https://outsidechronicles.com/challenge?fbclid=IwAR3jzfAe7emJJDqqmAoUOQrY943jHiCH2VF9iLAcAL_ 3RGA9BRuqoL70ras

2020 WNY Hiking Challenge

Welcome to the Western New York Hiking Challenge brought to you by Outside Chronicles. This challenge was created to get people out on the many beautiful and unique trails throughout WNY. Our goal is to encourage people to get outside, embrace the outdoors, and reap the many benefits of spending time in nature.

The Western New York Hiking Challenge is designed to give people an opportunity to visit new local parks and explore new trails. Along with hiking the trails, the challenge material will educate participants on parks' history and local flora and fauna to spot while on the trail.



There are **32 parks** plus two bonus parks, each with a unique landmark.

CHALLENGE RULES:

- Complete five (5) <u>trails</u> from each of the four (4) <u>groups</u> (A through D) for a total of 20 trails between March 20, 2020 and December 20, 2020, inclusive. There are two (2) bonus hikes that will be used for additional prizes (See the <u>trails and groups</u>.).
- 2. Take a selfie at the Challenge landmark at each park.
- 3. Upload your picture to the <u>submission page</u>.
- 4. (Optional) Post your picture to <u>Outside Chronicles Facebook Page</u> or on <u>Instagram</u>. (use hashtags #HikeWNY and #WNYHikingChallenge. Be sure to tag @outsidechronicles).

Complete 20 Trails for: a patch, a sticker, a number, and bragging rights!

1. Register

Complete the <u>registration form</u> and submit your registration **fee of \$20***. Upon completion of the registration form, you will be redirected to a payment site using Venmo or PayPal.

*The registration fee is used to cover the cost of Challenge prizes (patches and stickers) and expenses. All profits will be donated to <u>The WNY Land Conservancy</u> to help protect the <u>College Lodge Forest</u>.

2. Download Challenge Packet

After your registration and payment have been verified (usually within 24-hours), you will be e-mailed a link to the Hiking Challenge packet. The packet contains more information about the parks, maps, suggested hikes, and landmark locations.

3. Hit the Trails!

Use the information in the Challenge packet to choose **20 trails**, 5 from each group (See the <u>trails and groups</u>.). Get out there and find the landmarks! Each map has a suggested path, but feel free to make your own hike.

There will be a **BONUS** for people who want to complete **ALL** 32 trails and the bonus hikes.

Remember to take a garbage bag and leave the trails better than you found them.

4. Upload Your Photos

To complete your Challenge requirement, you will need to upload your selfie to <u>https://outsidechronicles.com/upload</u>.

We love to see your photos and stories! Post your pictures to the <u>Outside Chronicles Facebook Page</u>, <u>WNY</u> <u>Hiking Challenge Facebook Group</u>, or tag @outsidechronicles on <u>Instagram</u>. Use the hashtags #HikeWNY and #WNYWinterChallenge. You might even see your pictures and stories featured on our channels!

5. Follow Everyone's Progress on the Challenge Board

Follow the Outside Chronicles Facebook Page for weekly updates.

Join the Outside Chronicles WNY Hiking Challenge Facebook Group.

Check the the <u>Live Challenge Board</u> regularly.

Stay Safe, Stay Hydrated, and Explore!