



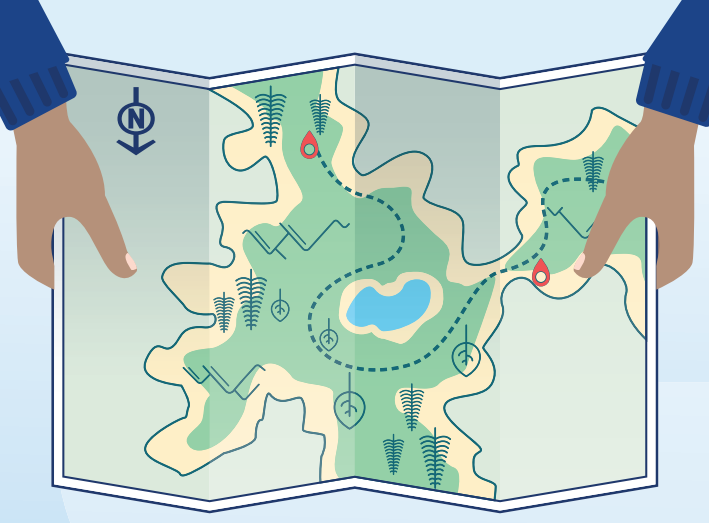
# SHARE THE GREAT OUTDOORS

- Respect others regardless of their activity, speed, or skill level.
- Share trails. Hike in single file around other groups, and let faster hikers pass.
- Keep pets under control. Leashing ensures your pet's safety and the comfort of others. Always clean up after your pet.
- Enjoy and respect wildlife from a distance. Never feed, approach, or pet wildlife.
- Park in designated parking areas—do not block entrances, exits, or other vehicles.



# VISIT TRAILS LESS TRAVELED

- Plan your visit for when trails may be less busy during daylight hours: on weekdays or early morning on weekends.
- Research less popular trails for a quieter experience.
- Share the love—spread out to less congested trails.
- Come prepared with backup options and move on if the parking lot is full.



# KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Use trustworthy sources to find accurate trail information and maps. Choose an experience that's right for you. Preparedness saves lives!
- Know the rules where you'll be hiking.
- Check the weather and trail conditions before your trip.
- Learn what gear you'll need using the 10 Hiking Essentials of Hike Smart NY.
- Assess your fitness and skill level; don't overestimate your abilities.
- Match the trail with your abilities and the experience you're looking for.



# GIVE BACK

- Seek out local trail cleanup days.
- Get involved locally to help build and maintain trail systems.
- Consider the Adopt-a-Trailhead program.
- Volunteer with one of DEC's natural resource programs.

# ALWAYS LEAVE NO TRACE™



- If there are no trash cans, don't litter—take your trash with you.
- Know the best place—or way—for a bathroom break.
- Take a Leave No Trace™ workshop or become a Leave No Trace™ educator.
- Share your Leave No Trace™ knowledge.

# LEARN MORE



In an emergency, call 911 or 1-833-NYS-RANGERS (1-833-697-7264).



# NEW YORK STATE LANDS ALL ARE WELCOME



All New Yorkers and visitors should be able to access, enjoy, and feel welcome on state lands. Be respectful of others. Share trails, treat people with kindness, and leave things as you found them.

# PROTECT OUR LANDS

TRAIL

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Small actions can have lasting effects on plants and wildlife.

- Do not remove or damage trail markers.
- Be careful with campfires and make sure they are allowed at your campsite.
- Stay on trails. Avoid stepping on vegetation, especially sensitive high-elevation plants.
- Walk through, not around, mud and puddles to avoid eroding and widening trails.
- Shake or brush off clothing and clean boot treads before entering your vehicle to avoid spreading seeds of invasive plants.