

Readington Township Open Space Updates & Highlights – As of December 31, 2022

First, a step back. Readington Township has a long history of being a pioneer with both Open Space and Farmland preservation. The township residents overwhelmingly approved the first municipal Open Space referendum in 1978. The first farm was preserved in 1987. Today there are approximately 73 farms preserved and a total of approximately 9,340.3 acres preserved, either as Open Space or Farmland.

In 2018, Readington updated its Open Space Master Plan and committed to the preservation goal of 12,000 acres of preserved open space and farmland by 2050. This will require an additional 3,000 acres of land, either open space or farmland. This goal would preserve 40% of Readington lands with its success dependent upon the availability of Township, County, State and Non-Profit open space taxes and funding, as well as by opportunities provided by existing landowners willing to preserve their lands.



Round Mountain Meadow

Starting in 2018, completed preservation efforts toward that goal are as follows:

- 2018 Round Mountain – 14 acres of high quality mature forest near Stanton Village
- 2018 Round Mountain – 8 acres upland forest on summit of Round Mountain
- 2018 Cushetunk Mountain – 3.8-acre steep slope woodlot adjoining preserved land
- 2018 Cushetunk Nature Preserve – 8 acre addition by South Branch of the Rockaway Creek
- 2019 Cushetunk Mountain – 30 acre additions to Holland Brook Headwaters Natural Area
- 2019 Round Mountain – 14 acre addition to Round Mountain section of County Park system
- 2019 Chambers Brook – 35 acre open space preserve in the Chambers Brook headwaters area

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Saums Farm, Rockafellow Mill Road – Preserved by Readington Township in 2020

Completed preservation efforts in 2020 and 2021 are as follows:

- 2020 Chambers Brook – 22.61 acre private open space in the Chambers Brook watershed
- 2020 South Branch of the Rockaway – 1.5 acre open space in Whitehouse Station
- 2020 South Branch of the Raritan – 55 acre preserved farm in Three Bridges Village greenbelt
- 2020 South Branch of the Raritan – 50-acre open space alongside State Wildlife Mgmt. Area
- 2021 Chambers Brook – 28.7-acre open space in the Chambers Brook watershed
- 2021 South Branch of the Raritan – 26.4-acre additions to County South Branch Reservation
- 2021 Prescott Brook – 38.447-acre addition in Stanton Station to County South Branch Reservation
- 2021 Lazy Brook tributary - .91-acre donation (walnut trees) at Locust and Barley Sheaf Roads
- 2022 South Branch of the Raritan – 1.5-acre donation (South Branch / Mill House at Darts Mills
- 2022 Chambers Brook – 9-acre conservation easement donation (forest & tributary)

Preservation totals since Readington Open Space master plan update in 2018 – 346.88 acres

All acquisitions were preserved by Readington Township and Hunterdon County with reimbursements by County and State programs as well as donations. They help extend protection of existing natural lands, including forests, meadows, and streams.