

# Pole Hill Pond

## FOREST PRESERVE

The 1,300-acre Northwest Bay tract, within the watershed of Northwest Bay Brook, was purchased by the Lake George Land Conservancy in early 2000. It was sold to NY State in 2004 and is part of the Adirondack Forest Preserve.

Two trails have been created and marked. The short inner loop trail to Bear Knob is marked with yellow trail disks, and the longer loop trail to Pole Hill Pond is marked in blue. Prepare for wet areas, steep climbs, and rocks. Your rewards will be the spectacular view from Walnut Ridge, serenity of untouched Pole Hill Pond, and abundance of native Adirondack plants and birds. Please try not to step on any subalpine vegetation found at the higher elevations.

Hunting and trapping is allowed at the preserve; appropriate state licenses are required. Hikers should be aware of hunting seasons and wear bright colors and hike in groups to minimize risk.

The Lake George Land Conservancy maintains the trails of the Pole Hill Pond Preserve through DEC's volunteer stewardship agreement.

**Pole Hill Pond is owned by New York State.**

**To report any problems or acquire any permits, please contact DEC Forest Ranger Rick Schroeder at 518-335-3888 or the DEC Regional Office at 518-897-1300.**

**For emergencies, call 518-891-0235 or call 911.**

## PRESERVE LOCATION

**Lake Shore Drive/Rt 9N  
Bolton, NY 12814  
Warren County**

**Trailhead Coordinates:**  
43.614667, -73.622194

### **From the South/ Northway (I-87):**

Take exit 24 for Bolton Landing/Riverbank Road. Follow Riverbank Rd/County Rt 11 east for 4 miles. Turn left onto Rt 9N. Follow Rt 9N for 2.8 miles. Trail entrance is on the left. There is parking space for two conventional vehicles, more if 4WD.

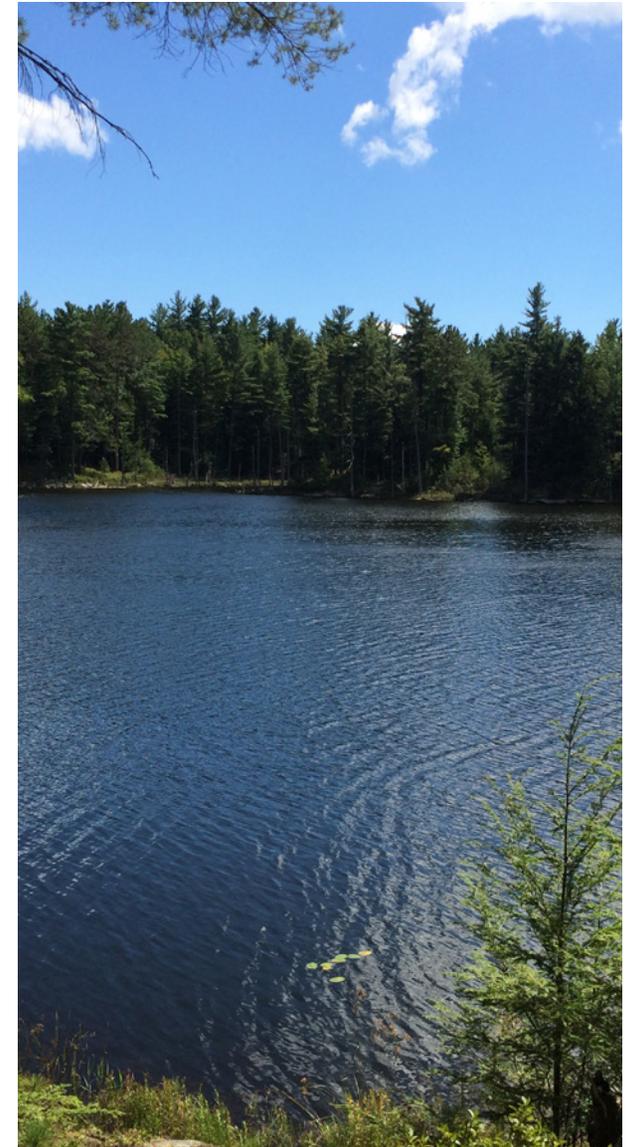
**From the North/Ticonderoga:** From the Ticonderoga traffic circle, head south on Rt 9N for 23 miles. The trail entrance will be on the right. If you pass the driveway on the left with the stone lions, you have gone too far. There is parking space for two conventional vehicles, more if 4WD.



NEW YORK STATE

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03/2020

The Lake George Land Conservancy's parks and preserves are open to the public from dawn to dusk year-round for educational, scientific, and passive recreation.

Visit us online at [lglc.org](http://lglc.org) for information on our guided hikes and events, stewardship, and conservation efforts that are protecting the land that protects the lake.



LAKE GEORGE  
LAND CONSERVANCY

4905 Lake Shore Dr | PO Box 1250  
Bolton Landing, NY 12814

518-644-9673 | [LGLC.org](http://LGLC.org) | [@HikeLakeGeorge](https://www.instagram.com/HikeLakeGeorge)



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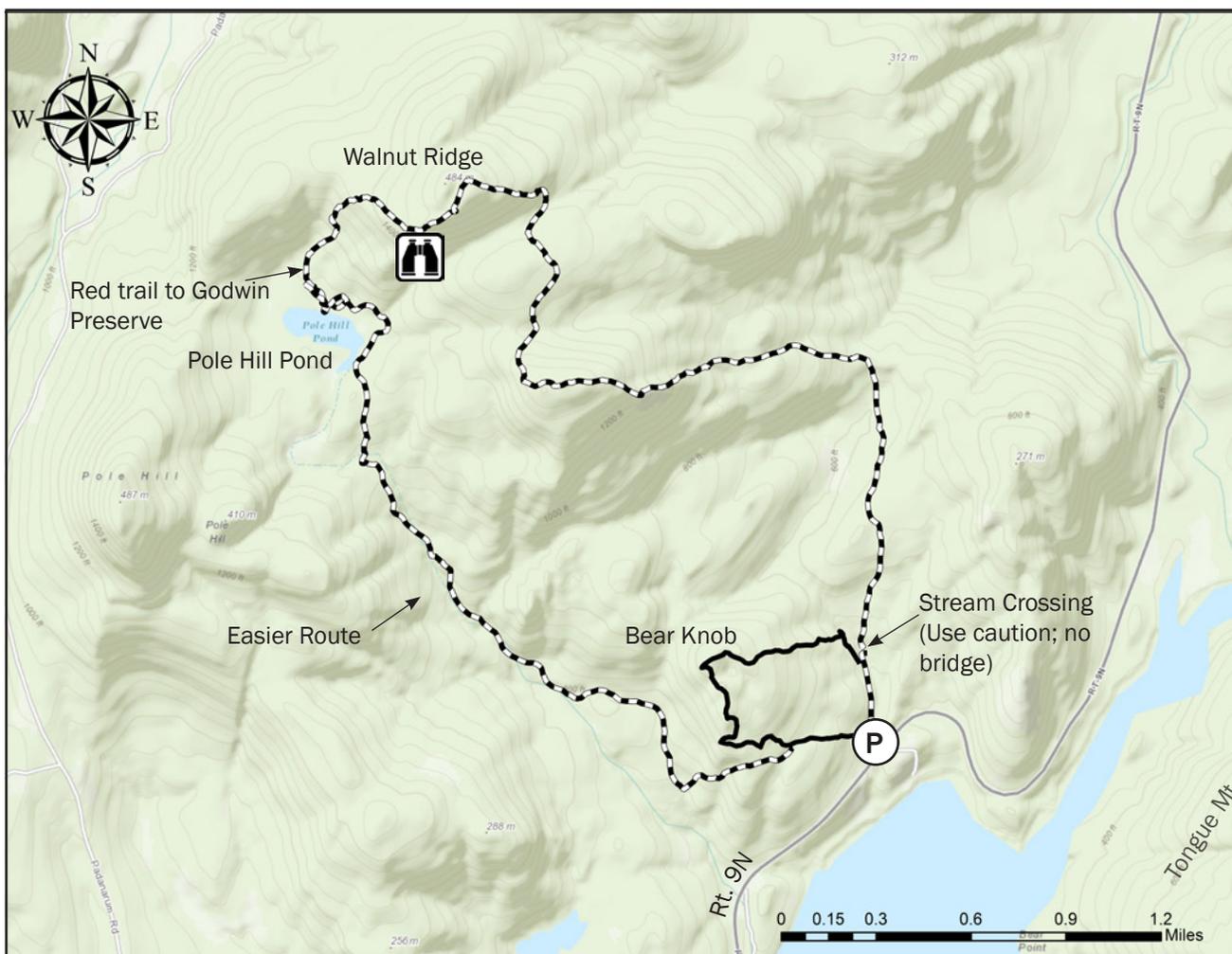
## TRAILS

The entrance to the Pole Hill Pond trails is on the west side of Route 9N. Look for the prominent sign.

The **blue trail** starts at the parking area. It follows a logging road for 0.25 miles until it intersects again with the yellow trail, where it bears to the right and crosses a stream. It then continues on a logging road for 0.75 miles, before leaving the road and climbing steadily to the top of the ridge. The trail undulates for 1.5 miles until it drops down into a knoll, then climbs steeply to the top of Walnut Ridge, which has spectacular views of Lake George. It then drops down for 0.5 miles to Pole Hill Pond.

Continuing on the loop, the trail leaves the eastern shore of the pond for 0.10 miles, before closely following the shore again until it reaches a logging road. It then follows a dirt road, except for one short diversion, for 2.40 miles. At 2.40 miles it turns sharply left off a road and climbs gradually until it intersects with the yellow trail. Turn right on to the yellow trail to return to the parking area and complete the loop.

To take the **yellow trail** loop from its southern end, turn off of the blue trail about 75 feet in. The yellow trail climbs steadily for 0.3 miles until it reaches a ridge (passing the blue trail intersection). It then undulates for 0.3 miles to Bear Knob (watch for some sharp turns). There are seasonal views at a couple of points. The trail then descends gradually until it intersects with the blue trail again.



### PRESERVE MAP KEY

-  Blue Trail 5.75 miles (loop)
-  Yellow Trail 1.0 mile (loop)
-  Scenic Lookout - Walnut Ridge
-  Parking Lot/Trailhead

### DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION USE GUIDELINES

- Camping is permitted up to three nights, but you must be at least 150 feet from a road, trail, spring, stream or pond. Larger groups or more nights requires a permit.
- Do not pick the wildflowers, cut or mark the trees, remove any rocks, fossils or artifacts or disturb the animals. (Hunting is permitted - see "Overview" for details.)
- No motorized vehicles of any kind allowed.
- Fires are permitted, but must be attended to at all times.
- Please do not litter. Carry out what you carry in.
- The storage of personal property is prohibited.