



New York-New Jersey Trail Conference
 156 Ramapo Valley Road
 Mahwah, NJ 07430
 (201) 512-9348
 email: info@nynjtc.org
 web: www.nynjtc.org

New York-New Jersey Trail Conference volunteers construct trails and provide general maintenance, including blazing, brush clearing, removal of fallen trees and erosion control. The National Park Service has transferred additional responsibilities for the Appalachian Trail to the Trail Conference. The organization also publishes "The New York Walk Book" which provides extensive information about the area and its hiking opportunities. This book and detailed maps of trails in Fahnstock State Park may be obtained from:

New York-New Jersey Trail Conference
 Space Institute in 1994.

acquired by the Open Space Institute, is now part of Fahnstock Park. The Open Space Institute is a non-profit, privately funded conservation organization, which acquires tracts of undeveloped land for preservation and public use. Adjacent to the Park's southeastern section and open to hikers is the north and western portion of the Clear Lake Scout Reservation, owned by the Westchester-Putnam Council of the Boy Scouts of America. It is permanently protected from development by conservation easements acquired by the Open Space Institute in 1994.

Historic Preservation. The Park offers a wide range of outdoor activities, including camping in designated areas, cross-country in winter, and swimming at a beach on Canopus Lake. The adjacent Hubbard-Perkins Conservation Area, originally acquired by the Open Space Institute, is now part of Fahnstock Park. The Open Space Institute is a non-profit, privately funded conservation organization, which acquires tracts of undeveloped land for preservation and public use. Adjacent to the Park's southeastern section and open to hikers is the north and western portion of the Clear Lake Scout Reservation, owned by the Westchester-Putnam Council of the Boy Scouts of America. It is permanently protected from development by conservation easements acquired by the Open Space Institute in 1994.

Clarence Fahnstock Memorial State Park consists of 12,281 acres administered by the Taconic Region of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. The Park offers a wide range of outdoor activities, including camping in designated areas, cross-country in winter, and swimming at a beach on Canopus Lake. The adjacent Hubbard-Perkins Conservation Area, originally acquired by the Open Space Institute, is now part of Fahnstock Park. The Open Space Institute is a non-profit, privately funded conservation organization, which acquires tracts of undeveloped land for preservation and public use. Adjacent to the Park's southeastern section and open to hikers is the north and western portion of the Clear Lake Scout Reservation, owned by the Westchester-Putnam Council of the Boy Scouts of America. It is permanently protected from development by conservation easements acquired by the Open Space Institute in 1994.

GENERAL INFORMATION

■ Remain on trails to minimize impact on the forest environment. Shortcuts across switchbacks lead to erosion problems and are especially damaging. ■ Maintain a quality hiking experience by keeping the trails free of litter and the environment undisturbed. Carry out and take home everything you bring in. ■ Blazed trails sometimes traverse private property, the result of carefully negotiated agreements. Exercise care so this trail status is not jeopardized. If unmarked trails or woods roads extend into private property, respect the privacy of the owners and do not trespass. ■ Especially respect the 'STOP NO PUBLIC ACCESS' signs posted at pertinent trail intersections in areas used by scouts in the Clear Lake Scout Reservation.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

■ Wear sturdy shoes or boots with non-slip soles. Dress in layers of clothing so you can adjust for changing conditions. ■ Be aware of risks. An injury on the trail, where there is no quick access to medical help, is always a serious matter, especially in winter, or on a seldom-used trail where assistance in an emergency cannot be counted on. Leaving the route you plan to hike and the time you expect to return with a responsible person is a sensible precaution, particularly if you hike alone. ■ No water found on the trails is safe to drink. Carry an adequate supply with you. Potable water is available at the Park's office, picnic area and campground, and from a tap (with UV filter system) on an exterior wall of the old stone building on Dennytown Road. ■ The deer tick, which transmits Lyme disease, is common in this area. In its nymph stage, it is no larger than a pinhead. Wearing light-colored clothing will make ticks easier to detect. Long sleeves and trousers tucked into socks will help; however, there is no sure defense. Check yourself thoroughly after hiking. ■ Rabies is prevalent in raccoons, skunks, and bats. Avoid any direct contact with wildlife. ■ Poison ivy is widespread in sections. Keeping to the center of trails will help avoid it, as well as minimize exposure to ticks.

TRAIL USE

■ The trails are restricted to day use only. Camping or making fires is prohibited except in the campgrounds. ■ Vehicles and horses are not permitted on hiking trails. This includes mountain bikes as well as all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), motorcycles, and snowmobiles. Separate trails within the park have been set aside for horseback riding and mountain biking; these trails are so designated on the accompanying map. ■ Dogs are permitted on a leash, of no more than 10 feet. ■ Hunting is limited to deer (archery only) in season and wild turkey (spring). Call the park manager's office, (845) 225-7207, for information. Other than shotguns used for turkey hunting, no firearms are permitted within park boundaries. ■ Collection of plants is prohibited.

GUIDELINES

Organizations with responsibilities in the region are:

- **Clarence Fahnstock Memorial State Park**
 3 County Center
 Carmel, NY 10512
 Park Manager
 RD 2, Route 301
 Carmel, NY 10512
 845-225-4300
- **Putnam County Sheriff**
- **Open Space Institute, Inc.**
 1350 Broadway, Room 201
 New York, NY 10018
 212-629-3981
- **NY State Park Police**
 914-889-4100 x310
- **NY State Police**
 Peekskill/Cortlandt 914-737-7171
 Cold Spring 845-677-7300

RESTRICTIONS

■ The trails are restricted to day use only. Camping or making fires is prohibited except in the campgrounds. ■ Vehicles and horses are not permitted on hiking trails. This includes mountain bikes as well as all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), motorcycles, and snowmobiles. Separate trails within the park have been set aside for horseback riding and mountain biking; these trails are so designated on the accompanying map. ■ Dogs are permitted on a leash, of no more than 10 feet. ■ Hunting is limited to deer (archery only) in season and wild turkey (spring). Call the park manager's office, (845) 225-7207, for information. Other than shotguns used for turkey hunting, no firearms are permitted within park boundaries. ■ Collection of plants is prohibited.

HISTORY

The Region. Long-abandoned mine shafts and scattered mine tailings attest to an iron industry that thrived for almost a century, from shortly after the Revolutionary War until 1876, when it could no longer compete with more economical sources of supply. Charcoal from the surrounding forest was used for smelting; some of the pits can still be seen. Later, ore was hauled for smelting to Cold Spring on the Hudson River. There the West Point Foundry was an important munitions supplier during the Civil War. Stone fences and foundations may still be found among the trees; they are reminders of the many small homesteads and fields that once dotted the landscape until second-growth forest closed in and reclaimed the land.

Fahnstock State Park. Major Clarence Fahnstock, a Manhattan physician, began to purchase abandoned farmsteads in the area around 1900. In 1915, he bought the property of the Pennsylvania and Reading Coal and Iron Company, which had discontinued iron-mining operations in the area 40 years earlier. Major Fahnstock died in France in 1918, leaving his property to his brother, Dr. Ernest Fahnstock. In 1929, in memory of his brother, Ernest Fahnstock donated 2,400 acres to the state for a park, plus 105 acres that would be flooded for the construction of Canopus Lake. This land became the original core of Clarence Fahnstock State Park. During the 1930s, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) built the park's picnic and camping facilities, as well as Canopus Lake and Stillwater Pond. By subsequent purchase and gift, the park has grown to its present size of 12,281 acres.

The Open Space Institute (OSI) has acquired numerous parcels of land that in recent years have become part of Fahnstock Park through subsequent gift and purchase by New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Beginning in 1991, OSI purchased acreage from the estate of Helen F. Hubbard, sister of Clarence and Ernest Fahnstock. In 1995, OSI added more acres from the Perkins estate. A year later, in 1996, New York State purchased the Hubbard portion of the conservation area from OSI and similarly acquired the Perkins portion when funds became available in 1998. OSI continues to acquire land in the area for inclusion in the park.

GETTING THERE

There is no public transportation to the park. Free parking is available at several locations in the park. See map.

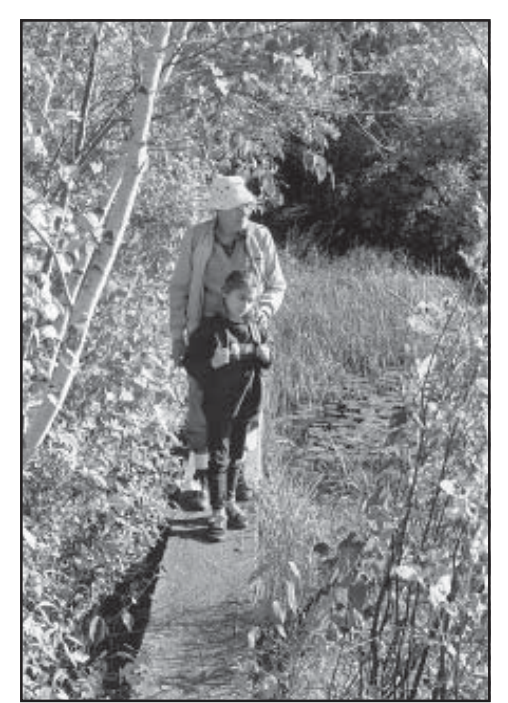
From New York City or Westchester: Drive north on the Taconic State Parkway and turn west onto NY 301.

From New Jersey or Rockland: Drive north on the Palisades Interstate Parkway and cross the Bear Mountain Bridge. Continue north on NY 9D to Cold Spring, turning east onto NY 301 to reach the park.

From Connecticut: Drive west on I-84 and turn south onto the Taconic State Parkway. At NY 301, turn west to reach the park.

This publication has been made possible by funding from The Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley.

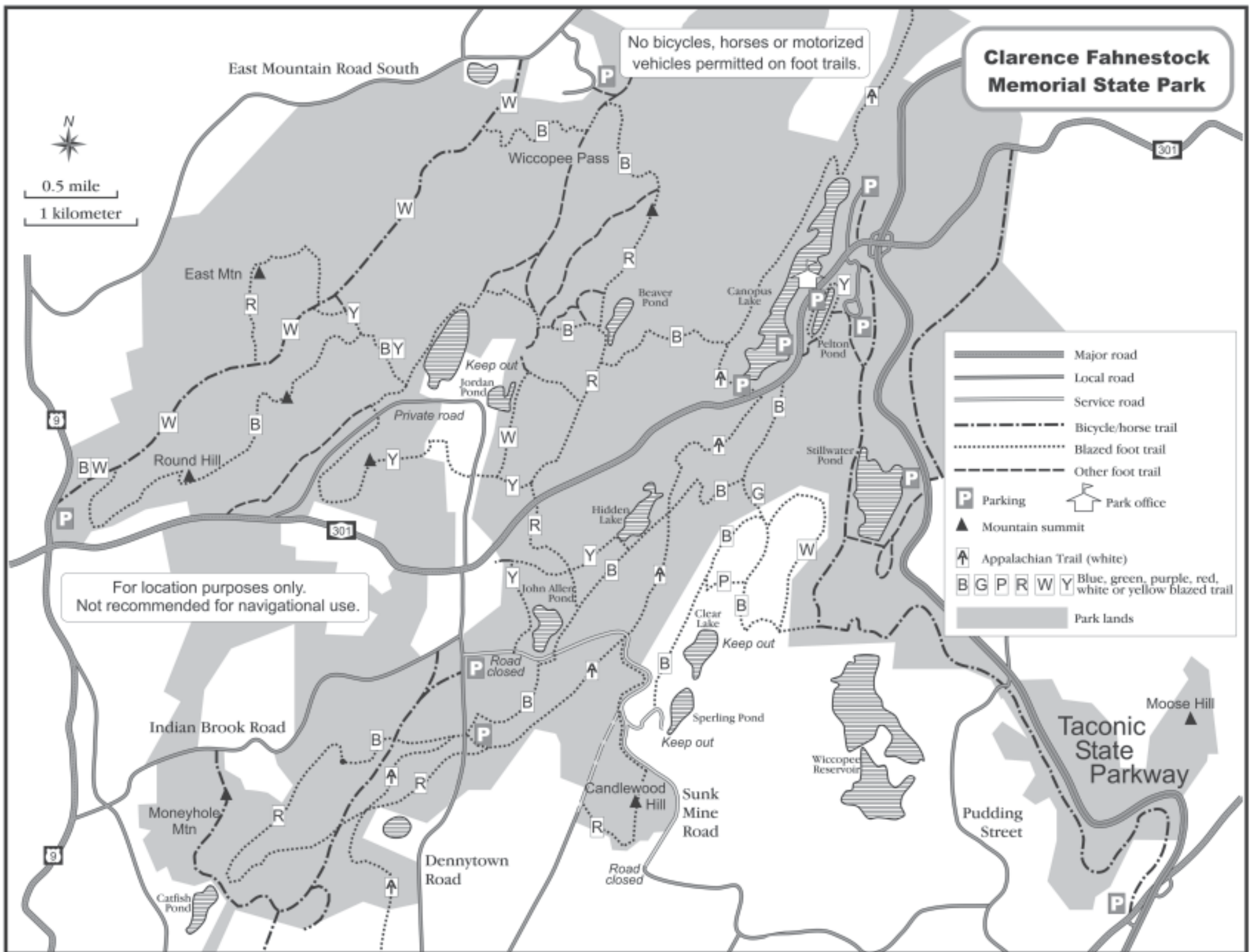
HIKING TRAILS



in
 CLARENCE
 FAHNESTOCK
 MEMORIAL STATE PARK



2003



CLARENCE FAHNESTOCK MEMORIAL STATE PARK

Ridges running from southwest to northeast dominate the terrain. Between them are several lakes and ponds and numerous wetlands and streams. Although there are occasional steep sections, there are no long or difficult climbs, and for the most part grades are moderate.

The network of trails makes it possible to plan a great variety of outings, ranging from easy rambles for families with children to strenuous all-day hikes. Helpful planning aids include detailed East Hudson maps and the New York Walk Book published by the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference. See GENERAL INFORMATION for contacting the Conference.

Trails are blazed with round plastic disks or rectangular painted marks of various colors. A double blaze, one above the other, indicates a turn with the upper blaze offset in the direction of the turn. A triple blaze in a triangle pattern indicates the start (pointing up) or end (pointing down) of a trail.

SUGGESTED HIKES

◆ **Pelton Pond Nature Trail.** Those looking for an easy walk may follow this **1.5-mile** loop trail around Pelton Pond. The trailhead for this yellow-blazed trail is located at the west end of the parking area on the south side of NY 301, about 0.6 mile west of the Taconic State Parkway.

◆ **Three Lakes.** This beautiful hike, which passes two lakes and follows the railbed from an old mine railroad, begins on the south side of NY 301 just across from the Canopus Lake parking area. The Three Lakes Trail (blue) goes south, passes the old Philips Mine, crosses Canopus Creek, climbs a ridge to the Appalachian Trail (white) crossing, and descends to a junction where the yellow-blazed trail leads right to the dam at the foot of Hidden Lake. This is a good spot for picnicking or bird watching. Those preferring a shorter hike can return a short distance along the Three Lakes Trail, turn left onto the Appalachian Trail (white), and return to Canopus Lake for a total distance of 3.0 miles. For a longer hike, continue southwest on the Three Lakes Trail. The trail passes the southern end of the Charcoal Burners Trail (red) and follows short sections of the old rail bed (look for the stone rail bridge off to the right) before reaching John Allen Pond. After crossing the outlet stream, the trail follows Sunk Mine Road to the right. When the Three Lakes Trail turns off, continue

on the road and soon turn right onto the Old Mine Railroad Trail (yellow). When this trail reaches John Allen Pond, it turns left onto an old mine railroad embankment and then turns right onto a woods road. It crosses the Charcoal Burners Trail (red) and returns to the dam at the outlet of Hidden Lake. After crossing the dam, turn left to retrace your earlier steps along the Three Lakes Trail (blue). Upon reaching the Appalachian Trail (white), turn left. The trail soon begins following another section of mine rail bed, passing over extensive stonework and reaching NY 301 at Canopus Lake for a hike of **5.8 miles**.

◆ **Dennytown Loop.** The hike begins at the parking field adjacent to the stone building on Dennytown Road, 1.2 miles south of NY 301. Follow the Three Lakes Trail (blue) southwest through open woods to the western end of the Catfish Loop (red). Follow the Catfish Loop southwest over rocks and through thickets of mountain laurel to arrive at a 180-degree turn near the park boundary. From a large rock formation to the side of the trail there is a view of the Hudson Highlands and a glimpse of Catfish Pond outside the park. The trail continues northeast, crossing a horse trail and the Appalachian Trail (white) before reaching Dennytown Road. Shortly after crossing the road, the Catfish Loop ends at the Appalachian Trail. Turn left onto the AT to return to the parking area, after hiking **4.9 miles**.

◆ **Fahnestock Circuit.** This **6.0 mile** hike begins on NY 301 just beyond the south end of Canopus Lake and proceeds north on the Appalachian Trail (white). Turn left onto the Fahnestock Trail (blue) that leads west to a junction with the Charcoal Burners Trail (red). A short side trip to the right leads to Beaver Pond. Turning left, follow the Charcoal Burners Trail south to where the Cabot Trail (white) turns off to the right. It leads west on a woods road. Just before the woods road enters a posted area (which should be avoided), the trail turns off sharply to the left. Continuing south, there is an unmarked side trail, (just past a stream crossing), that leads to a large rock outcropping overlooking Jordan Pond. Farther south, the Cabot Trail enters a field and ends at the Perkins Trail (yellow), where a left turn leads over several small ridges back to the Charcoal Burners Trail. Turn right onto this trail; it crosses Route 301 and continues south, crossing the Old Mine Railroad Trail (yellow), before ending at the Three Lakes Trail (blue). At this point, turn left onto the Three Lakes Trail, then left again onto the Appalachian Trail to return to Canopus Lake.

◆ **Fahnestock-West.** This **7.1-mile** hike begins where the Charcoal Burners Trail (red) crosses NY 301, 1.5 miles west of Canopus Lake. Follow this trail north to the dam at Beaver Pond. Just before reaching the pond, the Fahnestock Trail (blue) comes in from the right and the two trails run together. Where they

diverge just beyond the pond, continue on the Fahnestock Trail (blue), which follows a woods road to the west. After leaving this road and crossing a hollow, the trail meets another woods road, turns left and continues southwest to a bridge across Clove Creek where the stream enters a lake. The trail follows the west side of the lake to a junction with the Perkins Trail (yellow). Turn left onto the Perkins Trail, which crosses the Glynwood Farm road and Clove Creek, and follows the creek downstream. It then makes a 180-degree turn away from the creek and climbs to the top of a ridge. It soon leaves the woods and crosses several open fields with views of Glynwood Farm, the lake, Jordan Pond, and surrounding hills. After crossing a dirt road and meeting the Cabot Trail, it reenters woods and ends at the Charcoal Burners Trail (red), where a right turn leads back to NY 301.

◆ **East Mountain-Round Hill.** This hike includes some of the steepest trails in the park. It begins at the parking area on US 9 just north of its intersection with NY 301. Walk 0.2 mile north along US 9 and turn right onto the road leading into the park. The Fahnestock Trail (blue) begins on a broad woods road at a gate with a signboard, 0.1 mile from US 9. Just beyond where this woods road crosses a steel-decked bridge, the Fahnestock Trail turns off to the right. The trail follows along a stream and then ascends steeply to the summit of Round Hill, which offers good views. Continue until reaching the Perkins Trail (yellow) and follow this to the left to return to School Mountain Road. For a shorter hike of 6.4 miles, take School Mountain Road to the left back to Route 9. For a longer and more strenuous hike, cross the road with a slight jog to the left and follow the East Mountain Loop (red), which leads over East Mountain with its view of Fishkill and Scofield ridges. The loop descends and rejoins School Mountain Road. Turn right and return to US 9 for a hike of **7.9 miles**.

◆ **Appalachian Trail: North of NY 301. 4.6 miles.** Starting at the trailhead at the south end of Canopus Lake on NY 301, the Appalachian Trail (white) ascends a ridge and turns right, paralleling Canopus Lake, with views of the lake through the trees. This hike is particularly nice at the end of June when mountain laurel is in bloom. The AT passes the eastern end of the Fahnestock Trail (blue), which heads off to the left at 0.6 mile. At 2.3 miles, after a short, steep climb, the AT reaches a beautiful viewpoint over the lake. Just beyond, a short side trail leads to another overlook; this one has a view to the west. Returning to the viewpoint over the lake, the hiker reverses direction and retraces the route to return to NY 301.