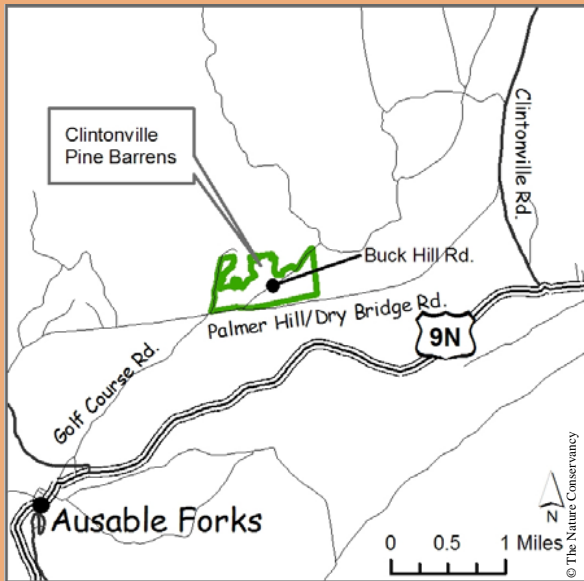


LOCATOR MAP



DIRECTIONS

From the blinking light in Ausable Forks, go northeast on North Main Street to the stop sign. Go straight on Golf Course Road, approximately two miles to the intersection with Palmer Hill Road. Turn right and go 1/4 mile to Buck Hill Road on the left. Proceed along Buck Hill Road 1/2 mile to the preserve trailhead on the left.



Trail Notes:

PRESERVE GUIDELINES

This natural area is open to the public for recreational, educational and scientific use. To help ensure the continued protection of this preserve please respect the following guidelines:

- No removal or destruction of plants or animals
- No camping or littering
- No pets or motorized vehicles
- No hunting is allowed

For a full list of visitation guidelines please visit us on www.nature.org/adirondacks and click on "Places To Visit."

LEAVE NO TRACE

Staying on marked trails is a simple way to protect Clintonville Pine Barrens' natural area. Walking off the trail causes erosion, tramples plants, and can increase the likelihood of invasive plants becoming established. PLEASE pack out what you bring in.

YOU CAN HELP TOO!

The Adirondack Chapter of The Nature Conservancy offers opportunities to get involved! Please contact us for more information or visit our Web site to learn more about our conservation efforts and how **you** can be part of them.

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The Nature Conservancy 

Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

Adirondack Chapter

CLINTONVILLE PINE BARRENS PRESERVE



PINE BARRENS COMMUNITY

The Clintonville pitch pine-heath barrens sit on a sand delta deposited 12,000 years ago by glacial melt water. The sandy, well-drained soil gives life to the unique pine barrens natural community.

Barrens, as the name implies, are often less fertile areas with a sparse canopy of stunted trees due to poor soils. The pitch pine-heath barrens community has a fairly open canopy of pitch pines over a layer of low-growing heath shrubs.

PRESERVING BIODIVERSITY

This 900-acre pitch pine-heath barrens is one of the best examples of that natural community type in New York. It provides habitat for rare plants including prairie redroot, and two rare moths - the pine pinion moth and the Acadian swordgrass moth. Prairie redroot is currently found in just a few sites in the state. Likewise, the Clintonville Pine Barrens may be the only location in New York where the endangered pine pinion moth is found.

PITCH PINE AND FIRE

Pitch pine-heath barrens are fire-dependent natural communities. Plants and animals have a number of adaptations that allow them to survive in this type of environment.

Fire is instrumental in maintaining the community in a number of ways: it burns fallen needles and debris, releasing nutrients that prepare a seedbed for the regeneration of the forest, and provides the heat necessary to open the cones and release seeds. In fact, fire is so important, that in the absence of periodic fires, the pitch pine may be replaced by other species.

After exposure to fire, pitch pine is capable of sprouting needles from buds underneath the thick bark; a process called epicormic budding. Look for examples of these “hairy” looking trees as you walk the preserve.

Around the country The Nature Conservancy has been successful in using small controlled burns to maintain a variety of fire dependent communities. Proactive measures are always taken to reduce the risk of wildfire.

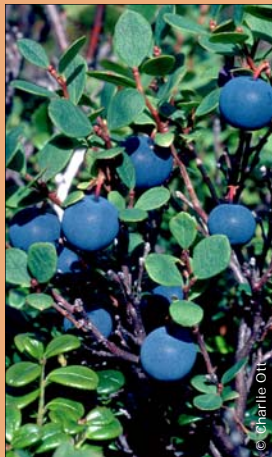


PITCH PINE

Pitch pine (*Pinus rigida*) can be identified by looking at the needles which are two to five inches long and in clusters of three. By comparison, white pine has needles in clusters of five and red pine has needles in clusters of two. The cones which often remain in the tree for several years, are one to three inches long.

THE UNDERSTORY

Under the fairly open canopy of pitch pines there is a layer of low-growing heath shrubs. Heath shrubs have woody stems and broad, leathery evergreen leaves. Some examples you may see include blueberry, huckleberry and sheep laurel.



Blueberries (*Vaccinium vacillans*) are found throughout the preserve and the pine barrens has been a popular site for local blueberry pickers. In the past, small fires may have been set to encourage growth and production of blueberries. In the 1950s they were picked and sold to the General Store in Keene for ten cents a quart.



PIPSISSEWA

(*Chimaphila umbellata*) is usually found in dry woods such as the pine barrens. Also called prince's pine, it stands 4-10" tall and has several fragrant, waxy flowers in July and August.



YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER

(*Dendroica coronata*) typically forage in the outer tree canopies at middle heights. They're active, often catching insects in midair. On migration and in winter they eat a variety of fruits, particularly bayberry and wax myrtle, which their digestive systems are uniquely suited to digest.



SHEEP LAUREL

(*Kalmia angustifolia*) is a low evergreen shrub with clusters of pink, saucer-shaped flowers in June and July. Also known as lambkill, the foliage is poisonous.