### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Preserve Hours: Dawn till Dusk

- Follow Posted Signage at All Times
- Dogs Must Be on a Leash at All Times
- Pack Out All Trash and Dog Waste
- Stay On Marked Trails
- The Following Are Prohibited:
  - Hunting
  - Excessive Noise
  - Alcohol and Glass Containers
  - Camping and Fires
  - Collecting of Plants, Animals or Artifacts
  - Overnight Parking
  - Mountain Bikes
  - All-Terrain Vehicles
  - Horseback Riding

#### IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY CALL 911

Spring Valley, a 26-acre preserve, features a large sinkhole pond (Ferlas Pond) that, along with its associated wetlands, functions as an active vernal breeding site for many types of frogs and salamanders, and American toads, each spring. The pond and adjacent wetlands also host nesting pied-billed grebes and a large variety of bird species, plus reptiles such as water snakes and painted turtles.

Ferlas Pond drains underground, recharging the aquifer. The groundwater flows westward and emerges on the surface as springs feeding another pond near Slabtown Creek, thus the name "Spring Valley." There is no perennial surface drainage entering or leaving the pond, as is characteristic of what is known as "karst" drainage, which occurs in limestone terrains over much of Hardwick.

Public access is provided via a short hiking trail called "Ferlas Pond Nature Trail," which begins at the rear of the Hardwick Town Hall parking lot, beneath the pine trees. Start here, walk across the public works yard (carefully), to the trail marker at the woodland edge.



### ADDRESS FOR PARKING LOT: 40 Spring Valley Rd, Hardwick NJ 07825\*

\*parking lot of Hardwick Town Hall

## GPS COORDINATES: 41.0074, -74.9340



Duck illustration by Jennifer Ramirez, 2019

### RIDGE AND VALLEY CONSERVANCY



PO Box 146 16 Main Street, Blairstown, NJ 07825 (908) 362-7989 info@ridgeandvalleyconservancy.org

### **ABOUT US**

Ridge and Valley Conservancy (RVC) is a private, non-profit land trust that preserves natural lands in northwestern New Jersey. We strive to practice sound ecological management of the lands we've protected, safeguarding sensitive habitats and the native species that inhabit them. Many RVC preserves have hiking trails, and we offer nature education, guided hikes, and other special events for the community and for schools. Learn more about us at ridgeandvalleyconservancy.org.

Scan this QR code to see the trail map on your device.



Text MYRVC to 44-321 to donate and help us care for special places like this.

Thank You!

# SPRING VALLEY PRESERVE

TRAIL MAP





