



NORTHEAST TEMPERATE NETWORK (NETN)

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Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site



Mount Ascutney looms in the distance from this view from the Artists Studio. NPS photo.

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[Click for official park map.](#)

Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site contains the home, studios, and gardens of Augustus Saint Gaudens (1848-1907), America's foremost sculptor of the Gilded Age. Since 1964 the park has preserved, protected and interpreted cultural and natural resources and artwork historically associated with the sculptor. Saint-Gaudens created over 150 works of art, from exquisitely carved cameos to heroic-size public monuments. Works such as the [Standing Lincoln](#) monument and the [Shaw Memorial](#), continue to inspire people today and his design for the 1907 Twenty Dollar Gold Piece, is considered America's most beautiful coin.

The park was once covered by glaciers and glacial meltwaters, but today is home to upland forests, spring seeps, brooks, and two ponds. It is located in Cornish, Sullivan County, New Hampshire and ranges from about 300 to 600 feet above sea level. The park abuts the Connecticut River, a federally designated American Heritage River, and is comprised of 195 acres owned in-fee, with an additional 175 acres included in the authorized boundary. The park occurs within the [eastern deciduous forest biome](#), a region dominated by hemlock and hemlock-beech transition and mesic forest types. Well drained sandy, alluvial soils occur primarily in floodplain and wetland areas of the park, whereas shallow stony soils are more common in the forested areas. Geologically, the park is underlain with the Gile Mountain formation; a schistose, calcium rich bedrock that raises the pH of adjacent soils. Park lands are predominately forested, but also include open fields. There are two [hiking trails](#) on the property, the [Ravine Trail](#) (0.25 miles) and the [Blow-Me-Down Trail](#) (1.5 miles). The Ravine Trail skirts the edge of the Blow-Me-Up Brook, while the Blow-Me-Down Trail offers glimpses of the Blow-Me-Down Brook and the Mill and Pond. From these trails a variety of wildlife can be seen; a single hike can bring sightings of Eastern Newts, Beavers, White-tailed Deer, Common Garter Snakes, Mink, and numerous bird species. In all there are over 200 species of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and fish found at Saint-Gaudens NHS.

There are over 400 vascular plant species at Saint-Gaudens and seventeen of them are known invasive plants. Each invasive is monitored for spread and controlled based on its invasiveness, ease of removal, and threat or damage caused by the species.

The goals of NETN's Vital Signs Monitoring in the park include:

1. Determine the status and trends in selected indicators of the condition of park ecosystems to allow managers to make better-informed decisions and to work more effectively with other agencies and individuals for the benefit of park resources.
2. Provide early warning of abnormal conditions of selected resources to help develop effective mitigation measures and reduce costs of management.
3. Provide data to better understand the dynamic nature and condition of park ecosystems and to provide reference points for comparisons with other, altered environments.
4. Provide data to meet certain legal and Congressional mandates related to natural resource protection and visitor enjoyment.

5. Provide a means of measuring progress towards performance goals.

View Park Related Publications by Topic:

Because most protocols address multiple vital signs, the NETN program is organized around protocols, rather than vital signs. The drop-down lists below show monitoring and inventory activity, as well as all park briefs for Saint-Gaudens NHS. The protocol drop-downs also show the relative vital signs that are addressed by each protocol.

Monitoring Protocols	Monitoring Reports	Inventory Reports	Park Briefs
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Click to expand and contract panels.

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Air Quality	⌵
Breeding Landbirds	⌵
Climate (in development)	⌵
Forest Health	⌵
Invasive Species - Early Detection	⌵
Phenology	⌵
Water Quality	⌵

Park Baseline Inventories:

The Inventory and Monitoring Program provides guidance, funding, and technical assistance for parks to complete a set of 12 baseline, or "basic", natural resource inventories. These basic inventories are common to all parks with significant natural resources, and are intended to provide park managers with the minimum information needed to effectively manage the natural resources of their park. For more information, read the [Fact Sheets for each of the inventories \(PDF\)](#) by clicking here or on each individual inventory name.

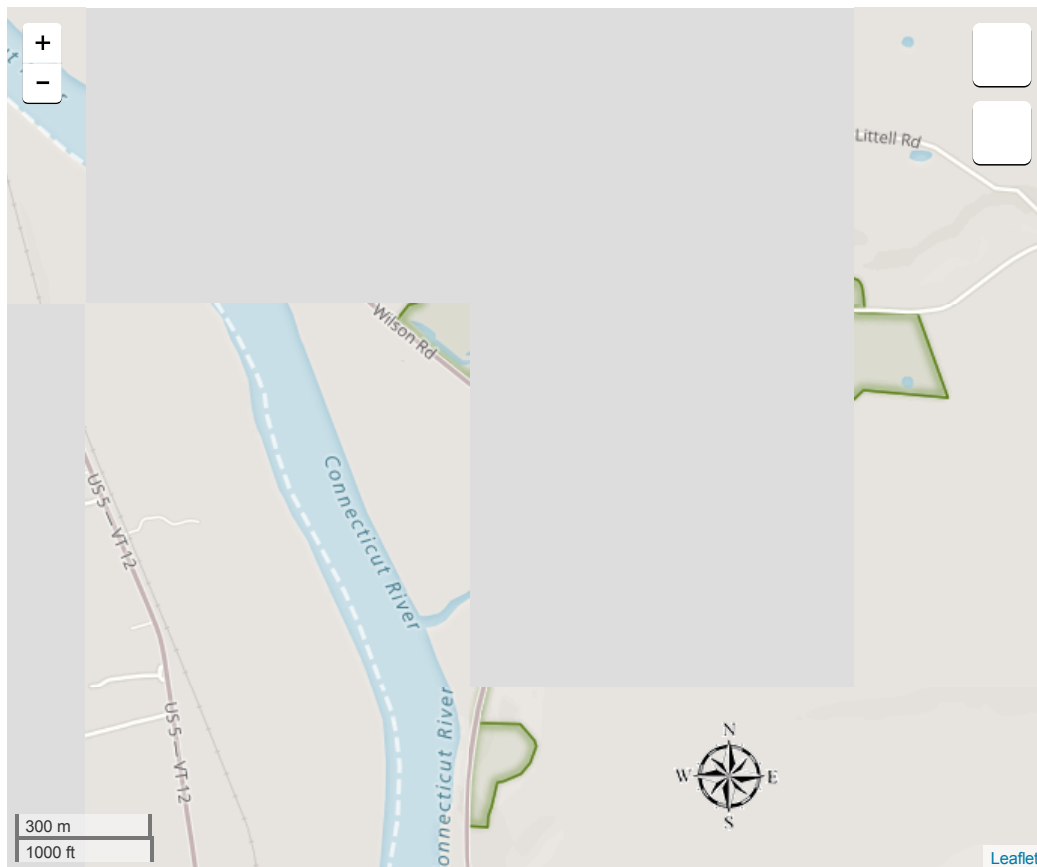
Baseline Inventories	Complete for Park?	Reports, Documents & Data
Water Quality	Y	Baseline Inventory
Base Cartography	Y	Base Cartography Data Inventory (2001 - 2010)
Air Quality Related Values	Y	Air Quality Monitoring in NETN Parks
Climate Inventory	Y	Weather and Climate Inventory for NETN parks (2006)
Geological Resources Inventory	In progress (map was due in 2008, report due 2013+)	
Soil Resources Inventory	Y	NPS - SRI - Soil Survey Geographic (SSURGO)
Water Body Location and Classification	Y	National Hydrography Dataset Viewer Hydrographic and Impairment Statistics (HIS)
Vegetation Inventory	Y	Vegetation Inventory Project
Species Lists	Y	IRMA Species Search
Species Occurrence and Distribution	N	Biological Resources Search on IRMA

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NETN Monitoring Map

Locations are approximate. For informational purposes only.



To open the map in a new window, [click here](#).

Bird observations from eBird (non-NPS)

*Saint-Gaudens NHS has been set up in eBird as a **birding "hotspot"**. Help the park bolster bird data by adding your bird observations to eBird the next time you visit.*

BirdTrax

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[Eastern Newt \(*Notophthalmus viridescens*\)](#)

 **shindinger**, 1st observer

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[Eastern Hemlock \(*Tsuga canadensis*\)](#) Info

 **dstevens**, 1st observer

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[broadleaf toothwort \(*Cardamine diphylla*\)](#) Info

 **rlilja**, 1st observer

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[American beech \(*Fagus grandifolia*\)](#) Info

 **lauramosconas**, 1st observer

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[Bloodroot \(*Sanguinaria canadensis*\)](#) Info

 **phyliaichandler**, 1st observer

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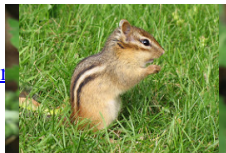
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[Yellow Trout Lily \(*Erythronium americanum*\)](#) Info

 **swalasewicz**, 1st observer

CC

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NPS Map of the Park



Park Tiles

1000 ft

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