

About Schick Reserve

Consisting of 311 acres of rolling hills, fields, and woodlands, this was the site of dairy and farming operations for the Apgar and Schick families for over 150 years. In 1844, Philip Apgar, a blacksmith, and his wife, Rebecca, acquired the first 126 acres. To meet the needs of an expanding farm and family of 13 children, they built several barns, including a Pennsylvania-German style bank barn which still stands.

The farm remained in the family until 1917, when a neighboring farmer, Herman Schick, bought 160 acres, farm equipment, and livestock for \$5000. He added another 120 acres to the farm in 1932. Eventually retiring from farming, he died in 1997 at the age of 101. His son, Curtis, sold the farm to the County as open space in 1994.

In 2011, the Alexandria Equestrian Society agreed to construct and adopt a trail system on the property. The total length of the trail



Hay field with bales

system adds up to about eight miles.

Schick Reserve

Location: Schick Reserve is located in Alexandria Township with parking areas on Schick Road and 486 Little York—Mt Pleasant Road/ (Route 631). The park is open from sunrise to sunset. *No restroom facilities.*

From the Clinton Area to Schick Road:

Take Interstate 78 west to exit 11 and cross over I-78 and follow the signs for Pattenburg. Follow Route 614 through Pattenburg to the junction with Route 579. Turn left onto Route 579 and make the first right onto Hickory Corner Road. Proceed for 1.5 miles, turn right on Schick Road, and make a quick left into a gravel parking lot.

From the Clinton Area to Route 631:

Take Interstate 78 west to exit 11 and cross over I-78 and follow the signs for Pattenburg. Follow Route 614 to the Little York intersection with Route 631. Turn left onto 631 and park in the gravel lot on the left just after the firehouse.

From the Flemington Area to Schick Road:

From the Route 31/202 Circle, take route 12 west to Route 579. Turn right on to Route 579 and travel through Pittstown to Hickory Corner Road. (Be careful to follow signs for Route 579 because it makes several turns.) Turn left onto Hickory Corner Road, and proceed 1.5 miles. Turn right on Schick Road, and make a quick left into a gravel parking lot.

From the Flemington Area to Route 631:

Proceed as above; once on Hickory Corner, continue past Schick Road and turn right onto 631 at the T-intersection. Park in the gravel lot on the right just before the firehouse.

Agricultural Use

The County leases much of the land to a local farmer. The farmer has agreed to farm the property while complying with a management plan. *Please be considerate. Stay on the trails and do not pick or damage any crops.*

Recreational Opportunities

The Schick Reserve trail system is suitable for hiking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing. Many of the trails follow the field edges and some wind through the woods. Be prepared for traversing the occasional brushy and muddy areas. Trailer parking is recommended for the Route 631 lot.

Wildlife and Habitat

The fields at the Schick Reserve offer a wonderful opportunity to view and find evidence of some of the County's predators. Scan the skies to see if any raptors are hunting overhead. Red-tailed Hawks are common and Northern Harriers have been known to reside here during the winter season. While walking the field roads, look for scat and tracks of coyotes and foxes.

There is an abundance of edge habitat throughout the Schick Reserve. The field edges provide shelter to several birds throughout the season. Some of the rarer species sighted include Fox Sparrows and Brown Thrashers. Small mammals, such as rabbits and skunks, also take advantage of this terrain.



Song Sparrow

The Hunterdon County Division of Parks & Recreation is dedicated to preserving open space and natural resources, providing safe parks and facilities, and offering educational and recreational opportunities, all contributing to an enhanced quality of life for present and future generations.

Schick Reserve

Trail Map and Guide



Workhorses & drag leveler, Schick Farm, 1923



Hunterdon County

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