.	
Frontier Town Campground, Equestrian, and Day Use Area TOWN OF NORTH HUDSON	Jamestown Falls River Access Site TOWN OF COLTON
This universally designed facility includes RV sites, multi-use campsites, and an equestrian area with mounting platforms, campsites with electric hookups, and horse tie stalls. A day use area, playgrounds, shower buildings, and pavilions, combined with the proximity to places like Boreas Ponds, make this an ideal base camp for Adirondack adventures.	Located near the shore of the Raquette River, just below the scenic falls, this site features parking, a hand-launch for boats, and a primitive tent site with a privy, fire ring, picnic table, and tent pad.
Otter Creek Horse Trail System TOWN OF GREG	Accessible Mounting Platform at Frontier Town
The 65-mile trail system features mounting platforms at the "Assembly Area," a picnic pavilion at the main lot with parking, and mounting platforms at two scenic overlooks (Catspaw Lake and along Elbow Trail).	

PLANNING YOUR ADIRONDACK ADVENTURE

Discover the mountains, forests, waters, scenic views, and welcoming communities that make the Adirondacks a premier international outdoor destination.

REGIONAL TOURISM Adirondack Regional Tourism Council www.visitadirondacks.com Adirondack Scenic Byways www.visitadirondacks.com/what-to-do/scenic-byways I Love NY General Information 800-CALLNYS (800-225-5697) www.iloveny.com ROOST – Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism www.adirondackroost.com	MAPS Adirondack Mountain Club 800-395-8080 www.adk.org (search for maps) DEC INFO Locator on.ny.gov/DECInfoLocator National Geographic Maps 800-932-1643 www.natgeomaps.com/trail-maps New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation NYS Snowmobile Corridor Trails Map 518-474-0456 www.parks.ny.gov A variety of Adirondack maps are available online or in-store at outdoor recreation retailers.
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION (DEC) DEC Accessibility Program accessibility@dec.ny.gov DEC Environmental Education Camps – Pack Forest and Camp Colby 518-402-8014 www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor	ADIRONDACK EXPERIENCE 518-523-7311 www.theadk.org Adirondack Interpretive Center 518-582-2000 www.nysdec.org Gore Mountain Ski Area 518-251-2411 www.goremountain.com Mt. Van Hoevenberg 518-327-6241 www.mtvanhoevenberg.com Paul Smith's College Visitor Interpretive Center 518-327-6241 www.paulsmiths.edu/vic The Wild Center 518-359-7800 www.wildcenter.org Whiteface Mountain Ski Area 518-523-1655 www.whiteface.com
DEC Regional Offices (See map for locations) Outdoor recreation and regulation information for areas managed by DEC, including recommendations, publications, and licensed guides. DEC Region 5 Ray Brook Office (Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Saratoga, Warren, and Washington counties) 518-897-1200 DEC Region 6 Watertown Office (Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, and St. Lawrence counties) 315-785-2239	HISTORIC SITES Fort Ticonderoga 518-585-2821 www.fortticonderoga.org New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation John Brown Farm Historic Site: 518-523-3900 Crown Point Historic Site: 518-597-4666 www.parks.ny.gov/historic-sites

The Adirondack Park



SEARCH & RESCUE/WILDFIRE/STATE LAND VIOLATIONS
833-NYS-RANGERS (833-697-7264)
 IN AN EMERGENCY, DIAL 911

0 2.5 5 10 15 20 Miles

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION (DEC)
 DEC is responsible for managing the Forest Preserve and overseeing conservation easement lands, which includes providing for public recreation.

ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY (APA)
 The APA guides the management of Forest Preserve lands and the development of private lands within the Adirondack Park. The agency seeks to maintain the unique character of the Park while promoting appropriate public use and economic development.

FOREST PRESERVE CLASSIFICATIONS
 The Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan categorizes the Forest Preserve lands into several classifications and provides guidelines for how DEC manages land in each of the classifications. Most of the Forest Preserve is classified as either:

- WILDERNESS (1.2 MILLION ACRES)**
 Wilderness lands offer visitors exceptional opportunities for solitude in remote forest settings. Bicycles, motorboats, snowmobiles, and other motorized vehicles or devices are prohibited.
- WILD FOREST (1.3 MILLION ACRES)**
 Wild forests provide for a variety of recreational activities with most waters open to motorboats, most trails open to non-motorized bikes, and limited access for motor vehicles and snowmobiles.
- INTENSIVE USE AREAS**
 Numerous state-owned recreational use areas, such as DEC campgrounds, day use areas, ski areas and scenic highways, are scattered throughout the Adirondacks, providing additional opportunities for adventure.

CONSERVATION EASEMENTS LANDS:
 Conservation easements are permanent partnerships between the State and private landowners that help maintain open spaces and biological diversity while the landowners continue to manage their properties for purposes such as timber production. Public recreational opportunities vary with each conservation easement. For information on individual easements, visit www.dec.ny.gov and search Conservation Easement or contact the DEC Lands and Forests office nearest to the easement property.

PLEASE RESPECT PRIVATE LANDS
 The Adirondack Park includes both public and private lands. Please do not enter private land without the landowner's permission.

NOTICE:
 This map provides a general overview of recreational opportunities on Adirondack Forest Preserve and conservation easement lands. It is not a trail map or land-use map. It has been compiled from many sources and verified wherever possible. However, DEC does not guarantee its accuracy and is not liable for its use for any purpose. Details on specific units within the Forest Preserve are available at DEC offices and online at www.dec.ny.gov.