New Trail Signs at Brinton Brook

Saw Mill River Audubon has installed 20 handsome fiberglass-sealed interpretive signs along a one-mile trail at its 156-acre Brinton Brook Sanctuary in Croton-on-Hudson. The new signs highlight notable natural features of a rich mixture of habitats, each with its own characteristic animal and plant life.

The trail, part of more than three miles of trails in the sanctuary, passes through a red maple swamp, upland deciduous forest, open meadow, fields, young forests, and along vernal ponds and a brook.

On Saturday November 5, board members gathered to cut a ribbon for the new trail and walk the one-mile Pond Loop trail to view the new signs. The signs were made possible by a grant from The New York City Environmental Fund, administered through the Hudson River Foundation.

TrailWalkers & Neighbors Protect Sanctuaries

TrailWalkers and neighbors alerted us to possible evidence of illegal hunting in November in Brinton Brook and Graff Sanctuaries. We contacted the New York Department of Environmental Conservation. Surveillance at Brinton Brook Sanctuary in mid November resulted in a hunter being charged with trespass and other offenses on the Amberlands border. Surveillance will be continuing this fall and winter. We remain strongly committed to maintaining our sanctuaries as no-hunting areas.

Also in November, workers on a property adjacent to Pinecliff Sanctuary disrupted the swamp water flow and released a flow of sediment-laden water downstream to the headwaters of the Saw Mill River. Neighbors called us and we called the Town of New Castle. A town representative responded promptly and stopped the workers. We are continuing to monitor this situation.

Contact our office and we’ll tell you more about our volunteer TrailWalker program and how you also can help to protect our sanctuaries.
**CHAPTER NEWS**

**Make a Gift to Wildlife**

Spread the holiday cheer to the natural world this year with a tax-deductible donation to Saw Mill River Audubon. Donations help protect critical habitat in our eight sanctuaries. They bring you free community education programs like those you’ve been reading about in this issue of “On the Wing.” And they help us launch new initiatives like Audubon at Home, which highlights “backyard beauty” and the ways each person can protect our natural resources. Plus, every dollar you donate makes a difference right here in our community.

Membership dues cover only 10% of the costs of our programs. So please consider making a special gift today! Just fill out the form on the back of the newsletter and send it in to our office. If you’d prefer to make a credit card donation, visit www.sawmillriveraudubon.org. Thank you for your support and best wishes for a happy, healthy holiday season.

**Welcome Members**

Briarcliff Manor Richard C. Bentzen, Wilma Day, Frank C. Ricco, The Spelter Family
Chappaqua Charles Caukins, Gretchen Rezon, Susan H. Thorson, Briarcliff Manor
Shawn and Anna Heasley
Croton-on-Hudson M.B. Bell, James E. Coughlan, Norma Goldstein, Helen Lauro, David F. Ryan, Susan Salzberg, John Shanahan
Hutchinson Towne
D’Auria, Diana L. Scorniak, Maryknoll Virginia Farrel Molhegan
Lake Maura Gregory
Pleasantville M.A. Bosshart, Glenn Carney, Charles Caulkins, Gretchen Rezon, Stan Wecker, and Karen Wells. Our thanks to Dr. Charles Keller for the cookies!

Special thanks to

★ Pizza Station ★
in Chappaqua for donating pizza to feed our volunteers.

Special thanks to

★ Starbucks ★
in Chappaqua for the coffee!