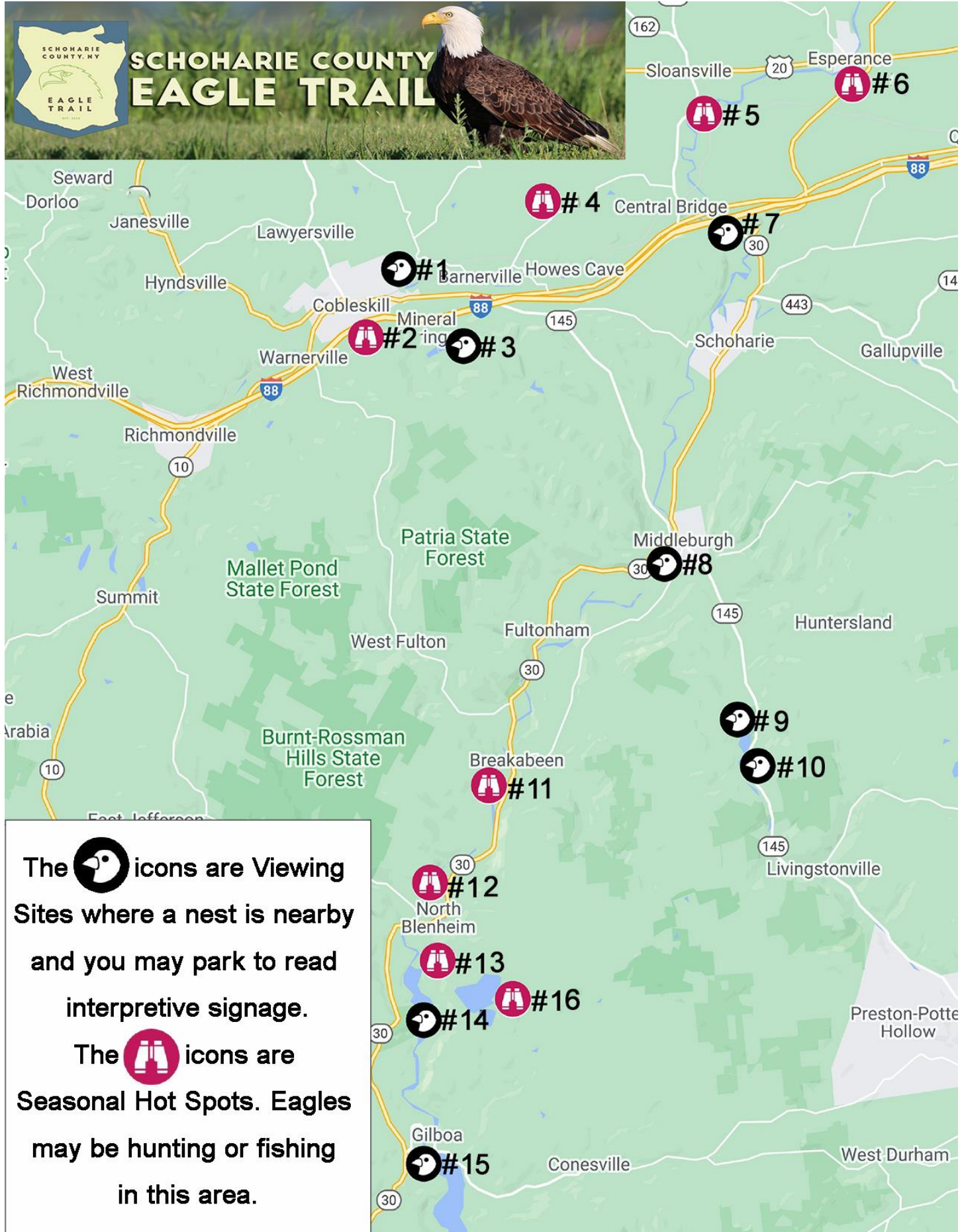




# SCHOHARIE COUNTY EAGLE TRAIL



The  icons are Viewing Sites where a nest is nearby and you may park to read interpretive signage.

The  icons are Seasonal Hot Spots. Eagles may be hunting or fishing in this area.

## Eagle Watching Etiquette and Viewing Tips

**Warning:** *Harassing, disturbing or injuring a bald eagle is a federal offense and carries a penalty of up to \$20,000 and/or one year in jail.* Remember that bald eagles should remain undisturbed, and it is important that they conserve energy during the winter months.

The following tips for eagle viewing will help you to have the best possible experience:

- Use a designated bald eagle viewing site.
- Scan the tree line for eagles that are perched in the tree tops.
- Look overhead for eagles soaring high in the sky.
- Check ice floes or river islands for eagles sunning themselves or enjoying a meal.
- Arrive early (7 am - 9 am) or stay late (4 pm - 5 pm), when eagles are most active.
- Be patient - the key to successful viewing is patience.

Winter is the best time to view eagles, so we suggest these safety and comfort tips:

- Dress warmly and in layers: boots, hats and gloves are strongly recommended.
- Bring along a hot beverage.
- Pull your vehicle completely off the road and park **ONLY** in designated areas.
- Turn on your car heater for short periods of time.

For the safest and least intrusive bald eagle viewing, we recommend the following Eagle Etiquette:

- Remain in or immediately next to your vehicle, and don't approach eagles closer than a quarter mile. Avoid roosting areas.
- Refrain from loud noises: honking horns, door slamming, radios playing, yelling, etc.
- Keep pets at home.
- Use binoculars or spotting scopes instead of trying to get a little closer.
- Don't do anything to try to make the bird fly.
- Respect private property and avoid restricted areas.

# Schoharie County Eagle Trail

Schoharie County, New York

1. Starting the on the Trail in Cobleskill at our **#1 Sterling Insurance Viewing site**, located at Sterling Insurance Company (182 Barnerville Rd, Cobleskill, NY 12043). When you arrive park at the far east parking area (to your left) in the parking lot, look toward the south (to the right of Walmart). Look in the top of the trees for the Eagles, the Eagle nest is located just left of the center of the field. View the nest and the Eagles from the parking lot as the nest is located on private property and protected by NYS DEC. The Cobleskill Eagles have been nesting in this area since 2018.
2. From the **#1 Viewing Site** make your way toward our **#2 Eagle Hot Spot** located behind the Super 8 Motel (955 E Main St, Cobleskill, NY 12043) along the backside of

the parking lot near the tree line the Eagles like to fish the creek during Spring, Summer, Fall and when the creek is not frozen during the Winter.

3. From the **#2 Hot Spot** make your way toward our **#3 Cobleskill Reservoir Viewing Site** located at the Cobleskill Reservoir (174 Dow Street, Cobleskill, NY 12043) park in the NYS DEC Fishing Access parking area. You can walk all around the reservoirs, look in the trees and overhead this is a favorite fishing spot for Eagles in the area. This is one of the best spots to view the Cobleskill Eagles during the Spring, Summer & Fall.
4. From the **#3 Viewing Site** make your way toward the **#4 Eagle Hot Spot** located at Secret Caverns (671 Caverns Rd, Howes Cave, NY 12092) park in the parking lot a walk toward the large pond Eagles like to sit in the trees and look for fish. While you are there, they have trails to walk and view other wildlife that enjoy the pond like ducks, river otters, hawks, songbirds and bears.
5. From the **#4 Eagle Hot Spot** make your way toward our **#5 Eagle Hot Spot** located at the NYS DEC Schoharie Creek Fishing Access Point #2 (Route 30A in Central Bridge, NY) park in the parking area and take a short walk to the creek. The Eagles like to perch and hunt from the trees along the creek, looking toward the north you can see the bridge at Junction road that is another spot they like to fish from, there are 4 Eagles that fish and hunt this area because there are two active nests in this area.
6. From the **#5 Eagle Hot Spot** head north to our **#6 Eagle Hot Spot** look in the trees for Eagles as you cross over the junction road bridge on your way toward **#6 Eagle Hot Spot** located at the Schoharie creek crossing at Route 20 in Esperance, NY
7. From the **#6 Eagle Hot Spot** head toward our **#7 Central Bridge Viewing Site** located at NYS DEC Schoharie Creek Fishing Point #1 (3699 State Route 7 Central Bridge, NY) Park in the designated parking lot and look into the trees along the creek on both sides of the bridge. The Eagle nest is located north of the bridge on the Schoharie Creek.
8. From the **#7 Viewing Site** head north on Route 145 toward our **#8 Timothy Murphy Park Viewing Site** located at Timothy Murphy Park (4260 State Road 30, Middleburgh, NY) park in the parking areas and walk toward the creek to view Eagles in the trees or on the creeks edge. There are two nests in this area so there is a good chance you can see Eagles in the area.
9. From **#8 Viewing Site** head toward our **#9 & #10 Franklinton Vlaie Viewing sites** located at Franklinton Vlaie Wildlife Management Areas in the town of Middleburgh on Route 145 heading south. You can park at either parking areas, go for a walk to view the Eagles hunting & fishing on the pond.

10. From the **#10 Viewing Site** head south on State road 30 toward our **#11, 12, & 13 Eagle Hot Spots** located along the Schoharie Creek. The eagles like hanging out in the trees along the creeks edge looking for fish, keep your eyes open and you may see one anywhere along the creek not only at the hot spots. **#11 Eagle Hot Spot** will be on your right in the town of Fultonham, NY at the NYS DEC fishing Access Area, the eagles like the trees along the creek. **#12 Eagle Hot Spot** is located at the Blenheim Covered Bridge located in North Blenheim on State Route 30 park near the bridge, the bridge is a great spot to look for them along the creek. **#13 Eagle Hot Spot** is located at the Schoharie Creek Fishing Access Site on Power Plant Road following the signs for the Fishing area. You can park in the parking areas near the creek and look for Eagles near the cliffs to the north, they like to hang out in the trees.

11. From **#13 Eagle Hot Spot** head south on State Route 30 toward **#14 Mine Kill State Park Viewing Site** located at Mine Kill State Park (161 Mine Kill Road, North Blenheim, NY). Drive into the park, there is no fee for this state park, head down to the boat launch area, park anywhere in the parking lot and walk to the boat launch area, the eagle fish the reservoir almost daily for fish. You can also walk the yellow trail either east or west and look for eagles in the trees at the water's edge. There are two active nest sites in the park.

12. From **#14 Viewing Site** head south on state route 30 toward our **#15 Gilboa Dam Viewing Site** located near the Gilboa Dam on the 990V road just before the bridge, the nest is located on the east side of the road located on NYC Water private property and can be viewed from the road.

13. From **#15 Viewing Site** head north on 990V toward our **#16 Eagle Hot Spot** located at the Upper Reservoir for the NY Power Authority (Kingsley Road, Gilboa, NY). There are two gates where you can park and walk the gravel road that goes along the outside edge of the reservoir (do not block the gates), the Eagles do a lot of fishing up at this reservoir.