



# MOUNTAIN LAKES PARKS AND TRAILS

# OVERLOOK BYPASS TRAIL

## Access to Richard M. Wilcox Park and Tourne County Park

### ATTENTION USERS

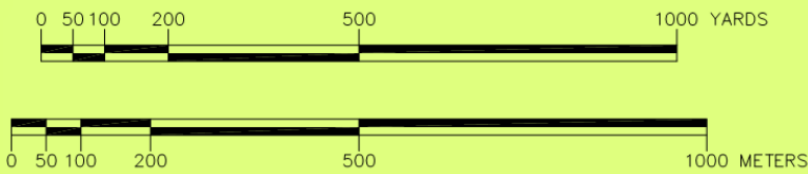
- General Trail Guidelines:**
- Use only open trails. Respect all trail signs and closures.
  - Stay on marked trails. Off-trail usage causes environmental damage in the form of erosion and vegetation destruction.
  - Mud is nature's way of saying Keep off. To avoid serious damage which may result in trail closure, refrain from using trails after a hard rain or recent thaw when mud is present.
  - Leave no trace. Pack out everything you pack in. Do not break branches or otherwise disrespect our natural environment.
  - Take personal action if you encounter a minor trail maintenance need such as downed limb which easily and safely can be moved. Alert authorities to more significant situations such as a flooded trail bed.

- Interactions with other trail users:**
- Keep to the right when passing.
  - Plan ahead. Anticipate other users. Alert others to your presence by a friendly greeting.
  - Use caution in limited-sight areas, especially curves. This means slow down and keep to the right in single file.
  - Use extra caution and control your speeds on downhill trails. Stay alert; be aware of other users and make way for them to safely pass.
  - Groups must be especially alert to other users. Avoid blocking trails and provide access for others to safely pass.

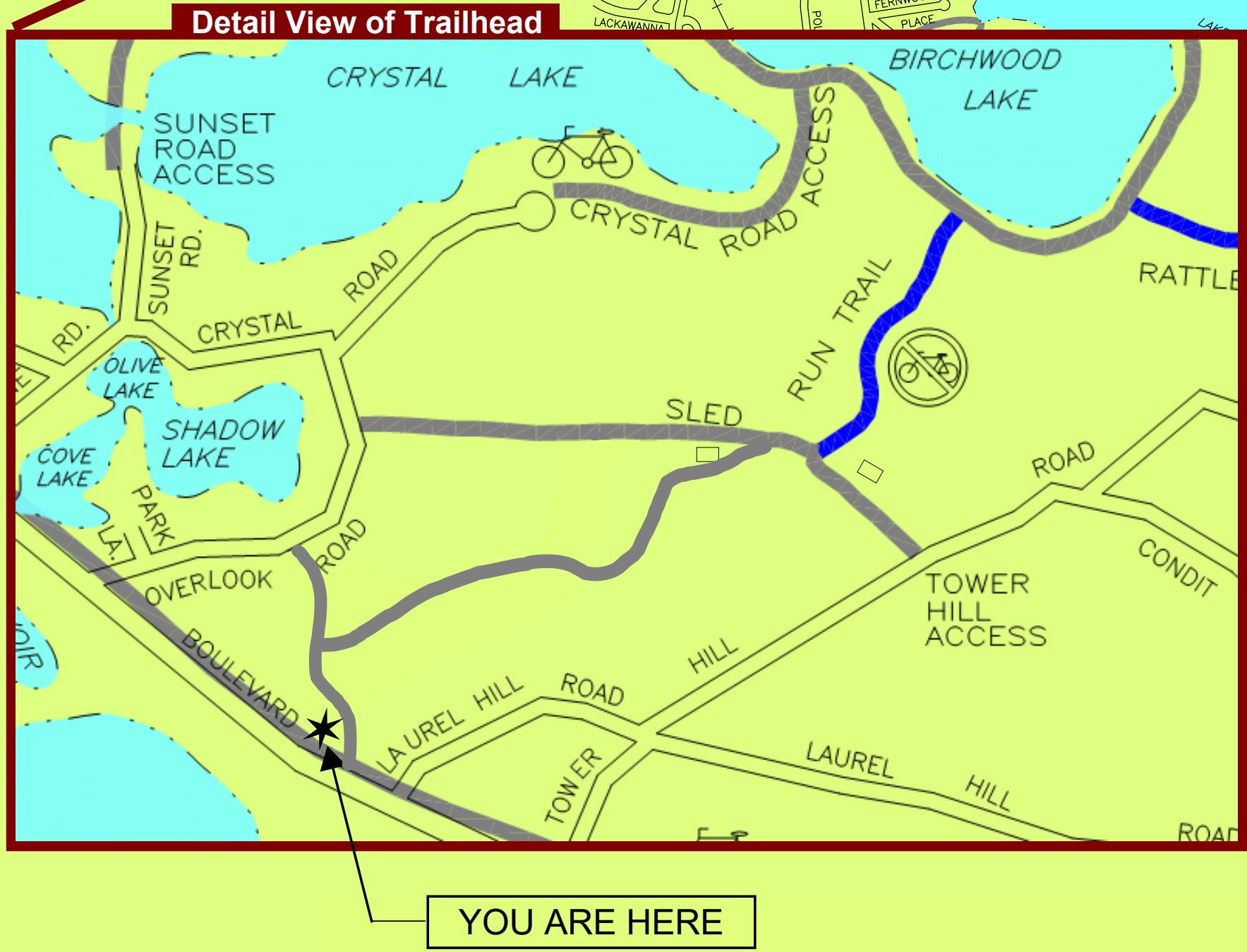
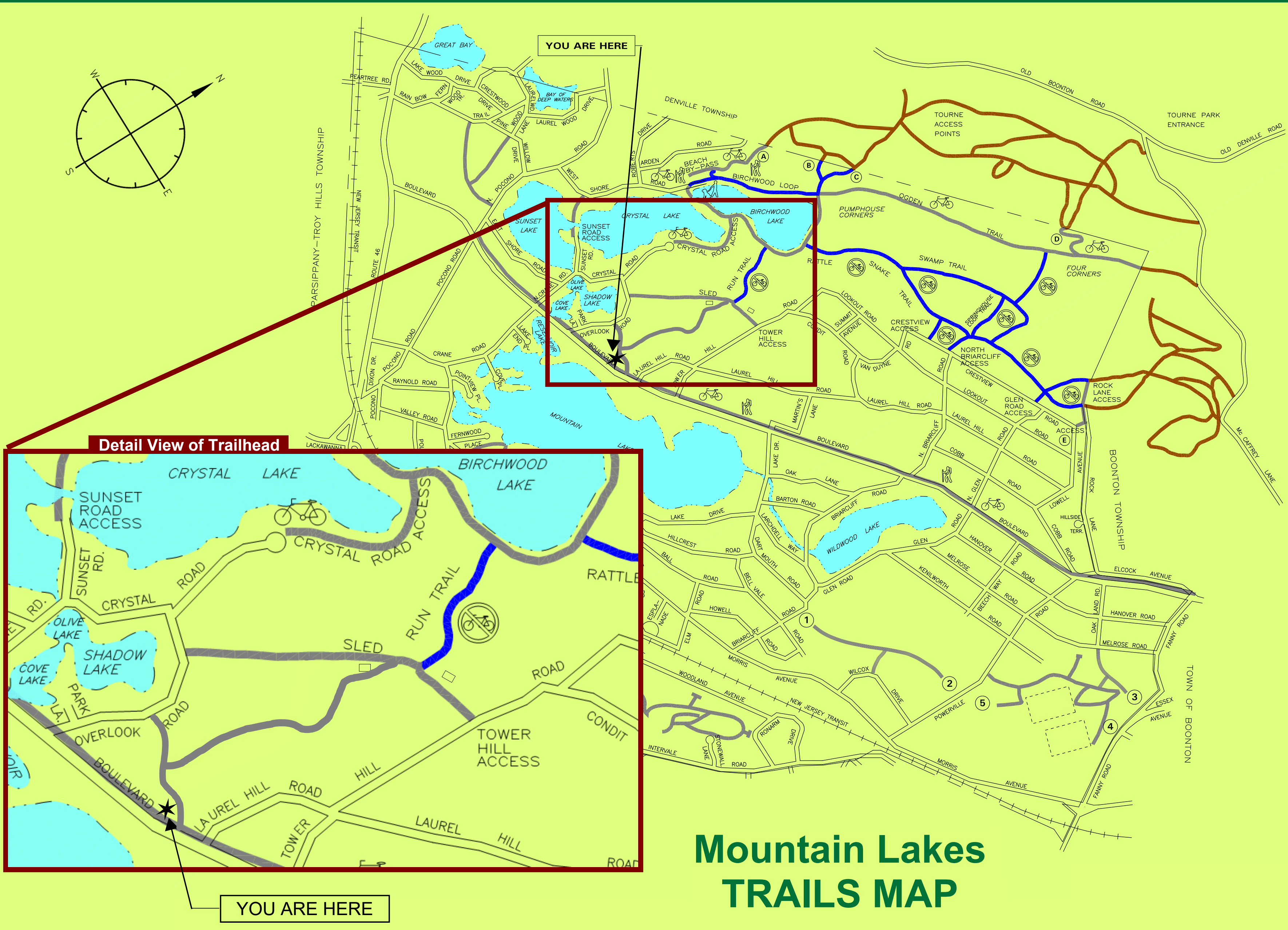
- Animal Encounters:**
- All dogs must be under strict control. You must pick up after your dogs. Trash bins are provided at the entrance to Wilcox Park.
  - Don't startle animals. Give animals extra room and clearance.

- Off-Road Bicycling:**
- Bikers must abide by the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) Rules of the Trail.
  - Helmets and bells, or other noise devices in good working order mounted on the bicycle, are required for all bikers.
  - Observe and obey designated foot-traffic-only areas. These areas have been specified as such for good reasons which should be respected.
  - Bikers must yield to all other users, both human and animal. Yielding means slowing down, being prepared to stop, establishing communication, walking as appropriate, and allowing safe passage or safely passing.
  - Ride in small groups to ensure that your use of the trails does not spoil the outdoor experiences of others. • Leave no trace and be considerate of others. Together, we are caretakers of our trails. Wilcox Park is a highly utilized, small park with multi-use as well as foot-traffic-only trails. All users must be sensitive to one other, the land, flora and fauna. Use common sense while on the trails and show respect for our natural environment and other users.

- LEGEND**
- COUNTY TRAIL
  - MULTI-USE TRAIL
  - FOOT TRAFFIC ONLY TRAIL
  - ① BRIARCLIFF SCHOOL
  - ② HIGH SCHOOL
  - ③ YMCA
  - ④ PITCHER/SCERBO FIELDS
  - ⑤ TENNIS COURTS
  - ⑥ HASWELL FIELD



**EMERGENCY dial 9-1-1**  
Borough Police 973.334.1413



## Mountain Lakes TRAILS MAP

### About our Trails & Parklands - Did You Know?

(1) Mountain Lakes is located at the southern edge of the great Wisconsin Glacier which scoured the land as it advanced from the north. The 2000-foot thick glacier retreated about 15,000 years ago, depositing large amounts of rocky sediment known as terminal moraine. The 12' x 25' Elephant Rock (100 yards along the trail from the top end of Rock Lane) and 54 ton Mouse Cradle Balancing Rock (top of Tourne) are large erratic glacial boulders which the melting ice left behind. (2) In 1910, Lewis Van Duyne, a local engineer, conceived a design to develop this large tract of land, then consisting of rolling hills, woods, swamps and boulders. He contacted developer and entrepreneur Herbert J. Hapgood, and his landscape engineer, Arthur T. Holton, to plan a community where families could enjoy nature, recreation, the simple pleasures of family life, and be within commuting distance to New York City by railroad. (3) The chain of nine Mountain Lakes was created from swampland. Mountain and Wildwood Lakes were developed as part of Hapgood and Holton's master plan. Sunset, Crystal and Birchwood Lakes were developed earlier (between 1893 and 1905) by the Fox Lakes Ice Company and the surrounding land (Richard Wilcox Park) was subsequently purchased by the Borough. (4) Halsey Fredrick Park and Richard Wilcox Park are named after the mayors whose administrations acquired substantial tracks of Borough parkland. (5) Richard Wilcox Park (at Birchwood Lake) provides trails to access the following areas of interest: the three upper lakes, the Rattlesnake Valley, the Elephant Rock, the Mouse Cradle Balancing Rock, the Spring House, the old rifle range, the Tower Hill sled run and the Tourne County Park. See [www.mtnlakes.org](http://www.mtnlakes.org) for more information. (6) The Ogden Trail (the main trail between Birchwood Lake and Tourne) was originally constructed in 1909 as a trolley path between Denville and Boonton. A few months later, Herbert J. Hapgood induced the trolley company to abandon the Ogden trail in favor of routing the trolley along the Boulevard. The electrically-powered trolley opened in 1910 and ran between Denville and Boonton along the Boulevard until 1928, when it was displaced by the automobile. (7) Much of the land located north of Richard Wilcox Park and now preserved as Tourne County Park, was inherited and acquired by Clarence Addington DeCamp (1859-1948). He built the two roads to the top of the Tourne using hand tools and levers and encouraged the local citizens to enjoy the forests and fields with him. (8) On a clear day, hikers who climb to the top of the Tourne are rewarded with a panoramic view of the New York City skyline at 897 feet above sea level. The name Tourne is derived from the Dutch word meaning lookout or mountain.