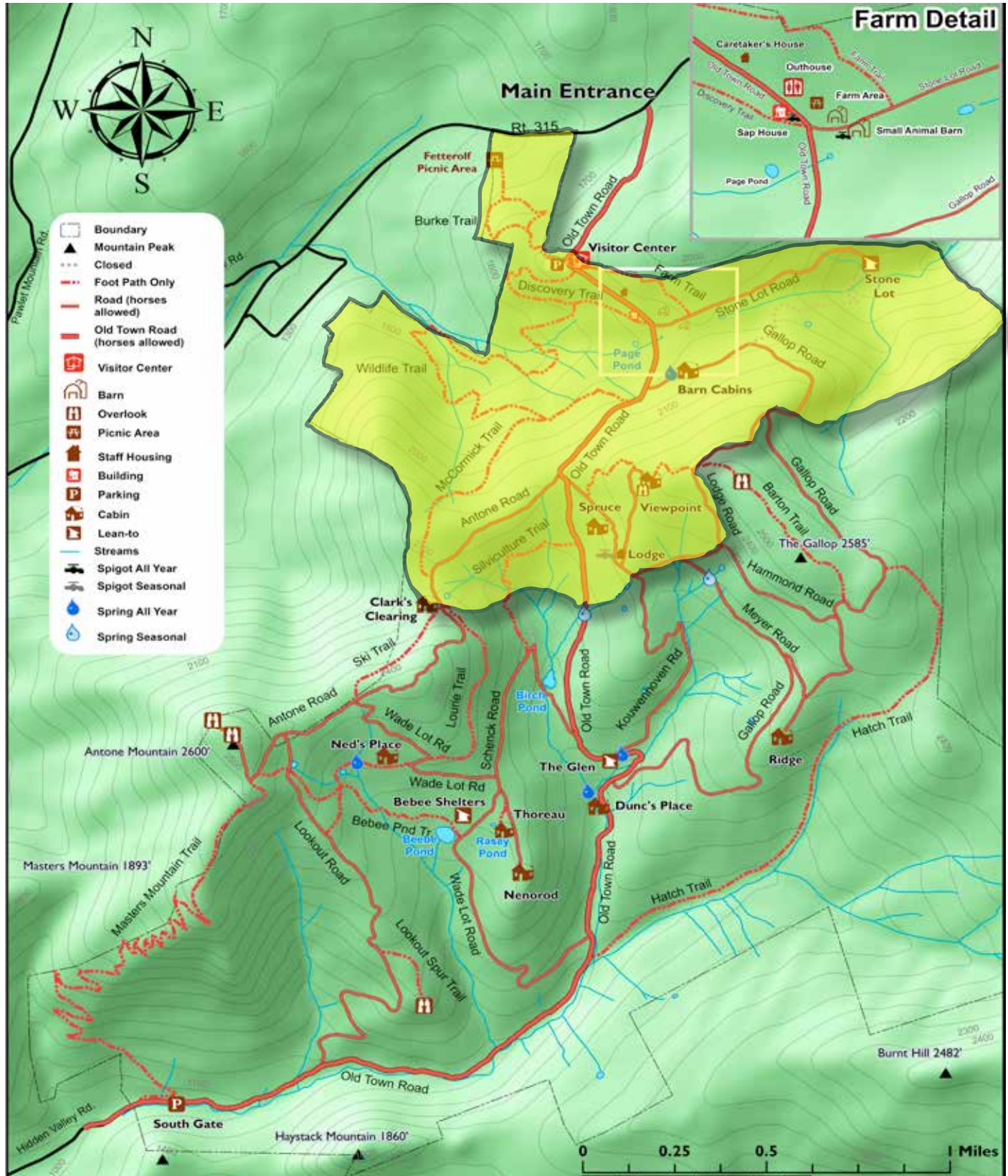




Welcome to Merck Forest and Farmland Center.

Hunting is permitted subject to Vermont law and the additional rules established by the Merck Forest & Farmland Foundation (detailed on the reverse of this sheet). The Hunting Safety Zone is highlighted in yellow on the map below: hunting is prohibited in this designated area.



Scale 1:25,000 Elevation - Feet Above Sea Level Spacial Reference System: UTM Zone 18N (Meters) Datum NAD 1983

Disclaimer: The user of this map bears full responsibility for his or her safety. The publisher of this map in no way guarantees the safety or accuracy of the mapped trails and routes.

# Merck Forest & Farmland Center Information for Hunters

Hunting at MFFC must be conducted in accordance with Vermont Hunting Laws set by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. *In addition*, as landowner and resource manager of the property, MFFC maintains rules and guidelines consistent with our land-use practices and programming. All hunter must follow these rules (detailed below) as well as apply firearms safety principles, exercise excellent judgement and ethical decision making.

Approximately 75% of MFFC's nearly 3200 acres are open to hunting; the remainder of the property has been designated a **Hunting Safety Zone**. This zone, indicated in yellow on the map, is largely concentrated with a one-mile area of the Visitor Center; it is the area of greatest visitor activity and is the most frequently used for educational programming. Hunting is prohibited within this designated area so as to minimize the potential for interactions between hunters and non-hunting visitors.

## MFFC HUNTING & TRAPPING RULES

1. Hunters are required to be aware of the location of the Hunting Safety Zone (see map) and to hunt outside the zone's boundaries. It is *your responsibility* to know where trails and cabins are located, relative to your shooting position. *It is your ultimate and absolute responsibility to know your target and what is beyond.*
2. Hunters & non-hunters alike are required to wear at least one article of blaze orange clothing.
3. Trapping is prohibited on MFFC property due to the large number of pets accompanying our visitors.
4. All hunting stands must be registered with MFFC's Conservation Manager. Stands & accompanying equipment are not to be permanently attached to trees (i.e., no nails, bolts or screws may be used). Additionally stands must be clearly identified the the hunter's name, address and phone number, in accordance with Vermont law.
5. All markers -- flagging, cat-eye reflective tacks, etc., must be removed at the end of the season.
6. All shotgun loads are to be lead-free.
7. Hunters must practice Leave No Trace: make sure to pick up your spent casings.
8. No target-shooting on MFFC property.
9. Game cameras must be labeled with the owner's name, address and phone number.
10. No vehicles are allowed beyond the South Gate or the Visitor Center parking lot.

**If you have questions about these rules, contact our Conservation Manger at 802-394-2580.**

## 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.

The parking lot is on the right. No vehicles are allowed beyond the parking lot. We recommend the use of 4-wheel drive vehicles to reach the lot.

## 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.

## Emergency Information

