

---

# Hudson Crossing Park Sensory Trail

---

The Riverwalk Sensory Trail at Hudson Crossing Park has many unique and distinguishing features that make this experience stand out from the rest. Hudson Crossing Park is on an island created by the Champlain Canal, and it provides a lovely day destination with a play garden, covered picnic area and lock before you arrive at the parking area for the trail itself. The 1,540-foot-long crushed stone path is designed to provide a riverside outdoor experience for individuals with mobility or visual disabilities. There are tactile cues placed underfoot at intersections and areas with historic or environmental education elements.

**Directions:** From Saratoga Springs, head east on NY-29. After traveling for approximately 10 miles. Turn left onto NY-32 N/ US-4 N/ Broad Street and continue 0.5 miles to County Road 42. Turn right onto County Road 42 and continue until you reach the locks. A parking lot is available approximately a third of a mile beyond the locks.

**Parking:** The parking lot is located across from the picnic pavilion and has a firm and stable gravel surface. There is no designated accessible parking.

**Distance:** The Riverwalk Sensory Trail is 1,540 feet long.

**Trailhead:** Connected to parking lot.

**Surface:** Firm stone dust and crushed stone.

**Width:** Most of the trail is at least five feet wide.

**Slope:** The trail was well designed at under 5% grade. There is one section of 10% slope for 73 feet at the first trail intersection.

**Cross slope:** The majority of the trail has a 2% or less cross-slope with a few sections at 3%.

**Features:** An accessible port-a-john is available seasonally. An observation area with a bench is located at 241 feet past the intersection.

**Cautions and Prohibitions:** Park hours are dawn to dusk every day year-round. This is a carry-in/carry-out facility. There is no potable water on site so bring a full water



bottle. This is a dog- and pet-friendly park. All dogs must be leashed and under their owner's control at all times. Clean up after your pet and place waste in the available waste stations.

**Description:** Leaving the parking area, you travel 257 feet before coming to the intersection with the main trail which follows the Hudson River shoreline. Turning left at this intersection will lead visitors under a canopy of tree coverage with views of the Hudson River and its confluence with the

Battenkill River. In 478 feet from the intersection, you will see the the historic Dix Bridge at this end of the Sensory Trail, which joins Saratoga and Washington counties. The Dix Bridge was saved from demolition and renovated. The bridge is now a keystone of the park and a local crossing point for the 546-mile long NYS Canalway Trail and the 750-mile Empire State Trail.

**For more information:** Contact Hudson Crossing Park at [www.hudsoncrossingpark.org](http://www.hudsoncrossingpark.org), (518) 350-7275 or [info@hudsoncrossingpark.org](mailto:info@hudsoncrossingpark.org)

Turning back, be sure to explore the trail beyond the original intersection. Along the way there is informative signage to explain the surrounding features. There are four Tour-Mate ECO-BOX audio interpretive units stationed along the trail that provide visitors with short stories about the rich history of the surrounding areas.

The trees along this area are large and beautiful. You will see a variety of trees, including nut, maple, oak, black cherry and awe-inspiring cottonwoods. There is a particularly large cottonwood tree at 277 feet past the intersection heading north, and a red oak at 360 feet. Stay on the trail and beware of poison ivy.

If you visit in late summer, you will see jewel weed, many lady ferns and other ferns, golden rod, and honeysuckle. You may also see mushrooms. An added bonus on this sensory trail are the wonderful metal birds sculptures, in natural poses, on the ground and on the trees for people who are blind and others to enjoy.

**Owner:** Towns of Saratoga and Northumberland

---

## TRAILS FOR ALL IN SARATOGA COUNTY

---

This trail report is part of a series of documents describing outdoor spaces with accessible features in Saratoga County. It was created by ECOS: The Environmental Clearinghouse, a regional environmental organization. For more information, or to find more descriptions of trails for users of different ability levels, go to [ecosny.org](http://ecosny.org). ECOS also publishes a series of guides describing natural areas in Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga and Schenectady counties.