

About the North Woods

The main trails date back all the way to 1879 when Judge Henry Hilton acquired the land, building Woodlawn Park: a community of mansions, horse carriage trails, and a toboggan slide. It is the Northern section of this land that, after a variety of different owners, eventually became Skidmore College's North Woods. It currently spans around 160 acres, and is maintained as a natural space for the Skidmore and surrounding community alike. It is an area where people can connect with nature through meditation, walking, hiking, and running. It also serves as Skidmore's outdoor laboratory, with over 30 courses utilizing the woods for classwork and student-faculty research. This research ranges from studies on the causes and consequences of earthworm invasions, to tracking the resilience of certain invasive species, to archeological excavations!

FUN FACT

Judge Hilton was actually a member of the planning committee on the design of Central Park in NYC. With the park not materializing as he had wished, he designed these woods as he envisioned the park to be!



Wildflowers and Faults and Limestone, oh my!

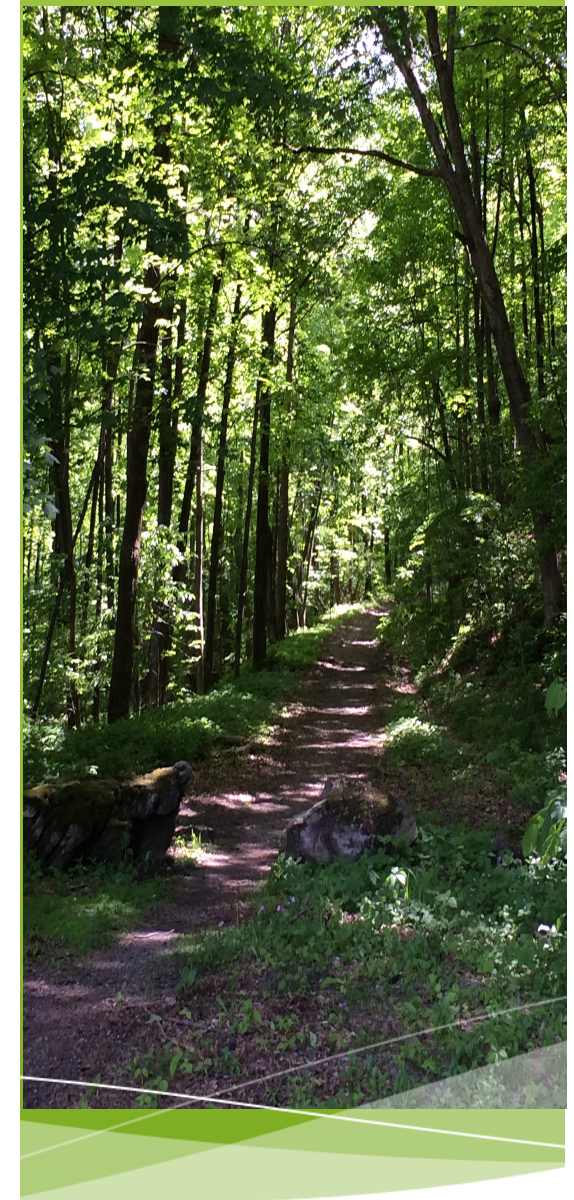
Some facts about the **North Woods**:

- Comprised of Northern Hardwood and Oak-Hickory Forest
- Holds over 660 species of plants (5 found only in Saratoga County)
- Has 33 species of ferns
- Home to a variety of animals including efts, hawks, turtles, woodpeckers, snakes, toads and frogs
- Lies on the McGregor Fault, which runs through most of Saratoga Springs, and results in Saratoga's famous natural mineral springs
- The hill that the water tower sits upon (on the Red Trail) is the highest point in Saratoga Springs!

Skidmore Sustainability Office

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 "Friends of the North Woods"



Skidmore College North Woods



Woodlawn Park in 1888

Visiting Hours and Parking

Open daily to guests from dawn to dusk. Parking is permitted in the Falstaff's Lot designated on the map. We ask that guests not park on North Broadway as the College neither owns nor maintains this road.



We appreciate that you respect these rules.

Our rules are based on ecological concerns for the woods. Dogs off leash can trample plants, spread invasive Garlic Mustard seeds, and disrupt student-faculty research. Bicycle and vehicle use erodes the trails, and the building of campfires can kill tree roots, leaving scars on the forest floor. It is important that these practices be avoided so that we can continue to preserve and enjoy this shared natural space.

Be Careful of Ticks!

- Wear repellant
 - Check your body each time you leave the woods
 - Keep an eye out for Lyme Disease symptoms: rash, fever, and achy joints
- Visit cdc.gov for more info

Safety

In case of life threatening emergency: 911

Other safety concerns:
Skidmore Campus Safety
518-580-5566 (emergency)
518-680-5567 (non-emergency)

The North Woods of Skidmore College

