

## RSR Trails (Update May 2016)

### General Use

The current trail system at Rotary was established in 1991. Rotary's trails are laid out with a red perimeter trail that has spoke trails leading from the four corners by Seneca Lodge out to the perimeter. Any hiker or lost traveler encountering the red trail should realize that he is on the perimeter of the camp property. The red trail should then be followed until it intersects with any other trail. This trail will lead back to the four corners by Seneca Lodge.

### Detailed Descriptions of the Trails

**Blue** Trail: This 1.1 mile long trail is marked with blue diamond markers. It is sometimes referred to as the "Upper Burney Pond Trail." It is generally one of the easier trails in camp to hike. There is one swampy area, but the terrain is relatively flat. The trail will take hikers by the old cistern that once served as the water supply for the area. It also passes the radio towers owned by National Grid and Hudson Valley Communications. The Hudson Valley Communications tower provides the camp with its radio and Internet signals. The trail eventually hooks up with the red perimeter trail and leads to Penny Royal Lane at the site of the Robison Farm.

**WHITE** Trail: This 1.1 mile trail is marked with square, white markers. It is the primary trail used to reach the cliffs. It was originally marked in 1984 to serve as a new route to the cliffs while the south end of the camp was being logged. (The original way to the cliffs was to follow a trail that went over the dam on the south end of camp.) It has moderate terrain with a gradual incline that can be steep for short stretches. It intersects the red perimeter trail and follows it for a while along the ridge. The trail passes by the Nature Center and ends at the cliffs, just off camp property.

**Green** Trail: This .4 mile trail is marked with square, green markers. It is a relatively easy trail to hike. It travels along the lake shore and is the primary trail used to get to the Chapel.

**Yellow** Trail: This half mile trail is marked with square, yellow markers. It is a relatively easy hike with only two small areas of steep incline. Where the trail crosses the parking lot there are no trail markers. If heading east, hikers should proceed at a bearing of 100° to the other side of the field. If heading west, proceed at 280°. There are no major sites along this trail, however it does pass through the east side of camp, a part that few people have seen.

**Orange** Trail: This 1.6 mile trail is marked with orange diamond markers. The terrain of this trail is relatively easy to hike. It is sometimes referred to as the "Lower Burney Pond Trail," and it serves as the primary trail to Burney Pond. It also passes by Chilliscothe and the Adirondack Shelters.

**Silver** Trail: This half mile trail is marked with silver diamond markers. It heads up to the upper four corners of camp and then heads down a trail usually referred to as the "Wash Out Trail." The "Wash Out Trail" portion of this trail is extremely steep.

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**Red** Perimeter Trail: This 7.4 mile trail is marked with round, red markers and roughly follows the perimeter of the camp property. The following is a detailed description of each section of this trail.

From **Orange** to **Silver** (2 miles): This is a challenging trail with some very steep sections and some swampy areas. This trail is often used as an alternate route to Burney Pond. It passes around the pond and travels through the Burney Pond outpost camping site. It also passes by the old Robison Block House which was torn down in the '90's. The part on the northern end of the pond was rerouted in 2016 to go toward and eastern shore camping area.

From **Silver** to **WHITE**: (1.2 miles) This trail is often referred to as the "Ridge Trail. It is relatively flat except for a very steep section that leads to the lower cliff and back up to the upper cliffs.

From **WHITE** to **Green**: (1.1 miles) This is a challenging trail that was modified in 1997 in order to bypass the private camps on the south end of Davitt Lake. It crosses the outlet stream from the lake. It has some very steep sections as it leads to the cliffs. Parts of this trail served as the original trail to the cliffs prior to the creation of the white trail.

From **Green** to **Yellow**: (.6 miles) This trail was also modified in 1997 to bypass the Ranger's residence. It is generally a moderate trail that travels through the main part of camp until it heads back over the eastern ridge to the yellow trail. There are no significant features on this trail.

From **Yellow** to **Blue**: (1.6 miles) This is perhaps the most challenging trail in camp. It has some very uneven terrain and several seasonally swampy areas. The trail actually follows along the camp's property line at times. If you look carefully, you may even see the abandoned, International truck from the days that Rensselaer County Route 40 passed through this area.

From **Blue** to **Orange**: (.9 miles) This is a relatively flat trail with one area that is seasonally swampy. This trail leads to Burney Pond. On the way, hikers will pass the old Robison farm as the trail meets with Penny Royal Lane.

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### 5 Mile Hike Options

**Burney Pond Hike #1:** Start at the four corners near the lake. Take the blue trail toward the Health Lodge. This will eventually end and turn into the red perimeter trail. Continue on the red trail. After you pass the Robison farm house, make sure you turn to the left on Penny Royal Lane. You will pass the intersection with the orange trail. The red trail will then turn off of Penny Royal Lane and go around Burney Pond. Once you've gone around the pond, you will return to Penny Royal Lane. After you cross the outlet stream twice, you will be turning to the left to go up the Washout Trail. If you come to the gate, you missed the turn. Continue on the red trail until you reach the intersection with the silver trail. Take the silver trail back to the four corners.

**Burney Pond Hike #2:** Start at the four corners near the lake. Take the orange trail. Follow the orange trail to the intersection of the red trail at Penny Royal Lane. Take a left on the red trail and follow it around Burney Pond. Once you've gone around the pond, you will return to Penny Royal Lane. After you cross the outlet stream twice, you will be turning to the left to go up the Washout Trail. If you come to the gate, you missed the turn. Continue on the red trail until you reach the intersection with the silver trail. Continue on the red trail to the intersection with the white trail. Take a left on the white trail and follow it back the four corners by the lake.

**Burney Pond Hike #3 (the easiest terrain):** Start at the four corners near the lake. Take the blue trail toward the Health Lodge. This will eventually end and turn into the red perimeter trail. Continue on the red trail. After you pass the Robison farm house, make sure you turn to the left on Penny Royal Lane. You will pass the intersection with the orange trail. The red trail will then turn off of Penny Royal Lane and go around Burney Pond. Once you've gone around the pond, you will return to Penny Royal Lane. When you get back to Penny Royal Lane, don't follow the red trail to the right. Instead, turn left and head up Penny Royal Lane. This may still be marked with blue diamond markers from when the perimeter trail was marked in blue. Stay on Penny Royal Lane until you reach the intersection with the orange trail. Turn right on the orange trail and follow it back to the four corners by the lake.

**Upper & Lower Cliff Hike and Burney Pond (closer to 6 miles):** Start on the red trail near the Grizz Pavilion and head toward the Shindekoo and Algonquin campsites. Stay on the red trail as it passes the intersection with the green trail. Travel to the upper cliffs and continue past the intersection with the white trail. The red trail will then continue to the lower cliffs. After coming up the steep hill from the lower cliffs, the red trail will occasionally intersect with the white trail. Continue on the red trail past the intersection with the silver trail. Stay on the red trail down the "Wash Out Trail." At the base of the "Wash out Trail" you will turn right on Penny Royal Lane. Continue on the red trail around Burney Pond to the intersection with the orange trail. Turn right on the orange trail and follow it back to the four corners by the lake.

**Abandoned International Truck Hike:** Start on the red trail near the Grizz Pavilion. Head up the hill toward the Camp Office. Continue on the red trail. You will travel past the intersection with the yellow trail. It is farther along this part of the trail that you will see the International truck. You will pass the intersection with the blue trail. Continue on the red trail to the intersection with the orange trail. Take a left on the orange trail and follow it back to the four corners by the lake.