

SAW MILL RIVER AUDUBON

OUR MISSION

To maintain environmental quality for all living things by protecting natural ecosystems through education, advocacy, and habitat conservation.

OUR SANCTUARIES

Saw Mill River Audubon owns eight separate sanctuaries protecting more than 300 acres of wildlife habitat in Westchester County. All are open to visitors free of charge, seven days a week, from dawn to dusk.

Group Visits: With advance notice, we may be able to provide your group with a guided tour. Visit our web site for more information about guided sanctuary tours and our calendar of free public field trips. Even if your group wishes to visit without a guide, please contact us. To enhance your experience, we want to ensure that your visit does not coincide with that of another group.

Staff & Volunteers: Our sanctuaries are maintained by a part-time caretaker and our Sanctuary Committee assisted by volunteers and our executive director. We also rely on our sanctuary neighbors to monitor these special habitats. Volunteer Trail Walkers monitor individual sanctuaries and report on trail conditions and visitor and wildlife observations.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

We also invite you to submit a Trail Walker report at our website if you see needed trail work or want to report observations about wildlife or visitors.

Help us protect and conserve open space for the enjoyment of all! Join SMRA by filling out the form on the inside of this brochure and mailing it with your tax-deductible contribution to our office. Or donate online today at: www.sawmillriveraudubon.org



BRINTON BROOK
SANCTUARY

275 Millwood Road • Chappaqua, New York 10514

Phone: (914) 666-6503

Email: office@sawmillriveraudubon.org

Website: www.sawmillriveraudubon.org

Welcome to Brinton Brook Sanctuary

We hope you enjoy your walk. A few reminders as you begin your visit:

- A sanctuary is a place where all life is respected. Please do not remove or injure any plant or animal and please leave only your footprints behind when you leave.
- Dogs are welcome on leashes. Please pick up after your dog.
- If you have an emergency, call 911 or the Croton Police Department: 914- 271-5177

ABOUT THE TRAILS

The **Pond Loop**, marked with **yellow**, leads from the sanctuary entrance and parking lot to Brinton Brook Pond and back again, returning on the east side of the parking area. Along the way, it crosses through a variety of habitats including: a stand of black locust at the intersection with the old farm road, a small meadow being restored with native plants, a red maple swamp around the pond, and upland forest stands.

The **Turkey Trail**, marked with **blue**, explores the farthest corners of the sanctuary with a hilly hike through a hardwood forest of black birch, hickory and oak. On the north, it is near the Con Edison power line opening from which you can see the Bear Mountain Bridge.

The **Hemlock Springs Trail**, marked with **red**, begins by crossing Brinton Brook on the south and ends on the north near the red maple swamp of Brinton Brook pond. Along the way it passes the Split Rock Spring designed by Willard Brinton and stone ruins dating from the Civil War period. The hemlocks for which this trail was named have declined due to the wooly adelgid, an Asian insect that has devastated hemlocks throughout the eastern US.

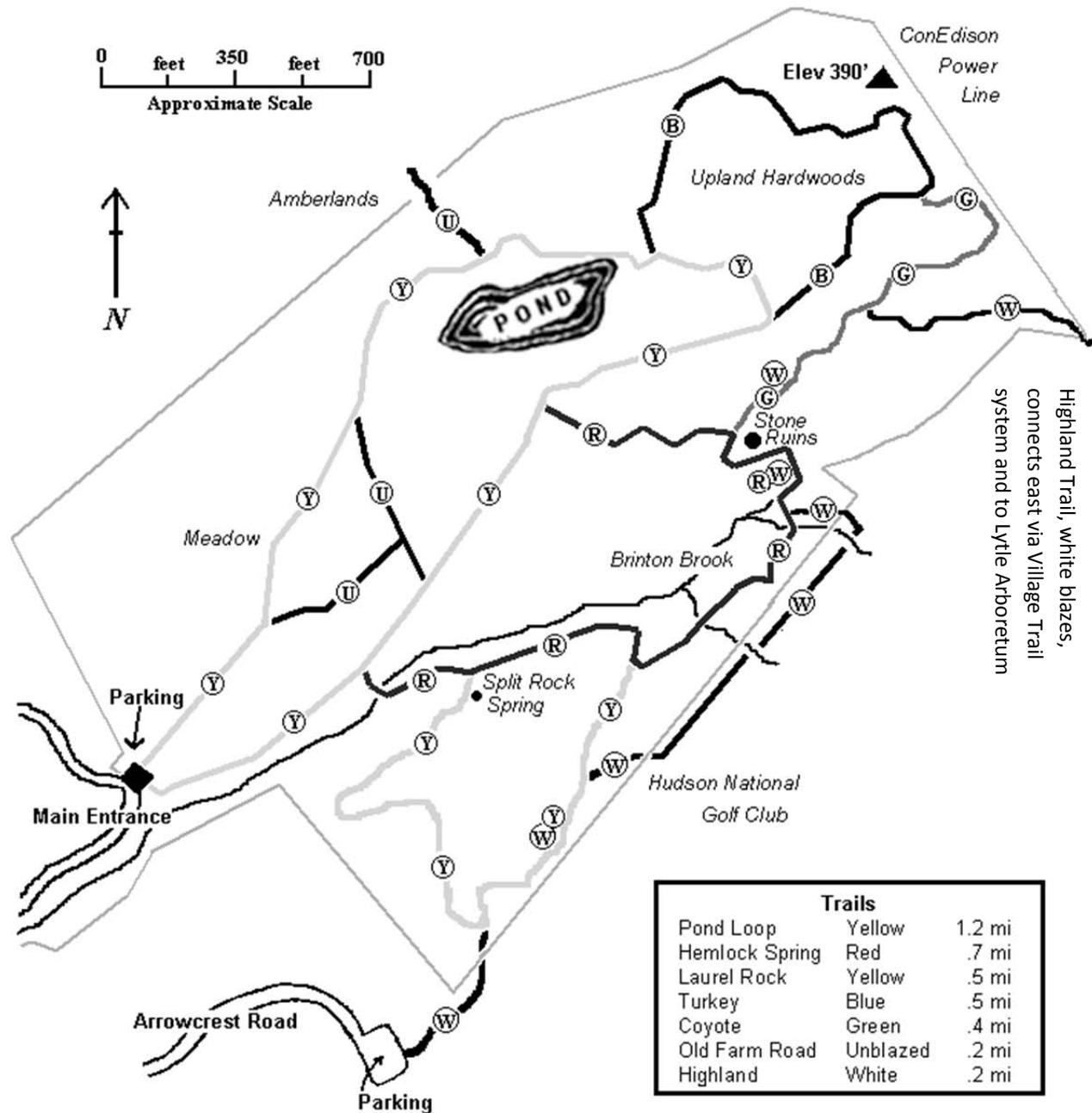
The **Laurel Rock Trail**, also marked with **yellow**, is an outer loop of the Hemlock Spring Trail and offers some of the most rugged hiking in the sanctuary with switchbacks across a rocky slope lined with mountain laurel.

The **Coyote Trail**, marked with **green**, explores scenic vistas overlooking Brinton Pond and swamp through a dry ridge hardwood forest habitat. This trail also connects to the white-blazed Highland Trail, maintained by the Village of Croton-on-Hudson.

The **Highland Trail**, marked with **white**, connects Brinton Brook with the Lytle Arboretum to the east along an easement on the north side of the Hudson National Golf Club. Within Brinton Brook, white blazes for this trail are also on the Coyote, Hemlock Springs and Laurel Rock Trails. Outside Brinton Brook, this trail is maintained by the Village of Croton-on-Hudson Trails Committee. (A map of the Village's trail system is linked from our web site.)

Brinton Brook Sanctuary

156.1 Acres • 3.7 miles of hiking trails



TRAVEL DIRECTIONS AND TRAILS ENTRANCE

The entrance road to Brinton Brook Sanctuary is on Route 9A in Croton-on-Hudson marked with a sign. It can be reached by the Senasqua Road exit off Route 9. Turn left (north) on Route 9A. The sanctuary entrance road is on the right, 3/10 of a mile north of the Sky View Home.

The gravel entrance road is 300 yards long and makes a sharp bend at our parking area before continuing left into a neighbor's private driveway.

A second entrance is at the top of Arrowcrest Road with a small parking area outside of the entrance to Hudson National Golf Club. A sanctuary sign also is at this trailhead.

HISTORY OF BRINTON BROOK

Laura and Willard Brinton gave the original 112 acres of Brinton Brook Sanctuary to National Audubon to permanently protect their land as a wildlife sanctuary. After Laura's death in 1975, an additional 17 acres were added to the sanctuary by the Brintons' niece, Ruth Brinton Perera. Saw Mill River Audubon managed Brinton Brook Sanctuary for National Audubon from 1958 to 1991, when full ownership of the original sanctuary lands was transferred to our organization. In 1995 Saw Mill River Audubon added the Coyote Trail to link Village trails through a 27-acre parcel in the northeast corner. This parcel is owned by the Village of Croton-on-Hudson and managed by Saw Mill River Audubon as part of Brinton Brook.

We are committed to protecting and restoring the native habitats here for the benefit of birds, other wildlife and people.

To learn more about our other sanctuaries, our free public field trips and programs, and our other activities, visit www.sawmillriveraudubon.org

CELEBRATE NATURE WITH SAW MILL RIVER AUDUBON

I want to support your local conservation work.

- \$500
 \$250
 \$100
 \$50
 \$30
 Other _____

Please make checks payable to Saw Mill River Audubon and send with this form to the address below. If you prefer to donate online using a credit card, visit www.sawmillriveraudubon.org

We welcome your comments and observations about our sanctuaries.

BRINTON BROOK SANCTUARY COMMENTS

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

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