

Guidelines

The Camp Smith Trail is restricted to foot traffic only. Please stay on the trail. The river side of the trail has steep terrain and numerous dangerous cliffs. If you enter this area, you might dislodge rocks which could fall on cars on the road below. The side away from the river is actively used by the National Guard for training exercises. If you want to be part of those exercises, join the Guard, otherwise stay out. Parts of the side away from the river contain the safety zones of active rifle ranges.

Do not be surprised to find military personnel using the trail, possibly carrying heavy packs and rifles. Please yield the right of way to them.

The area is restricted to day use only. Camping, fires and hunting are not allowed.

Keep the trail and trailheads free of litter. Carry out and **take home** all that you carry in.

Carry a supply of drinking water as none is available along the trail. Sturdy, non-slip footwear is necessary.

Cautions: The deer tick, which may carry the Lyme Disease bacterium, is common in the area. Rabies is endemic to raccoons, skunks and bats, which also inhabit the area.

Information

Camp Smith

Camp Smith is a unit of the NY National Guard. The land was acquired for military purposes between 1885 and 1923. It is heavily used as a training site throughout the year.

NY-NJ Trail Conference

The Trail Conference has been building and maintaining trails in the Greater New York Area since 1920. Currently their volunteers maintain over 1500 miles of trails, with 200 miles east of the Hudson River.

To request more information, membership information, or a list of publications including maps and guidebooks, contact:

NY-NJ Trail Conference
156 Ramapo Valley Road (Rt 202)
Mahwah, NJ 07430-1199
(201) 512-9348 (24 hours a day)
e-mail: info@nynjtc.org
web: www.nynjtc.org

Volunteers from the NY-NJ Trail Conference and students in the National Guard's ChalleNge program at Camp Smith constructed this trail on property then owned by Camp Smith. The land, from 50 feet east of the trail to the railroad, is now owned by NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Taconic Region.

Camp Smith Trail



East Hudson Trails Committee
New York-New Jersey Trail Conference
October, 2002

Trail Description

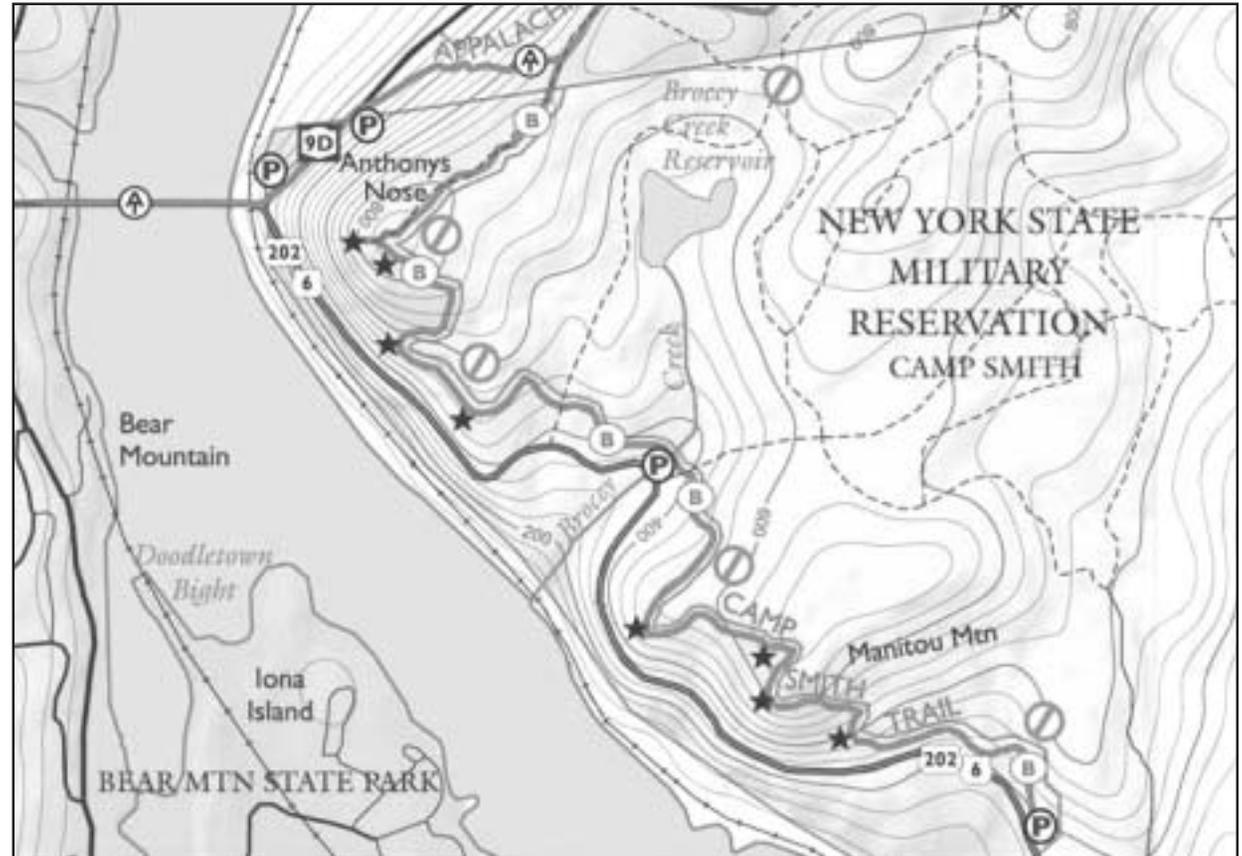
The Camp Smith Trail extends from the Historic Toll House (Visitor Center) on Route 6-202 to the Appalachian Trail (AT). It is blazed with 2"x3" blue paint from the Toll House to Anthony's Nose and with 2"x6" blue paint from Anthony's Nose to the AT.

Parking (P) is available at three trail access points: the Toll House, the small parking lot on the mountain side of the road where the road is farthest from the river (the U-bend), and along Route 9D just north of the Bear Mountain Bridge. The northern terminus of the trail is accessible from the AT.

Over its course, the trail rises and falls relentlessly traversing the steep slopes of the property. Three long flights of rock steps help hikers ascend or descend the steep areas. The easiest sections to hike are in either direction from the U-bend to the first viewpoints.

The numerous viewpoints (★) offer expansive views and opportunities to watch hawks and turkey vultures circling overhead. The southern half of the trail still shows the effects of a 1993 fire.

Iona Island, across the river, was a strategic defense post during the Revolutionary War. The buildings are remnants of extensive facilities from when the island was used as a naval supply depot during both World Wars. It is now a wildlife refuge. Bald eagles winter on the southern part of the island.



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Mileage from Toll House

- Two Pines view - 0.9 miles
- Loop view - 1.4 miles
- U-bend - 1.9 miles
- Bear Mountain Bridge view - 2.7 miles
- USGS Bench Mark (summit) - 3.0 miles
- Junction to Anthony's Nose - 3.1 miles
- Anthony's Nose to AT - 3.7 miles
- AT to Route 99D - 4.2 miles