



Hunter Mountain Fire Tower Trail Map

Trails in the Catskills are built and maintained by the people who love and use them through volunteer service programs organized by the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference.

This map is provided as a courtesy by the Trail Conference and is adapted from *Catskill Trails*, a six-map set that shows all designated trails within the Catskill Park. Trail Conference maps and books are your guides to hundreds of miles of hiking paths in the New York-New Jersey region. Our full-featured maps are printed in color, show elevation contours, and are waterproof and tear-resistant. Look for them at outdoor stores, order online at www.nynjtc.org, or telephone 201.512.9348.

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference is a nonprofit organization that partners with parks and mobilizes thousands of hard-working volunteers who create, maintain, and protect 2,000 miles of public trails in the region.

- Support the trails you love by:
- ★ *Becoming a member of the Trail Conference*
 - ★ *Volunteering with the Trail Conference*
 - ★ *Learning skills through Trail University*
 - ★ *Reporting trail problems on our website*

To learn more about the trails, hikes, and opportunities to volunteer, contact the Trail Conference.

Connecting People with Nature since 1920



NY-NJ Trail Conference
 156 Ramapo Valley Road
 Mahwah, NJ 07430
 201.512.9348
www.nynjtc.org

Get trail maps on your smartphone!

Catskill Fire Towers

**BALSAM LAKE
HUNTER
OVERLOOK
RED HILL
TREMPER**

A climb back in time

In another era, observers scanned the mountains from these fire towers, looking for signs of forest fires. Today, New York state uses more modern methods, but the towers now offer unparalleled 360-degree views of the Catskill Mountains and beyond for hikers.

Hardworking volunteer groups, together with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and nonprofit organizations including the Catskill Center, completed restoration of the towers in 2001, making them ready for a new role and new visitors.

Visit. Volunteer. Learn.

Each summer, thousands of people from all over the world visit the towers to enjoy the awesome beauty and splendor of their surroundings. Volunteer interpreters welcome them, sharing the history and lore of the towers and mountains.

Catskill Fire Tower Passport Program

Earn a Catskill Fire Towers Badge! Hike one (or more) of the Catskill fire towers this summer, then log your hike on a Morgan Outdoors Fire Tower Passport, available at Morgan Outdoors in Livingston Manor at 46 Main Street or online at www.nynjtc.org/catskillfiretowers. Turn in your completed passport at Morgan Outdoors by October 13, 2014 and collect your badge. You'll also be entered in a drawing to win prizes, including a handy pair of Nikon Travelite Binoculars. The Catskill Fire Tower Passport is a joint program of Morgan Outdoors, the Watershed Post and the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference.

Volunteers in the Catskills

New York-New Jersey Trail Conference volunteers and member organizations maintain hundreds of miles of trails and over two dozen lean-to shelters in the Catskill Forest Preserve and along the Long Path north of the park boundary.

Learn about trail and lean-to maintenance, trail crew work, trainings and workshops, conservation and advocacy efforts, events, and other Catskills-related news by visiting www.nynjtc.org/catskills.

Catskill Fire Tower Information

For more information about the Catskill Fire Tower Project, including the history of the towers, directions and photos, and ways that you can volunteer or donate to support the project, visit www.catskillfiretowers.org.

Emergency Phone Number

In case of emergency, call the Department of Environmental Conservation Dispatch Center at **877.457.5680**.



A one-time donation of \$5.00 will be added to your mobile phone bill or deducted from your prepaid balance. All donations must be authorized by the account holder. All charges are billed by and payable to your mobile service provider. User must be age 18 or older or have parental permission to participate. By texting YES, the user agrees to the terms and conditions. Service is available on most carriers. Message & Data Rates May Apply. Donations are collected for the benefit of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference by the Mobile Giving Foundation and subject to the terms found at www.hmgf.org/t. You can unsubscribe at any time by texting STOP to 20222; text HELP to 20222 for help.

Visit www.nynjtc.org/catskills for information about the full-featured **Catskill Trails** map set and additional resources including suggested hikes, campgrounds and public transportation.



Hunter Mountain Fire Tower
Town of Hunter – Elevation 4,040 feet

This tower has the unique distinction of being located at the highest elevation of any fire tower in New York State. The original tower on Hunter Mountain – constructed of logs – was built in 1909, and was the first of three fire towers constructed in the Catskills that year. The original tower was 40 feet tall, and was replaced with a steel tower 60 feet high in 1917. That tower was originally placed at an elevation of 4,000 feet – a third of a mile from the true summit – but was removed and reset at its present site on the true summit in 1953.

Directions:

Take the Spruceton Trail, marked with blue disks, from Greene County Route 6 (Spruceton Road) in the hamlet of Spruceton. A seven-mile moderately-difficult round trip hike. Or take the yellow-marked trail from the Hunter Mtn. Sky Ride when it is open – a moderate four-mile round-trip hike. Visit hikes.nynjtc.org for more detailed trail and driving directions.