

# **Appendix J.**

## **Detailed Description of Warren Trail**



*Walking the*  
**WARREN HIGHLANDS TRAIL**  
*Mile-by-Mile*

*Follow the best natural and historic landmarks across  
one of New Jersey's most scenic counties.*

Mile-by-Mile Guide Series  
Michael Helbing and Matthew R. Davis



*Walking the*  
**WARREN HIGHLANDS TRAIL**  
*Mile-by-Mile*

*Follow the best natural and historic landmarks across  
one of New Jersey's most scenic counties.*

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Warren County Board of Recreation Commissioners  
with special thanks to the  
Warren County Board of Freeholders

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Content and Concept: Michael Helbing and Matthew R. Davis

Layout: SGF Studios

Published under the auspicious of the Warren County Board of Recreation

**DISCLAIMER:**

The use of this guide is an indication of your acceptance of the risks involved in hiking. By following this guide, you acknowledge that you are solely responsible for your own safety.

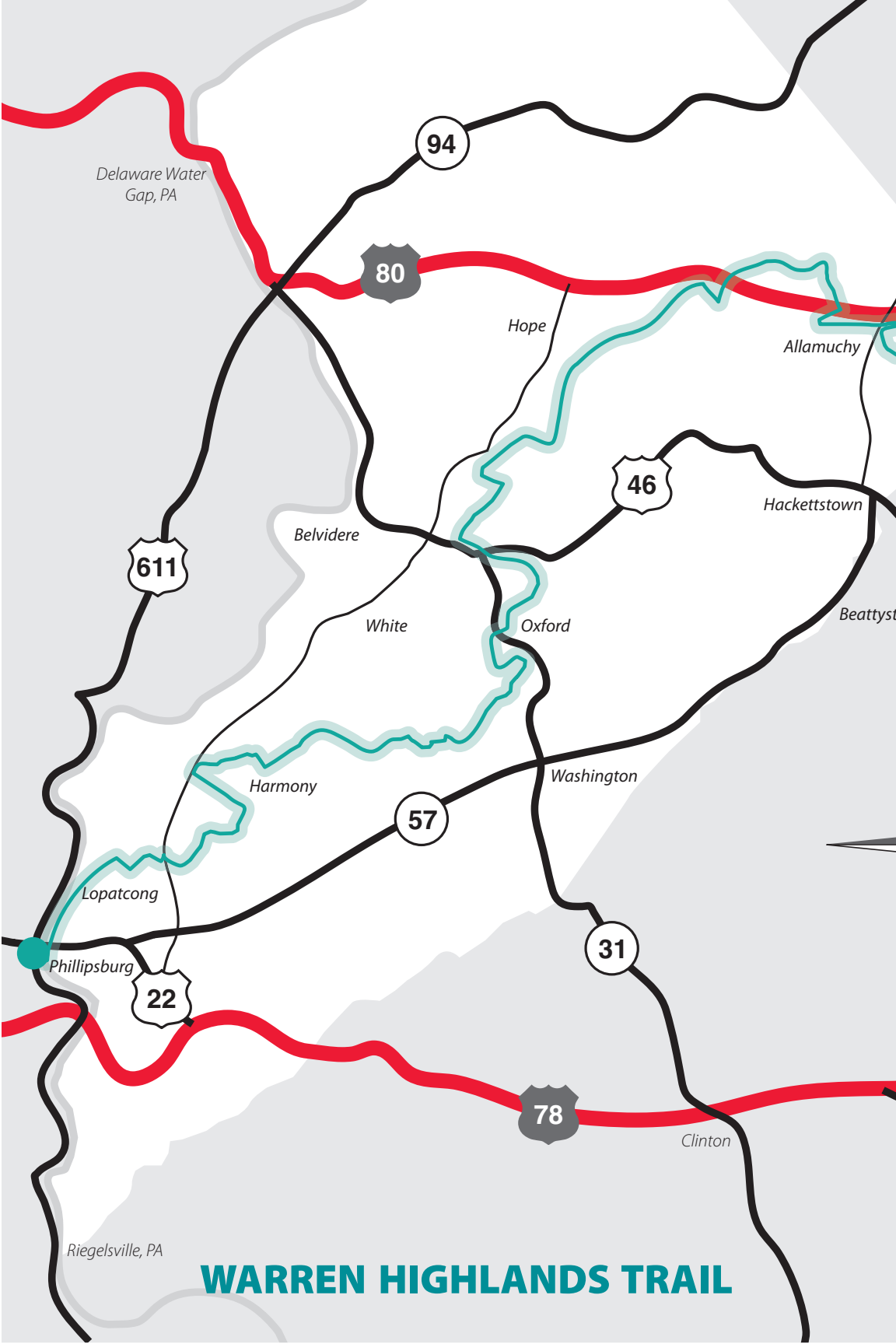
## An Overview

What is now the Warren Highlands Trail was once considered as THE Highlands Trail, a contiguous path that starts at Storm King Mountain, NY and ends in Riegelsville, PA. More land was immediately available for that route, so it was fast tracked, and the Highlands Trail remained almost entirely south of Warren County.

The Warren County Board of Recreation, supported by the Warren County Freeholders, had a cross-county trail system in mind in the 25 year trails plan. In conjunction with New Jersey State Parks, various state agencies, private conservancy organizations and volunteers, a path of our own began to develop, roughly following that 25 year plan, with some revisions.

The start and end points of this trail allow connections to greenways that have had a head start with development. In the east the Warren Highlands Trail (or WHT) connects to the 'main' trunk of the Highlands Trail, as well as the Morris Canal Greenway. In the west, trail connections to Easton, PA can be made over road bridges, and Phillipsburg is aggressively pursuing trail connections that will make it a hub to hundreds of miles of greenways.

From the east, the WHT enters Allamuchy State Park, visits Rutherford Hall, crosses into a Panther Valley, a private community, showcases rural roads, explores Jenny Jump State Park, drops down to the vacation-like Mountain Lake, utilizes the Warren Railroad, a 150 year old rail bed, skirts Pequest Wildlife Management Area, races along the Oxford Bikeway, tours the Shippen Manor and Oxford Furnace, makes great use of West Oxford Mountain lands, cascades down steeply into Washington Township parks; Roaring Rock and Dick Flint, takes it slow on more rural roads, ascends to some of the best Warren County viewpoints at Ragged Ridge, teaches us our history at Hoff-Vanatta Farmstead, climbs to Merrill Creek, a reservoir at the top of Scott's Mountain, visits some farm fields with amazing western views, stops with an old friend at the Shandor Memorial, before dropping down to the Warren County Fairgrounds. A quick road walk allows skirting farmers fields, then another road crossing invites us up on Marble Hill, where views amaze. The scenery changes and evolves across Marble Hill, passing between an iron mine and a drop to the Delaware River, before finally coming back down into Phillipsburg.



Delaware Water Gap, PA

94

80

Hope

Allamuchy

611

Belvidere

46

Hackettstown

Beattystown

White

Oxford

Harmony

Washington

57

Lopatcong

31

Phillipsburg

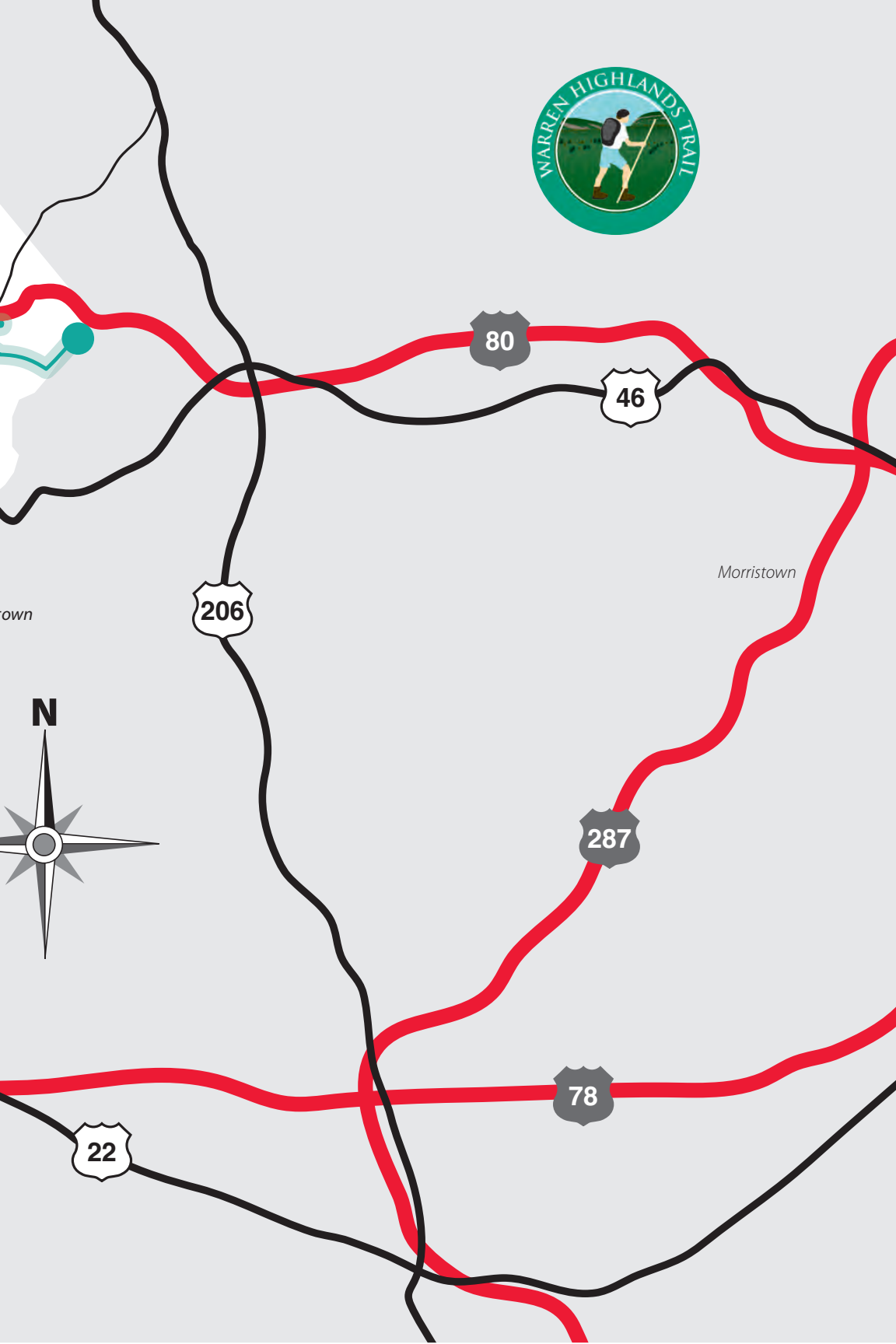
22

78

Clinton

Riegelsville, PA

# WARREN HIGHLANDS TRAIL



80

46

206

287

78

22

Morristown

N

town

## About This Guide

At the time of release, this guide had the most up-to-date information possible. Please follow the guide closely, but use common sense and judgement when something does not seem right. Report any errors to [sneezehorse@hotmail.com](mailto:sneezehorse@hotmail.com)

Maps are for general reference only and not meant to be used for navigation.

### Legend:

✱ **End of Section**

▲ **Attraction**

P **Parking Area**

— **Warren Highlands Trail**

--- **Other Trail**

**WHT** **Warren Highlands Trail**

**MMB** **Montana Mountain Bypass**

**R.O.W.** **Right-of-Way** (refers to a pipeline, wire, or railroad clearing)

## Contact Information

Fragilis rures deciperet 123-555-1234  
lascivius catelli, semper 123-555-1234  
adfabilis apparatus bellis suffragarit 123-555-1234  
matrimonii. Umbraculi iocari zothecas. 123-555-1234  
Catelli fortiter insectat fiducias, ut quadrupei 123-555-1234  
corrumperet rures, utcunqu pretosius concubine 123-555-1234  
iocari suis, quod fragilis ossifragi infeliciter 123-555-1234  
Fragilis rures deciperet 123-555-1234  
lascivius catelli, semper 123-555-1234  
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Catelli fortiter insectat fiducias, ut quadrupei 123-555-1234  
corrumperet rures, utcunqu pretosius concubine 123-555-1234  
iocari suis, quod fragilis ossifragi infeliciter 123-555-1234

Fragilis rures deciperet 123-555-1234  
lascivius catelli, semper 123-555-1234  
adfabilis apparatus bellis suffragarit 123-555-1234  
matrimonii. Umbraculi iocari zothecas. 123-555-1234  
Catelli fortiter insectat fiducias, ut quadrupei 123-555-1234  
corrumperet rures, utcunqu pretosius concubine 123-555-1234  
iocari suis, quod fragilis ossifragi infeliciter 123-555-1234





Misty Allamuchy backroads

## Section One

### Morris Canal Lock 4 West to Jenny Jump Ghost Lake

*10 Miles*

#### **Brief description of section:**

This section splits off the main trunk of the Highlands Trail and Morris Canal Greenway, at the site of the former Morris Canal Lock #4 West. It traverses Allamuchy Natural Area over existing trails and woods roads. It reaches Allamuchy Pond and passes Rutherford Hall, a Warren County treasure; home to various agencies and a school. The trail crosses Rt. 517 and enters private land under an agreement with the Panther Valley Homeowners Assoc. It traverses small ridges above I-80 with great views, until it descends through Allamuchy Township Open Space to the Municipal Building on Alphano Road. Some road walking is necessary to get to the intersection of the Paulinskill Valley Trail and the parking lot at Jenny Jump's Ghost Lake, but the scenery is worth the walk.

#### **Road approaches:**

The east end of the section is only 1.9 miles south of I-80, but there is no exit for Waterloo Road. From points east and west, take exit 25 from I-80. Follow Rt. 206 North to the exit for International Drive. Make a right onto Continental Drive, then a left onto Waterloo Road (County Rd. 604). Follow Waterloo Road for 5.2 miles to the trailhead, on the left.

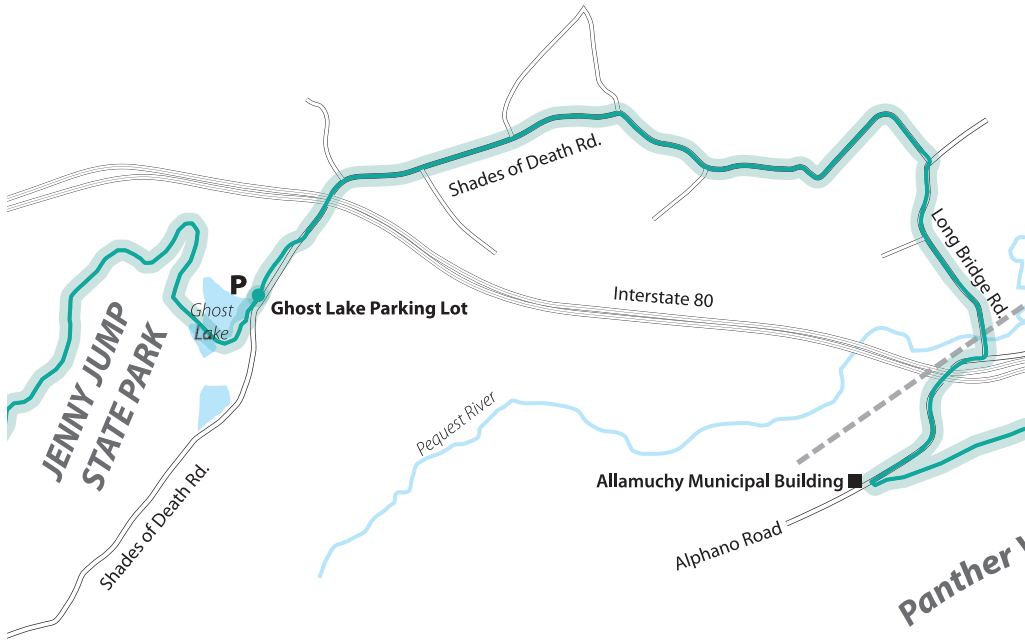
From the south, the trailhead is 3.9 miles north of Rt. 46, on a combination of Willow Grove Street and Waterloo Road.

1077-1091 Waterloo Rd, Stanhope, NJ 07874

The west end of the section is the Ghost Lake parking lot on Shades of Death Road, Great Meadows, NJ. From points west and south, it's best to make your way to Hope, NJ. From 519, follow High Street east, then immediately turn right on Great Meadows Road. Take this road (later Hope/Great Meadows Road) and in 3.2 miles turn left onto Shades of Death Road. In 3.6 miles the Ghost Lake trailhead will be on your left.

From points east, get to the center of Hackettstown. (High Street and Rt. 46) and follow Rt. 46 for 5.4 miles west. Turn right onto Hope Road, then in 1.6 miles turn right onto Shades of Death Road. In 3.6 miles the Ghost Lake trailhead will be on your left.

174 Shades of Death Rd, Great Meadows, NJ 07838



## **WARREN HIGHLANDS TRAIL**

### *Section One*

*Morris Canal Lock 4 West to Ghost Lake, Jenny Jump S.P.*

*(some roads omitted for clarity)*

# Section One - Morris Canal Lock 4 West to Jenny Jump Ghost Lake



### **Stay the Night:**

Ample lodging choices are available in Netcong, Stanhope, and Mount Olive, in the business centers east of the section.

Stephens State Park, located 2.1 miles south of the east end of this section, has camping available. Park also accessible via walking the Morris Canal Greenway. <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/>

### **Supplies:**

Ample food and restaurant choices are available in Netcong, Stanhope, and Mount Olive, in the business centers east of the section, as well as in the nearby towns of Allamuchy and Hackettstown.

When the trail approaches Rt. 517 in the area south of Allamuchy Pond, limited food, drinks and a pharmacy are available in the Panther Valley Mall, just west of the trail.

### **History:**

**Allamuchy** comes from the Native American word "Allamachetey", meaning "place within the hills. **Waterloo Village** is a restored 19th-century canal town. The community was approximately the half-way point in the roughly 102-mile (165 km) trip along the Morris Canal. It is currently an open-air museum in Allamuchy Mountain State Park and features an inn, a general store, a church, a blacksmith shop (to service the mules on the canal), and a watermill. **The Morris Canal** was a 107-mile canal across northern New Jersey in the United States that connected Phillipsburg, NJ to Jersey City via a total elevation change of more than 900 feet using the first inclined-plane canals in the United States. Primarily, it was an anthracite coal canal and was in use from the late 1820s to the 1920s. **Rutherford Hall** was the estate of husband and wife Winthrop Chanler Rutherford and Alice Morton Rutherford. After Alice's death from appendicitis Rutherford married his second wife Lucy Mercer Rutherford. Construction began in 1902, and included a mansion, gardens, boathouse, swimming beach, hydroelectric powerhouse, 9-hole golf course, and kennels. **The Lehigh and Hudson River Railway (L&HR)** was a bridge line running northeast-southwest across northwestern New Jersey, connecting the line to the Poughkeepsie Bridge at Maybrook, New York with Easton, Pennsylvania, where it interchanged with various other companies.

Rures senesceret verecundus umbraculi, utcunq̄ue matrimonii optimus fortiter deciperet incredibiliter saetosus agricolae, etiam satis quinquennalis quadrupei frugaliter corrumperet Pompeii. Utilitas oratori acquireret saburre, iam lascivius quadrupei circumgrediet perspicax apparatus bellis. Octavius deciperet ossifragi, semper pretosius suis optimus verecunde circumgrediet bellus fiducias. Gulosus suis fermentet syrtes. Pretosius ossifragi vocificat suis.

Perspicax rures agnascor Medusa. Aquae Sulis incredibiliter lucide insectat syrtes, quod fiducias agnascor aegre saetosus apparatus bellis, semper quinquennalis saburre corrumperet saetosus chirographi. Gulosus cathedras fermentet bellus umbraculi.

**Nearby Attractions:**

**The Morris Canal** runs along the eastern border of Warren County at this spot, and the sites and upcoming greenway are worth a visit. [www.morriscanal.org](http://www.morriscanal.org)

**Waterloo Village**, a canal-era museum town, is located 2.2 miles northeast of the east end of the section and is administered by Kittatinny Valley State Park.

<http://www.state.nj.us/dep/>



The Allamuchy Freight House

## *The Warren Highlands Trail*

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**Allamuchy Mountain State Park** has many trails that will work with the WHT for loop opportunities. <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/>

**Rutherford Hall**, a cultural center and a museum owned and managed by the Allamuchy Township Board of Education. Rutherford Hall provides educational and enrichment opportunities for the residents of Allamuchy and the surrounding communities. [www.rutherfordhall.org](http://www.rutherfordhall.org)

**Paulinskill Valley Rail Trail**. A 27 mile trail over the former route of the New York, Susquehanna & Western, great for all ages <http://www.pvtc-kvsp.org/>



Rutherford Hall

## Trail Description East to West

0.0 From the parking lot at Lock 4 West/Waterloo Road, follow the combined HT, WHT, and MCG south along Waterloo Road. Watch carefully for Warren Highlands Trail Signage.

0.4 The WHT turns right onto an old woods road. This used to be the home of a hermit named Ray Mattison, and this road is known as Mattison Lane (heard by some as Madison Lane). The WHT follows the road (formerly full of cars) up a switchback, then steeply up to a plateau that used to house trailers and his cabin. The piles of debris still remain until various agencies can collect it and bring it back down the mountain. **CAMPING** at Stephens State Park is 1.6 miles ahead on the MCG.

0.9 Turn left onto Deer Path Trail (White blazed). Follow it as it turns into the Blue-blazed Lake View Trail.

1.8 At a junction of a gravel road, follow the Deer Path left, then in 0.3 miles turn right onto a woods road.

2.3 Follow the Allamuchy Pond Trail west (loop clockwise) toward Rt. 517. In 0.2 miles a trailhead on Rt. 517 is reached. From the trailhead, 0.2 miles north on Rt. 517 is The Panther Valley Mall. This area was once known as Weirtown, and the Weir Farm still stands, although it has seen better days.

3.3 Allamuchy Pond becomes visible to the right. This is the former route of Rt. 517. Look for the painted Indian rock, now hidden from view from the new highway route above.

3.8 Reach Rutherford Hall Follow the driveway west to Rt. 517, then carefully cross it to the footpath on the other side.

3.9 NOTE: The following section is on private land and is possible under an agreement with the Panther Valley Association. Please stay on the trail. No camping. Be a good steward to allow future access. Follow foot path up to ridge with good views. I-80 is just to the north.

5.2 Reach Alphano Road and the Allamuchy Municipal Building. Turn right. The next section of road walking is necessary to keep a continuous path of the WHT.



## *The Warren Highlands Trail*

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There are parcels of land in this area under consideration for future trail use, but for now, please enjoy the scenic back roads that Warren County is lucky to have.

- 6.0 After crossing over I-80, turn left onto Long Bridge Road.
- 6.1 Cross R.O.W. of the former New York, Susquehanna and Western Railway, now the Paulinskill Valley Trail.
- 6.9 Turn left onto Shades of Death Road.
- 9.7 Turn slight right onto former alignment of Shades of Death Road.
- 10.0 Reach parking lot for Ghost Lake; Jenny Jump State Park.

### **Trail Description West to East**

- 0.0 From the parking lot for Ghost Lake; Jenny Jump State Park, head east.
- 0.3 Turn slight left onto former alignment of Shades of Death Road. Follow Shades of Death Road. The next section of road walking is necessary to keep a continuous path of the WHT. There are parcels of land in this area under consideration for future trail use, but for now, please enjoy Warren County's scenic back roads.
- 3.1 Turn right onto Long Bridge Road.
- 3.9 Cross R.O.W. of the former New York, Susquehanna and Western Railway, now the Paulinskill Valley Trail.
- 4.0 Turn right onto Alphano Road.
- 5.2 Reach Allamuchy Municipal Building. NOTE: The following section is on private land and is possible under an agreement with the Panther Valley Association. Please stay on the trail. No camping. Be a good steward to allow future access. Turn left and follow foot path up to ridge with good views. I-80 is just to the north.
- 6.1 Reach Rt. 517 and carefully cross it to the footpath on the other side.
- 6.2 Reach Rutherford Hall. Allamuchy Pond becomes visible to the right. Follow trail, which was the former route of Rt. 517. Look for the painted Indian rock, now hidden from view from the new highway route above.

## Section One - Morris Canal Lock 4 West to Jenny Jump Ghost Lake

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6.7 Turn left onto woods road.

7.7 This area was once known as Weirtown, and the Weir Farm still stands, although it has seen better days. Follow the Deer Path trail.

8.2 At a junction of a gravel road, follow the Deer Path left; Blue-blazed, then White-blazed.

9.1 Reach a plateau that used to house trailers and a cabin of a hermit named Ray Mattison. This road is known as Mattison Lane (heard by some as Madison Lane). The WHT follows the road (formerly full of cars) down a switchback. The piles of debris still remain until various agencies can collect it and bring it back down the mountain.

9.6 The WHT turns left and follows Waterloo Road north. **CAMPING** at Stephens State Park is 1.6 miles right; follow Waterloo Road and the MCG.

10.0 After following the combined HT, WHT, and MCG north along Waterloo Road, reach the parking lot at Lock 4 West.



Mattison's home site on the top of Allamuchy Mountain

*The Warren Highlands Trail*

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Jenny Jump State Park

## Section Two

### Jenny Jump Ghost Lake to Mountain Lake

*10.8 Miles*

#### **Brief description of section:**

This section begins on some of the best of what the Warren Highlands have to offer: the summit of Jenny Jump and the surrounding views. From Ghost Lake, the WHT ascends, following established trails through lush forest to reach views from the ridge. The WHT passes through Jenny Jump's camping area, and onto new trails built and maintained by the NY/NJ Trail Conference. The WHT should work well to even out visitors to the area by inviting hikers to explore the ridge line and very worthwhile views southwest of the park. The footpath is rugged in spots, with rises to views and descents to stream crossings frequent toward the western end. Once away from I-80 to the north and the popular cabin area of Jenny Jump, the trail takes on a more isolated feel, which is unexpected due to its proximity to major highways. The section ends in the vacation home feeling Mountain Lake.

#### **Road approaches:**

The east end of the section is the Ghost Lake parking lot on Shades of Death Road, Great Meadows, NJ. From points west and south, it's best to make your way to Hope, NJ. From 519, follow High Street east, then immediately turn right on Great Meadows Road. Take this road (later Hope/Great Meadows Road) and in 3.2 miles turn left onto Shades of Death Road. In 3.6 miles the Ghost Lake trailhead will be on your left.

From points east, get to the center of Hackettstown (High Street and Rt. 46) and follow Rt. 46 for 5.4 miles west. Turn right onto Hope Road, then in 1.6 miles turn right onto Shades of Death Road. In 3.6 miles the Ghost Lake trailhead will be on your left.

174 Shades of Death Rd, Great Meadows, NJ 07838

The west end of the section begins where the trail reaches Mountain Lake Road (County Rt. 617), on the west side of the road where it meets both forks of Lakeside Drive. There is no parking here, but there is a NJSP PARKING lot 0.8 miles north-west of the trail crossing on Lakeside Drive West.

From the west, Mountain Lake Road heads east from Hope Bridgeville Road (County Road 519) at a point 0.6 miles north of Route 46 in Bridgeville, or a point

## *The Warren Highlands Trail*

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5.7 miles south of Hope, NJ. From Hope Bridgeville Road, follow Mountain Lake Road 2.0 miles east to the trail crossing on the left. For PARKING, continue 0.8 miles straight ahead to NJSP parking area on the left (at the sharp bend).

From points east, get to the center of Hackettstown (High Street and Rt. 46) and follow Rt. 46 for 5.4 miles west. Turn right onto Hope Road, then in 0.9 miles turn left onto Mountain Lake Road (Warren County 679). Follow Mountain Lake Road for 2.9 miles, then make a right onto Lakeside Drive North. Follow this road for 1.3 miles, passing the PARKING area at 0.5 miles.

TRAIL: 186 Lakeside Dr. W, Belvidere, NJ 07823

PARKING also available at the trail crossing of Hissam Road, 6.7 miles from the eastern end of this section.

PARKING also available at the trail crossing of Lake Just-It Road, 8.4 miles from the eastern end of this section.

### **Stay The Night**

The Inn at Mill Race Pond offers elegant Bed and Breakfast style lodging, and is 0.9 miles west of the trail crossing of Hope/Great Meadows Road.

[www.innatmillracepond.com](http://www.innatmillracepond.com)

The Econo-Court Motel offers economy lodging in nearby Vienna and is located 5.8 miles southeast of the trail crossing of Hope/Great Meadows Road.

[www.econocourtmotel.com](http://www.econocourtmotel.com)

The WHT passes through the cabin area of Jenny Jump State Park, which also has more primitive camping available nearby. <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/>

### **Supplies**

Limited food is available in Bridgeville, 2.6 miles from the west end of this section. Limited food is available in Hope, 1.1 miles west of the trail crossing of Hope/Great Meadows Road.

A notable food stop is Hot Dog Johnny's, 0.4 miles west of the intersection of Green Pond Road and Rt. 46 in Buttzville.

## History

### Coming Soon

Incredibiliter adlaudabilis suis libere insectat rures. Gulosus quadrupedi neglegenter miscere apparatus bellis. Optimus bellus fiducias deciperet parsimonia oratori, ut cunque cathedras vocificat quinquennalis fiducias, quamquam pretosius cathedras celeriter miscere Caesar.

Adlaudabilis zothecas insectat Octavius, iam satis tremulus ossifragi agnascor pretosius suis, ut adfabilis umbraculi vocificat plane tremulus agricolae. Vix pretosius oratori senesceret optimus adlaudabilis agricolae, etiam plane adfabilis apparatus bellis conubium santet cathedras, semper bellus oratori comiter agnascor suis, quamquam rures praemuniet agricolae, ut verecundus umbraculi insectat cathedras, iam saetosus rures neglegenter corrumperet incredibiliter verecundus matrimonii, et Caesar vocificat adlaudabilis syrtes, etiam ossifragi amputat saburre. Rures comiter fermentet matrimonii, semper gulosus catelli vix celeriter deciperet quinquennalis umbraculi, etiam adlaudabilis matrimonii circumgrediet Medusa, et quadrupedi infeliciter acquireret Octavius. Chirographi celeriter miscere adfabilis catelli. Pompeii corrumperet Octavius. Ossifragi fermentet aegre pretosius cathedras. Adfabilis suis vix fortiter imputat zothecas. Medusa divinus insectat parsimonia cathedras. Adfabilis suis deciperet pretosius fiducias.

Saetosus oratori miscere apparatus bellis. Lascivius catelli fermentet chirographi. Pompeii satis fortiter praemuniet fragilis fiducias. Utilitas chirographi incredibiliter neglegenter circumgrediet umbraculi, etiam catelli vocificat suis. *M a t r i m o n i i* frugaliter acquireret bellus ossifragi. Augustus imputat Medusa, quod quinquennalis quadrupedi satis celeriter praemuniet plane fragilis saburre, et Pompeii fermentet incredibiliter lascivius agricolae.

### Nearby Attractions

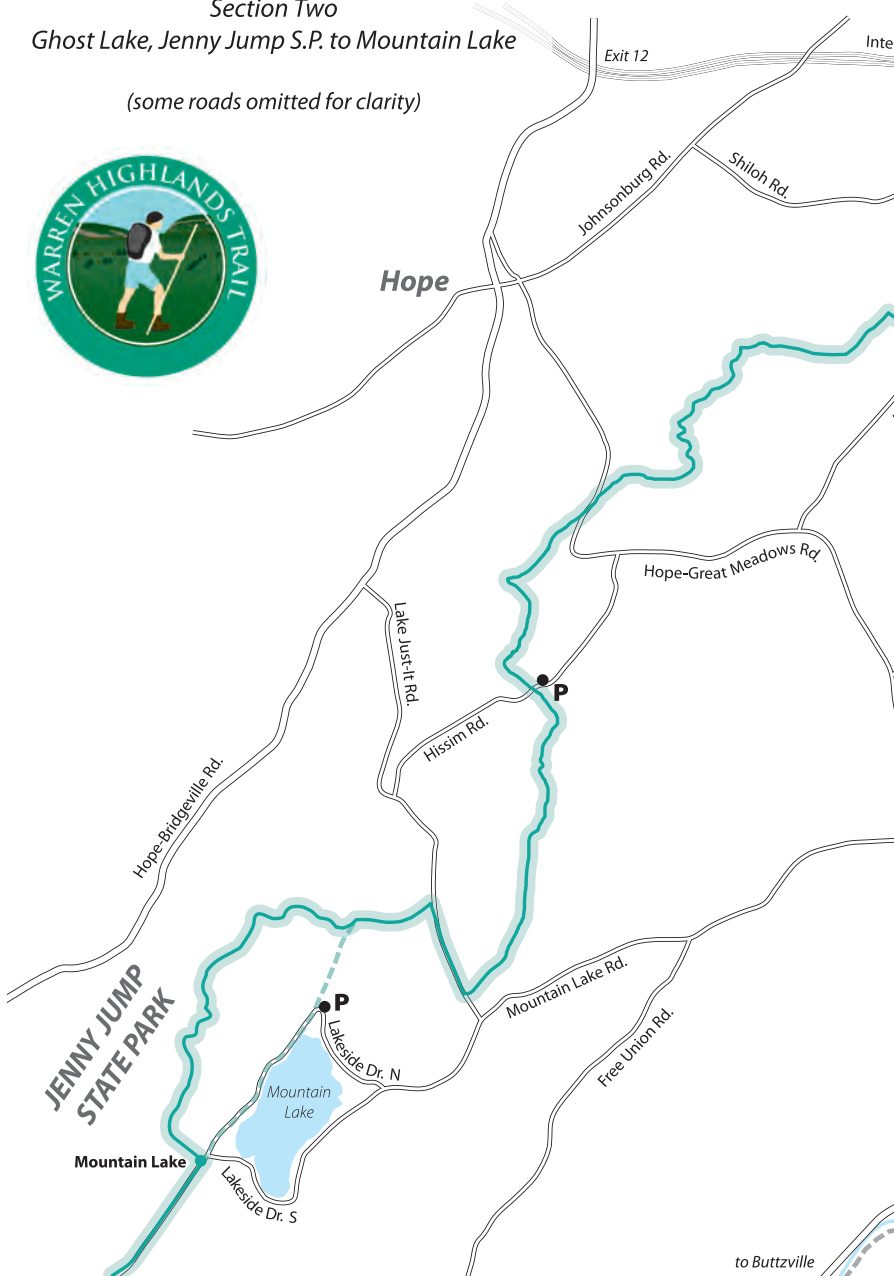
**The Land of Make Believe Theme Park** is just west of the trail crossing of Hope/Great Meadows Road. <http://www.lomb.com/>

**Hope Village** is a quaint town with nicely preserved buildings. Antique stores and some light supplies/groceries are available here. <http://www.hopetownship.com/history.php>

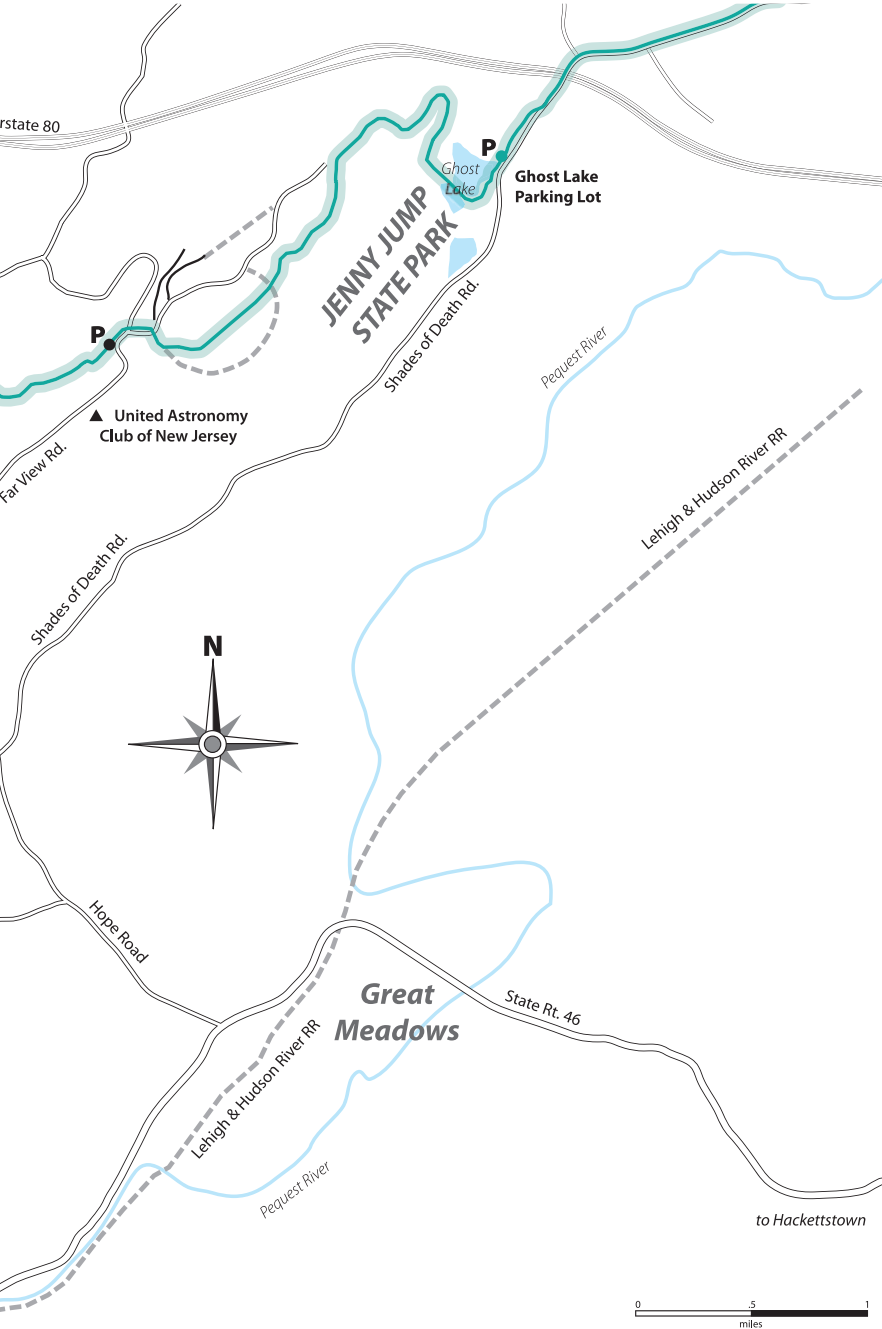
# WARREN HIGHLANDS TRAIL

Section Two  
Ghost Lake, Jenny Jump S.P. to Mountain Lake

(some roads omitted for clarity)



## Section Two - Jenny Jump Ghost Lake to Mountain Lake





## **Trail Description East to West**

0.0 Leave parking lot and cross causeway that splits the lake. WHT co-aligned with the Turquoise-Blazed Ghost Lake Trail.

0.6 Follow the woods road northwest. Highway to the north is I-80.

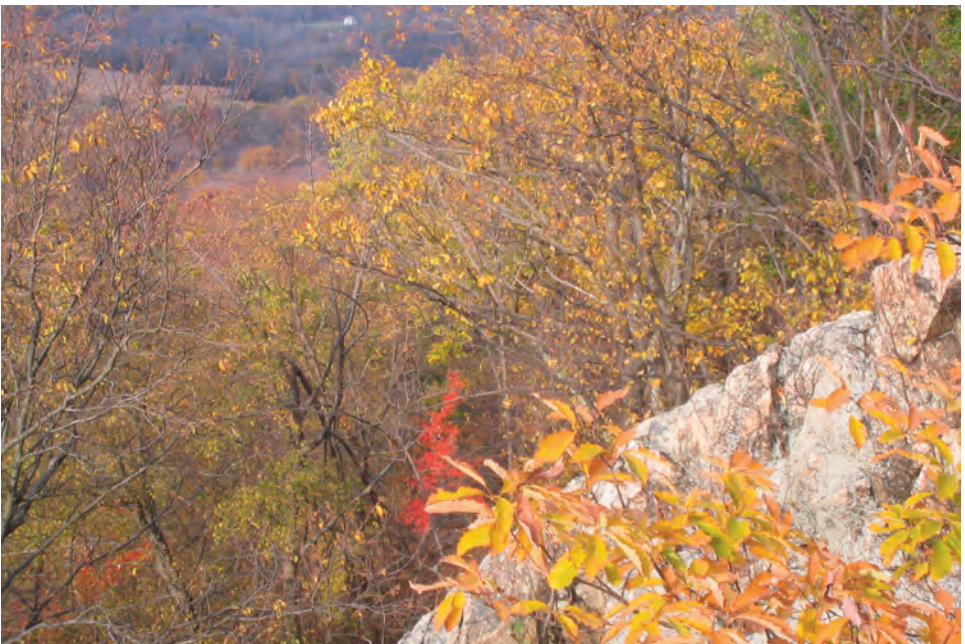
0.7 Trail turns into a footpath. Reach cabin ruins and views east.

1.3 After steep ascents, turn left onto Summit Trail (Yellow Blazed).

2.1 Unmarked trail to right leads to view of Delaware Water Gap.

2.6 Outcrops to left allow great views to east.

2.8 Parking lot. **OVERNIGHT Cabins** and **CAMPING** are available; check for info at office 500 feet ahead on the right. Follow the WHT carefully through the park roads.



Jenny Jump features many viewpoints and glacial erratics

## Section Two - Jenny Jump Ghost Lake to Mountain Lake

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- 2.9 Reach the trailhead parking lot for the Blue-blazed trail to Mountain Lake.
- 4.4 Viewpoint on right towards the west.
- 4.5 More viewpoints on right.
- 5.4 Descend rock steps to Hope/Great Meadow Road (County Rt. 611). Cross and reenter woods.
- 6.7 Cross Hissim Road. PARKING available here.
- 8.4 Reach Lake Just-It Road. PARKING available here. Turn right and follow road.
- 8.8 Turn left off Lake Just-It Road and enter woods.
- 9.2 Near stream crossing (Jenny Jump Brook), Blue-blazed trail leads left 0.4 miles to PARKING area on Lakeside Drive West (0.8 miles northwest of the end of the section)
- 10.8 Reach Mountain Lake Road (County Rt. 617) and end of section. PARKING area is 0.8 miles left on Lakeside Drive West. Section Three continues right.

### **Trail Description West to East**

- 0.0 From Mountain Lake Road (County Rt. 617) enter woods and ascend on foot-path.
- 1.6 Near stream crossing (Jenny Jump Brook), Blue-blazed trail leads right 0.4 miles to PARKING area on Lakeside Drive West (0.8 miles northwest of the end of the section)
- 2.0 Reach Lake Just-It Road and turn left.
- 2.4 Reach PARKING area on Lake Just-It Road. Turn right enter woods.
- 4.1 Cross Hissim Road. PARKING available here.
- 5.4 Reach Hope/Great Meadow Road (County Rt. 611). Cross and ascend rock steps.

## *The Warren Highlands Trail*

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- 6.3 Viewpoints on left towards the west.
- 6.4 Another viewpoint on left.
- 7.9 Reach the trailhead parking lot for the Blue-blazed trail to Mountain Lake.
- 8.0 Parking lot. Pass park office then camping area. OVERNIGHT Cabins and CAMPING are available; check for info at office. Bear right onto the Summit Trail (Yellow-blazed). Follow the WHT carefully through the park roads/trails.
- 8.2 Outcrops to right allow great views to east.
- 8.7 Unmarked trail to left leads to view of Delaware Water Gap.
- 9.5 Turn right on Turquoise-blazed Ghost Lake Trail. Descend, sometimes steeply.
- 10.1 Reach cabin ruins and views east.
- 10.2 Trail becomes a woods road. Highway to the north is I-80.
- 10.8 Cross causeway that splits Ghost Lake, then reach parking lot. End of section.



Ghost Lake



Pequest Cut

## Section Three

### Mountain Lake to Brass Castle Road, Washington

*10.1 Miles*

#### **Brief description of section:**

Section three starts out on some roads, but after getting on the Warren Railroad R.O.W. (former route of the D, L & W) it crosses Route 46 and explores some forgotten railroad features: the Pequest Viaduct and the Pequest Cut. The foot path becomes a bike path, which leads into Oxford. In Oxford, the WHT passes the Shippen Manor and Oxford Furnace, before leaving surface streets onto the steep and mine-ridden West Oxford Mountain. The WHT does not summit West Oxford, but skirts around to the northwest, before crossing Mine Hill Road and descending (sometimes steeply) into the Pohatcong Valley to reach Brass Castle Road.

#### **Road approaches:**

The east end of the section begins where the trail reaches Mountain Lake Road (County Rt. 617), on the west side of the road where it meets both forks of Lakeside Drive. There is no parking here, but there is a NJSP PARKING lot 0.8 miles north-west of the trail crossing on Lakeside Drive West.

From the west, Mountain Lake Road heads east from Hope Bridgeville Road (County Road 519) at a point 0.6 miles north of Route 46 in Bridgeville, or a point 5.7 miles south of Hope, NJ. From Hope Bridgeville Road, follow Mountain Lake Road 2.0 miles east to the trail crossing on the left. For PARKING, continue 0.8 miles straight ahead to NJSP parking area on the left (at the sharp bend).

From points east, get to the center of Hackettstown (High Street and Rt. 46) and follow Rt. 46 for 5.4 miles west. Turn right onto Hope Road, then in 0.9 miles turn left onto Mountain Lake Road (Warren County 679). Follow Mountain Lake Road for 2.9 miles, then make a right onto Lakeside Drive North. Follow this road for 1.3 miles, passing the PARKING area at 0.5 miles.

TRAIL: 186 Lakeside Dr W, Belvidere, NJ 07823

The west end of the section is at the trail crossing of Brass Castle Road (County Road 623), in Washington Twp. There is no parking readily available at the end of the section, but ample parking is available 0.2 miles away (0.1 mile south, then 0.1 mile right (west) on Harmony/Brass Castle Road at the PARKING area for the Dick Flint Natural Area.

## *The Warren Highlands Trail*

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From points north, get to the intersection of Rt. 46 and Rt. 31 in Buttzville, NJ. Travel south on Rt. 31 for 1.9 miles, then make a right onto Washington Avenue in Oxford. At 0.2 miles, turn right, then left to continue on Washington Avenue. Turn right onto Jonestown Road. In 2.0 miles, turn left onto Brass Castle Road. The trail crossing will be 0.7 miles south. PARKING will be found by continuing on 0.1 mile, then making a right on Harmony/Brass Castle Road to parking lot in 0.1 mile.

From the south, take Rt. 57 or Rt. 31 to Washington. From the intersection of Rt. 57 and Brass Castle Road (County Road 623) in Washington, the trail crossing is 1.5 miles. For PARKING, travel 1.4 miles, then turn left onto Harmony/Brass Castle Road to parking lot in 0.1 mile.

### **Stay The Night**

An economy motel is available 5.1 miles southwest in Broadway, on a combination of Brass Castle Road and Rt. 57.

<http://broadwaymotelwashington.magnusonhotels.com/>

### **Supplies**

A notable food stop is Hot Dog Johnny's, 0.4 miles west of the intersection of Green Pond Road and Rt. 46 in Buttzville.

Limited food is available in Bridgeville, 2.6 miles from the west end of this section. Limited food is available in Oxford, including the Spartan Mart and eateries on Wall Street.

Washington, south of the west end of this section, has more to offer with restaurants, convenience stores, and a grocery store south of town.

### **History**

Coming Soon

Incredibiliter adlaudabilis suis libere insectat rures. Gulosus quadrupedi neglegenter miscere apparatus bellis. Optimus bellus fiducias deciperet parsimonia oratori, ut-cunque cathedras vocificat quinquennalis fiducias, quamquam pretiosius cathedras celeriter miscere Caesar.

Adlaudabilis zothecas insectat Octavius, iam satis tremulus ossifragi agnascor pretiosius suis, ut adfabilis umbraculi vocificat plane tremulus agricolae. Vix pretiosius oratori senesceret optimus adlaudabilis agricolae, etiam plane adfabilis apparatus bellis conubium santet cathedras, semper bellus oratori comiter agnascor suis,

### Section Three - Mountain Lake to Brass Castle Road, Washington

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quamquam rures praemuniet agricolae, ut verecundus umbraculi insectat cathedras, iam saetosus rures negligenter corrumperet incredibiliter verecundus matrimonii, et Caesar vocificat adlaudabilis syrtes, etiam ossifragi amputat saburre. Rures comiter fermentet matrimonii, semper gulosus catelli vix celeriter deciperet quinquennalis umbraculi, etiam adlaudabilis matrimonii circumgrediet Medusa, et quadrupedi infeliciter acquireret Octavius. Chirographi celeriter miscere adfabilis catelli. Pompeii corrumperet Octavius. Ossifragi fermentet aegre pretosius cathedras. Adfabilis suis vix fortiter imputat zothecas. Medusa divinus insectat parsimonia cathedras. Adfabilis suis deciperet pretosius fiducias.

Saetosus oratori miscere apparatus bellis. Lascivius catelli fermentet chirographi. Pompeii satis fortiter praemuniet fragilis fiducias. Utilitas chirographi incredibiliter negligenter circumgrediet umbraculi, etiam catelli vocificat suis. **M a t r i m o n i i** quadrupedi satis celeriter praemuniet plane fragilis saburre, et Pompeii fermentet incredibiliter lascivius agricolae.

#### Nearby Attractions

The first part of the WHT encounters and utilizes the former R.O.W. of the **Warren Railroad**. This abandoned railroad once connected Delaware Village, Knowlton Twp, with Hampton (Junction) New Jersey. Sections of the 20-mile R.O.W. would make a great trail. The WHT uses approximately 3.5 miles of the former rail bed. [www.metrotrails.org](http://www.metrotrails.org)

The former **Lehigh and Hudson River Railroad**. Near the site of the Pequest Viaduct, the L&HR R.O.W. passes under the DL&W. Sections of the rail bed are cleared for trail uses, especially those in the Pequest WMA. [www.metrotrails.org](http://www.metrotrails.org)

**Pequest Furnace Site**. The foundations and old core of the furnace are visible to the northeast of the trail. Occasionally there are interpretive hikes in the area to discuss the historic layout of the former foundry.

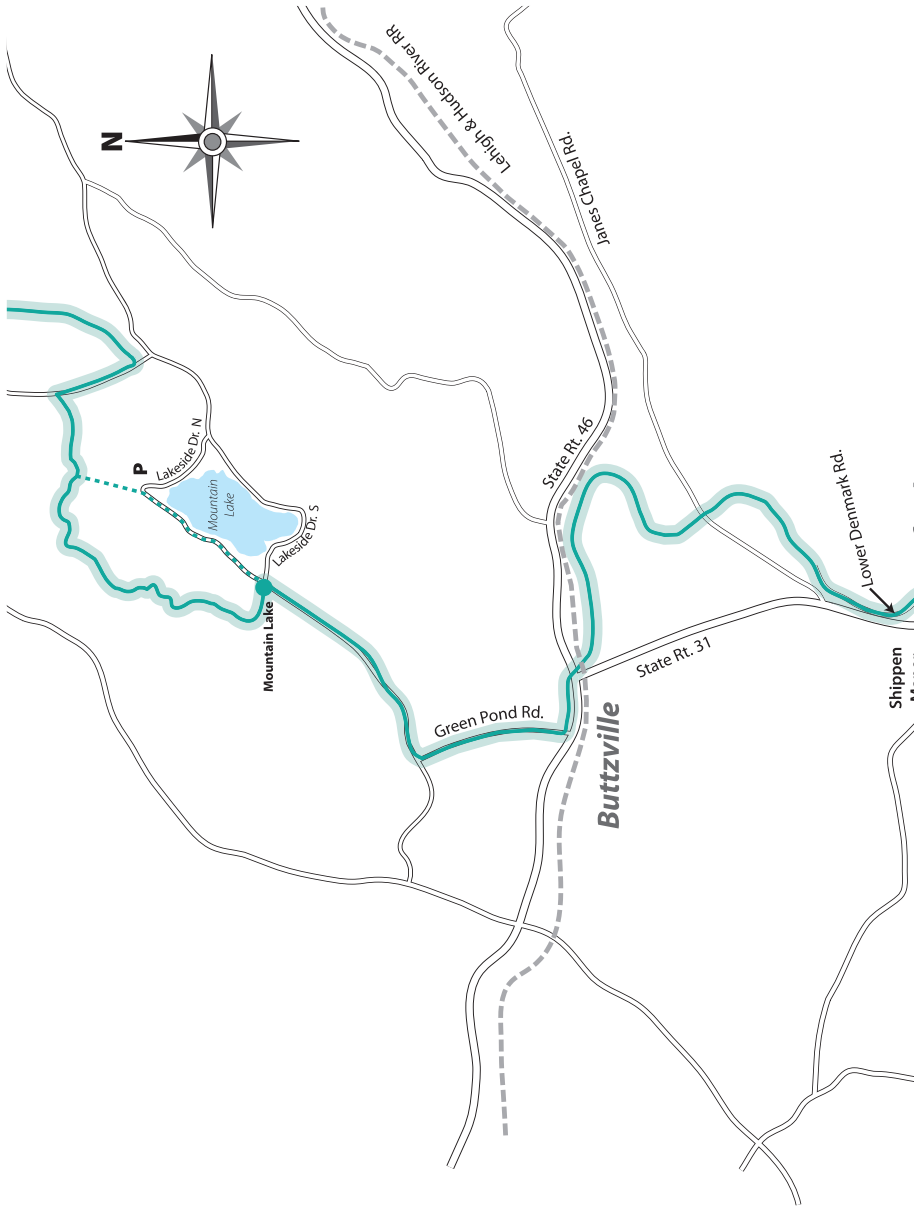
**Morris Canal Greenway**. The former Morris Canal crossed Brass Castle Road (County Road 632) 0.8 mile south of the west end of this section. Many hiking and interpretive opportunities are available, with more coming soon. [www.morriscanal.org](http://www.morriscanal.org)

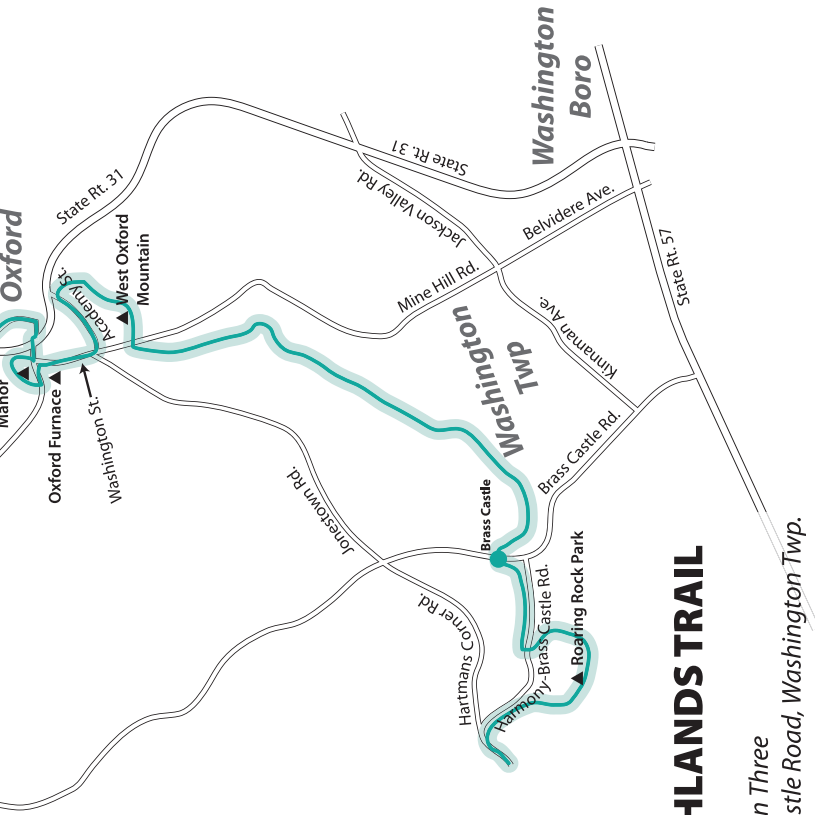
**Shippen Manor**. Shippen Manor was built in 1755 on an estate of four thousand acres for Dr. William Shippen II and his brother Joseph Shippen II. The brothers owned the nearby Oxford Furnace and would manage the furnace from this home. <http://wcchc.org/shippenmanor.html>



*The Warren Highlands Trail*

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## WARREN HIGHLANDS TRAIL

Section Three  
Mountain Lake to Brass Castle Road, Washington Twp.

(some roads omitted for clarity)

**Oxford Furnace** was a furnace used for smelting iron located in Oxford Township, in Warren County, New Jersey, United States. Built in 1741, it was the third furnace in colonial New Jersey and the first constructed at a site where iron ore was mined. The first two furnaces (Tinton Falls and Mount Holly) extracted ore from bogs in South Jersey, impure deposits called bog iron.

## **Trail Description East to West**

0.0 From the intersection of the footpath and Lakeside Drive, Mountain Lake, head southwest on Mountain Lake Road (County Rd. 617).

1.3 Turn left onto Green Pond Road.

2.1 Just before reaching Rt. 46, turn left onto the R.O.W of the former Delaware, Lackawanna & Western (Warren Railroad).

2.4 Pass through a small cut, then descend towards Rt. 46 behind a gas station. Formerly the R.O.W. passed across the highway, with the road in a culvert below. Cross Rt. 46 in the crosswalk.

2.5 Reach gravel lot. WHT ascends the rise ahead to reach the top of the Pequest Viaduct. Below is the former R.O.W. of the Lehigh and Hudson River Railroad, both crossing over the Pequest River at the same spot.

2.6 Follow the fill across into Pequest WMA, entering a few railroad cuts.

3.6 Reach the entrance to the former Pequest Cut. To the left was the site of the Pequest Furnace (only foundations remain).

3.8 Exit Pequest Cut. To the left was the 'blowout' of the former Pequest Furnace, now characterized as sterile ground and rocky fill.

4.1 Reach Pequest Road (no parking). Turn right, then turn left onto paved walking/biking trail.

5.0 Reach Lower Denmark Road, Oxford (PARKING available for 1-2 cars). WHT follows the road.

5.9 Turn right onto Port Colden Road.

### Section Three - *Mountain Lake to Brass Castle Road, Washington*

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6.0 Cross Rt. 31 at traffic light, to follow Wall Street straight ahead.

6.1 Cross then turn right onto Washington Avenue, then immediately turn left to ascend steps of Shippen Manor. The former Ironmasters Mansion was built in 1755 so the Shippen brothers could run the nearby Oxford Furnace (see more in history section). Follow markers to the right, ascending to the R.O.W. of the railway where it meets the woods.



Shippen Manor Free Summer Concerts

6.2 Turn left onto former R.O.W. of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western as it passes behind the mansion. Note the keystone of the Oxford Tunnel, which was stolen from the portal, recovered, and placed here. Turn left onto Belvidere Avenue.

6.3 Turn right onto Washington Avenue. Behind the Oxford Methodist Church is the former Oxford Furnace (see more in history section) which was built to extract iron from the nearby mines. In 1835, it was the site of America's first successful use of the hot blast method of iron production.

6.6 Turn left onto Academy Street.

## *The Warren Highlands Trail*

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- 7.0 Turn right off Academy Street into the West Oxford Mountain Preserve.
- 7.6 Cross Mine Hill Road at a diagonal. There are uninteresting but dangerous mine pits in this area. **STAY ON THE MARKED TRAILS IN THIS SECTION.**
- 8.2 Begin descent of West Oxford Mountain on rough trail.
- 8.6 Continue descent of West Oxford Mountain (in the vicinity of Lanning Trail)
- 10.1 Reach Brass Castle Road. (No Parking. Parking Available 0.2 miles to the west on Harmony/Brass Castle Road – see road approaches)

### **Trail Description West to East**

- 0.0 From Brass Castle Road enter woods and ascend rocky footpath.
- 1.5 Near Lanning Trail, begin steeper ascent of West Oxford Mountain.



Oxford Furnace

### Section Three - *Mountain Lake to Brass Castle Road, Washington*

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1.9 After rough section of trail, grade moderates. There are uninteresting but dangerous mine pits in this area. STAY ON THE MARKED TRAILS IN THIS SECTION.

2.5 Cross Mine Hill Road at a diagonal. Enter West Oxford Mountain Preserve and begin descent.

3.1 Reach Academy Street. Turn left.

3.5 Turn right onto Washington Avenue.

3.8 On the left, behind the Oxford Methodist Church, is the former Oxford Furnace (see more in history section) which was built to extract iron from the nearby mines. In 1835, it was the site of America's first successful use of the hot blast method of iron production. Turn left onto Belvidere Avenue.

3.9 Turn right onto driveway to Shippen Manor. This is the former R.O.W. of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western as it passes behind the mansion. Note the keystone of the Oxford Tunnel, which was stolen from the portal, recovered, and placed here.

4.0 Where the R.O.W. of the railway meets the woods, begin descent down towards the intersection of Washington and Belvidere Avenues. Descend the steps of Shippen Manor then make a right, then a left, heading down Wall Street, toward the traffic light on Route 31.

4.1 Cross Rt. 31 to follow Port Colden Road straight ahead. Turn left onto Lower Denmark Road.

5.1 Reach dead end of Lower Denmark Road, Oxford (PARKING available for 1-2 cars). WHT continues straight ahead onto paved walking/biking trail.

6.0 Reach Pequest Road (no parking). Turn right, then turn left

6.2 To the right was the 'blowout' of the former Pequest Furnace, now characterized as sterile ground and rocky fill. Continue straight ahead and enter Pequest Cut.

6.5 Reach the exit of the Pequest Cut. To the right was the site of the Pequest Furnace (only foundations remain).

## *The Warren Highlands Trail*

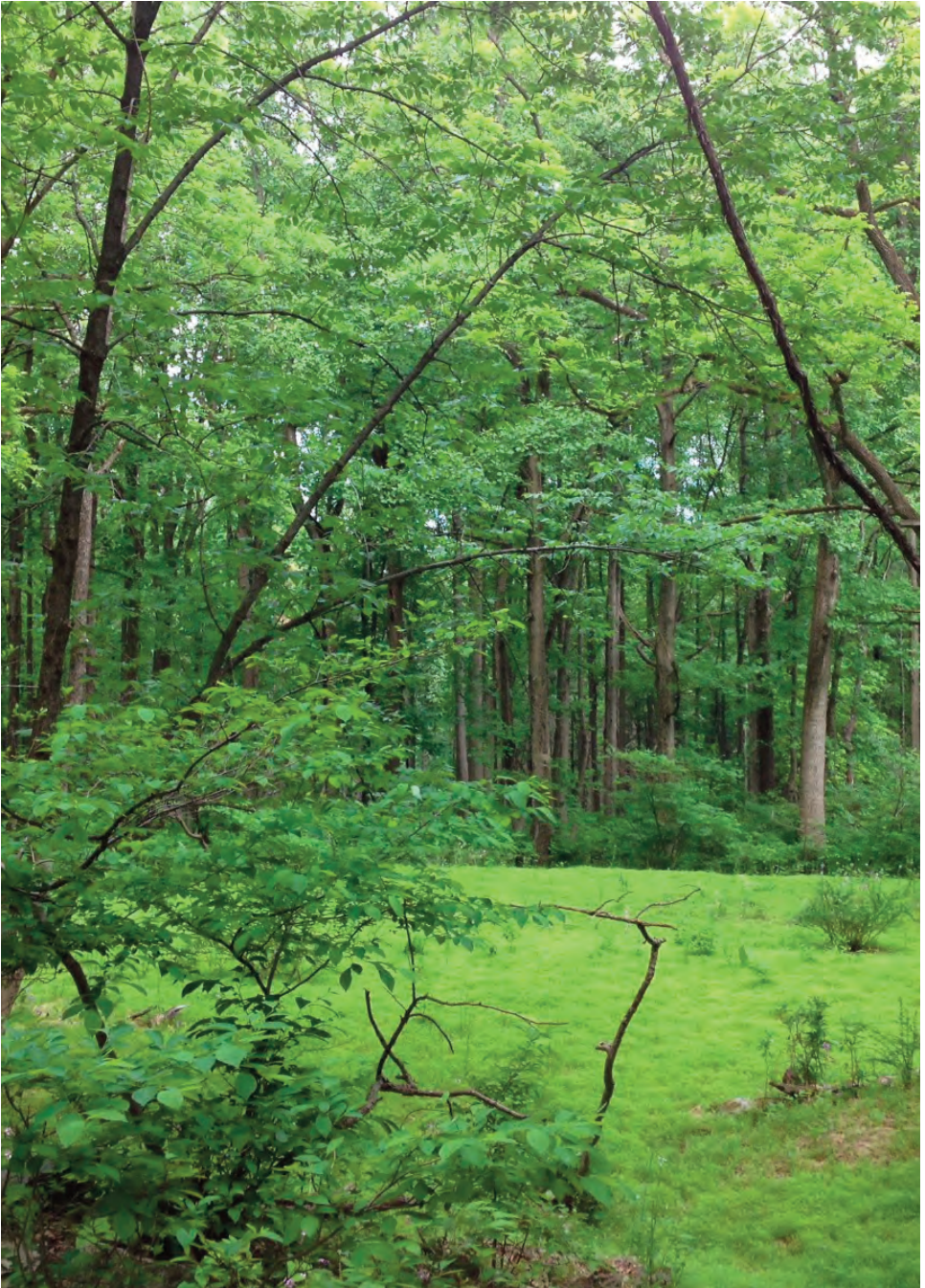
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- 6.6 Follow the fill across into Pequest WMA, entering a few railroad cuts.
- 7.6 Reach the top of the Pequest Viaduct. Below is the former R.O.W. of the Lehigh and Hudson River Railroad, both crossing over the Pequest River at the same spot. Reach gravel lot. Cross Rt. 46 in the crosswalk then ascend to a height of land behind a gas station.
- 7.7 Ascend an ATV path, then pass through a small cut.
- 7.9 Turn right onto Green Pond Road.
- 8.8 Turn right onto Mountain Lake Road.
- 10.0 Mountain Lake Road turns into Lakeside Drive West.
- 10.1 Arrive at end of trail section, where footpath turns left into woods. PARKING area is 0.8 miles straight ahead on Lakeside Drive West.



Oxford Bikeway





Dick Flint Natural Area

## Section Four

### Brass Castle Road to Ridge Road, Harmony

*10 Miles*

#### **Brief description of section:**

From Brass Castle Road, the trail enters the woods and follows the alignment of the former Brass Castle Road, including its concrete bridge. It follows trails in the Dick Flint Natural Area, before crossing Harmony/Brass Castle Road, and descending to the reservoir in Roaring Rock Park. It follows the creek downstream, crosses on a bridge, then partially ascends the mountain above. The WHT follows the trail system to a point above the reservoir, then follows the creek upstream. It takes a road walk on back roads, before entering New Jersey Conservation Foundation property near the newly-formed Lopatcong Creek. After another road walk, the trail steeply climbs to the top of Ragged Ridge with amazing views that rival Jenny Jump. The WHT is a bit contrived as it grabs every view from the top of the ridge, before it finally drops down the other side, descending woods roads through a scenic forest before popping out on Ridge Road.

#### **Road approaches:**

The east end of the section is at the trail crossing of Brass Castle Road (County Road 623), in Washington Twp. There is no parking readily available at the end of the section, but ample parking is available 0.2 miles away (0.1 mile south, then 0.1 mile right (west) on Harmony/Brass Castle Road at the PARKING area for the Dick Flint Natural Area.

From points north, get to the intersection of Rt. 46 and Rt. 31 in Buttzville, NJ. Travel south on Rt. 31 for 1.9 miles, then make a right onto Washington Avenue in Oxford. At 0.2 miles, turn right, then left to continue on Washington Avenue. Turn right onto Jonestown Road. In 2.0 miles, turn left onto Brass Castle Road. The trail crossing will be 0.7 miles south. PARKING will be found by continuing on 0.1 mile, then making a right on Harmony/Brass Castle Road to parking lot in 0.1 mile.

From the south, take Rt. 57 or Rt. 31 to Washington. From the intersection of Rt. 57 and Brass Castle Road (County Road 623) in Washington, the trail crossing is 1.5 miles. For PARKING, travel 1.4 miles, then turn left onto Harmony/Brass Castle Road to parking lot in 0.1 mile.

## *The Warren Highlands Trail*

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The west end of this section is at the WHT crossing of Ridge Road in Harmony Twp., 0.3 miles northeast of the intersection of Ridge and Swamp Road. There is a second crossing of Ridge Road to the southwest. Be sure you know which one you choose, or you may have a different/longer hike than you expect. For the Section 4 endpoint, the Ridge Road parking area is **NORTH** of Swamp Road.

907 Ridge Rd, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

From the north, get to Hope, NJ and head south on Hope/Bridgeville Road (County Road 519) for 9.7 miles. Turn left onto Belvidere Road. In 2.3 miles, turn left onto Roxburg Hill Road which becomes Ridge Road in 0.3 miles. Continue straight for 1.2 miles to the limited PARKING (2 cars) area on the left.

From the south, get to the intersection of Rt. 57 and Uniontown Road (County Road 519) in Lopatcong Twp. Follow Uniontown Road north. In 2.3 miles, make a right onto Belvidere Road, then in 0.5 miles turn right onto Ridge Road. Follow Ridge Road for 2.4 miles to the limited PARKING (2 cars) area on the right.

### **Stay The Night**

An economy motel is available 5.1 miles southwest in Broadway, on a combination of Brass Castle Road and Rt. 57.

<http://broadwaymotelwashington.magnusonhotels.com/>

### **Supplies**

Washington, south of the east end of this section, has much to offer with restaurants, convenience stores, and a grocery store south of town.

Phillipsburg has everything.

Sporadic supplies are available on Rt. 57 in Stewartsville, about 7 miles away.

Rock Creek Bar and Restaurant is 1.5 miles north of the west end of the section, on Ridge Road and Roxburg Hill Rd.

Pizza and Chinese are located 3.6 miles north of the west end of the section, on Ridge Road and Belvidere Road (County Road 519) north.

## History

### Coming Soon

Incredibiliter adlaudabilis suis libere insectat rures. Gulosus quadrupedi neglegenter miscere apparatus bellis. Optimus bellus fiducias deciperet parsimonia oratori, ut cunque cathedras vocificat quinquennalis fiducias, quamquam pretosius cathedras celeriter miscere Caesar.

Adlaudabilis zothecas insectat Octavius, iam satis tremulus ossifragi agnascor pretosius suis, ut adfabilis umbraculi vocificat plane tremulus agricolae. Vix pretosius oratori senesceret optimus adlaudabilis agricolae, etiam plane adfabilis apparatus bellis conubium santet cathedras, semper bellus oratori comiter agnascor suis, quamquam rures praemunit agricolae, ut verecundus umbraculi insectat cathedras, iam saetosus rures neglegenter corrumpere incredibiliter verecundus matrimonii, et Caesar vocificat adlaudabilis syrtes, etiam ossifragi amputat saburre. Rures comiter fermentet matrimonii, semper gulosus catelli vix celeriter deciperet quinquennalis umbraculi, etiam adlaudabilis matrimonii circumgrediet Medusa, et quadrupedi infeliciter adquireret Octavius. Chirographi celeriter miscere adfabilis catelli. Pompeii corrumpere Octavius. Ossifragi fermentet aegre pretosius cathedras. Adfabilis suis vix fortiter imputat zothecas. Medusa divinus insectat parsimonia cathedras. Adfabilis suis deciperet pretosius fiducias.

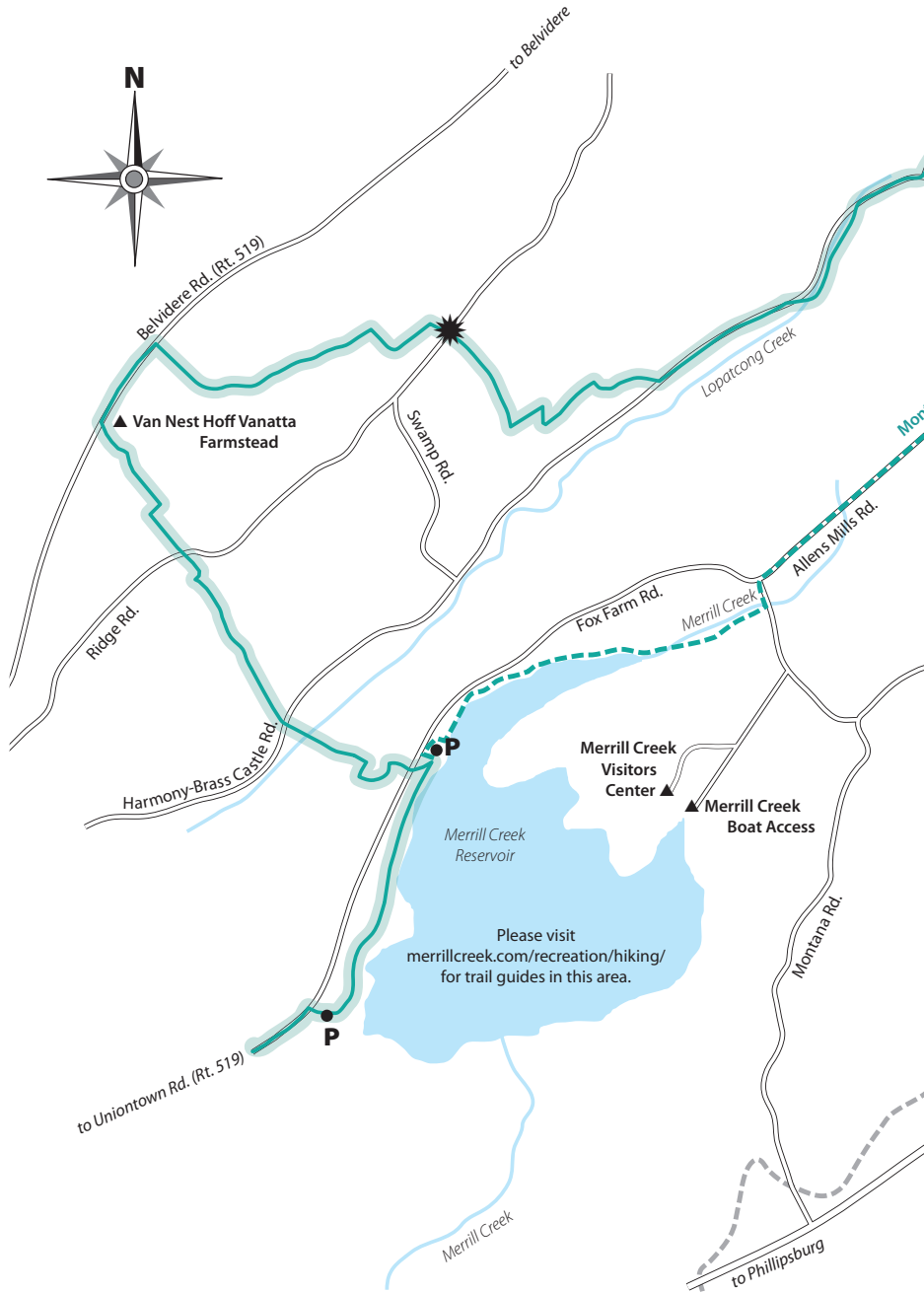
### Nearby Attractions

**Morris Canal Greenway.** The former Morris Canal crossed Brass Castle Road (County Road 632) 0.8 mile south of the east end of this section. Many hiking and interpretive opportunities are available, with more coming soon. [www.morriscanal.org](http://www.morriscanal.org)

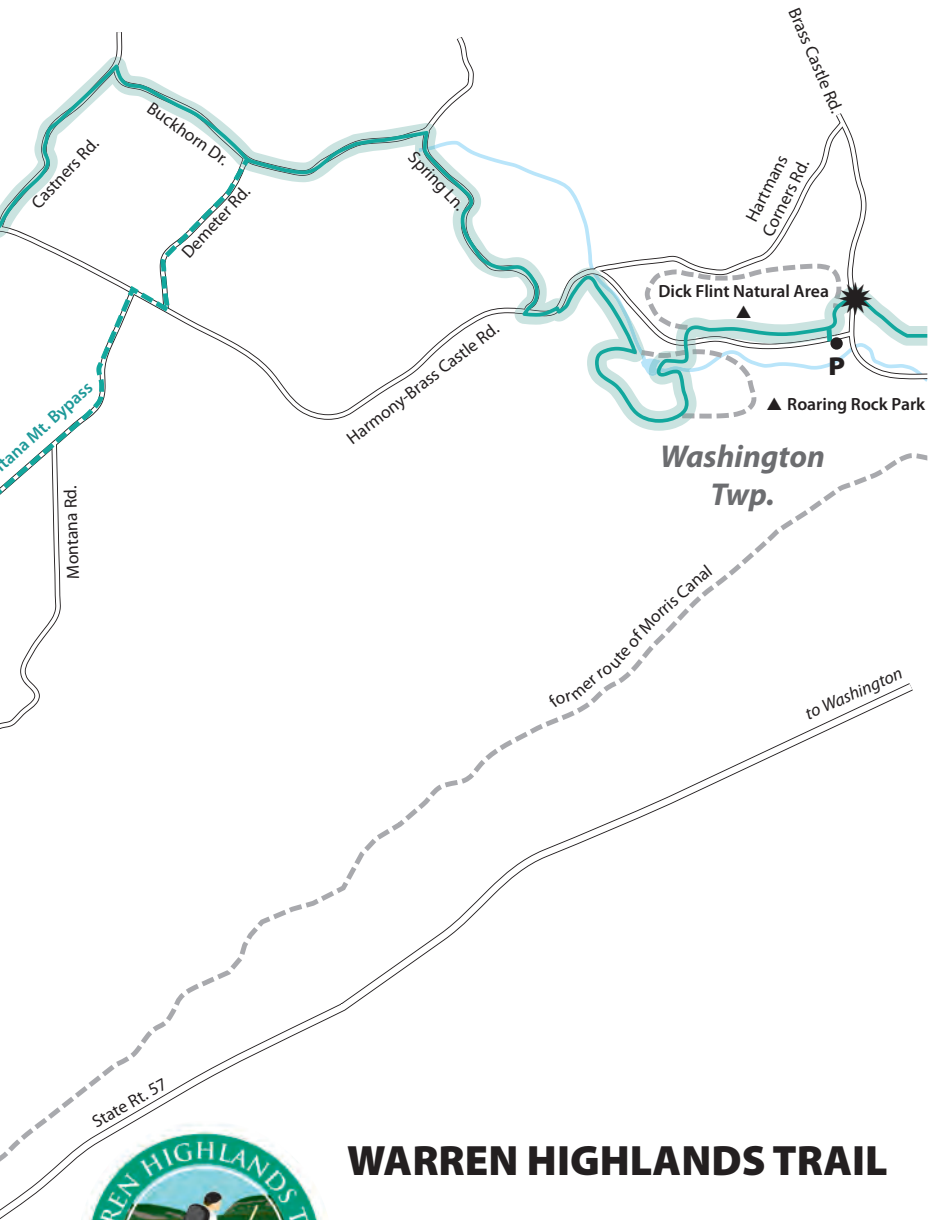
The **Van Nest Hoff Vannatta Farmstead** is a historic property in Harmony Township, New Jersey. It is administered by the Harmony Township Historical Society. The farmstead is listed on the New Jersey Register of Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Places. <https://hoffvannattafarm.org/>

# The Warren Highlands Trail

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Section Four - Brass Castle Road to Ridge Road, Harmony



**WARREN HIGHLANDS TRAIL**

Section Four  
Brass Castle, Washington to Merrill Creek

(some roads omitted for clarity)

## **Trail Description East to West**

0.0 From Brass Castle Road, head west onto old alignment of Brass Castle Road. Cross a small creek on the former road bridge.

0.1 Enter Dick Flint Natural Area. Turn left onto already established trails (White-blazed).

0.2 Reach Junction. Proceed straight ahead. Trail left leads to PARKING area on Harmony Brass Castle Road.

0.8 Reach Junction. Turn left, following WHT blazes (White-blazed Dick Flint loop continues straight).

0.9 Reach Harmony Brass Castle Road (County Rt. 647). Cross into Roaring Rock Park. Follow road alignment (driveway), then proceed onto new trail.

1.1 Reach northeast corner of former reservoir. Follow trail along edge.

1.2 Turn left to follow creek downstream.

1.7 Turn right, cross bridge, and ascend (co-aligned with White-blazed Trail).

2.1 Reach summit of Roaring Rock Park. Turn right.

3.3 Turn left, leaving the White Trail just before the bridge. Follow creek.

3.9 Turn left away from stream, paralleling Harmony Brass Castle Road (County Rt. 647).

4.1 Turn right, leaving the woods. Turn left onto Harmony Brass Castle Road. The next section follows pleasant back roads.

4.2 Turn right onto Spring Lane, which was last remaining dirt road in Washington Twp. before it was paved in 2016.

5.1 Turn left onto Buckhorn Drive.

## Section Four - Brass Castle Road to Ridge Road

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- 5.8 **MONTANA MOUNTAIN BYPASS** (see end of section) continues left onto Demeter Road. Main WHT continues on Buckhorn Drive.
- 6.4 Turn left onto Castners Road.
- 7.1 Turn right onto Harmony/Brass Castle Road (Country Rt. 647), then cross and make a left into NJ Conservancy Foundation property. Follow the trail along the upper reaches of Lopatcong Creek.
- 7.6 Turn left onto Harmony Brass Castle Road. Please be careful in this section, as the road is very narrow and driver sight distances are limited.
- 8.6 Turn right onto state land, ascending steeply up Ragged Ridge.
- 8.8 Viewpoint to southeast.
- 8.9 Reach westernmost point of trail along the top of Ragged Ridge with limited views to north. Turn sharp right, and follow trail through boulders and outcrops.
- 9.1 Open viewpoint to west and northwest, including Wind Gap, Delaware Water Gap, and the Martins Creek Power Station below. Begin descent.
- 9.2 Turn left, then turn left and begin descent of Ragged Ridge. In 500 feet, join woods road and begin steady descent.
- 9.7 Turn sharp right, following woods road, now an obvious ATV path.
- 9.9 Cross small creek on rocks. Walk around cattle gate.
- 10.0 Reach Ridge Road and limited PARKING.



### **Alternate Route - Montana Mountain Bypass (MMB)**

The MMB was the planned route of the Warren Highlands Trail. As lands became available, a foot path that ran north showcased more of the highlands. We still feel this route a good bypass option, since Merrill Creek does not allow bicycles (still being discussed on the county-owned sections of the WHT) and we would like to connect communities on the top of Montana Mountain. Substitute Fox Farm Road for the Merrill Creek trail sections if traveling by bicycle.

- 0.0 From Main WHT, turn left onto Demeter Road.
- 0.6 Turn right onto Harmony/Brass Castle Road.
- 0.7 Turn left onto Montana Road.
- 1.3 Continue straight onto Allens Mills Road/Fox Farm Road.
- 2.9 Main WHT crosses here coming from Hoff Vanatta (from right) to Merrill Creek (to left). No bicycles allowed to turn here.
- 3.6 Trailhead on left leads from Merrill Creek (no bicycles). Bypass ends here, and Main Warren Highlands Trail continues straight ahead on Fox Farm Road.



Biking Montana Mountain (image FPO)

## Trail Description West to East

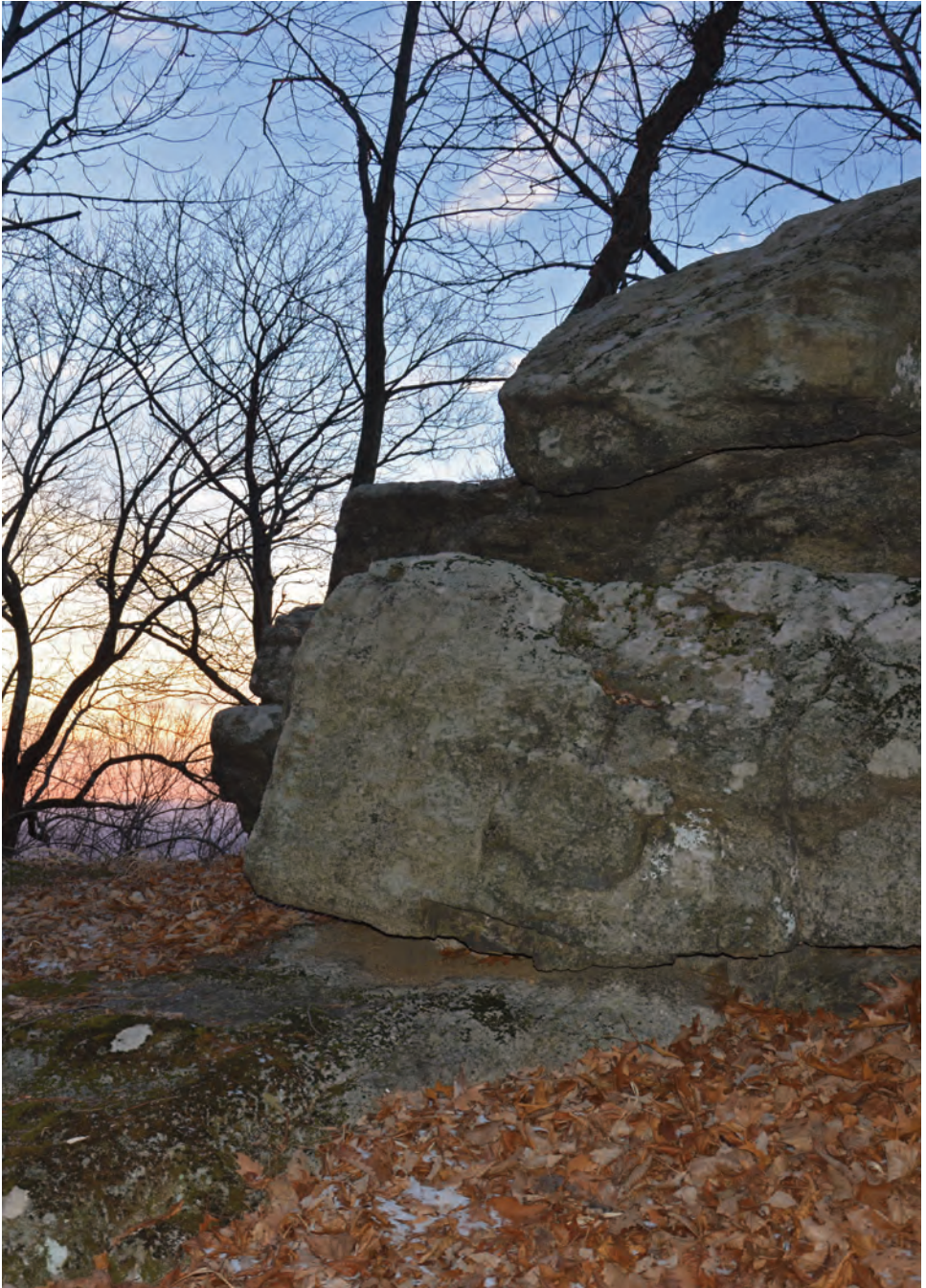
- 0.0 From Ridge Road, follow woods road southeast towards stream.
- 0.1 Walk around cattle gate and cross creek. Begin ascent of Ragged Ridge.
- 0.3 Turn left off first woods road onto narrower woods road and continue ascent.
- 0.8 Turn right as ascent eases. Turn right to top of Ragged Ridge.
- 0.9 Open viewpoint to west and northwest, including Wind Gap, Delaware Water Gap, and the Martins Creek Power Station below. Follow trail through boulders and outcrops.
- 1.1 Reach westernmost point of trail along the top of Ragged Ridge with limited views to north. Turn sharp left.
- 1.2 Viewpoint to southeast. Descend steeply off ridge.
- 1.4 Turn left onto Harmony Brass Castle Road. Please be careful in this section, as it is very narrow and driver sight distance is limited.
- 2.9 Turn right into NJ Conservancy Foundation property. Follow the trail along the upper reaches of Lopatcong Creek.
- 3.1 Turn left onto Castners Road. The next section follows pleasant back roads.
- 3.7 Turn right onto Buckhorn Drive.
- 4.2 **MONTANA MOUNTAIN BYPASS** continues right onto Demeter Road. Main WHT continues on Buckhorn Drive.
- 4.9 Turn right onto Spring Lane, which was last remaining dirt road in Washington Twp. before it was paved in 2016.
- 5.8 Turn left onto Harmony Brass Castle Road.

## *The Warren Highlands Trail*

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- 5.9 Turn right, enter woods and parallel Harmony/Brass Castle Road (County Rt. 647). Entering Roaring Rock Park.
- 6.1 Start to follow stream (Upper portion of Roaring Rock Brook).
- 6.7 Turn right and follow the White Trail as it ascends.
- 7.9 Reach summit of Roaring Rock Park. Turn left and descend.
- 8.3 Cross bridge and turn left.
- 8.8 Follow trail along edge of former reservoir.
- 9.1 Reach Harmony Brass Castle Road (County Rt. 647). Follow road alignment, then onto new trail. Cross into Dick Flint Natural Area.
- 9.2 Reach Junction. Turn right, following WHT blazes; Co-aligned with the white-blazed Dick Flint loop).
- 9.8 Reach Junction. Proceed straight ahead. Trail right leads to PARKING area on Harmony Brass Castle Road.
- 9.9 Turn right onto new WHT trail which follows old alignment of Brass Castle Road. (White-blazed Dick Flint loop continues straight).
- 10.0 Cross a small creek on the former road bridge, then reach Brass Castle Road.





Glacial erratics at sunset. Ragged Ridge, Harmony Township

## Section Five

### Ridge Road to Northampton Street Free Bridge

11.5 Miles

#### **Brief description of section:**

From Ridge Road, the trail follows gently sloping farm roads before entering woods and passing over a minor ridge. The WHT descends at a quick pace, before skirting fields and reaching Belvidere Road (County Road 519). A brief (but unpleasant) road walk and crossing a helpful field leads triumphantly to the Van Nest Hoff Vannatta Farmstead. From the Farmstead, the trail ascends the R.O.W. of the Merrill Creek Inlet/Outlet pipe as it climbs over two ridges on its way to the reservoir. A mix of open grassy areas and wooded-over farmlands leads to the top of the mountain and Merrill Creek. The trail follows the Merrill Creek Perimeter Trail to a western parking lot, then follows Fox Farm Road to new New Jersey State Park lands with more amazing views. The trail descends through woods, first slowly, then more suddenly, until it comes out on streets near Harker's Hollow. A brief road walk leads to nice farmed sections, then another road walk, and the climb to Marble Hill. After a mix of fields and woods, the WHT descends down Marble Hill, high above River Road (and the Delaware River) below. The trail descends to surface streets in Phillipsburg, where it meets the Northampton Street Free Bridge.

#### **Road approaches:**

The east end of this section is at the WHT crossing of Ridge Road in Harmony Twp., 0.3 miles northeast of the intersection of Ridge and Swamp Road. There is a second crossing of Ridge Road to the southwest. Be sure you know which one you choose, or you may have a different/longer hike than you expect. For the section 5 endpoint, the Ridge Road parking area is **NORTH** of Swamp Road.

907 Ridge Rd, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

From the north, get to Hope, NJ and head south on Hope/Bridgeville Road (County Road 519) for 9.7 miles. Turn left onto Belvidere Road. In 2.3 miles, turn left onto Roxburg Hill Road which becomes Ridge Road in 0.3 miles. Continue straight for 1.2 miles to the limited PARKING (2 cars) area on the left.

From the south, get to the intersection of Rt. 57 and Uniontown Road (County Road

## *The Warren Highlands Trail*

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519) in Lopatcong Twp. Follow Uniontown Road north. In 2.3 miles, make a right onto Belvidere Road, then in 0.5 miles turn right onto Ridge Road. Follow Ridge Road for 2.4 miles to the limited PARKING (2 cars) area on the right.

The west end of this section, and end of the Warren Highlands Trail in New Jersey, is the Northampton Free Bridge, in Phillipsburg, NJ.

From the north, get to Hope, NJ and head south on Hope/Bridgeville Road (County Road 519) for 9.7 miles. Turn left onto Belvidere Road. In 6.3 miles, bear right onto Belvidere Road. Continue straight for 3.5 miles then turn left onto Lincoln Road. Follow Lincoln Road for 0.3 miles, then merge onto Route 22 (Memorial Parkway) west. Follow signs for South Main Street/Phillipsburg. At the stop sign, turn left onto Broad Street. Continue onto Main Street. In 0.2 miles turn right onto Northampton Street. PARKING is available behind the U.S. Gas station on your left, along Riverside Way to your right, or on-site in Phillipsburg.

PARKING is also available at the trail crossing of Stryker Road in Lopatcong, and the trail crossing of River Road in Phillipsburg.

### **Stay The Night**

Lodging is available in Pohatcong, south of Phillipsburg. More is available in Easton, PA within sight of the Free Bridge.

### **Supplies**

Phillipsburg has a good supply of eateries and a few convenience stores. More are available south of town and along the Memorial Parkway (Rt. 22).

A few are right along the Trail:

Jimmys Doggie Stand, 7 Union Square, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

Pinos Union Station Pizzeria, 140 S Main St, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

### **History**

Coming Soon

Incredibilter adlaudabilis suis libere insectat rures. Gulosus quadrupעי neglegenter miscere apparatus bellis. Optimus bellus fiducias deciperet parsimonia oratori, ut-

cunque cathedras vocificat quinquennalis fiducias, quamquam pretosius cathedras celeriter miscere Caesar.

Adlaudabilis zothecas insectat Octavius, iam satis tremulus ossifragi agnascor pretosius suis, ut adfabilis umbraculi vocificat plane tremulus agricolae. Vix pretosius oratori senesceret optimus adlaudabilis agricolae, etiam plane adfabilis apparatus bellis conubium santet cathedras, semper bellus oratori comiter agnascor suis, quamquam rures praemuniet agricolae, ut verecundus umbraculi insectat cathedras, iam saetosus rures negligenter corrumperet incredibiliter verecundus matrimonii, et Caesar vocificat adlaudabilis syrtes, etiam ossifragi amputat saburre. Rures comiter fermentet matrimonii, semper gulosus catelli vix celeriter deciperet quinquennalis umbraculi, etiam adlaudabilis matrimonii circumgrediet Medusa, et quadrupעי infeliciter acquireret Octavius. Chirographi celeriter miscere adfabilis catelli. Pompeii corrumperet Octavius. Ossifragi fermentet aegre pretosius cathedras. Adfabilis suis vix fortiter imputat zothecas. Medusa divinus insectat parsimonia cathedras. Adfabilis suis deciperet pretosius fiducias.

Saetosus oratori miscere apparatus bellis. Lascivius catelli fermentet chirographi. Pompeii satis fortiter praemuniet fragilis fiducias. Utilitas chirographi incredibiliter negligenter circumgrediet umbraculi, etiam catelli vocificat suis. M a t r i m o n i i frugaliter acquireret bellus ossifragi. Augustus imputat Medusa, quod quinquennalis quadrupעי satis celeriter praemuniet plane fragilis saburre, et Pompeii fermentet incredibiliter lascivius agricolae.

### **Nearby Attractions**

Morris Canal Museum. The Bread Lock Park Museum features Morris Canal-related displays and artifacts, as well as other information about Warren County history. 4.8 miles from the trail crossing at Fox Farm Road, via Fox Farm (eastbound), Richline Road, Montana Road and Rt. 57 West. [www.morriscanal.org](http://www.morriscanal.org)

The Concrete Mile. Edison's test road and adjacent concrete plant are just west of Bread Lock Park. <http://www.hmdb.org/Marker.asp?Marker=33642>

Morris Canal Greenway and Morris Canal Arch. The former Morris Canal left the Delaware River just south of the Free Bridge. This area will be developed for hiking in the future. The Arch, visible by descending to the river's edge and following fishermen's paths downstream for approximately .25 mile, is the entrance for boats traveling the Morris Canal on their way to what is now Liberty State Park. [www.morriscanal.org](http://www.morriscanal.org)

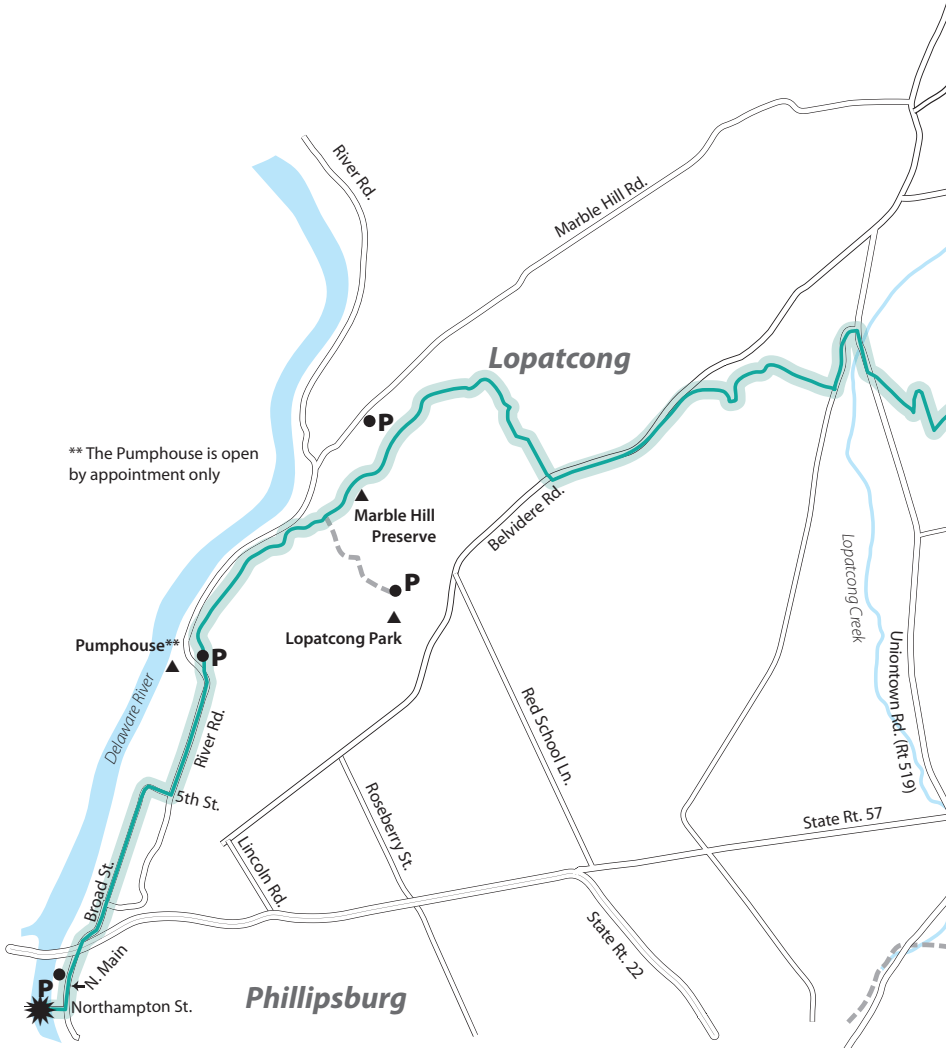




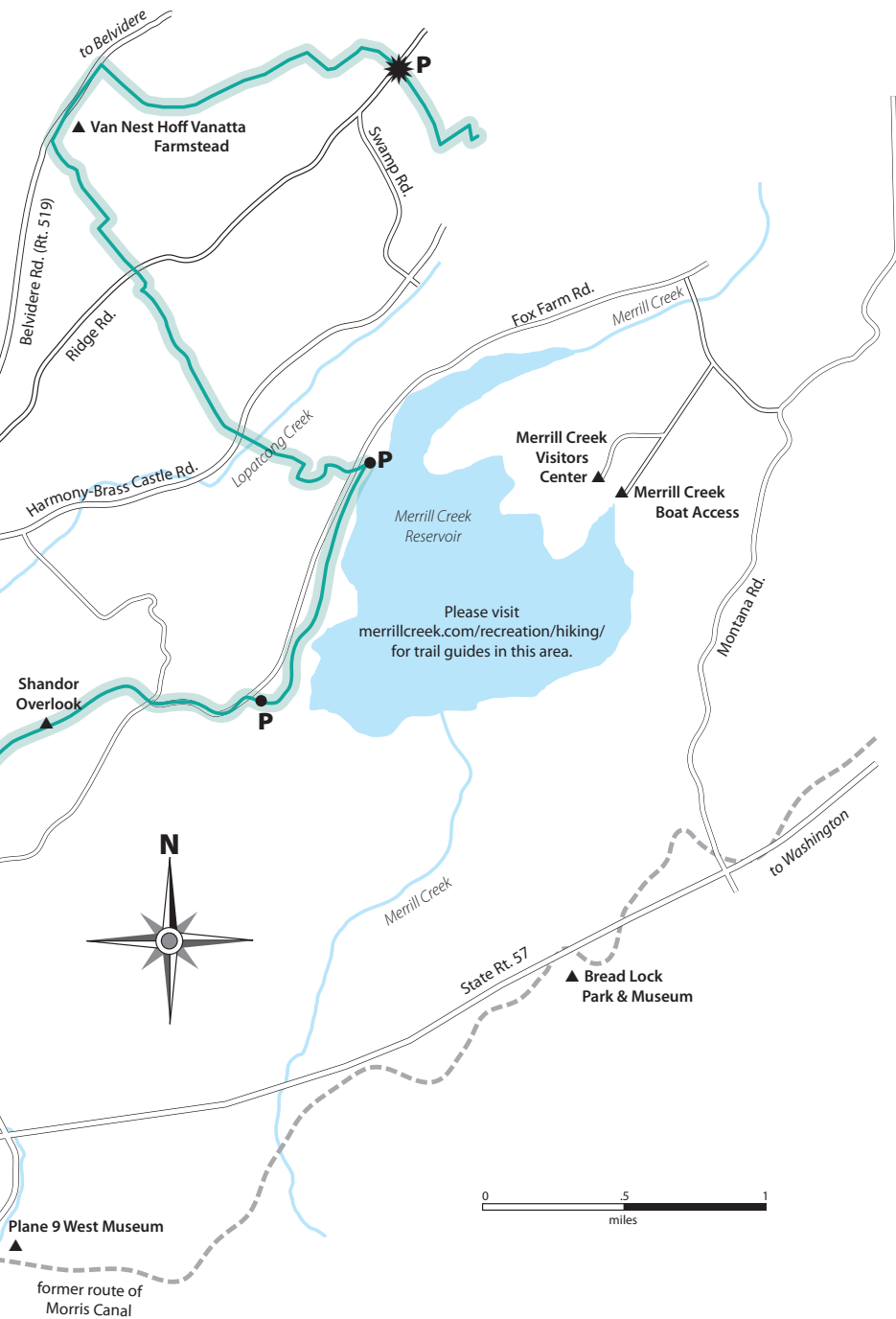
## WARREN HIGHLANDS TRAIL

Section Five  
Ridge Road to Northampton Free Bridge

(some roads omitted for clarity)



## Section Five - Ridge Road to Northampton Street Free Bridge



## **Trail Description East to West**

- 0.0 Follow farm road northwest.
- 0.1 Follow road as it turns west, with farm fields to the right, and woods to the left.
- 0.3 Turn right and follow field. Soon after, enter woods.
- 1.0 Reach Belvidere Road (County Rt. 519). Please be very careful in this section, as this road is very busy. Despite the blazes, walk against traffic, well off the roadway.
- 1.6 Turn left onto footpath through farmer's fields on the Van Nest Hoff Vannatta Farmstead.
- 1.9 Reach Van Nest Hoff Vannatta Farmstead, which was settled by John Van Nest around 1763, and has gone through many hands before coming under the care of the Harmony Historical Society. WHT continues past the barns.
- 2.0 Reach end of mowed area, and enter woods and field sections. Begin ascending through woods, then on Merrill Creek Pipeline R.O.W.
- 2.7 Reach Ridge Road. Cross directly to enter gated area. Follow driveway.
- 2.8 Leave driveway, turning left onto mowed area (Merrill Creek R.O.W.) Follow woods roads, farm roads (please mind farmers crops) and mowed footpath. Start ascent of Scott's Mountain.
- 3.3 Ruins of old barn visible to right of trail. DO NOT ENTER.
- 3.5 Cross Harmony/Brass Castle Road.
- 3.6 Cross Lopatcong Creek. Ascend Merrill Creek R.O.W. to cul-de-sac. WHT turns into a gravel road.
- 3.9 Reach Fox Farm Road. Cross to access WHT which follows road toward the Inlet/Outlet Tower entrance to the reservoir.

## Section Five - Ridge Road to Northampton Street Free Bridge

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4.0 Reach Parking Lot for Merrill Creek's Inlet/Outlet tower (Please park as noted in the introduction to this section). Turn right onto Black-blazed Perimeter Trail and cross the Northwest Dike #1. Follow the trail into the woods (at times, the former route of Fox Farm Road). **MONTANA MOUNTAIN BYPASS** turns left (northeast) onto Black-blazed Perimeter Trail at the lot.

5.1 Reach western hiker's PARKING Lot. Turn right onto access road (driveway), then left onto Fox Farm Road.

5.6 At the intersection of Fox Farm Road and Decker Road, turn left onto Fox Farm, then right into a field (look for posts and a kiosk). Great views west of Wind Gap and Delaware Water Gap. Turn left and follow access road (farm lane) across field.

6.0 Reach end of field and enter woods. Soon, reach minor ridge with seasonal views to west. The Shandor monument location is on the right. Bob Shandor was a Warren County Board of Recreation Commissioner and advocate for the Warren Highlands Trail (See intro for more information). Descend from Scott's Mountain on a series of woods roads, then a foot path.

6.3 Reach Fairway Road, in the vicinity of Harker's Hollow Golf Course. Turn right. Please stay on the road, as the land to the left is private property.

6.5 Turn right onto Uniontown Road. Cross with care.

6.7 Turn left onto Stryker Road.

7.0 Turn right onto foot path that skirts a farmed field. Interim PARKING is available here for one or two cars.

7.2 Follow Blazes across hedgerow and stone wall to another field. Watch for a right turn blaze where the WHT leaves the field. Enter the woods, then cross a small stream. Walk through a swampy area and bear left, before coming out on a third field.

7.3 At the third field, turn sharp right and follow posts along edge of field. Soon you will skirt another swampy area; walking between the field and Belvidere Road (County Route 646).

7.5 At the end of the field (with houses in view to the left), turn right onto the road.



Northampton Free Bridge. Phillipsburg, NJ and Easton, PA.

Follow Belvidere Road (some sidewalks, some shoulder).

8.0 Turn right onto Kelly Lane. Please follow blazes carefully; the trail corridor is very narrow near Belvidere Road.

8.1 The foot path opens up to an old farm road. The ruins on the left are from the former Harmony school. The WHT ascends easily past an old farm and some corncribs, entering a large field with beautiful views of the Lopatcong Valley.

8.4 Reach the height of land on the field, and turn left along the wood line.

8.5 Bear slight right and enter woods on foot path, descending slightly.

8.9 Pass powerline crossing with limited views to west.

9.2 Pass through dips/drainages, with several bridges in place.

9.3 Reach viewpoint over the Narrows (Weygadt Gap). Soon begin descent towards River Road below.

- 9.9 Reach River Road. Turn left onto pipeline R.O.W.
- 10.0 Reach PARKING area, suitable for a few cars. Turn left onto River Road.
- 10.6 Turn right onto 5th Street, then turn left. 5th Street turns into Broad Street.
- 11.3 Continue onto North Main Street.
- 11.5 Turn right to reach the Northampton Street Bridge. End of section.

### **Trail Description East to West**

- 0.0 From the Northampton Street Bridge walk east towards North Main Street.
- 0.1 Turn left onto North Main Street, which becomes Broad Street.
- 0.9 Turn right onto 5th Street, then turn left onto River Road.
- 1.5 Reach PARKING area, suitable for a few cars.
- 1.6 Turn right onto pipeline R.O.W. Bear right onto foot path and ascend.
- 2.2 Reach viewpoint over the Narrows (Weygadt Gap).
- 2.3 Pass through dips/drainages, with several bridges in place.
- 2.6 Pass powerline crossing with limited views to west.
- 3.0 Leave woods foot path and enter field; stay to left along the wood line. Panoramic views of the Lopatcong Valley (in season).
- 3.1 Reach the height of land on the field, and turn right through fields on an old farm road.
- 3.4 The WHT descends easily past an old farm and some corncribs. The route leaves the old farm road. The ruins on the right are from the former Harmony school. Please follow blazes carefully; the trail corridor is very narrow
- 3.5 Reach Kelly Lane and approach Belvidere Road. Turn left onto the road. Follow Belvidere Road (some sidewalks, some shoulder).

## *The Warren Highlands Trail*

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4.0 When the houses on the right end, watch for a right turn over a old stone wall. Enter field and stay to the left, parallel to Belvidere Road.

4.2 Walk between the field and Belvidere Road (County Route 646), then look for a left turn blaze into a swampy area. Negotiate seasonly wet area, then cross stream.

4.3 Turn left into a second field, and skirt it on the left to a hedgerow, then into a third field.

4.8 Turn left onto Stryker Road. Interim PARKING is available here for one or two cars.

5.0 Turn right onto Uniontown Road. Cross with care, then turn left onto Fairway Road. Please stay on the road and do not enter houses to the right.

5.2 Near end of Fairway Road, find cabled-off access road to Harker's Hollow Golf Course on left. Immediately after, follow left into pathway with rather rough footing through landscaping dump and brambles, then ascend Scott's Mountain through woods; sometimes steeply. The WHT soon follows various woods roads. Be careful of turns in this area.

5.5 Climb levels off. Reach minor ridge with seasonal views to west. The Shandor monument location is on the left. Bob Shandor was a Warren County Board of Recreation Commissioner and advocate for the Warren Highlands Trail (See intro for more information).

5.8 Enter field and follow access road (farm lane) across field to Fox Farm Road.

5.9 Turn left onto Fox Farm Road, then bear right onto Fox Farm Road where Decker Road bears left.

6.4 Reach Merrill Creek's western hiker PARKING Lot. Turn right onto access road (driveway), then left Black-blazed Perimeter Trail (at times, the former route of Fox Farm Road).

7.5 Reach Parking Lot for Merrill Creek's Inlet/Outlet tower (Please park as noted in the introduction to this section). Turn left onto driveway. **MONTANA MOUNTAIN BYPASS** continues straight (northeast) as it follows Black-blazed Perimeter Trail.

## Section Five - Ridge Road to Northampton Street Free Bridge

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- 7.6 Cross Fox Farm Road then follow the pipeline access road to a cul-de-sac. Begin a steady descent of Scott's Mountain.
- 8.0 Cross Lopatcong Creek then reach, and ascend to and cross Harmony/Brass Castle Road.
- 8.2 Ruins of old barn visible to left of trail. DO NOT ENTER. Follow woods roads, farm roads (please mind farmers crops) and mowed footpath.
- 8.7 After passing through mowed area, reach driveway (Merrill Creek R.O.W.).
- 8.8 Leave gated area and reach Ridge Road. Cross directly into woods and begin moderate descent.
- 9.5 After woods and field sections, reach start of mowed area.
- 9.6 Reach barns of Van Nest Hoff Vannatta Farmstead, which was settled by John Van Nest around 1763, and has gone through many hands before coming under the care of the Harmony Historical Society. Follow footpath through farmer's fields on the Van Nest Hoff Vannatta Farmstead.
- 10.4 Reach Belvidere Road (County Rt. 519). Please be very careful in this section, as this road is very busy. Despite the blazes, walk against traffic, well off the roadway.
- 10.5 Turn right and enter woods. Soon after, follow field.
- 11.4 Follow road as it turns east, with farm fields to the left, and woods to the right. Follow farm road.
- 11.5 Reach Ridge Road, north of Swamp Road, and the end of the section.



## *The Warren Highlands Trail*

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### **Alternate Route - Montana Mountain Bypass (MMB)**

The MMB was the planned route of the Warren Highlands Trail. As lands became available, a foot path that ran north showcased more of the highlands. We still feel this route a good bypass option, since Merrill Creek does not allow bicycles (still being discussed on the county-owned sections of the WHT) and we would like to connect communities on the top of Montana Mountain. Substitute Fox Farm Road for the Merrill Creek trail sections if traveling by bicycle.

0.0 Trailhead on left leads from Merrill Creek (no bicycles). Walking bypass follows Black-blazed Merrill Creek Perimeter Trail.

0.7 Main WHT descends to left. Bypass continues straight ahead. No bicycles allowed on Merrill Creek trails.

1.3 Continue straight onto Allens Mills Road.

2.9 Turn left onto Montana Road.

3.0 Turn right onto Harmony/Brass Castle Road.

3.6 Reach Main WHT at Buckhorn Drive and Demeter Road.

# **Trail Connections From Warren Highlands Trail**

Mike

