

Adirondack Canoe Routes

Adirondack Forest Preserve Map and Guide



New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

George E. Pataki, Governor

Erin M. Crotty, Commissioner

Running southwest to northeast through the heart of the Adirondack Forest Preserve, the lake regions of the Adirondacks offer unrivaled opportunities for boating and canoeing. Miles and miles of beautiful lakes and streams are available for the boater to explore. While a few may feel the presence of roads and railroads detract from the wildness of the woods, most find the surroundings peaceful and serene. In fact, except for the larger lakes during the summer months, the Adirondack Routes (especially the streams) are largely unchanged from the colonial times.

Access

It's easy to reach the Adirondack Lake regions:

- ❖ from Albany, take the Adirondack Northway (Route 87N).
- ❖ from Utica, NYS Route 12 to Alder Creek, and Route 28 from Alder Creek to Old Forge. From there proceed along the Fulton Chain of Lakes to Eagle Bay, Inlet, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Lakes, Raquette Lake and Blue Mountain Lake.
- ❖ from the Thruway at Amsterdam, take Route 30 north to reach Blue Mountain Lake, Long Lake, Tupper Lake, Saranac Inn, Paul Smiths and Malone.

Canoe Rentals

Canoes equipped with paddles may be rented at boat liverys in Inlet, Old Forge, Raquette Lake, Blue Mountain lake, Long Lake, Saranac Lake, Tupper Lake, Fish Creek and at many hotels. To make your trip easier, you can make arrangements to return

rental canoes at a site located near the end of your trip. For a list of boat liverys, contact the Department of Environmental Conservation. Prior to your trip, you should familiarize yourself with all of new York State's boating regulations so that you can enjoy a safe canoe trip. Canoeists are reminded that regulations require all boats and canoes be equipped with a personal floatation device for each person on board.

Camping

Informal Camping-There is an abundance of Forest Preserve land adjacent to the Adirondack Canoe Route. Since camping is permitted on state lands, these areas offer numerous locations for overnight camping and day use. Campers may pitch a tent on state land, but no permanent structures are permitted, nor can a tent be set up inside any of the numerous lean-tos that DEC has constructed. Lean-tos are for the temporary use of overnight travelers and, unless caught in a storm, campers should stay no more than one night. Canoeists should be prepared and carry their own tents in the event that lean-to space is not available. In addition, remember to clean up the lean-to or primitive tent site before you leave so that the place is ready for the next canoeists to enjoy.

When camping on state land (except at DEC Public Campgrounds where a caretaker is in attendance) larger groups must obtain an **interior use camping permit** for any overnight use. Large groups are limited to 12 persons in order to protect the designated sites along the water course. Groups from the same organization must camp at least .25 mile apart. Smaller

groups and individuals also require a permit from DEC if they use the same location for more than three nights in a row. You need to get these permits in advance from the area forest ranger, whose address is available from DEC offices listed in this brochure. To keep the human impacts on the area to a minimum, groups of six or fewer are encouraged.

To find out more information about informal camping on state lands, refer to these brochures: *Use of New York State's Public Forest Lands* and *Welcome to the Forest Preserve Public Campground*. Both publications are obtainable upon request from the Department of Environmental Conservation offices.

State Campgrounds-More formal camping is available at several public campgrounds located along the Adirondack Canoe Route. When camping at a DEC State Campground, the following regulations apply:

- ❖ During the DEC's camping season (before Memorial Day through Labor Day with a few fall exceptions), there is a caretaker on duty and a camping fee or day use/picnic fee is charged.
- ❖ Sites are available on a first-come, first-served basis, but all sites are on a reservation system and may be unavailable, especially on peak weekends. You can contact the NYS Reservation System at **1-800-456-CAMP**.
- ❖ Group size is limited to six persons.

**Please remember when visiting the area
to respect private landowner's rights and
DO NOT TRESPASS**

Use Area Maps

To be prepared, you need to supplement this brochure with detailed maps, such as those available from the US Geological Survey (USGS), which show topography, roads, streams, villages, etc. The new 7.5 X 15 minute map series includes the sheets listed below:

AREA	MAP NAME
Fulton Chain	Old Forge, Eagle Bay, Wakely Mountain, Raquette Lake
Raquette Lake	Raquette Lake, Forked Lake
Saranac Lake	Saranac Lake, Upper Saranac Lake
Long Lake	Deerland, Kempshall Mountain
Tupper Lake	Piercefield, Tupper Lake
Paul Smith's	St. Regis Mountain

REMEMBER

**Do Not attempt these canoe trips
without a good topographic map!**

Canoe Routes

Numerous routes that can be taken through the Adirondack Lake regions are detailed in this publication. The most popular Adirondack canoe trip begins at Old Forge (Herkimer County) at the foot of the Fulton Chain of Lakes, and runs through various lakes on up through the upper reaches of the Raquette River. You can end the trip at a number of spots including Blue Mountain Lake, Tupper Lake, Piercefield Flow, Saranac Inn, Paul Smith's or Saranac Lake. For a shorter trip, start from Blue Mountain Lake and proceed through Eagle Lake, Utowana Lake, and then onto Marion River to Raquette Lake.

Definition: When passing from one body of water to another, it is frequently necessary to leave the water and carry your canoe and "duffle" overland. In the Adirondacks, these overland portages are known as "carries."

Fulton Chain Section

MAIN ROUTE-Old Forge to Third Lake: Begin in the hamlet of Old Forge, on the south side of Route 28, immediately adjacent to the Town of Webb Tourist Information Center. A nearby municipal parking lot allows long-term parking. Before starting, consult the large map mural in the parking lot and **sign the registration book**. Canoeists are advised that there is often heavy motorized boat traffic between Old Forge and Inlet, including the Alger Island State Campground.

From Old Forge, you pass through about 1.5 miles of winding stream and come out into First Lake at its western extremity. Keep right of the channel buoy and head slightly southeast toward DeCamp Island, a state-owned property with four designated campsites and no open fires. Passage from Second Lake into Third Lake is not apparent. Mileage from Old Forge to the head of "Third Lake is 4.5 miles."

Third Lake to Seventh Lake: A narrow, winding passage leads from Third Lake into Fourth Lake, the largest of the Fulton Chain. DEC maintains a picnic area (Fourth Lake Access) on the south shore of Fourth Lake just after you enter the foot of the lake. Car top boat launching and parking facilities are available. Nearby Alger (Big) Island is a public campground with fifteen lean-tos and a facilities supervisor in attendance. Camping on Alger Island requires a camping permit issued at Fourth Lake Access. There is a service charge and accommodations on this island are dependent on whether all sites have been reserved. Distance across Fourth Lake is 5.5 miles to the Village of Inlet. Canoeists should exercise caution on Fourth Lake because of frequent high winds and very rough water.

The inlet to Fifth Lake (merely a small pond) enters at the southeastern corner and is about 0.5 mile long. At most stages of water level the area is navigable by canoes and small boats. Once through the inlet, proceed directly across the lake and enter a winding stream (passable except in very dry weather) that comes in on the left. This leads to an evident landing place to begin a 0.5 mile carry. Carry canoes uphill along the path and to the left 300 feet to Route 28. Be aware of traffic. Proceed right uphill along the highway until you reach Sixth Lake Road on the left. Turn left, proceed down the road to the break wall at Sixth Lake Dam. Put canoe in and follow the south or right-hand shore of Sixth Lake. Go under the County Route 13 bridge onto Seventh Lake.

Seventh Lake to Raquette Lake: Paddling across Seventh Lake is hard on a windy day. When entering the lake, keep to the north shore and head due east to a point of land plainly visible at the far end of the lake. Unless heading for the north shore lean-tos, avoid the bay to the northeast. Keep right of this point and swing easterly through a winding stump-strewn channel. Stay right of an island with a lean-to, and head to the dock that suddenly appears-this begins the Eighth Lake carry. This is a confusing spot to reach. Watch for signs that indicate the channel. **NOTE:** At higher water levels, it is possible to canoe up the inlet to the Bug Lake Trail crossing, and eliminate some of the carry to Eighth Lake.

Eighth Lake Carries: The carry to Eighth Lake, which extends through the Eighth Lake Public Campground, is 1.0 mile. From the dock, take the right fork of the road. Approximately midway there is a trail intersection: the road to the left leads to Bug Lake; the road to the right leads to the campground caretaker's headquarters where there is a public telephone; and .25 mile ahead is Route 28. For Eighth Lake, proceed straight.

On Eighth Lake you will find several lean-tos: one on a small island near the west side of the lake, one on the north shore and another on the lake's north end. Also at the lake's north end (approximately 1.5 miles from the lake's other side) is another carry. The carry crosses the low divide between the watersheds of the Moose River and the Raquette River, a distance of 1.1 miles from the head of Eighth Lake to the access on the Browns Tract Inlet. Midway on the carry there is a short spur trail to the right that leads to the Old Forge-Blue Mountain Lake Road (Route 28).

Raquette Lake Section

MAIN ROUTE-The main routes divide at Raquette Lake. The route leading to Tupper Lake, the Saranacs, Paul Smiths, etc. Extends north through Raquette lake past Indian Point, the Needles and Bluff Point. From there, the route heads down Outlet Bay northeast to the landing on the north shore of the bay, near the Raquette Lake outlet. It is 8.5 miles from Raquette Lake Village to the landing. A word of advice-it is wisest to plan to cross Raquette Lake early in the morning.

Another route ends at Blue Mountain Lake. This involves crossing Raquette Lake east from Raquette Lake Village and following up the Marion River carry. This route is described in the next section.

Coming into Raquette Lake from Browns Tract Inlet there is a small wooded island that lies dead ahead. Keep left of the island and head for the opening between the next small island and what appears to be the mainland (but is really Big Island). When in the narrow channel between these two, bear right around a point on Big Island into a small bay and to the lean-tos. Golden Beach Public Campground is located on the eastern end of South Bay.

To reach the shelters on Clark Point, start from the Browns Tract Inlet, follow the left shore to and around Antlers Point and head west to a point on the north side of Lonesome Bay where two lean-tos and a spring are located.

From Clark Point to Outlet Bay (about 7.0 miles) the course is generally northeast. Head through the narrows and around the Needles (indicated as Needle Island on the USGS topographic map), where a buoy is usually located. About 2 miles from Clark Point, on the east shore of the lake is Tioga Point, the location of 15 lean-tos. These are in the same category as a public campground with a service charge and caretaker on duty during the DEC's camping season. Bluff Point juts out prominently dead ahead on the eastern shore.

The northeasterly course to Outlet Bay is evident after bearing right around Bluff Point. Rounding Bluff Point, the Boucher lean-tos are found on the north shore of Outlet Bay. After the bay begins to narrow, you will see a lean-to sign on the north shore. From this point, it is a short mile to the old dock and a sign marking the carry to Big Forked Lake. The 0.5 mile carry from Raquette Lake to Forked Lake follows a road leading northward. A telephone booth marks where this carry crosses the North Point Road (County Route 13) that extends from North Point on Raquette Lake to Deerland.

After "putting in" on the south shore of Forked Lake at the end of the carry, follow the shore eastward, past a lean-to and proceed 3.25 miles to the outlet where a public campground is located. For tent sites, see caretaker. At this point, it is necessary to leave the water and carry for 1.5 miles down County Route 20, a dirt road. Be sure to keep left where the road forks 1.0 mile from the dam. Proceed past the rapids in the Raquette River to where the river becomes navigable for small boats. The Pine Brook lean-to is located here.

After putting in, canoe about a mile down river to the head of Buttermilk Falls. At the falls is a carry of about 0.1 mile on the east side of the stream. After the carry, you can canoe for about 0.4 mile to a plainly indicated landing on the east shore of the stream. This carry is about 0.4 mile long and avoids the rapids. You can put back in near the two Deerlands lean-tos about 0.5 mile above the head of Long Lake.

Blue Mountain Lake Section

MAIN ROUTE- Instead of going north across Raquette Lake toward Forked Lake, you can shorten your trip and end at Blue Mountain Lake. To do this, start from Raquette Lake dock and set a course that skirts the north shore of Big Island. From there, head northeast around the tip of Long Point and then easterly into the winding Marion River. Take the Marion up to the remains of an old railroad bridge where there is a carry (distance from Raquette Lake Village to the carry .6 miles). The 0.5 mile-long carry brings you to the dam near the foot of Utowana Lake. There is a lean-to on the north shore 0.5 mile beyond the dam. Canoeing through Utowana, Eagle and Blue Mountain Lakes for a distance of about 7.0 miles brings you to Blue Mountain Lake Village on the east side of Blue Mountain Lake.

Long Lake Section

MAIN ROUTE- From the head of Long Lake, proceed down Long Lake for 4.5 miles to Long Lake Village. (Note: Long Lake is the last opportunity to replenish supplies until you reach the Trading Post at Fish Creek.) Two Caitlin Bay lean-tos are located about 2.0 miles beyond Long Lake Village on the southeast shore where the lake begins to widen. Pass this and two other points that are not far apart and swing to the right into a small bay. The first lean-to is in view on the south side of the point. The other lean-to is just beyond, around the north point of the bay, just out of sight in the woods. Numerous other lean-tos are also found on Long Lake: Hidden Cove lean-to is found in the bay on the southeastern shore before you reach Round Island; 2.0 miles further, there are two lean-tos located on high ground overlooking the lake at Kelly Point; on the southeastern shore of Long Lake at Rodney Point (about 6.0 miles below Long Lake Village) there are two lean-tos; two more lean-toes are located on the southeast shore at Plumley's Landing; Island Horse Lean-to is .75 mile below Plumley's Point; and there are seven lean-tos at Wilderness Camps on the northwest shore opposite Island House lean-to, approximately 8.5 miles down the lake.

From Long Lake Village, it is 9.5 miles to the foot of the lake where you enter the Raquette River. Pay attention; the channel from the lake is tricky, especially when the water is low. To the extreme right, boulders on the shore indicate a channel that is impassable in low water. To the left of this channel is a long marsh tipped by a sand dune that juts out toward the lake, the main channel is to the left of this point, along the edge of a curving sandy shallow. Still

further to the left is what appears to be another channel - avoid it.

Shortly after entering the river, Lost Channel comes in on the right. Pass it by. The leanto is just beyond on the left bank. Leaving this camp, a big, oval boulder is seen ahead. The land beyond it is an island. To continue down Raquette River, take the channel to the left; the Deep Hole leanto is on the west bank of Raquette River at the mouth of Cold River. Take the right-hand channel, turn sharp right again where Cold River comes in to reach Caulkins Creek leanto on Cold River. It is one mile upstream to the leanto on the left bank. On leaving this camp, follow the right bank downstream into Raquette below the island mentioned above. Travelers from the opposite direction often lose considerable time by mistaking where Cold River comes in at the north end of the island for the main branch of Raquette.

Six miles below the outlet is the carry around Raquette Falls. Located on the east bank of the river, the carry is plainly marked. The trail goes along an old tote road for 1.25 miles to the foot of the falls where a leanto, a small clearing and the caretaker's cabin are located. About 0.5 mile below the foot of the falls, there is a leanto on the east side of the river, one at the junction of Palmer Brook, and another 0.5 mile below the junction of Palmer Brook. At the foot of the falls you may put in again and canoe 6 miles farther down the river to Axton. The Stony Creek leanto is located just above Axton, near the intersection of the outlet of Stony Creek Ponds and the Raquette.

Approximately five miles below Raquette Falls the river makes its bend to the northwest in a broad reach. As one enters this stretch, three large boulders are prominent ahead on the right shore. The insignificant Stony Creek Ponds outlet comes in on the right, just upstream from these boulders. You can see a highway bridge up Stony Creek Outlet to the right. If you want to go to the Saranacs, follow Stony Creek Outlet as described in the Saranac section. If you want to go to Tupper Lake, follow Raquette River northwesterly toward Axton.

Tupper Lake Section

Main Route - From Axton, the canoe trip down Raquette River is 18 miles long. There is a public boat launching site at the Hamlet of Moody on the southeastern shore of Tupper Lake.

As the crow flies, it is about three miles from Axton to the Tromblee Clearing leanto, but by canoe, the winding river covers 8 miles. A mile beyond this leanto, there is a cutoff on the left. This cutoff of about 400 feet saves a mile-long paddle around the north loop where the river comes close to the state highway. By following the left-hand shore (south shore) and keeping sharp left, canoeists will keep in the proper channel. From the Oxbow, the route is southwest until Simon Pond is reached. Where the river bends sharply to the north, a cutoff heading toward Mt. Morris leads to the southwest. Take this to Simon Pond and head west for the Rt. 30 highway bridge. From this point, the channel is marked on the outlet of Tupper Lake, then north to Raquette Pond and the dock at Tupper Lake Village. Leantos are found at Black Bay and Sorting Gap. An alternate route is a six-mile side trip after entering Tupper Lake, to the south end. You can extend your trip northwest out of Raquette Pond to the Piercefield Flow,

then down river all the way to Massena and the St. Lawrence River.

Saranac Section

Main Route - Those traveling to the Saranacs should leave Raquette River and canoe up the Stony Creek outlet. In times of low water it is often necessary to drag the canoe for short distances through shallow water. After entering this outlet, one passes under the Coreys Road bridge. A campsite with a fireplace is found on the south side at a steel bridge. About a mile from the bridge, Ampersand Brook, which looks like a long straight ditch, comes in on the right. Avoid this and swing sharply left to keep on the course to Stony Creek Ponds. When entering the first pond, keep to the right shore, go to the outlet of the second pond and pass under a bridge. Several campsites are found on Second Pond to the east of the carry landing. If you wish to continue to Upper Saranac Lake, proceed northeast on Second Pond. Keeping to the left of a small island, paddle to the northwest corner of Second Pond where the new section of the Indian Carry starts. Follow the Indian Carry generally northerly to and across Route 3 until you reach Upper Saranac Lake (1 mile).

On reaching Upper Saranac Lake, if you are going to Saranac Inn and Paul Smiths, proceed northerly up the lake for 7.5 miles to the extreme north end. Camping on Upper Saranac Lake is allowed only on numbered sites. Write the DEC office in Raybrook for a brochure. There is a leanto on the north shore of Saginaw Bay about 0.75 mile east of Buck Island's southeast tip.

To reach Saranac Lake Village, proceed about 1 mile up the lake. Then turn to the east, following the outlet to Bartlett Carry, which is two miles from the end of Indian Carry. Bartlett Carry is about 0.4 mile long and from its lower end, the route runs easterly through Middle Saranac Lake. There are leantos on Rice Point on the east shore of the bay leading to Weller Pond and on the north shore of Weller Pond. There is another

leanto on the far east shore of Middle Saranac Lake just north of the outlet where the canoeist enters the Saranac River. Paddle down river through a set of locks (Upper Locks) into Lower Saranac Lake, and proceed northeast through the narrows.

Middle Saranac Lake, along with Lower Saranac Lake and Weller Pond comprise the Saranac Lakes Camping Area. All rules and regulations pertaining to Public Campgrounds apply to state-owned islands and the shoreline (to a point 1000 feet back from the high-water mark). Normal camping service charges found at public campgrounds also apply. Any camping, including use of the leantos, requires purchasing a camping permit. These are available from the caretaker at the State Bridge on Rt. 3, or on a camping site from an attendant on patrol.

On Lower Saranac Lake, two leantos are located on the north shore of what is known as Norway Point. Keep to the south shore, passing the large bay on the right and using the bold rocky headland of Bluff Island as a landmark. Opposite Bluff Island, to the south, is the inlet to First and Second Ponds and the Saranac River. The caretaker is located where the route passes under the Route 3 State bridge. The Saranac River leanto is just beyond Second Pond opposite the mouth of Cold Brook. A second set of locks (Lower Locks) is found between Lower Saranac and



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Long Lake Ma

Oseetah Lake. Canoe northerly across Oseetah Lake to the boat launch at Lake Flower in the Village of Saranac Lake.

Or, to continue northwest through Lower Saranac Lake, pass Lonesome Bay on the right, with a glimpse of the highway embankment at its extreme end. Passing to the left of Sable Island, the canoeist comes to the Tom's Rock leanto on the south shore near the west end of Eagle Island, the largest in the lake.

Leaving Eagle Island, proceed east to Crescent Bay, where boat livery and auto transportation are available. Another option is to go to Ampersand Dock at the extreme northeast end of the lake where similar facilities are available. This dock is about 9.5 miles from the lower end of Barlett Carry, and 1.5 miles by road from Saranac Lake Village.

A popular trip starts from Fish Creek Bay on the west side of Upper Saranac Lake about 3 miles south of Saranac Inn. Entering this bay, you will follow a stream into Fish Creek Ponds, thence northward through a small stream (Fish Creek) for about a mile. Then, pass the outlet of Copperas Pond and enter Little Square Pond. From here, the route continues up Fish Creek northwest into Floodwood Pond, thence southwest into Rollins Pond and returns to Fish Creek Ponds through Whey Pond and Square Pond. Or, you can carry from Whey into Copperas, returning by way of the stream described above. This trip from Fish Creek Bay to Rollins Pond and return is about 10 miles long. There is a short carry of less than 0.25 mile between Floodwood and Rollins Ponds, another short carry of about 0.25 mile between Rollins and Whey Ponds, and a carry of about 0.25 mile between Whey and Copperas.

Another delightful trip starts from the first Fish Creek Pond. Paddle up Spider Creek to the north end of Follensby Clear Pond and carry about 0.1 mile to Polliwog Pond. Carry about 0.33 mile to Middle Pond and then about 0.33 mile into Floodwood Pond. The return would be over the reverse route described in the preceding paragraph to Little Square Pond, passing Copperas Pond about 0.75 mile to a carry of about 0.25 mile into Follensby Clear Pond. This trip is also about 10 miles long.

A third trip is to launch at Hoel Pond. From Hoel Pond the route lies through Turtle and Slang Ponds, with a carry of about 0.2 mile into Long Pond. Canoe through Long Pond to a point on the south shore about a mile from the west end, the start of a carry of about 0.75 mile into Floodwood Pond. Cross Floodwood Pond to the southeast, canoe down Fish Creek as previously described to the carry at Follensby Clear Pond and then north to the carry to Polliwog Pond. From Polliwog, return to Hoel Pond by the 0.5 mile carry that begins at the northeast shore. If desired, access to the St. Regis Canoe Area can be gained here as well as from Long and Little Clear Ponds and Upper St. Regis Lake.

Paul Smith's Section

Main Route - The main route from Saranac Inn to Paul Smiths extends through a series of ponds long known as "the Route of the Seven Carries." From Saranac Inn, you carry 1.5 miles over the road to Rat Pond, then carry along the north side of the railroad track to Little Green Pond. It is 0.5 mile across Little Green Pond to the carry on the east side of the pond. This carry is 0.125 mile long and brings you into Little Clear Pond. An alternate route

would be to canoe up Lake Clear Outlet on the northeast shore of Upper Saranac Lake, then upstream on Hatchery Brook past two wooden bridges to the takeout point at Rt. 30. There is a 0.75 mile carry to Little Clear Pond. Canoeing through Little Clear Pond to the north end, you will find a well defined trail leading northwesterly to St. Regis Pond. There is a leanto on the south shore of St. Regis Pond approximately 0.75 mile east of the outlet. By following the east shore of St. Regis Pond a short distance, you reach a carry of 0.1 mile east to Green Pond. This pond is only about 0.25 mile wide and one soon reaches the carry at the northeast part which leads north 0.25 mile into Little Long Pond. Canoeing northeast for about a mile through Little Long Pond one reaches the north end of the pond and a carry of 0.25 mile into Bear Pond. The carry from Bear Pond to Bog Pond leaves the east side of Bear Pond and is about 100 feet long. Between Bog Pond and Upper St. Regis Lake there is a 200 foot carry. From the end of this carry, proceed northeast across Upper St. Regis Lake through the narrow channel into Spitfire Lake. Then paddle along the east side of Spitfire Lake about a mile to the stream leading into Lower St. Regis Lake, and across the latter about 0.75 mile to Paul Smiths.

From Paul Smiths, travel northeast to Lake Kushaqua. Carry about 0.25 mile to Church Pond located next to Rt. 86 on the north side of the highway. Then travel east through the very shallow channel into Osgood Pond and travel to the east end. Canoe up the outlet to Jones Pond and through this pond to the carry at the north end, which is about 1 mile from the west end of Rainbow Lake. The trip through Rainbow Lake is about 3 miles to the east end of the lake. From here, travel down the north branch of the Saranac River to Lake Kushaqua where the trip ends on the north end of the lake. There is camping at Buck Pond Campground.



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Suggested Itinerary for Canoe Trip (For average canoeist)

First Day: Old Forge to Eighth Lake Campground. Distance:18 miles, including 1.7 miles of carry

Second Day: Eighth Lake Campground to Blue Mtn. Lake-distance:19 miles, including 2 mile carry or

Eighth Lake Campground to Forked Lake Dam (outlet)-distance:17 miles, including 1.75 mile carry

Third Day: Forked Lake Dam to Lost Channel lean-to on Raquette River below Long Lake-distance:17.1 miles, including 2.1 miles of carry

Fourth Day: Foot of Long Lake at Lost Channel to Axton-distance:13.25 miles, including 1.25 miles of carry.

Fifth Day: Axton to Tromblee Clearing lean-to-distance-8 miles.

Sixth Day: Tromblee Clearing to Tupper Lake-distance:10 miles. No carry.

ALTERNATE ROUTE

Fifth Day: Axton to Ampersand Dock boat livery, at east end of Lower Saranac Lake-distance:16.25 miles, including 1.5 miles of carry

Fifth Day: Axton to Tom's rock lean-to in Lower Saranac (camping fee charged on Lower Saranac)-distance:14.25 miles, including 1.5 miles of carry.

Sixth Day: Tom's Rock lean-to to Saranac Lake Village via Saranac River-distance:10 miles.

Guidelines and Safety Tips for Outdoor Recreationists

The forests and mountains of the Adirondacks offer people many opportunities for recreational pleasure, to appreciate the wonders of nature, and to escape the urban world. To ensure the Adirondacks maintain their wild character, and to make sure you have a safe trip, please observe these simple guidelines while canoeing or camping in the Forest Preserve.

- ❖ Leave the woodlands and waterways cleaner than you found-bring a refuse bag and carry out more than you carried in.
- ❖ Burying of refuse is prohibited;
- ❖ Observe and enjoy the wildlife and plant life, but leave them undisturbed-remember that you are but a visitor.
- ❖ For Camping: Carry your own tent. It is probable that the shelters will be full. Unless a site is designated by a DEC sign, you must camp at least 150 feet from water, roads and trails. Choose clear, level ground to pitch your tent and disturb as little ground cover as possible near your campsite;
- ❖ Water Supply:Do not drink any untreated water. Do no wash in any lake, pond or stream. Dispose of waste water away from streams and springs;
- ❖ Human Waste: If there are no toilets nearby, dig a narrow trench 8 inches deep and cover it completely when you break camp. Stay 150 feet away from any body of water;
- ❖ Fires: Use portable backpack stoves for cooking: they conserve the resource and are easier and safer than building campfires. If you must build a fire, do so with extreme care. Choose bare, level ground and clear away leaves, twigs and duff down to the mineral soil for a distance of three feet around the fire. Lay up stones and be sure the fire is completely extinguished (drowned and stirred many times) before you leave. Be careful with cigarettes and matches-remember that the privileges and pleasures in the woods depend on the user's care with fire;
- ❖ Observe all posted regulations and be considerate of fellow recreationists;
- ❖ Plan your trip carefully, according to the routes and time available. Carry the latest guidebooks and maps;
- ❖ Always let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return-sign all trail registers you encounter;
- ❖ Check the weather reports before you set out;
- ❖ Be prepared for unexpected emergencies. Carry a compass, pocket knife, waterproof matches, high energy food items such as candy, a first aid kit, extra protective clothing, flashlight, extra batteries and a space blanket.
- ❖ In case of an accident, at least one person should remain with the injured person. Others should carefully note the location and contact the local forest ranger, the nearest DEC office, or the Forest Ranger Dispatch Center at Ray Brook (518)891-0235.
- ❖ Notify the local forest ranger or nearest DEC office if any of your companions become lost; and
- ❖ If you do become lost, keep calm and stay warm. If you believe you can try to find your way out, remember that following streams downhill will nearly always lead you back to signs of habitation; if not, stay put and make a smoky fire.

For More Information

For more information on canoeing this area, contact the Dept. Of Environmental Conservation at:

Region 5: Ray Brook NY 12977 (518) 897-1200

Region 6: Herkimer, NY 13350 (315)866-6330

Northville, NY 12134 (518)863-8216

Canton, NY 13617 (315)386-4546

Potsdam NY 13617 (315)265-3090

For Search, Rescue or Wildland Fires, Call Ray Brook Emergency Dispatch (518)891-0235

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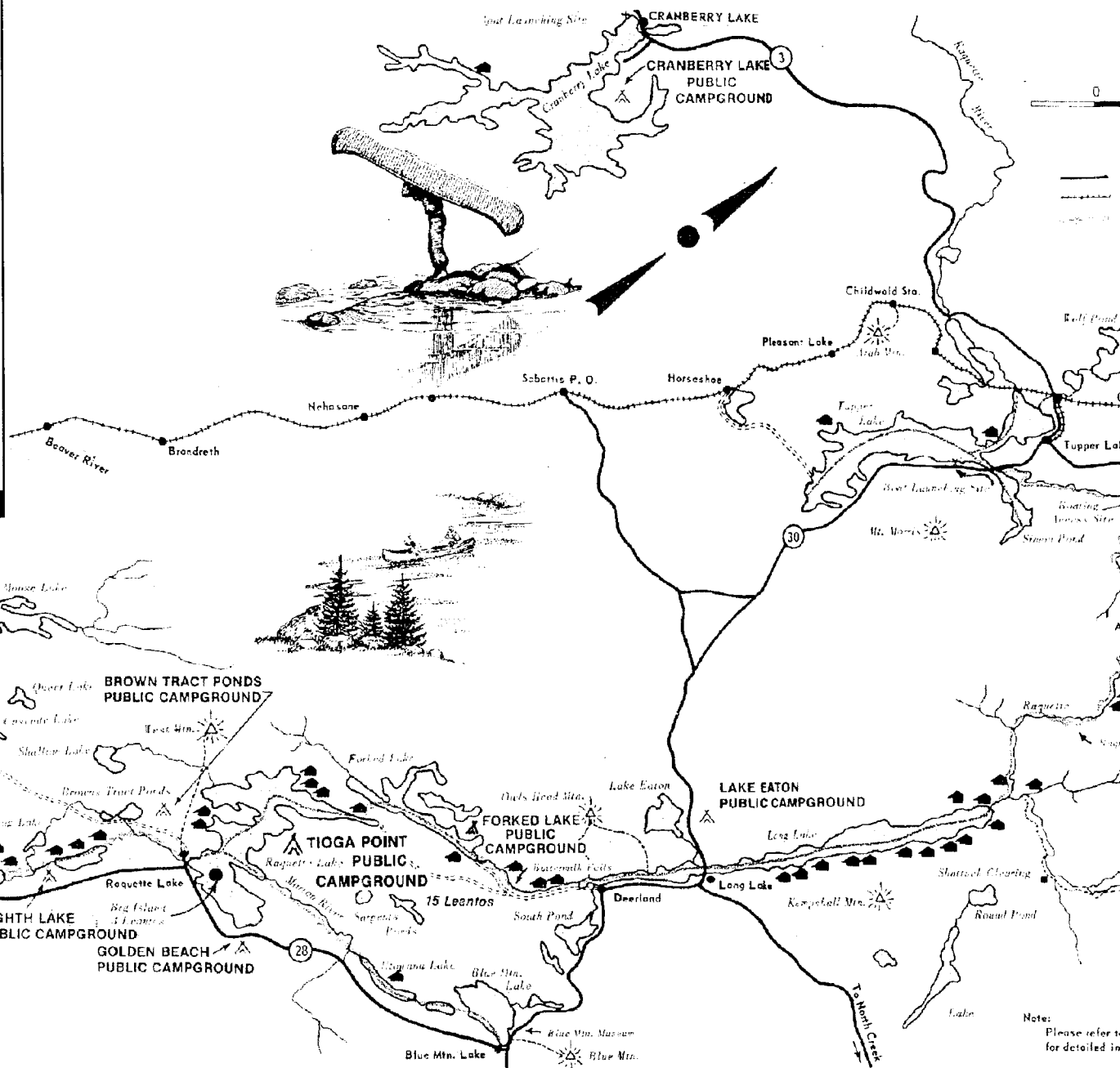
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