Welcome

HISTORY

In 1956, Eric Rasmussen, a forester educated at the College of Forestry in Syracuse (now SUNY ESF), embarked on a career as the owner of Lange's Grove Side Resort. For the next 50 years, Eric pursued his interest in forestry through the sustainable management of 150 acres of land owned by the resort. Eric named this property the Siuslaw Tree Farm. Siuslaw is a Native American word meaning "land of the far away river," referring to the Hudson River. In 2006, Eric and his family generously donated the Siuslaw Tree Farm to Cornell Cooperative Extension of Greene County (now CCE Columbia & Greene Counties) so that the forest would continue to be managed to provide research and educational opportunities in the future.

MODEL FOREST

In 2007, The Siuslaw Tree Farm was named one of the three Watershed Model Forests. The mission of the Model Forest Program is to integrate scientific research, continuing education and public outreach to illustrate relationships between the environment and human activity, and to provide a public forum in which to improve the overall understanding of how ecological, social and economic processes shape forest watersheds.

RESEARCH AND DATA COLLECTION

CCE Columbia & Greene Counties is gathering baseline data on the condition of the Siuslaw Model Forest. Over 200 study plots have been inventoried for woody and herbaceous plants, as well as soil type and acidity (pH). These study plots will be monitored over time as part of our Continuous Forest Inventory. CCE is cooperating with Cornell University to study the growth of agroforestry crops, such as mushrooms and American ginseng.

Visiting

GUIDELINES & RULES

1. The Siuslaw Model Forest is open to visitors during the business hours of Cornell Cooperative Extension (M-F; 8:30am to 4:00pm). Visitors must sign in and sign out at the reception desk at CCE's Agroforestry Resource Center (located across the road from the Siuslaw Model Forest).
2. Keep dogs leashed and clean up after them.
3. The following are **NOT** permitted: use of off-road vehicles, snowmobiles or mountain bikes; collection or introduction of plants, mushrooms or wildlife; wood-removal; trapping; hunting; swimming; overnight camping; use of alcohol or firearms; and disturbing research sites.
4. "Catch and release" fishing IS permitted.
5. Please do not block access roads or gates.
6. Please be courteous to others, especially people doing monitoring or research, and participating in educational programs.
7. The Siuslaw Model Forest is a "carry-in-carry-out" facility. Please help us to keep it clean.

TRAILS

CCE Columbia & Greene is committed to providing people of all physical abilities with access to the Siuslaw Model Forest. A **Secure and Stable Trail** is available from the parking lot area to the ponds on the property. This trail features **Dendrology Plaques** that assist visitors in identification of trees in the model forest.

East of the ponds, visitors may follow the **forest road** deep into the Model Forest. Please note that the forest road is on a hillside and the walk is moderately difficult. Keep to the main trail system and do not stray on secondary trails

The forest road leads to the log landing and then loops into a **skid trail** that is utilized mainly for timber harvest operations. The skid trail is open to hikers, but can be steep, wet and difficult in some areas.

Health & Safety

Tick-borne diseases can be serious. Use these preventive steps whenever you visit Siuslaw Model Forest:

1. Stay in the center of trails away from understory plants.
2. Tuck your pants into your socks.
3. Wear light colored clothing.
4. Frequently examine clothing and remove ticks immediately.
5. Use a spray-on-clothing repellent containing permethrin, especially on shoes and socks.

Once home, inspect all areas of your body to ensure no ticks have attached. If you find attached ticks, remove them promptly and properly with tweezers.

BE tick FREE

For more information about ticks, contact us at the Agroforestry Resource Center, using the number below.

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Columbia and Greene Counties

CCE provides equal program and employment opportunities. If you have special needs related to program participation please contact the office in advance.

518-622-9820
columbiagreene@cornell.edu
www.ccecolumbiagreene.org

The Siuslaw Model Forest was made possible through partnerships with the Watershed Agricultural Council Forestry Program, New York City Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Forest Service.

Watershed Agricultural Council
www.nycwatershed.org

NYC Environmental Protection

Siuslaw
MODEL FOREST

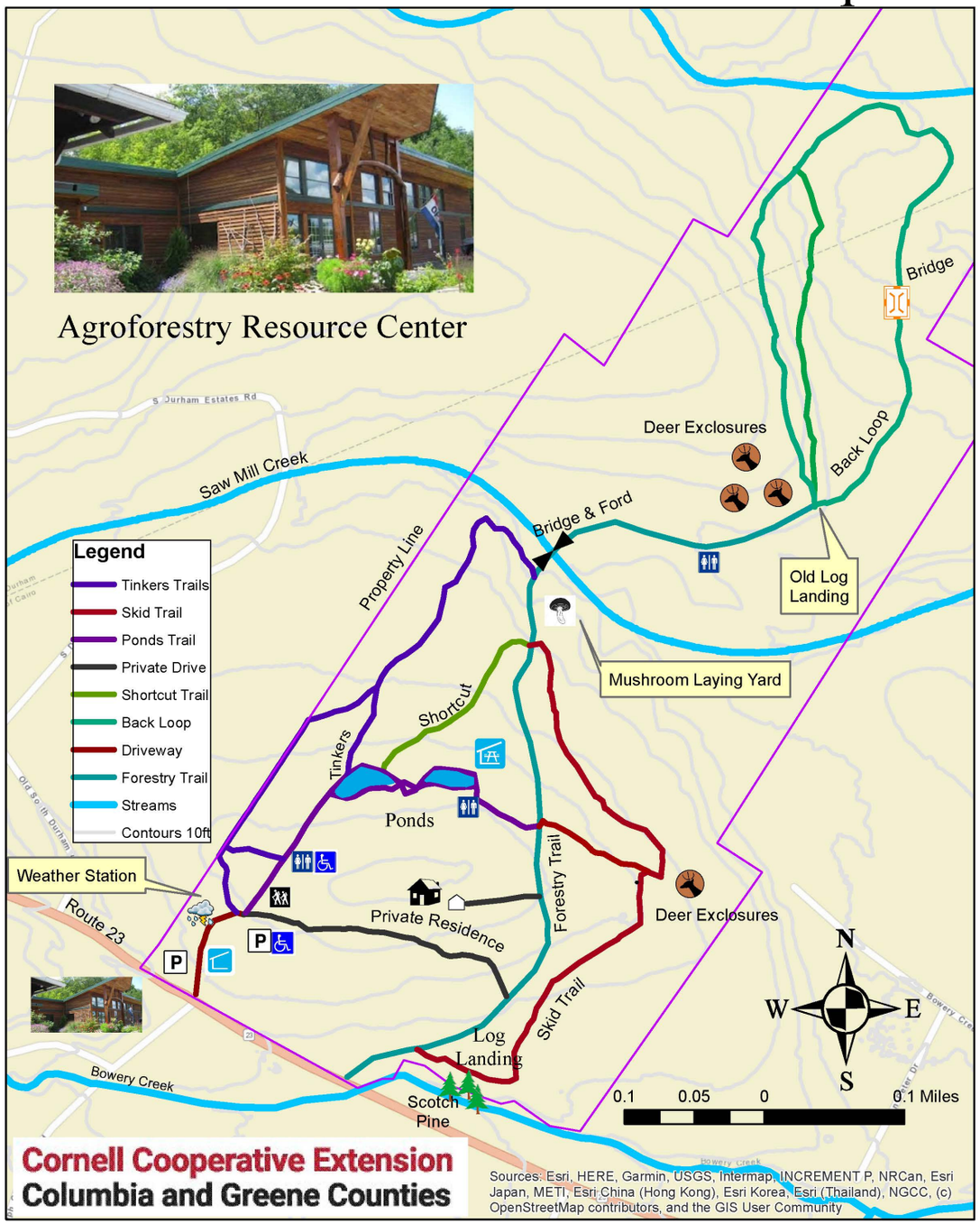
Trail Guide & Map

"Sustaining the ecological, aesthetic and economic values of forested lands."

AGROFORESTRY RESOURCE CENTER
Cornell Cooperative Extension's
Agroforestry Resource Center & Siuslaw Model Forest
6055 NYS Route 23
Acra, New York 12405

Siuslaw Model Forest Trail Map

Agroforestry Resource Center



Model Forests provide a "real world" opportunity to experiment and learn more about the woods.

A **WEATHER STATION**
The weather station, funded by the Watershed Agricultural Council, is solar powered and wirelessly transmits data directly to the Agroforestry Resource Center. The information in the weather database can be used to identify trends and extremes over time. This station measures temperature, humidity, rainfall barometric pressure, UV and solar radiation, wind speed and direction.

View current conditions anytime, anywhere online at

ccecolumbiagreene.org/siuslaw-weather

B **AMERICAN CHESTNUT**
The American chestnut tree was once common in Eastern forests. In the 1920's, most American chestnut trees were killed by an introduced fungus. Our trees are part of an effort to grow chestnut trees resistant to this fungus.

C **BIOMASS DEMONSTRATION** Grasses, willows, low-grade wood, and other plants can be used as a heating source, for electricity generation, and for processing into an alternative fuel which is broken down and distilled from the plant sugars.

D **MUSHROOM DEMONSTRATION**
Mushrooms are an agroforestry product. These wood bolts (logs) have been inoculated with shiitake spawn and produce mushrooms in one year.

E **DEER IMPACT STUDY**
This is the site of a past deer exclusion study. You may note the difference in the vegetation in the flagged area, that was enclosed from deer, compared to the surrounding area that was exposed to deer.

BMPs are cost effective ways to increase sustainability and reduce problems associated with the management of forests and other natural resources, such as erosion.

1. **BROAD-BASED DIPS**
Broad-based dips are strategic high and low mounds of dirt used to divert small volumes of slow moving water from the road surface to the forest floor.

2. **WATER DEFLECTOR**
Water deflectors are a low-cost and low-maintenance method to deflect water from roadway surfaces. The deflector is a piece of rubber belting fastened between treated timber planks.

3. **OPEN-TOP CULVERTS**
Open-top culverts are pathways for water, made out of well casing pipe with openings or wood installed into narrow ditches.

4. **FORDS**
Fords are places where streams are crossed. If there isn't a firm rock or gravel base to the stream, then stabilizing materials should be installed.

5. **LOG LANDING**
Log landings are areas where logs are gathered, sorted and loaded prior to shipping.

6. **HARVESTED TIMBER STAND**
This white pine stand was selected for a Timber Stand Improvement (TSI) harvest. The harvest removed diseased, damaged or poor quality trees in order to promote a healthier and higher-quality forest

7. **WATER BARS**
Water bars are narrow trenches leading downslope used to divert small volumes of slow moving water. Water bars are typically shallow structures 8-12" deep.

8. **LOG CORDUROY**
Log corduroy are trees cut and laid parallel to each other, side by side, and perpendicular to the road bed direction. This allows for improved drainage in wet or seepage areas.

9 **PIPE CULVERTS**
Pipe culverts tend to be the most expensive type of cross drain structure, used where vehicle traffic is relatively heavy. They may be arched culverts, providing a natural bottom and allowing for migration of fish and other aquatic organisms.

10. **PORTABLE SKIDDER BRIDGES**
Portable skidder bridges allow for stream crossing without negatively impacting water quality or damaging the stream bed and banks. Stream crossings may require a permit from the NYS DEC or the US Army Corps of Engineers.