WINDSOR TRAIL – 2.7 miles
The trail head parking (maintained all year) is located off Route 44A in the town of Windsor, 1.6 miles north of the park entrance on the left.
Total distance from trail head to summit is 2.7 miles. Trail highlights include Gerry’s Falls (0.8 miles), Castle Rock (2.4 miles) and Brownsville Rock (2.5 miles).

MT. ASCUTNEY PARKWAY
This 3.7-mile paved toll road winds its way up from the park entrance on Route 44A to the parking lot in the saddle between the south peak and the summit. The road has an elevation gain of nearly 2,300 feet. The CCC built the roadway over the course of six years; it incorporates many scenic views and pullouts. Three picnic areas are located along the road, one with a stone picnic shelter and restrooms.

Driving up the Parkway – The posted speed limit is 15 MPH. Take all corners well on your own side of the road. If you car overheats, pull off in a turn out area and run the car at 1/3 throttle to cool the engine.

Driving down the Parkway – Drive all the way down in low gear; this will cause the engine to act as a brake and help slow your car’s descent. Do not ride your brakes. Instead apply a pumping action of the foot pedal. This allows the brakes to cool down. If the brakes overheat, stop at the next turnout and allow the brakes to cool for 15 to 20 minutes. Cars going down the road should give the right of way to cars going up.

SAFE WINDBARGING
Hang gliding is considered one of the premier hang gliding sites in New England. Most hang gliding activities occur at the West Peak launch site located on the West Windsor Toll Road or at the South Peak launch site located within Mt. Ascutney State Park. Both areas are reached by trails originating from the upper parking lot on the Mt. Ascutney Parkway. Hang gliding within the park is managed by rules and regulations adopted by the Agency of Natural Resources and the Vermont Hang Gliding Association.

For More Information, Please Contact:
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Windsor, VT 05089
(802)674-2060 (May-Oct)
www.vtstateparks.com

To request this publication in Braille or alternate visual format, please contact parks@vermont.gov
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SUMMIT TRAILS
From the upper parking lot in the Mt. Ascutney Parkway, visitors can hike to the summit of Mt. Ascutney via the Stratton (0.4 miles) or Slab (0.55 miles) Trails. These trails connect with the Windsor, Weatherfield and Brownsville Trails. Excellent views are enjoyed from Brownsville Rock, Castle Rock, West Peak and the observation tower.

The slab trail is recommended for hikers seeking the least strenuous route. It is marked with yellow diamond blazes. Although this is the easiest route to the top, sturdy shoes and water are still necessary, as hikers will gain nearly 350 feet in elevation on this short trail. If you follow this route to the summit, return the same way.

Observation Tower – The 24.5 foot tower provides hikers with a panoramic view of the surrounding countryside. It is located near the summit on the Windsor and Brownsville Trails just north of the intersection with the Weatherfield Trail. This tower was constructed from sections of the original Mt. Ascutney fire tower which was used for fire surveillance until 1952.

SAFE HIKING TIPS
• Do not follow a trail that is so muddy that you need to walk on the surrounding countryside. If a trail is so muddy that you need to walk on the grass or carry your shoes, then don’t hike it. If you are hiking during mud season, walk through the mud, don’t around it. If you hike in an area that is very muddy, your shoes will get stuck and you will get your feet soaked.
• Keep the trails free of litter. Carry out what you carry in.
• Keep pets on a leash at all times. There are many porcupines on the mountain.
• Trails are for foot travel only. ATVs and mountain bikes are not permitted in the park or on the trail system.
• Leave all wildflowers and plants in their natural environment for others to enjoy.
• Keep away from all transmitter towers and buildings located on the South Peak and north summit of Mt. Ascutney.