

Wallkill River

National Wildlife Refuge

Fact Sheet for Members of Congress

Represented by the following Members of Congress:

Senator Jon Corzine (D-NJ)
Senator Frank R. Lautenberg (D-NJ)
Senator Charles E. Schumer (D-NY)
Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY)
Rep. Scott Garrett (R-NJ-5th)
Rep. Sue W. Kelly (R-NY-19th)

Contact

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Profile

Established:	1990
Current acres:	4,796
Proposed total acres:	8,210
Staff:	7
FY 2002 budget:	\$499,217
2002 volunteer hours:	2,650
2002 visitation:	20,000
Satellite refuge:	566 acres*

*Shawangunk Grasslands NWR

Purpose

The refuge is managed to protect species diversity, migratory birds, endangered species, water quality of aquatic habitats, wildlife-dependent outdoor recreation, environmental education and scientific research.

Public Use Notes

- Wildlife observation on three nature trails and along Wallkill River
- The Appalachian Trail is located on the refuge (Wallkill River NWR is the only refuge hosting a portion of this 2,167-mile trail)
- Permit hunt for white-tailed deer, waterfowl and wild turkey

Management Activities

- Restoring 350 acres of wetland habitat to benefit migratory waterfowl, shorebirds and grassland birds
- Restoring and managing grassland bird breeding habitat
- Use of hunting seasons to augment other wildlife management techniques
- Planning/building additional canoeing, fishing and wildlife observation facilities

Highlights

The refuge includes nine miles of the Wallkill River valley, one of the region's few remaining habitats for waterfowl.

The refuge provides prime habitat for chestnut-sided warblers, scarlet tanagers and other songbirds.

The refuge provides habitat for the federally listed bog turtle and 48 other state-listed species.

Refuge headquarters completed in 1999; the building and surrounding land were purchased via the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Issues

Development threatens the area's ecological integrity.

Water quality and the potential construction of further sewage discharge facilities

Illegal use of motorized vehicles

A planned commuter rail will bring more people and development.

A comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) is being developed.



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