

February 2005 Catskills Backpacking Trip

Trip details:

We will meet at 8:30 am on Saturday, Feb 19th, at the Devils Tombstone State Campground parking lot on Route 214 and drive to the end point of our trip and drop some cars there. We then drive to the parking lot on Diamond Notch Trail (DN), which is the starting point of the trip.

Saturday:

We start from the parking lot on Diamond Notch Road (the one near route 214) Hike north on DN. When we hit the intersection of DN and Devil's Path (DP), we turn right and hike towards east on DP.

At night we will stay at the lean-to close to the junction of DP and Hunter Mountain Trail (HU).

Approximate mileage: 4 miles (+0.5 miles if the road is not plowed well)

Sunday:

We start from the lean-to, and hike on HU and turn right onto Becker Hollow Trail (BH) at the trail junction. We can decide whether we want to do the side trail to summit the Hunter Mountain, which is a 0.6 mile route-trip. We then follow BH and hit route 214 again, where our cars are parked.

Approximate mileage: 4.15 miles (including the 0.6 side trip)

Reference: Map 41 of the 5-map set of Catskills Trails published by NY-NJ Trail Conference.

Backpacking Gear, Clothing and Food List

Hiking in the winter is considerably more strenuous than in the summer, so it is important that you are in good physical condition for this trip. You will need a winter sleeping bag (rated zero degrees or better); a tent (We expect to stay in a lean-to Saturday night, but even so, we'll need to be prepared to pitch tents); insulated hiking boots; crampons and snowshoes; plenty of warm hats, gloves, socks, etc. Proper clothing layers are also extremely important. Please find another attached file for a suggested gear list.