Day: Saturday Afternoon	Start Time: 12:30 pm	End Time: 4:30 pm
Co-Leader:	Co-Leader:	Limit: 12 people
Transportation: Van or Personal Car	Driver:	Bus Captain: n/a
Fees: \$14 Transportation Fee	Travel Distance: 27 Miles R/T	Travel Time: 30 Min R/T

Moderate Lenape Ridge/Minisink Trail Loop Hike (afternoon)

Discover the beauty of nature with this easy-moderate loop hike along the captivating Lenape Ridge in Huckleberry Ridge State Forest. Experience diverse vegetation and breathtaking panoramic views, including the serene Heinlein Pond, the majestic Shawangunk Ridge in NY, High Point in NJ, and beyond.

This four-mile trail offers a straightforward, narrow path that meanders through lush rhododendrons and stately hemlock forests. Enjoy a stroll along this ridge walk, where you'll experience minimal elevation changes once on the ridgelines, making it perfect for hikers of all skill levels. With approximately 630+ feet of overall elevation gain, it is an ideal outing for nature enthusiasts and casual hikers seeking a refreshing adventure in the great outdoors!

- Bring standard hiking gear: Food, Water, Hiking Shoes, Walking Stick, Hat
- Pack lunch at breakfast to bring with you
- Maps: NYNJTC Delaware Water Gap & Kittatinny Trails Map 2021 8th edition Paper / Digital
- Cost: \$14 Transportation Fee (Drivers free)
- Time: 12:30 pm ~ 4:30 pm
- Limit: 12 People
- Vehicle: Passenger Van or Personal Cars (TBD):
- Round Trip Driving: 56 Miles / 64 Min

Websites of interest:

- Gone Hiking Blog of Lenape Ridge and Minisink Trails
- <u>AllTrails</u>
- <u>TrailForks</u>

Logistics:

- Depart Camp: 12:30 pm
- 12:30 pm 1:00 pm Travel to Trailhead and prep
- 1:00 pm 4:00 pm Hike Trail (three hours to hike four miles)
- 4:00 pm 4:30 pm Return to camp

Park Information for Huckleberry Ridge State Forest

DEC Region 3 New Paltz Office (M-F, 8:30 AM - 4:45 PM), (845) 256-3076; <u>r3admin@dec.ny.gov</u>/<u>https://dec.ny.gov/places/huckleberry-ridge-state-forest</u>

Search, rescue, wildfire, and enforcement matters: 911- or - 1-833-NYS-RANGERS (1-833-697-7264) A local Forest Ranger is a valuable source of information for the state land you would like to visit.

Maps

- Paper: Huckleberry Ridge State Forest map provided by the Trail Conference
- Digital: <u>Delaware Water Gap & Kittatinny (Combined Map): 2021: Trail Conference</u>

Trail Description

Head north on a footpath from the parking area, following the Lenape Ridge Trail's red blazes and the Minisink Trail's yellow blazes. Bear right at a junction with an unmarked trail and continue through an attractive forest of deciduous trees and white pines with an understory of blueberries and ferns.

Soon, you will come to a fork where the two trails diverge. The yellow-blazed Minisink Trail will be your return route, but for now, bear right and continue ahead on the red-blazed Lenape Ridge Trail.



Soon, the trail begins to climb on switchbacks towards the ridge, then levels off just below the ridge. Here, the forest is composed of deciduous trees and hemlocks, with American chestnut sprouts interspersed throughout. Although decimated by the chestnut blight over a century ago, chestnut seedlings still sprout from the roots of trees killed by the blight and can reach up to twenty feet before succumbing to this

disease.

Lenape Ridge Shale Outcropping: Soon after reaching the crest of the ridge, the trail emerges onto an open area with rock outcrops. The outcrops along the ridge are formed of shale, a soft and crumbly rock uplifted and slanted at sharp angles.

You will reach a panoramic view over the Shawangunk Ridge in about a quarter-mile. The High Point Monument (the highest point in New Jersey) is visible to the right, and you can see (and, unfortunately, hear) the traffic as it makes its way up the ridge on I-84. You will want to stop here to take in the view.

Continue north along the ridge, and you will soon reach another viewpoint, this one marked by pitch pines and cedars, from which you can see the crest of I-84 as it cuts across the Shawangunk Ridge. In another quarter mile, you will reach a third broad viewpoint, from where you can look down through the trees at Heinlein Pond below.

<u>High Point Monument from the Lenape Ridge Trail</u>: After following an open section of the ridge (with views to the east blocked by trees), the trail turns sharply right and descends slightly. A short distance ahead, the trail briefly joins a wooded road that comes up from the left, then turns left and leaves the road, continuing on as a footpath.

In another quarter-mile, the yellow-blazed Minisink Trail joins from the left at a power line clearing, which affords a broad westfacing view over tranquil farmland.

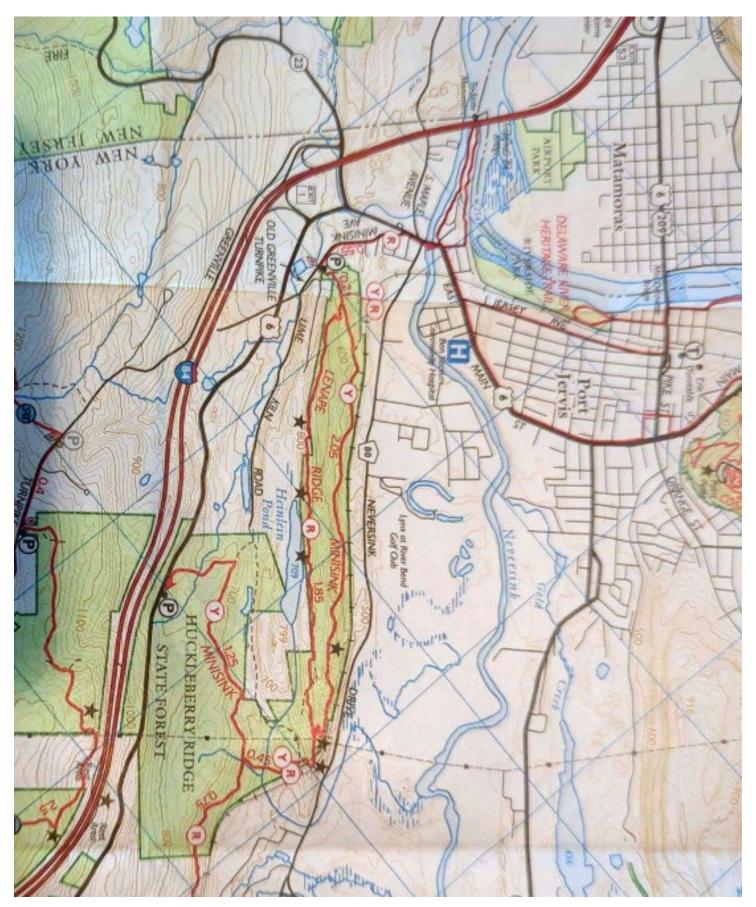


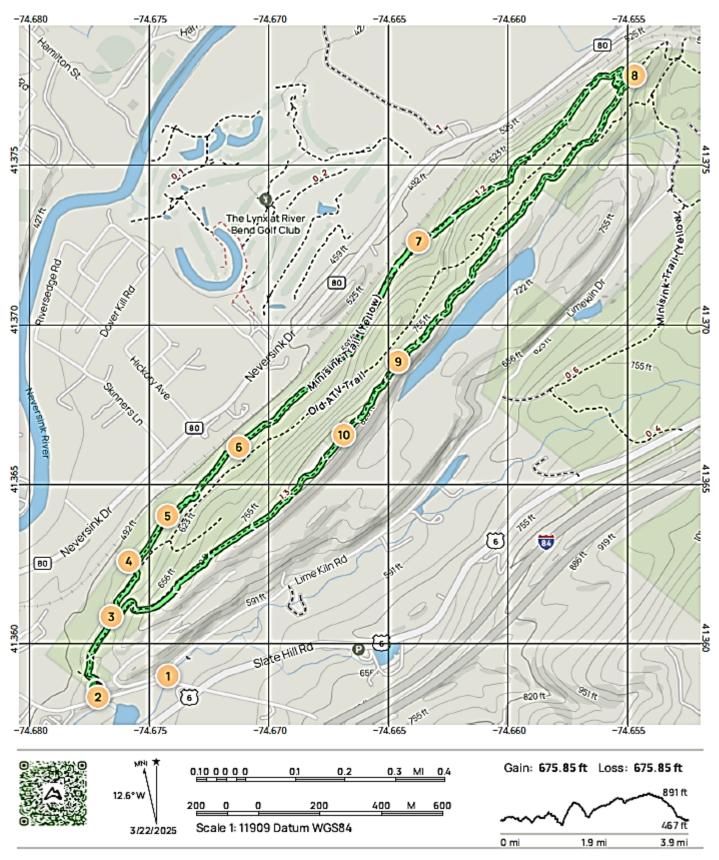
After taking in the view, turn around and proceed south on the yellow-blazed Minisink Trail. You are now following the western side of the ridge and paralleling the Metro-North Port Jervis Line, which is visible in places immediately to the west (right). Unlike the trail along the eastern side of the ridge, which is nearly level, the trail along the western face features several steep ups and downs.

The Minisink Trail descends on switchbacks along an old power line access road and then more steeply on a footpath. At the base of the descent, it passes an attractive stand of rhododendrons, then climbs again to emerge onto an exposed ridge section with west-facing views. Look carefully for blazes in this area. The trail soon descends and continues through a hemlock grove.

Upon reaching an outcrop of massive boulders, the trail turns right and descends steeply along the boulders. After a short level stretch, the trail again begins to climb, with a short side trail leading out to the right towards the railroad tracks. Soon, the trail starts to run along the side of a hill, with some ups and downs. It runs along a steep escarpment on the right and passes more massive rock outcrops on the left in several places.

After hiking two miles along the western side of the ridge, the trail joins a wooded road for a short distance, then turns left and continues on a footpath. A quarter-mile beyond, you will reach the junction with the red-blazed Lenape Ridge Trail. Turn right and follow the co-aligned red and yellow trails back to the trailhead.





Lenape Ridge and Minisink Trail Loop Port Jervis, NY



JOE 2025 Information Packet for Moderate Lenape Ridge - Minisink Trail Loop Hike (afternoon)

Driving Directions

Camp Nah-Jee-Wah, 570 Sawkill Rd, Milford, PA 18337, near 17 Old Greenville Turnpike, Port Jervis, NY 12771

15 min (13.2 miles) / via I-84 E https://maps.app.goo.gl/BRcUFsfqEbtLo2PDA

Start: Camp Nah-Jee-Wah: 570 Sawkill Rd, Milford, PA 18337

- 1. Turn left out of the driveway on Sawkill Rd toward Bridge Rd 0.2 mi.
- 2. **T**urn right onto Bridge Rd 0.2 mi.
- 3. **T**urn right onto US-6 E 2.7 mi.
- 4. Slight right to merge onto I-84 E 0.3 mi.
- 5. Follow I-84 E to Co Rd 15 in Deerpark. Take Exit 1 from I-84 E 8 min (8.9 mi)
- 6. **T** Turn right onto Co Rd 15 after exiting I-84 Exit 1 in NY 0.2 mi.
- 7. **T**urn right onto US-6 E 0.5 mi.
- 8. Turn left onto Old Greenville Turnpike /Brink Road
- 9. The destination will be on the right 0.2 mi.

EXIT 1 **6** 23 Port Jervis Sussex 7 **6**

Old Greenville Turnpike Parking Area: Near 17 Old Greenville Turnpike, Port Jervis, NY 12771 (41.358297, -74.677262 / 41.366°N, 74.655°W)



JOE 2025 Information Packet for Moderate Lenape Ridge - Minisink Trail Loop Hike (afternoon)

8. Turn left onto Old Greenville Turnpike /Brink Road



- 9. At the fork, bear right to stay on Old Greenville Turnpike.
- 10. The destination will be on the right 0.2 mi.



You went too far:



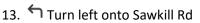
Return Driving Directions

From near 17 Old Greenville Turnpike, Port Jervis, NY 12771 to Camp Nah-Jee-Wah, 570 Sawkill Rd, Milford, PA 18337

13 min (12.5 miles) / via I-84

Start: 17 Old Greenville Turnpike, Port Jervis, NY 12771

- 1. Turn left out of the parking lot onto Old Greenville Turnpike
- 2. Head east on Brink Rd/Old Greenville Turnpike toward Colesville Lusscroft Rd 0.2 mi.
- 3. **Г** Turn right onto US-6 W 0.4 mi.
- 4. There is a Mobile gas station just beyond the entrance to Rt. 84 W. You are in NY, which is cheaper than PA, where the camp is located. Suggest stopping here for gas and a bathroom.
- After the pit stop, head back out to the left on Rt 6 E and go a short distance to the entrance to Rt. 84 W
- 6. **Г** Turn right onto the I-84 W ramp 0.2 mi
- 7. Follow I-84 to US-6 W in Milford Township. Take exit 46 from I-84 8 min (8.8 mi)
- 8. Take exit 46 for US-6 /Milford 0.3 mi.
- 9. **T**urn Right onto US-6 W
- 10. Continue on US-6 W. Drive to Sawkill Rd in Dingman Township 4 min (2.9 mi)
- 11. Pass the rock query and the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses
- 12. Turn left onto Bridge Rd



14. Turn right into camp -0.2 mi

End Camp Nah-Jee-Wah - 570 Sawkill Rd, Milford, PA 18337









Nearest Hospital



Bon Secours Community Hospital

160 E Main St, Port Jervis, NY 12771 (845) 858-7000alhttps://www.wmchealth.org/locations/bon-secours-community-hospital

Directions from the trailhead to Bon Secours

3MIN 1.0MI

- Start out going west on Old Greenville Turnpike toward Minisink Ave.
 - a. Then 0.15 miles, 0.15 total miles
- 2. Old Greenville Turnpike becomes Minisink Ave.
 - a. Then 0.26 miles, 0.41 total miles
- 3. Turn slightly right onto E. Main St/US-6 W.
 - a. E Main St. is just past Bennett St.
 - b. Phil's Ford is on the corner.
 - c. Then 0.60 miles, 1.01 total miles
- 4. Bon Secours, 160 E Main St., Port Jervis, NY 12771 is on the right.
 - a. Your destination is just past Skinner St.
 - b. If you reach PennsylvaniaAve., you have gone about0.2 miles too far.

