Welcome

Esopus Bend Nature Preserve is a unique, 164-acre area of protection, located less than a mile from the Hudson River in Saugerties, NY. Once used for agriculture, the Preserve is now home to an array of flora and fauna. Moderate trails offer access to five major habitat types, and vast scenic views.

The Preserve is open daily—from dawn to dusk. Use of the Preserve is explicitly at your own risk.

- Stay on marked trails
- Carry out what you carry in
- Do not disturb plants, wildlife, or artifacts
- Dogs MUST be leashed at all times and are not permitted in restricted areas
- Remove all pet waste
- No geocaching or letterboxes without prior consent (existing caches are accessible by marked trails only)
- No littering
- No hunting, fishing, trapping or collecting
- No camping, or fires
- No smoking or alcohol use
- No bicycling or motorized vehicles
- No jogging in restricted areas
- No swimming

Misuse

Please help us keep the Preserve open and accessible to the public by reporting acts of vandalism or misconduct.

Phone  Local Police: 845-246-9800
ECC stewardship: 845-246-5900

Email  ecc.saugerties@gmail.com

Our Mission

The mission of the Esopus Creek Conservancy (ECC) is to conserve significant natural landscapes in the lower Esopus Creek watershed and in the Saugerties area: by protecting the rural character of the environment; by conserving and protecting natural habitats; by promoting biodiversity; and by sharing an appreciation of our natural resources with the community through public outreach, education and advocacy.

On-Site Events

The ECC periodically hosts guided walks, family hikes, paddling adventures, and fauna counts. Events are free and open to the public. For a current calendar, visit our website.

Volunteering

Volunteers are essential to meeting our goals. If you have a talent to share, a desire to work outdoors, or would like to help in other ways, we'd be grateful for your time.

Donations

Please help support our efforts by donating to the ECC. All donations are tax-deductible and directly support our conservation, outreach and education goals.

To learn more, visit esopuscreekconservancy.org

Directions

Shady Lane entrance at 10 Shady Lane
From 9W: Take Overbaugh St. Make a left onto Simmons Dr., a right onto Appletree Dr., and a left onto Shady Ln. Small parking lot available.

Sterley Avenue entrance at 50 Sterley Avenue
From 9W: Look for a sign on the Saugerties Bowlers Club sign post. Take Highland Ave. across from Barclay Heights Diner. Make a left behind Simmons Plaza, continuing along Highland Ave. Take a right on Blue Hills Dr., a left on Dewitt Dr., and a right on Sterley Ave. Parking lot and entrance at end.

Kalina Drive walk-in entrance at One Preserve Way
From 9W: Take Overbaugh St. which continues to Kalina Dr. Entrance is on right, just before Edgewood Dr.

Parking is limited. Please carpool whenever possible.
ESOPUS CREEK

SCHROEDER TRAIL  (blue blazes)
A gentle walk, following an old farm road and footpath alongside Esopus Creek. Loops back over an historic carriage road, once used to access a scow ferry crossing to Stony Point. Yellow spur trails lead to a kayak landing beach and a scenic view of Stony Point. (moderately difficult)  (1.2-mile loop)
Dogs allowed on leash, on trail only

SOUTH TRAIL  (red blazes)
A moderate path, which skirts the southern preserve through a mixed hemlock forest into a deciduous ravine. Passes a stream with a waterfall and a small cave. Yellow spur trails offer views of the creek, and climb to the highest point on the Preserve (150 ft above sea level). (moderately difficult)  (0.6-mile loop)
Dogs allowed on leash, on trail only

WETLANDS TRAIL  (blue blazes)
A gentle path leading to wetlands, a restored meadow, and a vernal pool. Also provides access to the East Trail and boardwalk. (moderately difficult)  (0.4-mile loop)
ESA  No dogs

EAST TRAIL  (red blazes)
This gentle path provides access to an old-growth deciduous woodland ridge, ravine, and bottom-land vernal pools, with a creek view on the northern loop. (moderately difficult)  (0.6-mile loop)
ESA  No dogs

MEADOW PATHS
A series of meandering paths through restored meadowlands, leading to a large natural sandbar with views of the upper cove. A floodplain woodland path travels alongside the creek and offers a peek at a beaver lodge. (moderately difficult)
ESA  No dogs

**Trail guide**

**MAP LEGEND**
- Bridge
- Stream
- Connector Trail (yellow blazes)
- Point of Interest
- Info Kiosk
- Parking
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas
- ESA
- Environmentally Sensitive Area
- No dogs
- Dogs Allowed (on leash only)

**Trails marked as environmentally sensitive are restricted to quiet, non-intrusive activity only. Please keep noise levels low and refrain from jogging. Dogs are not allowed in these areas. Thank you for being respectful in our efforts to protect sensitive wildlife.**