OWNER'S MANUAL and Use of Byram's Trails

BE SAFE. BE CONSIDERATE. BE RESPECTFUL OF NATURE.

- C Trails are open from dawn to dusk.
- C Pets must be leashed, and owners must bag and carry out pet waste.
- C Motor vehicles, including but not limited to All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs), dirt bikes, snowmobiles or other motorized vehicles, are prohibited. Police may impound such vehicles until violations are heard in municipal court.
- C Horses are allowed on certain trails; check trail descriptions.



- C Bicyclists must ride safely and remain on designated trails. All state and local bicycle safety regulations apply.
- Protect plants and animals. Do not damage, destroy, or remove rocks, plants, trees or other natural features.
- C Possessing or consuming alcohol within the trail system is prohibited.
- C Any use of paintball equipment is prohibited
- C Hunting occurs throughout Byram Township, and some trails are closed during hunting season (see text on The Highlands Trail). Wear orange on all trails during hunting season (September through January).
- © Some trails cross private lands. Be respectful of private property and nearby homes; stay on designated trails.
- C Do not drop matches or cigarettes; do not light fires.
- C Take your litter home.
- C Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return. Prepare for weather changes.
- C Do not park your car on or blocking the trail.
- C Trail use is governed by the park system rules of Byram Township.

BYRAM TOWNSHIP'S TRAILS

Lubbers Run Trail: Approx. 0.6 mile, from Mansfield Drive to the outskirts of the Lake Lackawanna community. This winding woods trail crosses a small feeder to Lubbers Run, offers a cleared path directly to the Lubbers shoreline opposite the Township's Neil Gylling Park, and then travels parallel to the stream through light-filled forests, with several substantial beech stands. Located mostly on lands protected by the NJ Natural Lands Trust. Continuous sizable rock-outcrops delineate the Lubbers Run corridor and provide stream views. On the other side of the trail is an extensive wetlands system. Five different landscapes—stream, marsh, rock outcrops, upland forests, wetlands—parallel the entire length of the path and provide distinct habitats, home to several threatened and endangered birds and plants (stay on the trail). The trail ends at Lake Drive, where a new 5-home subdivision is planned.



Township Bike/Foot Paths: Two trails, each about a mile long, with the Mansfield Bike Trail now completed and the Hi-Glen Bike Trail scheduled for completion in 2007. The Mansfield Bike Path connects Mansfield Drive, near the Byram schools, with Sparta-Stanhope Road, near Lenape Valley Regional High School and less than a half mile from the Sussex County Branch Library in Hopatcong. A wide, surfaced trail through open woods and crossing two streams, with a steep ascent where the trail approaches Sparta-Stanhope Road. At this end, the trail is level with the Lackawanna Cutoff right-of-way, which parallels the path for a while. A connecting path gives access to the East Brookwood neighborhood. Benches along the trail. Joined by the Highlands Trail; also by other ATV trails on private property, which are not for public use.

Briar Ridge Trail: Approx. 1.5 mile. From Whippoorwill Road, up a steep incline to a view of the south end of Lake Mohawk, descending through open forests to Andover-Mohawk Road. Across the road, the trail continues, passing by an extensive wetlands and then looping around on the higher forested elevations. Part of the proposed North Byram Trail Network. These parcels were preserved by the Township in 2005-2006. Briar Ridge is an historic name for the small mountain range west of Lake Mohawk. (*Proposed section on map is not yet open for public use.*)

Allamuchy Mountain State Park Trails: Many miles of trails, used by Boy Scouts (at the Scout Camp), mountain bikers, walkers, cross-country



skiers, hunters. The terrain is generally fairly rough, with large boulders, cliffs, steep rocky hills. Reminiscent of the Delaware Water Gap trails, with many spectacular views, for instance from atop the steep cliff structure of Wolf's Den. Walk or bike to Waterloo Village. Cranberry Lake, Lake Tranquility (in Green Twp.) on mostly well-maintained trails. Some trails created illegally by off-road vehicles have loose rocks and eroded places. A big area and you can get lost, so take a compass and map.

BYRAM TOWNSHIP'S TRAILS

Sussex Branch Trail: Total 22 miles from Waterloo Road in Byram north to Branchville Borough; about 3.5 miles in Byram. This site of Sussex County's first railroad is now an easy trail for hiking, biking, horseback-riding and cross-country skiing. Beautiful all year long, with forests on

either side, Cranberry and Jefferson lakes, a wonderful waterfall, side trails (some to the a r e a 's man y abandoned mines), and Dragon Brook crisscrossing the path. The original narrow bed of the first mule-driven railroad is still visible in the woods, on its route from Andover's iron mines to the forges at Waterloo Village.



The Highlands Trail: Three sections, crossing almost the entire length of Byram in a northeast-southwest direction, and linking with the Sussex Branch Trail and the Township's two bike trails. (The partially completed regional Highlands Trail runs from the Hudson to the Delaware River.) The first two sections are on private property, so stay on the trail. The first section, about 3.5 miles, enters Byram near Hudson Farm (located in Hopatcong) on Sparta-Stanhope Road and quickly rises to the mountain ridge. Mostly mixed forests, with a view of the Lubbers Run valley and some large boulders, as in the nicknamed 'Rock-Rock' section



of the trail. Some streams in wet weather that must be crossed. Descends to Roseville Road near the abandoned Roseville iron mine (on private property). This section is closed for hunting from Sept. 1 through Feb. 1. Horses are allowed in this first section. The second section, about 2 miles long, parallels Lubbers Run and the elevated

Lackawanna Cutoff railbed (an historic marvel from 1908-1911) through mixed hardwood forests, with substantial wetlands to one side of the trail and sometimes rocky footing. Exits on Mansfield Bike Trail and Mansfield Drive. The third section, about 12 miles long, is about a mile away by road, out of the High Glen neighborhood opposite ShopRite. Forested, with small rocky ridges, streams, including Dragon Brook (which must be crossed to access Sussex Branch Trail). Walk 0.1 mile south on Sussex Branch and bear right into the woods, crossing streams, old roads, and offering a spectacular view of the Musconetcong Valley; descend to Waterloo Road near Waterloo Village.

Morris Canal Trail: Less than 0.5 mile of the trail is in Byram. There are other walkable sections in Allamuchy, Mt. Olive, Stanhope and Netcong. Part of a project to establish a much longer trail along the famous Morris

Canal, operating from 1831 to 1924 across northern NJ, 102 miles connecting Phillipsburg on the Delaware River with Jersey City on the Hudson. The trail follows the waterway, often on the path used by the towing mules. Currently walkers cannot enter historic Waterloo Village via the



trail. In Byram and into Allamuchy, the trail is in the woods, closely paralleling Waterloo Road. Various publications describe the canal and its trails



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Report violations to the police at 973-347-4008

Report maintenance problems to the Recreation Department at 973-347-2500 ext. 160

