



Goosepond South

ABOUT THE LAND

As you stroll through these woods, imagine that instead of a trail, you are setting foot on a putting green and manicured subdivision. For nearly ten years, this was to be the fate of this serene wooded area in Chester Township connected to Goosepond Mountain State Park, and which developers had been eyeing for a golf course and 222-unit residential development.

Area residents objected, and on Christmas Eve 2014, Goosepond Mountain South was preserved due to the efforts of the Open Space Institute and many devoted supporters.

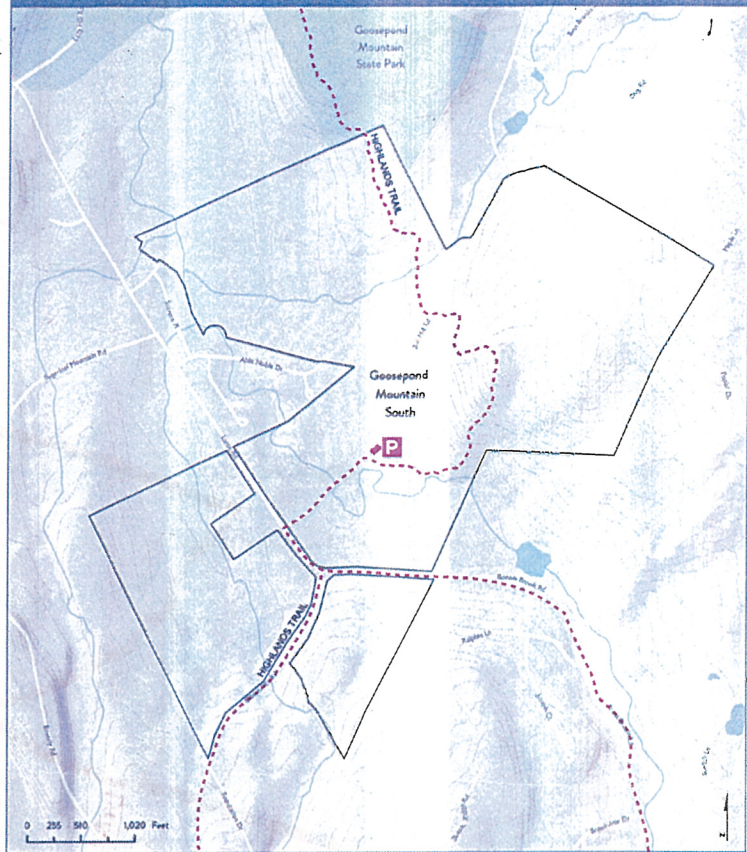
With Goosepond Mountain South's additional 389 acres, the total size of Goosepond Mountain State Park will be just under 2,000 acres of undeveloped woods, fields and wetlands for hikers and horseback riders. This preserved parkland is a valuable natural area within the region due to the dense development sprawling north and west from the New York State Thruway and Route 17 interchange.

The preservation of Goosepond Mountain South created this new entrance to the state park—giving residents from the South easy access to this undeveloped wilderness. Visitors can walk through this new gateway onto the multi-state Highlands Trail.

Just south of Goosepond Mountain State Park, Sterling Forest State Park can be found. Preserving Goosepond Mountain South furthers the goal of connecting these two parks which would permit hikers to remain off-road as they go between the parks. Conserving undeveloped lands creates protective wildlife corridors that give wild animals a better chance of long-term survival. Land preservation protects the water quality of streams that flow beyond man-made property boundaries and into the aquifers.

The Open Space Institute plans to transfer Goosepond Mountain South to the New York State parks system. The preservation of this property builds upon our longtime commitment toward enhancing New York's state parks. Over the past 40 years, the Open Space Institute has added more than 40,000 acres to New York's 335,000-acre state park system.

TRAIL MAP



ABOUT THE HIGHLANDS TRAIL

The preservation of Goosepond Mountain South has allowed for the rerouting of the Highlands Trail, eliminating five miles of road walk. A cooperative effort of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, conservation organizations, state and local governments and local businesses, the Highlands Trail consists of over 150 miles of trail maintained by 30 Trail Conference volunteers and member groups.

When completed, the Highlands Trail will extend from the Connecticut border south to Riegelsville, New Jersey, on the Delaware River. The route will connect major scenic attractions in both states. Ultimately, a network of trails including alternate routes and multi-use paths is envisioned. Learn more at www.nynjtc.org.



RULES

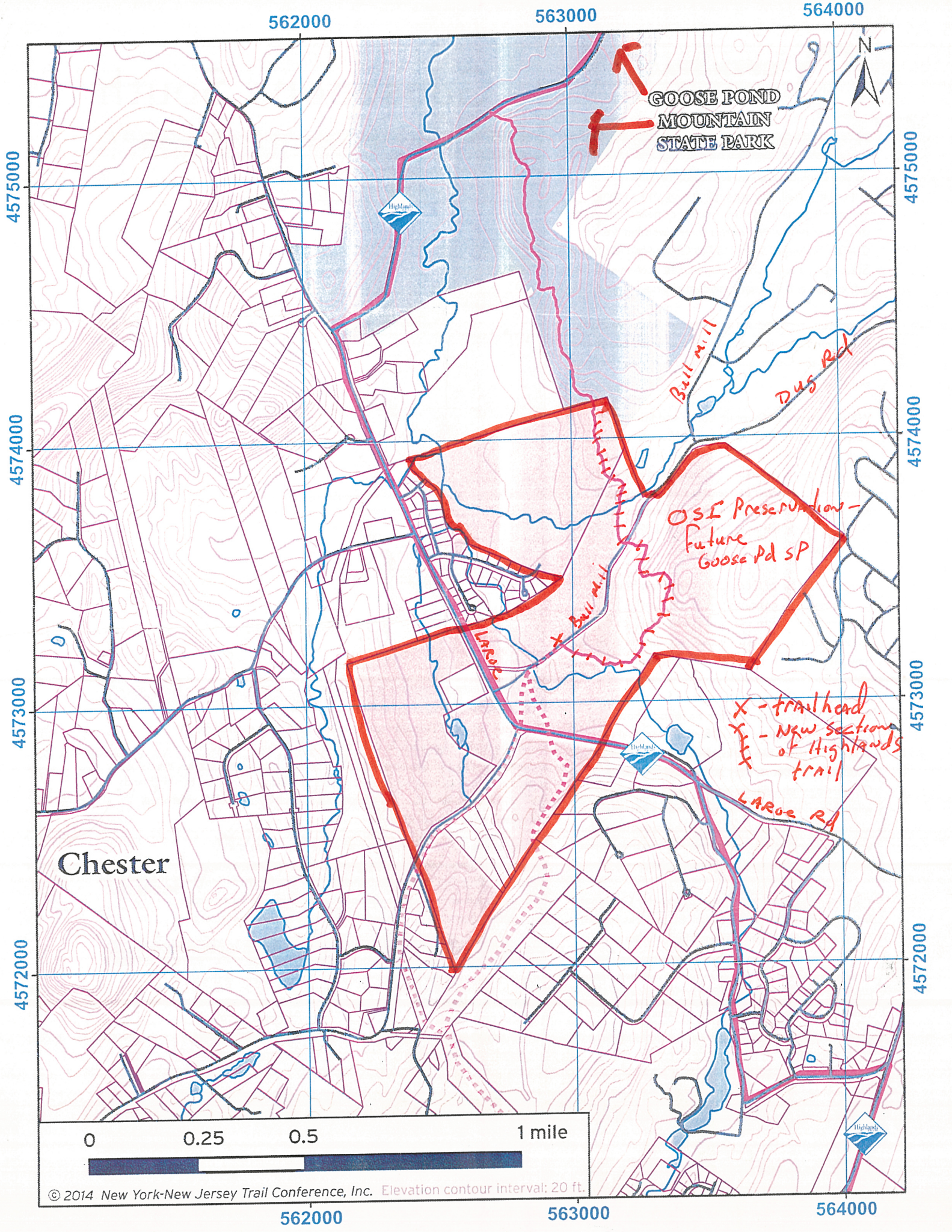
Please respect nature and your fellow visitors by observing the park rules:

- Keep dogs on leash
- Fires prohibited
- No smoking
- No motorized vehicles
- Carry in - carry out
- Premises patrolled
- Open dawn to dusk
- For emergencies call 911

The Open Space Institute protects scenic, natural and historic landscapes to provide public enjoyment, conserve habitat and working lands and sustain communities.



Scan with your phone
to find out more



GOOSE POND
MOUNTAIN
STATE PARK

Bull Mill

Dug Rd

OSI Preservations -
Future
Goose Pd SP

X - trailhead
X - New sections
of Highlands
trail

Laroe Rd

Chester

0 0.25 0.5 1 mile

© 2014 New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, Inc. Elevation contour interval: 20 ft.

562000

563000

564000

4575000

4575000

4574000

4574000

4573000

4573000

4572000

4572000