

Welcome to the Indian Kill Preserve.

The 138 acre Indian Kill Preserve follows the banks and bluffs of the Indian Kill. The Preserve is comprised of a number of diverse habitats including, native hardwood forest, conifer plantations, and wetlands. The Preserve is an attractive area for hiking, nature study, fishing, and snow-shoeing.

The Preserve is also a special place for wildflowers in the spring, and a variety of fern species. Hepatica, trout lilies, trillium, cohosh, toothwort, and jack-in-the-pulpits bloom along the stream banks. Eleven species of ferns grow along the trails, emphasizing the diverse habitats of the area, moist stream banks, wetlands, cool north-facing bluffs and the dry sandy uplands.

Parking: Visitors to the Indian Kill Preserve may park in the designated lot off Hetcheltown Road or the parking lot at the end of St. Anthony Lane.

Trails:

From the Hetcheltown Road parking lot the Clair Schmitt trail traverses the entire length of the Preserve. The trail winds through a young forest and then down the slope to the valley of the Indian Kill. Cross the stream on a bridge built on the old dam which impounded water for the former Glenridge Hospital. Continue along this trail and either go up stream or down.

This short segment follows the banks of the Indian Kill connecting to sections of the red trail.

Within the Preserve trail are shorter segments of the yellow trail which provide additional hiking opportunities.

Up stream: Taking a right off the bridge on the Clair Schmitt trail will take you upstream, climbing the bluff along a zigzag path through a sandy oak forest with red pine and red cedar plantations. Behind Helen Estates the trail goes down the bluff to go along the stream bank. Return on the yellow loop which crosses fern-filled gorges on small bridges.

Directions to the Indian Kill Preserve

Go north on Rte 50 to Glenridge Rd. Turn right on Glenridge Rd. and go 1.3 miles to traffic signal at Maple Ave. Turn left and go .4 miles to parking lot on left at junction of Maple Avenue and Hetcheltown Rd. Parking is on the left.

The Indian Kill Preserve is open dawn to dusk.
Carry in /Carry out

Prohibitions: No overnight camping, fires, littering, or dumping. No motorized vehicles or bikes. No hunting, trapping or carrying of firearms. No cutting or collecting of plant specimens. Please leash dogs and respect private property surrounding the Preserve.

CAUTION! Steep slopes encountered throughout this Preserve contain all the natural hazards inherent in such formations. Please keep back from edges. For your own safety and for the protection of fragile plants and soils, please stay on the marked trails. Also beware of Poison Ivy.

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Fern covered banks
of the Indian Kill



Fishing at the
Indian Kill dam

A GUIDE TO THE INDIAN KILL NATURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVE



Schenectady County, New York



