

# Moosalamoo

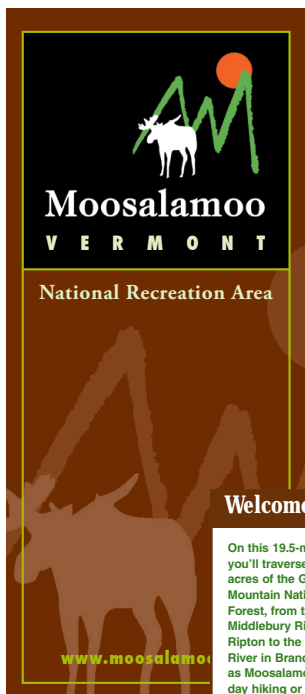
## NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

GWC

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As a result of Ghostwriters Communications leadership, legislative and government affairs services, and non-profit board development and coordination, the 20,000 acre Moosalamoo area of the Green Mountain National Forest in central Vermont received National Recreation Area designation in 2007. GWC's team of planners and designers supported creation of the Association in 1996; and more recently, the branding study that led to a series of events and publications as well as interpretative signs that enrich visitors experiences and broaden their understanding of the region's resources and management regimes. Through GWC's fund development efforts, the area received over \$1 million in 10 years from a variety of local and national foundations and government agencies.



Map/Brochure

### Welcoming Bluebirds

"Oh bluebird, welcome back again,  
 Thy azure coat and ruddy vest  
 Are hues that April loveth best..."  
 —John Burroughs

In the 1970's, Eastern bluebirds were an uncommon sight in Vermont. Starlings and house sparrows, both non-native species, were nesting in the woodpecker holes in which bluebirds traditionally nested. Few people understood the importance of leaving dead trees standing as homes for wildlife and unwittingly cut down nest trees. Open fields, where bluebirds feed, were growing up into forest.

Through the efforts of bird conservation

#### Aerial acrobats

Next time you're lucky enough to spot that brilliant flash of blue and russet, stop a while to watch the male Eastern bluebird in action. From his field-side perch, he may swoop out to nab a dragonfly in mid-air. He may drop from his perch to the ground and return with a fat caterpillar twisting in his beak.

Try finding a female bluebird. She wears muted tones of blue and brown, allowing her to blend more with her surroundings.

#### What you can do

- Build a bluebird house, or better yet, build several. Check out Donald Stokes's *The Bluebird Book* for details on construction, placement, and spacing.
- Leave dead trees, called snags, standing in your woods. Bluebirds will nest in holes they find in snags that border an open field.



### Welcome to the Cross-Moosalamoo Trail

On this 19.5-mile trail, you'll traverse 20,000 acres of the Green Mountain National Forest, from the Middlebury River in Ripton to the Neshobe River in Brandon—an area known as Moosalamoo. Whether you're day hiking or backpacking, traveling a section of the trail or its entire length, the Cross-Moosalamoo Trail offers the chance to discover Moosalamoo's riches—its scenic beauty, cultural history, abundant wildlife, and opportunities for solitude.

#### Ways to travel

Hiking, mountain biking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, horseback riding, and snowmobiling are permitted on the Silver Lake and Lanester Hollow Trails. On all other sections of the trail, only foot travel is permitted. Because the trails north of Silver Lake are steep and narrow in sections, they are not recommended for cross-country skiing.

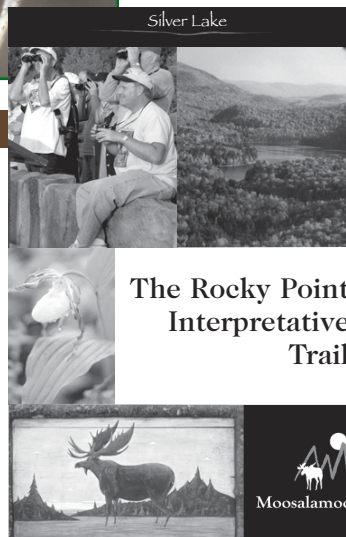
Camping is permitted except where posted closed. Please camp at least 200 feet from trails and streams. Developed campgrounds include Moosalamoo Campground (water, pit toilets), Silver Lake Recreation Area (pit toilets, water, fishing, swimming), and Brantbury State Park (water, swimming, concession, boat rentals, showers, flush toilets, and telephones).

#### A Walk on the Wild Side

"Moosalamoo" is derived from the Abenaki word "Moosehoo" meaning "moose call, song or sound". Originally this name was applied to Lake Dumfries, but over time it came to refer to the mountains and then the whole area. Watch for signs of moose and other forest animals as you hike. Bring binoculars for a closer view of the birds that live here all or part of the year—you may spy a peregrine falcon angling across the sky, or catch the bright plumage of a yellow warbler flitting through the forest canopy. Walk quietly and listen—you're more likely to hear forest inhabitants than to see them.



For Moosalamoo Information:  
 Call 1-800-448-0707 or visit www.moosalamoo.org



### The Rocky Point Interpretative Trail

Guide

Interpretive Sign

Interpretive Sign