Welcome to the County Forest Preserve.

The County Forest Preserve consists of flat to rolling topography providing opportunity for cross-country skiing, snow-shoeing, and hiking. Limited hunting is also allowed from November 15 to December 15 (see following rules). The land of the Preserve was once farmed in the 18th and 19th centuries. The stone walls, old foundation and small cemetery in the woods are reminders of the past. The Preserve abuts the Duanesburg Forest with a connecting trail.

The Preserve is comprised of a number of habitats including, native hardwood forest, a red pine plantation and a man-made pond that was dug in 1982. Many wildflowers bloom in the spring, such as jack-in-the-pulpit, red trillium, and ten fern species.

Parking: Visitors to the County Forest may park in the designated lot off Lake Road.

Trails:

The blue trail is approximately 1 1/2 miles long. This trail is rather wet in the spring but boardwalks help in spots. This trail loops around the perimeter of the Preserve and brings you through a mixture of hardwood and coniferous forest.

The yellow trail provides a shortcut from the blue trail. This trail is approximately 1 mile. Hikers can take this bypass to complete a shorter circuit around the Preserve.

The red trail is approximately 1/5 of a mile. This trail circles the pond and is a nice short hike.

The green trail provides access to the 95-acre Duanesburg Forest creating an additional 1 mile trail loop.



Directions to the County Forest

Take I-890 to Campbell Rd (Exit 2a). From Campbell Rd turn right on Putnam Rd, and go 1.7 miles to Rte 159 (Mariaville Rd) Turn right on Rte 159 and go approximately 4.5 miles to the intersection of Rte 159 and Lake Road. Turn left on to Lake Road proceed 4 miles to the entrance of the County Forest parking area.

The County Forest Preserve is open dawn to dusk. Carry in/Carry out

Prohibitions: No overnight camping, fires, littering, or dumping. No bikes, or motorized vehicles. No cutting or collecting of plant specimens. Please leash dogs and respect private property surrounding the Preserve.

County Forest Hunting Rules

Big game Hunting only by long bow or shotgun from November 15th – December 15th during the regular or archery hunting seasons as established by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

Small Game Hunting and Trapping prohibited.

County Resolution #5 - 1984

For further information contact:
Schenectady County Department of Economic
Development and Planning
107 Nott Terrace
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Schenectady, NY 12308
(518) 386-2225



Avenue of the Pines

A GUIDE TO THE COUNTY FOREST NATURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVE



Schenectady County, New York



