

West Hills County Park

West Hills County Park is located on the Ronkonkoma Moraine, which has steep slopes with thin soils over sand and rocks. There are many miles of beautiful, hilly hiking and bridle trails. However, bikes are not permitted in this park. The 800+ acre park is separated into sections, divided by Sweet Hollow Road, High Hold Drive, and the Northern State Parkway.

The Walt Whitman Trail, in the eastern section of the park, leads hikers up to Jayne's Hill, the highest natural point on Long Island (400.9 feet), which was named after the prominent pioneer family. A stone marker identifies the hill.

Much of the western section was once "Highhold," the estate of Henry Stimson. Stimson served in five presidential administrations between 1911 and 1945, including serving as Secretary of War during World War II. It was on this property that Stimson famously hosted the "Highhold Games," which included grand fox hunts, and Teddy Roosevelt would hike all the way from Sagamore Hill for visits with the Stimsons. After Mrs. Stimson died, the property was sold to the New York City Boy Scouts, which used it as a camp for many years. Scouts and other groups continue to camp in West Hills Park today. The campground is only open to organized youth groups.

The park offers many amenities. The stables in the park offer riding lessons and trail rides. There is a playground, a picnic area with charcoal grills, and a dog run.

You May See:

American Chestnut, Black Birch, Black Oak, Bracken Fern, Huckleberry, Mapleleaf Viburnum, Mountain Laurel, Pignut Hickory, Red Oak, Sassafras, Staghorn Sumac, Witch-Hazel.

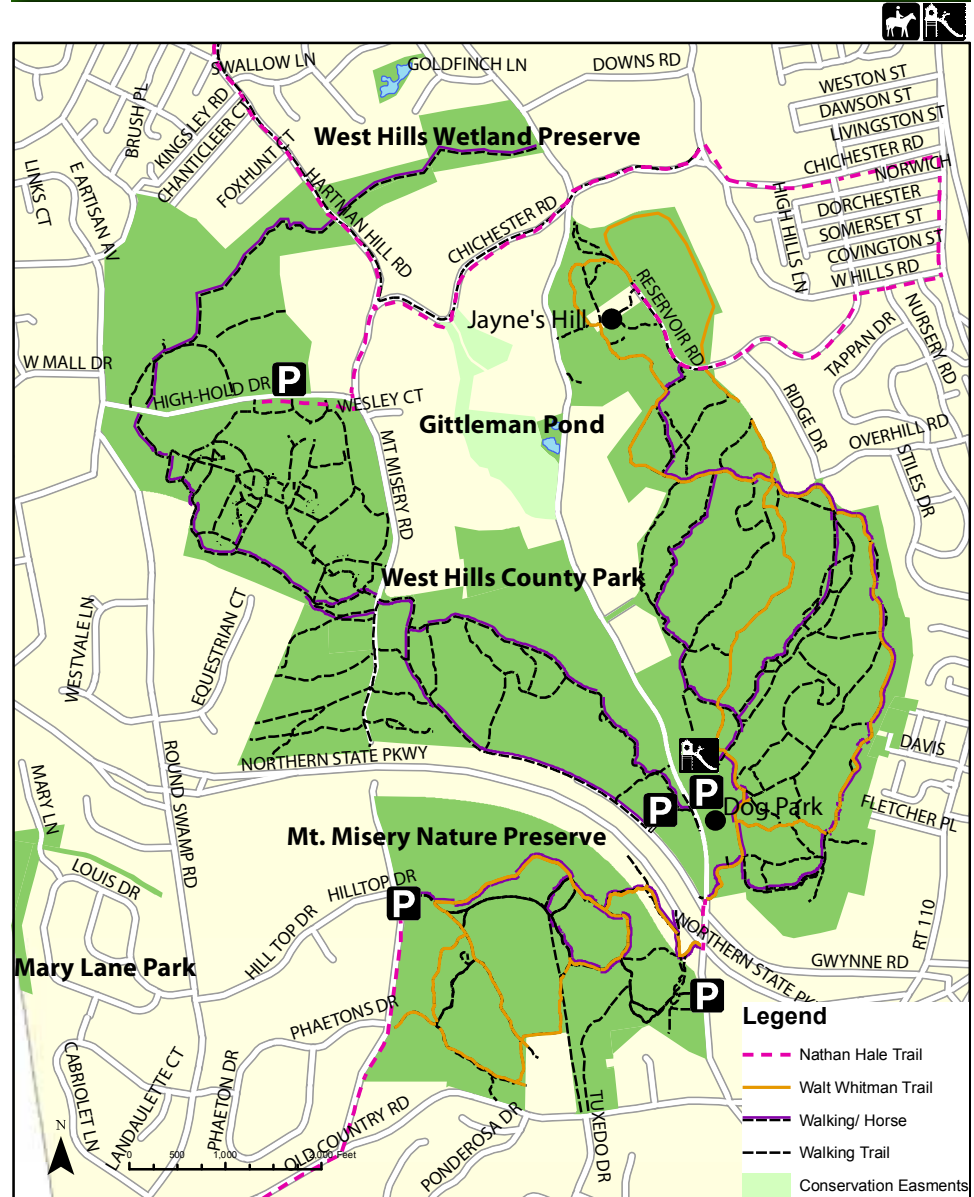
American Robin, Baltimore Oriole, Black-capped Chickadee, Carolina Wren, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Screech Owl, Eastern Towhee, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Great Horned Owl, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Cardinal, Northern Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-eyed Vireo, Red-tailed Hawk, Song Sparrow, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Wood Thrush

Other Park Amenities

Dog Park, Playground, Scout Campground, Stables, Sweet Hollow Hall



Park patron says: "Going to the high point, just after the leaves fall, you can see Orient Point or Connecticut".



Location: Sweet Hollow Rd, South of Jericho Tpke in Huntington.

Terrain: Hilly | **Parking:** In Park | **Type:** Network

Surface: Ground | **Acreeage:** 854 | **Trailhead:** 40.801458, -73.420707

