

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

Points of Interest on Department of Environmental Conservation Lands

General Description

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) was created on July 1, 1970 to combine in a single agency all state programs designed to protect and enhance the environment. DEC's goal is to pursue environmental quality, public health, economic prosperity and social well-being.

The Division of Lands and Forests manages public lands and conservation easements across New York State and provides leadership in forestry and forest management. The Department of Environmental Conservation cares for about 4 million acres of state owned land and nearly 910,000 acres of conservation easement land in New York State. This includes the Adirondack and Catskill Forest Preserves, State Forests, Unique Areas and the State Nature and Historical Preserve. The Division of Lands and Forests is responsible for the management, protection and recreational use of these lands, the care of the people who use these lands and the acquisition of additional lands to conserve unique and significant resources.

This data contains points locating and differentiating assets on NYS DEC lands. Assets represented as point features are man-made items, which require periodic maintenance or inspection and interest to the public. Examples include: lean-to, parking lot, primitive campsite, pit privy, trail structure, fire tower, scenic vista, picnic site, boat launch, accessible asset, horse stall.

Data Collection Methodology

Original data came from state foresters on 1:7920 aerial imagery. Table digitizing and heads-up digitizing took place in DEC Central Office. All updates were imported into ESRI's shapefile. Currently data is updated by the state foresters through a versioned SDE geodatabase. The DBF was then converted to an Excel file, then to the final CSV file.

Limitations of Data Use

Data are approximate. Certain points of interest which may exist on the ground may not currently be displayed. This data set is a work in progress and will continually be improved. Although every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information, errors may be reflected in the data supplied.