Park Rules & Regulations

Please remember: You are a visitor but also a steward of the land. For a safe and enjoyable experience, please observe these rules:

- The preserve is open dawn to dusk.
- Park only in designated areas.
- Stay within property boundaries, and be considerate of other visitors and adjoining property owners.
- Stay on marked trails.
- Always hike with a friend.
- Keep pets leashed; please clean up after them.
- Do not remove or destroy plants, wildlife or artifacts.

The following are prohibited:

Motorized vehicles, camping, fires, alcohol, firearms, feeding wildlife, smoking, dumping, swimming, metal detectors, mountain bikes and radios.

The preserve offers:

Hiking, birding, fishing, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and waterfowl observation.
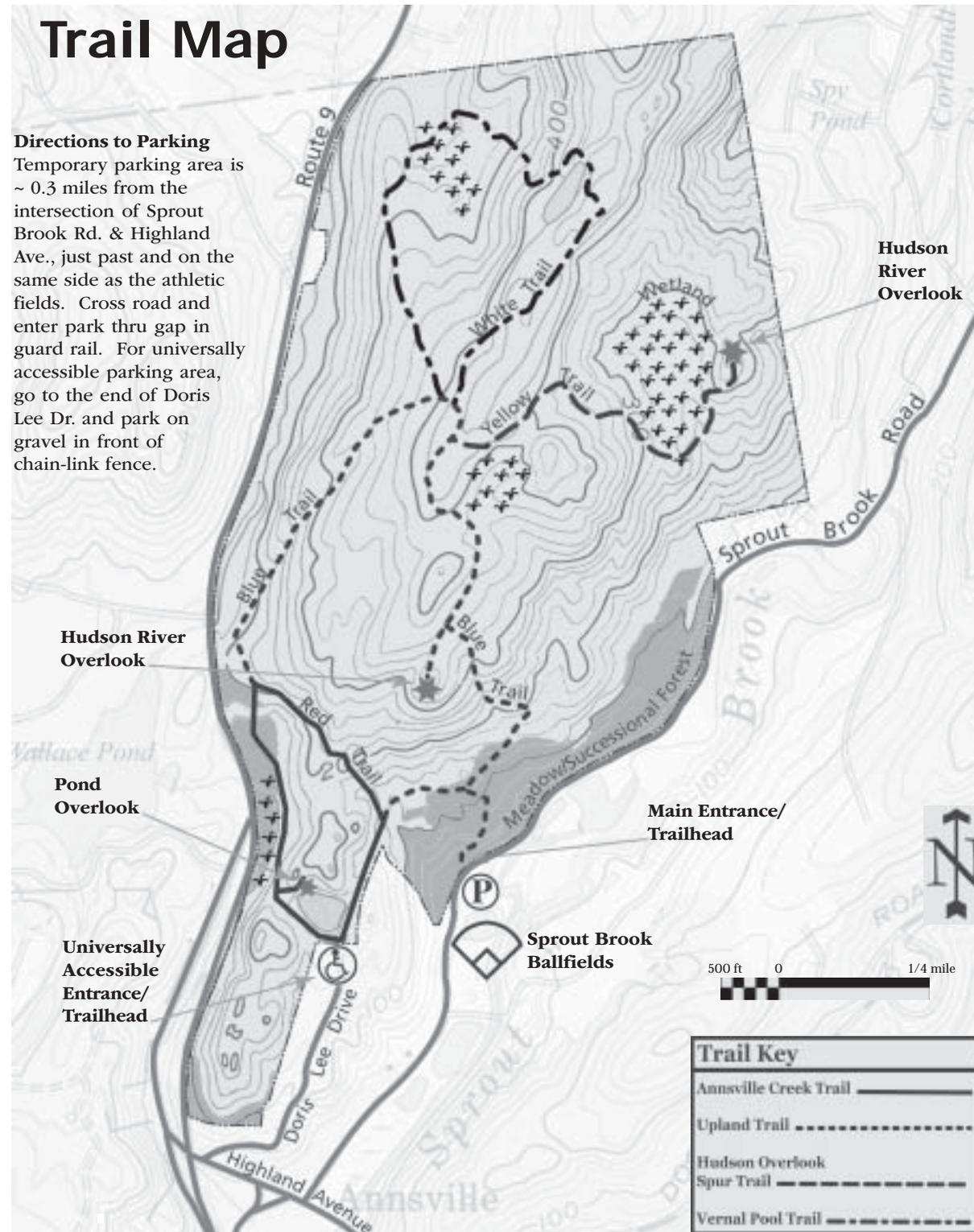
CAUTION:

Deer ticks, which can transmit Lyme Disease, are a growing problem. Take precautions and check for ticks after leaving.

Kindly carry out what you carry in.

Trail Map

Directions to Parking
Temporary parking area is ~ 0.3 miles from the intersection of Sprout Brook Rd. & Highland Ave., just past and on the same side as the athletic fields. Cross road and enter park thru gap in guard rail. For universally accessible parking area, go to the end of Doris Lee Dr. and park on gravel in front of chain-link fence.

Route 9

White Trail

Wetland

Hudson River Overlook

Yellow Trail

Blue Trail

Sprout Brook Road

Hudson River Overlook

Blue Trail

Red Trail

Meadow/Successional Forest

Pond Overlook

Main Entrance/Trailhead

Brook

Universally Accessible Entrance/Trailhead

Doris Lee Drive

P

Sprout Brook Ballfields

Sprout

Highland Avenue

Annsville

500 ft   0   1/4 mile

N

Wallace Pond

Spy Pond

Cortlandt

Trail Key

Annsville Creek Trail	————
Upland Trail	- - - - - - - -
Hudson Overlook Spur Trail	— — — —
Vernal Pool Trail	— · — · — ·

Description of Trails

Hudson Highlands Gateway Park has four trails, totaling more than 4.9 miles, that traverse the 352-acre site. There are many meandering, wooded roads where one could easily get lost. Please stay on marked trails. The degree of difficulty for the hiking trails ranges from easy to moderate. Trail users should wear sturdy shoes and beware of loose rock, holes and slippery surfaces.

Annsville Creek Trail   approx. 1 hr.
This trail starts at Doris Lee Dr. and is universally accessible to the Pond Overlook. It travels by Annsville Creek, which contains breeding trout populations. Fishing is allowed. A sensitive wetland area surrounds the creek.

Upland Trail   approx. 2 hrs.
A steep ascent through a meadow and mixed-woods forest brings you to a terrific view of the Hudson River. The remainder encompasses rolling terrain that passes by many remaining stone walls.

Hudson Overlook Spur   approx. 30 min.
Distinguished by its scenic overlook, this trail also crosses a small stream which is the outlet of a large wetland upslope of the trail.

Vernal Pool Trail   approx. 1.5 hrs.
Beginning from the northernmost point of the Upland Trail, this trail works its way up and along a ridge line. As it descends it passes by a large vernal pool, through a wetland and contains a number of steep slopes. Be cautious of wet surfaces. The trail finishes along an old woods road and rejoins the Upland Trail.
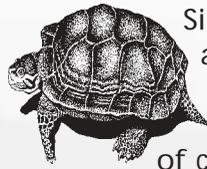
Hudson Highlands **Gateway Park**, threatened twice by residential development, was protected in 1998 when a coalition of more than 35 groups representing homeowners, the community, government agencies and several environmental organizations united to preserve this 352-acre site. The Coalition to Preserve the Hudson Highlands Gateway raised $6 million to buy the parcel. In May 2000, The Scenic Hudson Land Trust, the Town of Cortlandt and Westchester County purchased the property.

A network of trails in the park, exposes visitors to woodlands, streams, steep slopes, exposed bedrock and meadows, revealing much human and natural history and providing spectacular river views. This park is ecologically significant because it is home to several noteworthy ecosystems, and

its Westchester County location is in one of the country's three major bird migration corridors. Come spring, hundreds of thousands of birds fly over the park and stop here to rest and feed.
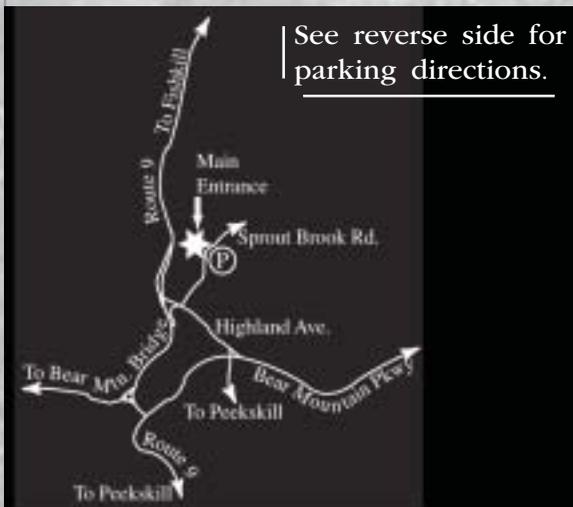
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Since the property was acquired, the **Hudson Highlands Gateway Task Force** – a group of concerned citizens – has been working with the Scenic Hudson Land Trust, Town of Cortlandt and New York/New Jersey Trail Conference on issues including park improvements, illegal ATV use and assessing the park's natural resources.

Hudson Highlands **Gateway Park** is an ideal destination for an afternoon or all-day outing. Recreational activities abound including **hiking**, **birding, cross-country skiing**, **fishing** and **snowshoeing**. Located at the southern end of the fabled Hudson Highlands, the park once served as a Revolutionary War lookout and now is open for public enjoyment.

See reverse side for parking directions.

To Fishkill

Route 9

Main Entrance

Sprout Brook Rd.

P

Highland Ave.

To Bear Mtn. Bridge

Bear Mountain Pkwy.

To Peekskill

Route 9

To Peekskill

Operating Hours: Open year-round from dawn to dusk.

Scenic Hudson - Protecting the Hudson Valley's Environment

We hope you enjoy visiting Hudson Highlands Gateway Park. This and other significant Hudson Valley landscapes are protected by The Scenic Hudson Land Trust. Scenic Hudson also gratefully acknowledges those who helped make this park a reality – Town of Cortlandt, Westchester County, New York/New Jersey Trail Conference, New York State and the many other dedicated individuals who donated their time, energy and financial support.

Other Scenic Hudson Parks in Westchester County:
Scenic Hudson Park at Irvington
Yonkers Waterfront Park (Spring 2004)

Founded in 1963, Scenic Hudson is a non-profit environmental organization and separately incorporated land trust that works from Manhattan to the foothills of the Adirondacks. Headquartered in downtown Poughkeepsie, the group works with citizens, government and business to preserve landscapes and create public parks, reclaim urban waterfronts and foster community planning, improve air and water quality, and promote environmental awareness and access to the Hudson River.

Please call or write to receive a free *Adventure Guide to Scenic Hudson's Parks, Preserves and Trails.*

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HUDSON HIGHLANDS GATEWAY PARK

Sprout Brook Road (Main)
Doris Lee Drive
Cortlandt, N.Y.

Park Guide and Trail Map

Westchester gov.com
Andrew J. Spano, Westchester County Executive