



New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Current Conditions in the Adirondack High Peaks Region
Compiled on: September 23, 2011

EASTERN HIGH PEAKS WILDERNESS

The Eastern High Peaks Wilderness is open to public recreation including most trails in or accessed from the Adirondack Mountain Reserve. However the following of trails remain closed:

- Adirondack Mountain Reserve Trails:
 - The first (northernmost) two cross over trails between the East River Trail and the West River Trail.
NOTE: The other three cross over trails and bridges are open and must be used to travel between the East River and West River Trails.
 - Warden's Camp to Sawteeth Trail
 - Carry Trail
 - Warden's Camp to Haystack Trail
 - Haystack Brook Trail
- The Deer Brook Trail from Route 73 to Rooster Comb
- The Southside Trail from the Garden Trailhead to John's Brook Outpost
- The Cold Brook Trail between Lake Colden and Indian Pass.
- The Elk Lake Trail between the Elk Lake Trailhead and Panther Gorge.

Trails that are not closed are not necessarily in good condition, trails may have heavy erosion and cobble, bridges washed out, and flooding – though blowdown has been cleared from the majority of trails.

Hikers must pay close attention as many trails may not look like they had before the storm. Many trails have been rerouted to avoid heavily damaged sections and eroded drainages can be mistaken for trails. The ability to navigate with a map and compass is important.

Both newly developed and previous low water crossings may not be passable due to high water conditions.

The bridge on the road to the Garden Trailhead is restricted to 6000 pounds. The Town of Keene will be operating a shuttle bus from the Marcy Field parking area to the corner of Market Street and Adirondack Road (approximately 1.25 miles away from the Garden Trailhead) on Saturdays and Sundays.

DIX MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS

Dix Mountain Wilderness is open to public recreation including most trails in or accessed from the Adirondack Mountain Reserve. However the following of trails remain closed:

- The Carry Trail from Adirondack Mountain Reserve to the Colvin Range Trail.
- The Colvin Range Trail from the summit Blake Peak south to Pinnacle and beyond.

GIANT MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS

The Giant Mountain Wilderness is open to public recreation.

The Roaring Brook Falls Trailhead is open, though some DOT vehicles & equipment remain on site.

Many of these trails have not been assessed. Hikers may encounter blowdown, eroded trails and flooding.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Road Information: State Route 73 is open its whole length from the Route 9 intersection to Lake Placid. The Adirondack Loj Road and the South Meadow road are open to motor vehicle traffic.

Cooler Weather: Cooler temperatures have arrived in the mountains. Night-time and morning temperatures in the 30s or colder may be experienced, especially in higher elevations. Be prepared before entering the woods. Pack extra non-cotton clothes, including a hat, in addition to your usual equipment. Take off and put on layers of clothing to regulate body heat.

Shorter Days: Remember the sun sets earlier this time of year. Plan trips accordingly and carry a flashlight or headlamp with fresh batteries.

Hunting Seasons: Autumn hunting seasons for small game, waterfowl and big game have begun or will begin shortly. Hikers should be aware that they may meet hunters bearing firearms or archery equipment while hiking on trails. Please recognize that these are fellow outdoor recreationists with the legal right to participate in these activities on the Forest Preserve. Hunting accidents involving non-hunters are extremely rare. Hikers may want to wear bright colors as an extra precaution.

Current details regarding conditions of open trails and the closures may be found on the
High Peaks Trail Information web page: www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/9198.html