

# Lake Taghkanic State Park



## Public Information Meetings

### Lake Taghkanic State Park Master Plan Development

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Tuesday, October 31, 2023, 2pm-3:30pm (online)

and

Thursday, November 2, 2023, 6pm-7:30pm (in-person)

Taghkanic Fire Co. #1

631 Old Route 82

Taghkanic, NY



New York State  
Parks, Recreation and  
Historic Preservation

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## **Public Information Meetings Agenda**

1. Introductions and Welcoming Remarks
2. Overview of the Master Planning Process
3. Park Background
4. Features of the Park
5. Discussion and Public Comment

## **Purpose of the Public Information Meetings**

The purpose of these meetings is to invite public participation and involvement in the master planning process from an early stage. Public participation and comment will help NYS Parks identify issues, concerns, and management alternatives at the park. It will also help determine the extent to which each topic is considered in the Draft Master Plan and its associated Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).

Meeting participants and all members of the public are encouraged to provide input on how we can best steward Lake Taghkanic State Park and plan for its future. We encourage you to share your comments, suggestions, ideas, or concerns during the discussion portion of the meetings and through correspondence until **Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023**.

To comment electronically, email us at:

[LakeTaghkanic.Plan@parks.ny.gov](mailto:LakeTaghkanic.Plan@parks.ny.gov)

To comment by post:

*Megan Zimba, Park Planner  
Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation  
Planning Bureau  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12238*

## **Next Steps**

- The ideas and concerns identified at the Public Information Meetings and in written comments will be addressed in the Draft Master Plan/Draft EIS.
- Public review of the Draft Master Plan will include a public meeting and a public review period. Comments made during this time will be considered in the preparation of the Final Master Plan/Final EIS.
- After the issuance of the Final Master Plan and a public consideration period, a Statement of Findings will be issued along with the OPRHP Commissioner's decision regarding the adoption of the final plan.

## **Tentative Master Plan Timeline**

- Public Information Meetings – October 31<sup>st</sup> and November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023
- Additional Public Engagement Opportunities – Winter 2024
- Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Scoping – Spring/Summer 2024
- Draft Master Plan & DEIS Released to Public for Comment – Fall 2024
- Final Master Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) – Winter 2025
- Findings and Adoption – Spring 2025

**Future engagement opportunities will be announced by email. To join the mailing list, please e-mail [LakeTaghkanic.Plan@parks.ny.gov](mailto:LakeTaghkanic.Plan@parks.ny.gov).**

## General Site Overview



Lake Taghkanic is an approximately 1,700-acre state park in southern Columbia County. Much of the property, including the lake, was donated to the State of New York in 1929 by D. McRae Livingston, with the provision that the lake and park be called Lake Taghkanic. The lake had previously been known as Lake Charlotte. Popular activities at the park today include swimming, picnicking, boating, and hiking on nearly 12 miles of trails.

### ***Natural Environment***

Set within the Hudson River Valley and Catskill Mountain viewshed, Lake Taghkanic is part of a region known for its rural beauty and sweeping natural vistas. Its setting within Columbia County's pastoral landscape contributes to its scenic charm across the seasons. The centerpiece of the park is its 200+ acre natural lake.

The park provides habitat for many species of plants and wildlife indigenous to this region. Deer, coyotes, beaver, rabbits, squirrels, and raccoons are found in the park, and visitors can fish for large and small-mouth bass, pickerel, brown bullhead, blue gill, and rock bass. In the park's woodlands, Appalachian oak, hickory, maple, cedar, and hemlock are commonly found, with spruce and white birch on the northern slopes.

### ***Cultural Resources***

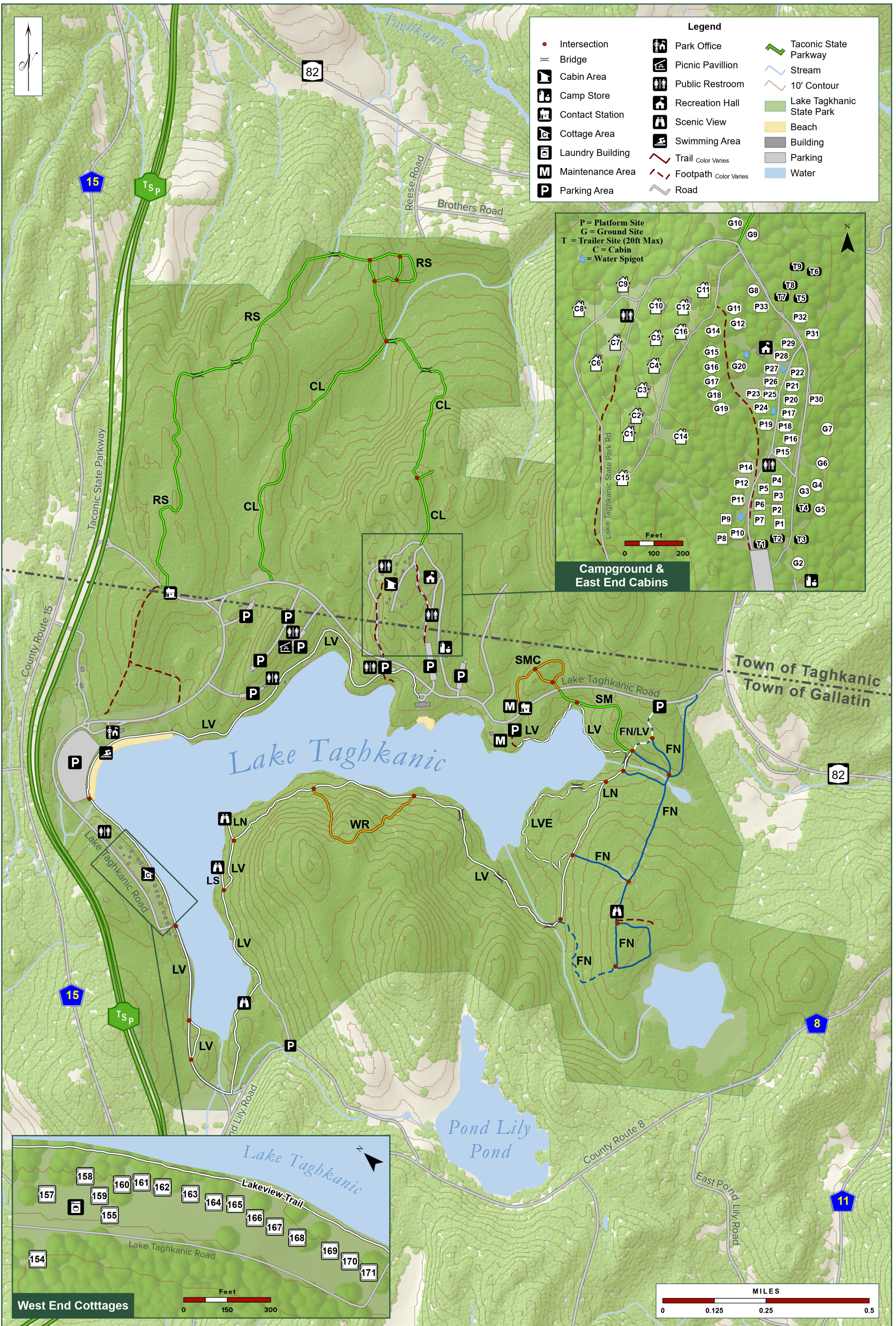
In 1933 a Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) camp was established at the park, and CCC members constructed the East Bathhouse and Beach, camping areas and cabins, and a stone water tower. Some CCC-era infrastructure at the park, such as the rustic cabins and recreation hall, are still in active use.

### ***Recreation***

Special features of the park include a tent camping area, cabins and cottages, a bathing beach, picnic areas, boat rentals, playgrounds, and sports fields. A picnic pavilion is also available for rent. Winter activities include ice fishing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, and ice skating. Lake Taghkanic is open year-round for day-use activities. Overnight camping is available from May through October.

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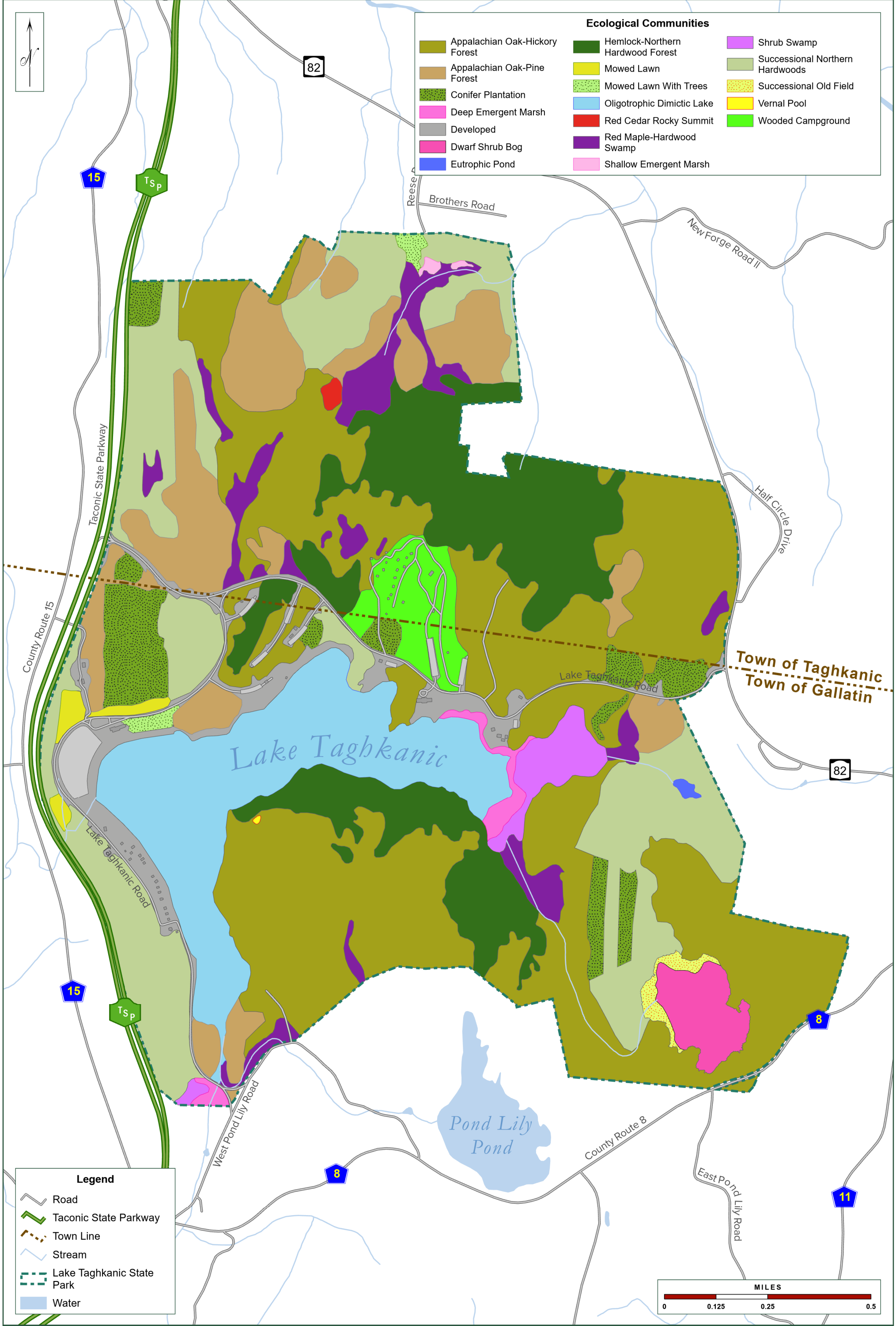
# Recreational Resources

# Lake Taghkanic State Park Master Plan

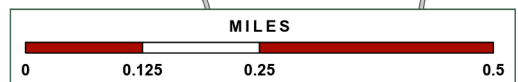




Ecological Communities					
	Appalachian Oak-Hickory Forest		Hemlock-Northern Hardwood Forest		Shrub Swamp
	Appalachian Oak-Pine Forest		Mowed Lawn		Successional Northern Hardwoods
	Conifer Plantation		Mowed Lawn With Trees		Successional Old Field
	Deep Emergent Marsh		Oligotrophic Dimictic Lake		Vernal Pool
	Developed		Red Cedar Rocky Summit		Wooded Campground
	Dwarf Shrub Bog		Red Maple-Hardwood Swamp		
	Eutrophic Pond		Shallow Emergent Marsh		



Legend	
	Road
	Taconic State Parkway
	Town Line
	Stream
	Lake Taghkanic State Park
	Water



# Ecological Communities

# Lake Taghkanic State Park Master Plan

Map produced by NYS OPRHP GIS Bureau, October 20, 2023.