Stone Valley

We who enter the Stone Valley Cooperative Recreation Area owe the pleasure to LEWIS “LEW” WEEKS 1920-1999 whose Power and vision brought many of us together to build and maintain trails in this special place for the benefit of all. Knowing Lew, we dedicate this to you, the visitor. Marvel and take care.

- The Stone Valley Cooperative Recreational Area, located in the towns of Colton and Parishville, offers an unusual opportunity for hiking, cross-country skiing, nature study, and historical exploration. There are several private land parcels in the Eastern section of the area, so please respect the property of others.
- The most spectacular stretch of Stone Valley is the mile between the hamlet of Colton and the Tub. Dramatic rapids in this section of the river flow over waterfalls creating gorges, rock islands, overhanging cliffs, and fascinating potholes.
- When the water is high, it thunders through this section with awesome power, and is dangerously fast. During times of low water, the exposed river channel presents a completely different aspect of the river environment.

Beware, even during low-water periods, sudden, unexpected releases from the dam can cause rapidly rising water, creating dangerous situations. Stay on the trail.

The Stone Valley trail system also offers a unique variety of topography, woodlands, and Riverside trails are indicated by blue tree markers, access trails by dark red, and county trails by yellow markers.

There are sections where caution should be exercised and others where trails are quite steep. For those who prefer a less rigorous hike, a fairly gentle incline will take one from the Northeast Trail Head to Cathedral Grove, a distance of one mile. O’Malley Brook flows through the Grove and tumbles down a rocky falls into the Raquette River beneath giant pine trees.

The distance between trailheads on either side of the river is exactly the same, 3.2 miles. To start at any trailhead and make the complete loop, down one side of the river and back to the trailhead of origin, is a distance of 7.5 miles.

Hunters and Hikers both use Stone Valley:

Hunters: beware that others use the trail system during hunting season. Hunting or shooting across the trail is prohibited

Hikers: wear blaze orange during hunting season and beware that hunters may be in close proximity to the trail system.

The trails lie on lands owned by Brookfield Power, St. Lawrence County, and the Town of Colton. Brookfield Power, the Laurentian Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club, and the St Lawrence.

Stone Valley A Cooperative Recreational Area

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Leave No Trace

Know Before You Go
- Be prepared! Bring food, water, and extra clothes.
- Use maps to plan where you’re going so you’ll stay on course and won’t get lost.
- Bring a leash for your pet and plastic bags for waste.
- Learn about the areas you plan to visit.

Stick to Trails
- Walk and ride on designated trails to protect trailside plants. Do not step on flowers or small trees.
- Respect private property - stay on designated trails.

Trash Your Trash and Pick Up Poop
- Pack it in, Pack it out. Put litter—even crumbs, peels and cores—in garbage bags and carry it home.
- Use a plastic bag to pack out your pet’s waste.
- Keep water clean. Do not put soap, food, or human or pet waste in the river or streams.

Leave It As You Find It
- Leave plants, rocks and historical items as found.
- Treat living plants with respect. Carving, hacking or peeling plants may kill them.

Keep Wildlife Wild
- Observe wildlife from a distance.
- Human food is unhealthy for wildlife - do not feed.
- Securely store your meals and trash.
    
Share Our Trails and Manage Your Pet
- Be considerate when passing others on the trail.
- Keep your pet under control.
- Listen to nature. Avoid loud noises or yelling.

For more information contact Leave No Trace.Org.