Hand Hollow Conservation Area
387 Gale Hill Road or 4879 County Road 9
New Lebanon
Owned and managed by the Columbia Land Conservancy, this 76-acre property in Austerlitz includes a 1.9 miles of trails. The hemlock forests provide habitat for a variety of birds. The woodland pools at the property provide critical habitat for amphibians. The property’s cliffs and overgrowths are home to lichens over a century old. The small piles of rocks form crevices and caves that provide great habitat for bats, porcupines, and snakes. Hunting is by permit only. Visit clctrust.org to learn more.

Leaves No Trace
CLC encourages visitors to abide by the Leave No Trace Principles.

Plan Ahead and Prepare
Know the rules for the site, prepare for weather and emergencies, and bring a map and compass.

Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
Use existing trails and parking lots, and be especially careful to avoid destroying plants and streamside habitats.

Dispose of Waste Properly
Carry out anything you carry in.

Leave What You Find
Do not take anything home with you, do not build structures.

Respect Wildlife
Do not approach or feed wildlife, secure all food, and control your pets.

Be Considerate of Other Visitors
Avoid making loud noises, yield to others on the trail.

General Safety Information
Be Prepared
Before going out, notify someone where you will be hiking. In the event that technology fails, it is always a good idea to carry a map and compass. To orient your map, place the compass on the map pointing toward the map’s north. Then rotate the map until the needle on the compass points north. Take note of the scale on the map. It’s also helpful to keep track of landscape features as you go.

Prevent Ticks
Wearing tall socks and pants, using repellent, and avoiding tall grass can help deter these pests. But showering and doing a tick check when you get home is still your best bet. Ticks can cause a number of illnesses such as Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis, Ehrlichiosis and Lyme disease. It is important to remove ticks as soon as possible and to see your health care provider if you suspect that you are infected with a tick-borne illness.

Download the free Vizzit app for guided smartphone tours of all the CLC properties!