

# Birds of Hollyhock Hollow

Can you spot any of these birds during your visit to Hollyhock Hollow?



American Robin



Belted Kingfisher



Cedar Waxwing



Barred Owl



Great Blue Heron

## We ask that you please:

- \* Use caution while hiking on the trails. They are clearly marked, but are maintained in a semi-wild state. Hikers assume their own risk when traversing the sanctuary.
- \* Do not swim in the pond or creek.
- \* Leave wildlife and plants undisturbed for all visitors to enjoy.
- \* Do not bring dogs to the sanctuary. They are expressly prohibited in the terms of the Rienow's bequest.
- \* Remember the Sanctuary is open from dawn to dusk.
- \* Take any trash home with you. We are a carry-in/carry-out facility.
- \* Help us to care for the sanctuary by removing any newly fallen branches or encumbrances to the trails as you go.

## Keep in mind. . .

- \* Nature works at a much slower pace than we do. Take your time when hiking to discover the uniqueness of each trail.
- \* Wildlife need space and privacy to thrive. Please respect wildlife on the trails.
- \* Stop every now and then to look around, listen to new sounds, and explore up close!

[www.auduboninternational.org](http://www.auduboninternational.org)



**Audubon  
International**

## Hollyhock Hollow Sanctuary

*A unique, 140-acre property featuring a fascinating history, unique geological features, the Onesquathaw Creek, a tranquil pond, wildlife gardens, hiking trails, and excellent birding opportunities.*



# Hollyhock Hollow Sanctuary

The Hollyhock Hollow Sanctuary was the former estate of Leona and Robert Rienow, Ph. D. As a State University at Albany Professor and co-author of several books on government and the environment, Dr. Rienow was among early environmental advocates. Upon his death in 1988, the sanctuary was bequeathed to Audubon International and was converted into a preserve and public-use area for passive recreation.

With over 140 acres of natural beauty, hiking trails, and distinctive geology carved out by the Onesquethaw Creek, Hollyhock Hollow Sanctuary is a birdwatcher's paradise. The sanctuary serves as an outdoor classroom for the nearby schools, as well as a recreational space for cross country skiers, spelunkers, artists, and scout groups. Hollyhock Hollow Sanctuary was the home and headquarters for Audubon International for 20 years, until the organization moved to Rensselaer Technology Park in early 2013.

Whether you are planning to explore the unique features of the area or are simply looking to take a long, quiet walk, visitors are welcome every day from dawn until dusk.

Most of these trails begin at the trail kiosk located across from the main parking lot.

**A**UDUBON TRAIL-Home to many kinds of trees and plant life, the Audubon is the longest trail at HHS. It's varied terrain and numerous wildlife can be enjoyed by both novice and experienced hikers. As you travel through the surrounding woodland, keep in mind that this young forest has grown from farm fields in just over 60 years!

*Hiking Time: 45 Minutes*  
*Difficulty: Easy/Moderate*

**W**ILDLIFE TRAIL-This trail reveals part of the history of HHS. About halfway through the trail, you'll see the remains of a former rock quarry. Limestone taken from this quarry is believed to have been used to build the Brooklyn Bridge. Now, the shady stone outcroppings provide a moist, cool environment for numerous ferns, mosses and wildflowers..

*Hiking Time: 30 Minutes*  
*Difficulty: Easy/Moderate*

**C**HICKADEE TRAIL-Located at the edge of the woods, this brushy habitat is inviting to numerous rabbits, woodchucks, and songbirds. While walking, listen for the "chick-a-dee-dee-dee" call of the bird this trail was named for.

*Hiking Time: 5-10 Minutes*  
*Difficulty: Very Easy*

**G**REY FOX TRAIL-Crossing through the middle of the sanctuary, the Grey Fox trail provides evidence of the recent past of HHS. The old stone walls which can be seen along the trail were built in the early 1800's to act as boundaries and fence livestock. As you hike, be sure to stop and listen along the way. You'll be rewarded by the voices of the many woodland songbirds that inhabit the sanctuary.

*Hiking Time: 20 Minutes*  
*Difficulty: Easy/Moderate*

**H**EMLOCK TRAIL-Painted with the color of deep evergreens, this trail follows a short winding loop through a hemlock grove on the northern edge of the sanctuary. In spring, mayapples carpet the forest floor along parts of the trail. Slow down and listen for the rushing waters of the Onesquethaw Creek, especially during the spring months. A favorite of many visitors, the Hemlock is worth exploring!

*Hiking Time: 20 Minutes*  
*Difficulty: Easy/Moderate*

**W**ATER OR CREEK TRAIL-Beautiful and scenic, this trail follows the shoreline of the Onesquethaw Creek. While hiking, take note of the numerous underground springs that contribute to the water flow and ecology of the area. This trail is also an excellent place to enjoy wildflowers such as jack-in-the-pulpit, bloodroot, and mayapple.

*Note: Part of this trail traverses the roadway. Please use caution. Do not let children run ahead, and look both ways for traffic!*

Hiking Time: 30 Minutes



**Audubon International**  
Headquarters  
120 Defreest Drive  
Troy, NY 12180  
518-767-9051

**Hollyhock Hollow**  
Sanctuary  
46 Rarick Road  
Selkirk, NY 12158

[www.auduboninternational.org](http://www.auduboninternational.org)