Merrill Creek Reservoir Open Space New Jersey Conservation Foundation

Warren Highlands

Ragged Ridge Section
NJ State Park Service

1.8 miles

0.9 mile

0.4 miles

Lenape Historic Site

Springhouse

Park Boundary

Park Boundary

Open Field

Forest

Wetland

Water

Bridge

Farming Lease

Hunting

Parking Lot

Parking Pull-off

Scenic Viewpoint

Wildlife Viewing

Trail Blaze Symbols

Start Trail

End Trail

Straight

Trail Spur

Turn Left

Turn Right

Farming Lease

Local farmers lease fields from the NJ State Park Service and grow crops to support their agricultural businesses and to preserve New Jersey's farming history. Please stay on the trail to minimize damage to the crops. Thank you.

Fun Fact

The streams on either side of Ragged Ridge flow in opposite directions: NE and SW.

Atop Ragged Ridge on the Warren Highlands Trail in Harmony Township NJ there is a rock with significant Native American History. This rock, with its carved recesses, was used for sending smoke signals to communicate with people on the other ridges visible from this promontory (Blue Mountain, Delaware Water Gap, Wind Gap). Sequences of smoke signals may have been used to communicate a variety of messages.

A member of NJ Green Acres imparted a story from the previous land owner about the historical significance. The landowner had befriended a Lenape native and asked him to visit the site. An agreement was made and together they climbed the ridge. The Lenape man confirmed that the recesses in the rock were indeed used for sending smoke signals and that Ragged Ridge was a main communication center.

The Lenape man then began chanting, arms in the air. A group of vultures descended upon him and formed a funnel shape in a circle above him. The landowner asked the Lenape man what he had just witnessed. The Lenape man said he was communicating with his ancestors through the vultures. He explained that although no one likes the vultures, they are important because they clean up the land.

Ragged Ridge, according to the previous land owner and his Lenape friend, is sacred ground and now it is a public land all can appreciate.