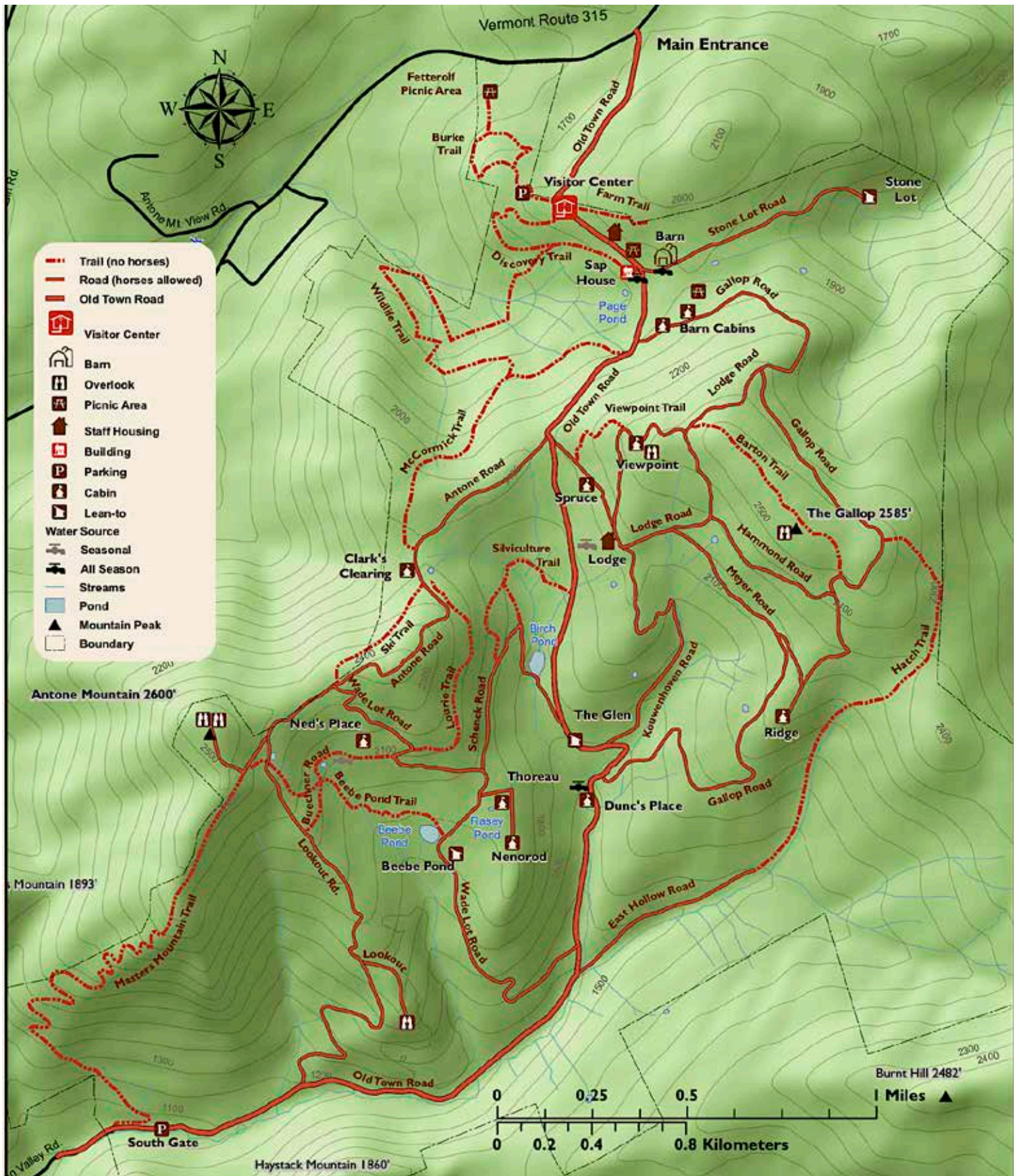


Welcome to Merck Forest & Farmland Center. We offer 30+ miles of trails and roads for hikers, horseback riders, snowshoers and cross-country skiers to explore -- enjoy!

Please take precautions against potential inclement weather and uneven terrain. Cellphone and GPS services may be limited around the property. Emergency information is located on back of map.



Scale 1:25,000

Elevation - 1000 to 2600 Feet Above Sea Level

Contour Interval: 100 feet

Disclaimer: The user of this map bears full responsibility for his or her own safety. The publisher of this map in no way guarantees the safety or accuracy of the mapped trails and routes. Map produced by Heather O'Wril, 2011 and updated by Tim Duclos, Winter 2019.

# Welcome to Merck Forest & Farmland Center

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Welcome to a unique year-round wilderness experience featuring diverse landscapes and breathtaking views. We are glad that you are here.

## HOURS OF OPERATION

- MFFC is open to the public from dawn to dusk, free of charge, year round.
- The Visitor Center (VC) is open 9am to 4pm daily, except New Year's, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

## VEHICLES AND PARKING

- Only authorized vehicles are allowed beyond the VC.
- Visitors must park in designated parking areas.
- Mountain bikes, ATVs and snowmobiles are prohibited.

## PETS

Your pet(s) must be under your control at all times. Please leash your pet(s) near the VC and the farm; farther into the property, they may range off-leash, but remember that encounters between dogs and porcupines usually end badly for your pet.

## IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

In the event of an after-hours emergency, visitors may use the phones & first-aid kits located in the Caretaker's Cabin or the side porch of the VC, or the first-aid kits (no phone) at the SapHouse or Lodge.

## EXPLORING THE HILLTOP FARM

This is a working farm; for your own safety please:

- Do not touch the fences (most are electrified), or climb on farm or forestry equipment.
- Do not enter fields where animals are grazing.
- Dogs are permitted only if they are on a leash. Farm animals may be frightened, injured or killed by even the friendliest pets.

## EXPLORING THE BACKCOUNTRY

MFFC is a remote back-country setting. *Use appropriate caution and exercise your best judgement at all times to help keep yourself and your companions safe.*

- Medical assistance in the event of an emergency may be as much as an hour away.
- Anticipate and be prepared for sudden weather changes.
- Consider all water unpotable & treat before using.
- Ponds are not maintained for public swimming.
- Use outhouses when available. On the trail, dispose of human waste in cat holes dug six inches deep, 200 feet from water, campsites and trails.
- Please carry-in/carry-out all trash & personal belongings.

## CAMPING

- Camping is permitted in cabins, designated tent sites, and a limited number of dispersed-camping locations. Reservations are required.
- Most sites are remote and campers may hike up to 3 miles with gear to get to their site. All members of your party must be capable of this degree of physical exertion (pack light!).
- Wood stoves are for heating, not cooking. Please use your camp stove or the outdoor fire-ring for cooking.
- In consideration for campers following you, please leave a some dry wood & kindling when you leave, and leave the cabin in good order.
- Please carry-in/carry-out all trash & personal belongings.

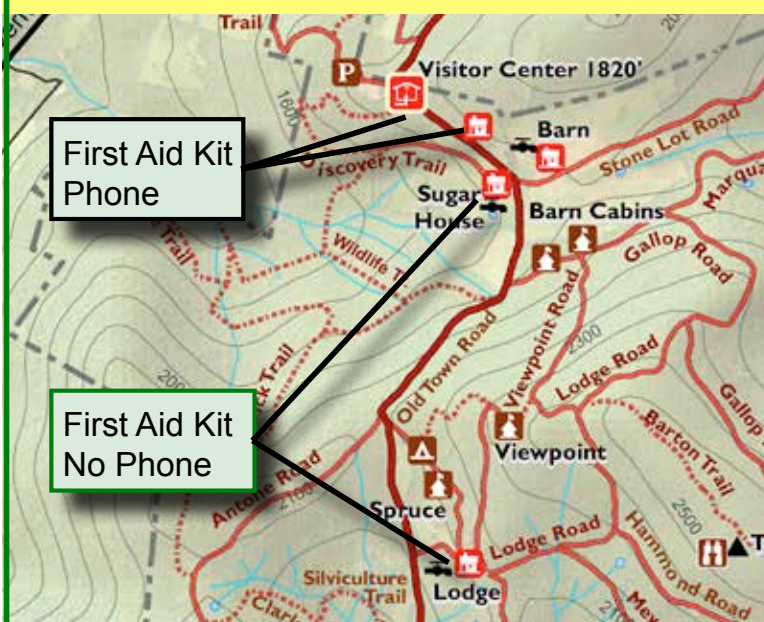
## HUNTING

Hunting at MFFC must be conducted in accordance with Vermont law. Hunter sign-in boxes and SAFETY ZONE maps are located at both entrances. *Pay particular attention to your location relative to posted SAFETY ZONES.* Best access is through the South Gate.

## SOUTH GATE ACCESS (from the Visitor Center)

Left (west) onto Rte 315. Continue south for 5 miles into West Rupert. Left onto Kent Hollow Road for 1 mile. Left at the Sandgate Road fork. Left onto Hidden Valley Road for 1.2 miles to the South Gate. Park on the right. We recommend the use of 4-wheel drive vehicles.

## Emergency Information



If you would like to support our mission to inspire curiosity, love and responsibility for the natural and working landscape, please consider making a donation or becoming a member today.

Merck Forest & Farmland Center \* ph. 802-394-7836 \* [www.merckforest.org](http://www.merckforest.org) PO Box 86 \* 3270 Route 315 \* Rupert, Vermont 05768 \*