

2011 Stewardship Walks

March—December

Town of Clifton Park, NY



Take a walk and talk with town staff as part of monthly field monitoring visits to many of the special places located in the Town of Clifton Park such as the nature preserves, parks and other town lands with outstanding natural features. Town staff and members of the Town of Clifton Park Open Space, Trails and Riverfront Committee will be recording conditions, issues, and available for discussing the unique qualities of each special place, the current uses, and future ideas for improvements or enhancements. Members of the public are invited to participate, and learn about stewardship opportunities.

These series of working walks will average 60 to 90 minutes depending on the location. Please wear/bring clothes, footwear and gear to be prepared for applicable conditions, and please bring your own water/drink. Feel free to bring your own camera or field glasses. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the scheduled walk time to get oriented and discuss final route. Walks will begin promptly at the scheduled time. Please kindly RSVP and call to confirm specific walks, by the day before, by calling the Open Space Coordinator in the Planning Dept. at (518) 371-6054, or by emailing: jenniferv@cliftonpark.org.

1. **Friday, March 4, at 1 p.m.: Vischer Ferry Nature & Historic Preserve: Focus on the former Jacobsen parcel.** Meet at the dead end of Ferry Drive overlooking the river. Walk a segment of the Historic Erie Canal Towpath Trail (which is the subject of a restoration project with Halfmoon) to discuss the status of the towpath trail project, and the condition and town-owned Jacobsen parcel. Visit will include viewing the historic double canal locks.
2. **Friday, April 8, at 1 p.m. Garnsey Park.** Meet at Garnsey Park entrance off of NYS Route 146, on the north side of 146, just before the Nott Road intersection. Walk the town's 150 acres of parkland in Western Clifton Park.
3. **Friday, May 6, at 1 p.m., North Woods Nature Preserve,** meet at the entrance to the preserve on the south side of the street, between, 38 and 40 Shadow Wood Way. Parking is along the street. This is an 80-acre forested property formerly operated as the Round Lake Reservoir.
4. **Friday, June 3, at 1 p.m., at the new Stony Creek Park,** located off of Moe Road just north of Thoroughbred Way. Meet at the parking area at Moe Road to walk this 40-acre property recently improved with nature trails by the Stony Creek Park District #1.

5. **Wed., July 13, at 1 p.m. Ushers Road State Forest,** Ushers Road. Meet at the small parking lot off of the north side (right side) of Ushers Road, located just beyond the Clifton Park boundary, and into the Town of Halfmoon. The 110-acre forest is mostly within Clifton Park, but the entrance is in Halfmoon. Walk will include viewing the access to the Zim Smith Trail.
6. **Wednesday, August 3, at 1 p.m. Kinns Road Park.** Explore the 80-acre Kinns Road Park and its connections to town lands and neighborhoods in Sherwood Forest. Time permitting, the walk may include crossing over to Carlton Road to view the western end of the Dwaas Kill Nature Preserve which is "across the street" from Kinns Road Park. Meet at the parking area.
7. **Friday, September 9, at 1 p.m. Vischer Ferry Nature & Historic Preserve –** Visit the centerpiece of the preserve, from the Whipple Bridge south to riverfront, and historic Forts Ferry, town water supply area, and time permitting, eastward to Clutes Dry Dock. Meet at the Whipple Bridge parking area, off of Riverview Road, directly across from Van Vranken Rd.
8. **Friday, October 14, at 1 p.m. Dwaas Kill Nature Preserve.** Meet at the entrance to the 240-acre preserve, located about halfway along the west side of Pierce Road, across from the National Grid property.
9. **Friday, November 4, at 1 p.m. Veterans Memorial Park.** Meet at the park's picnic pavilion located on the south (left) side of the entrance drive. Explore the 140 acres of wetlands, stream, and meadows.
10. **Friday, December 2, at 1 p.m. Neighborhood Natural Areas south of Clifton Park Center Road.** Meet at Clifton Park Town Hall near the reception desk. Walk the neighborhood paths connecting Meadow Estates, Addison Estates, Settlers Hill and Summerhill.

Project sponsorship by the:

Town of Clifton Park Town Board in coordination with the Town of Clifton Park Open Space, Trails & Riverfront Committee, and the Town of Clifton Park Planning Department