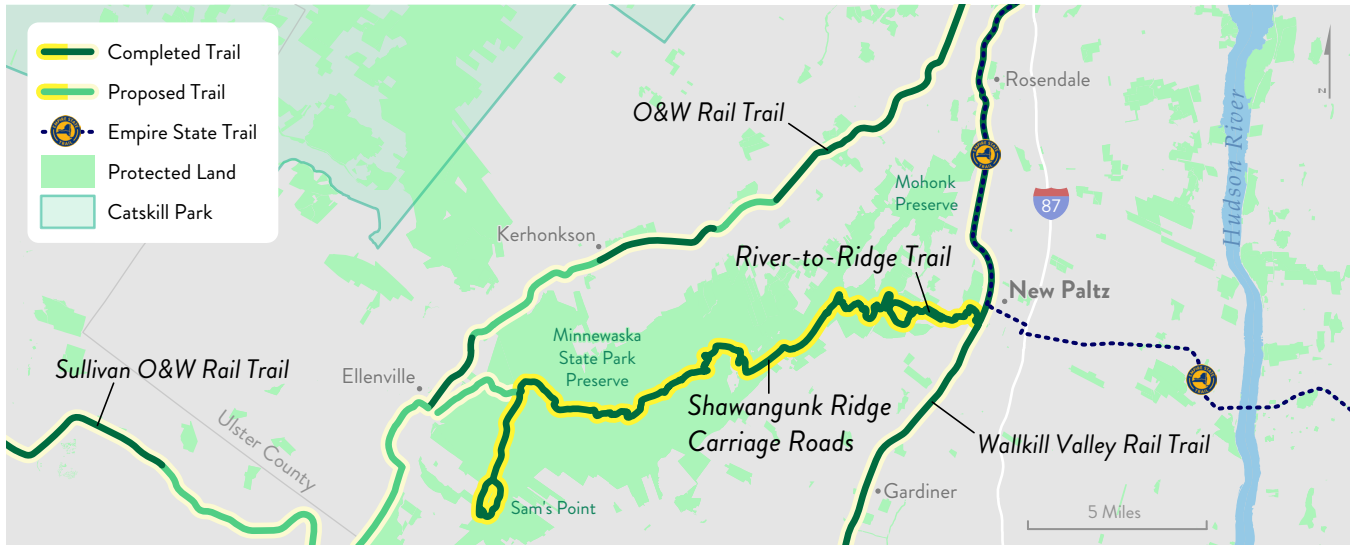


Shawangunk Ridge Carriage Roads



Minnewaska State Park Preserve and the Mohonk Preserve contain a historic and highly scenic network of shale Victorian-era carriage roads, which are ideal for walking, hiking, biking, and cross-country skiing. These carriage roads total more than 80 miles in length, and span a variety of landscapes on the Shawangunk Ridge as they run from New Paltz to Ellenville.

Location

Ulster County

Trail Length Vision

80 Miles

Communities to be Served

Gateway communities of New Paltz and Ellenville as well as all communities adjacent to the Shawangunk Ridge.

Trail Will Connect With

Empire State Trail, Wallkill Valley Rail Trail, Minnewaska State Park Preserve, Sam's Point, Mohonk Preserve, O&W Rail Trail and D&H Canal, Long Path, and Shawangunk Ridge Trail.

Immediate Funding Goals

- \$50,000 for OSI's completion of engineering and design of the Smiley Carriage Road to Ellenville.
- \$1.25 million for OSI's work to rehabilitate the Lake Awosting Carriage Road.



Peter Nelson

Hamilton Point Carriage Road

OSI History

OSI has protected more than 36,000 acres of land on and around the Shawangunk Ridge, including more than doubling the size of Minnewaska State Park Preserve. Since 2014, OSI has invested more than \$4 million to rebuild more than 15 miles of Minnewaska's carriage roads and raised more than \$3 million to create the Lake Minnewaska Visitor Center, which opened in 2020. In total, OSI has spent north of \$100 million on land acquisition, trails, and visitors center improvements along the Shawangunk Ridge.

River-to-Ridge Trail: On the eastern side of the Shawangunk Ridge, OSI spent \$5 million to protect, construct, and now manage the River-to-Ridge Trail, a six-mile loop trail that offers hikers, cyclists, and cross-country skiers a safe connection between the Village of New Paltz and the Shawangunk Ridge.

Impact

Minnewaska State Park Preserve is visited by more than half a million adventurers each year, while OSI's River-to-Ridge Trail welcomes 200,000 visitors per year. Both sites are well-known for wide, multi-use gravel paths, which make them accessible to the widest range of visitors.

Current Projects

- OSI has begun active planning and design of a 3.3-mile section of the Smiley Carriage Road connecting down to the Village of Ellenville.
- OSI has finished engineering and has applied for state funding to complete the remaining 2.6 miles of the Lake Awosting Carriage Road.

Trail Partners

New York State Parks, Palisades Interstate Park Commission, New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, Mohonk Preserve, Village of New Paltz, and the Town of New Paltz.

10/2023