

The Branford Trail: Lake Saltonstall

Regional Water Authority Permit Required

The 30-mile Branford Trail is a unique trail that borders a majority of the town's perimeter. The white circle blazed trail passes through the shoreline, wetlands, many town parks, northerly woodlands, and many Branford Land Trust properties. The trail is separated into eight sections that begin and end at a public road with space for parking. Every home in Branford is within 15-minutes walking time of a trail. The entire Branford trail is best walked in a counterclockwise direction.



Photo by Betsy Grauer

The Branford Trail uses a few of the Lake Saltonstall Trails to create the a complete trail and uses one of the most scenic and popular trails on the property, the Lake Saltonstall Trail. The Lake Saltonstall Trail is the site's most popular trail and is perfect for jogging, hiking, bicycling, or cross-country skiing. You'll find beautiful views of the lake all year long. You can traverse the trail one way along the lake to take advantage of the view or do the entire loop around. The inland portion of the trail weaves in and out of spruce and pine plantations, native hardwoods, and a powerline right-of-way. It's the best trail for spring wildflowers, but includes some wet areas.

The Branford Trail leaves RWA property from the Fishermen's Parking Lot and exits onto Hosley Avenue. Turn right (south) and walk along this forest road to West Main Street (Route 1). The trail ends at Lakeview Plaza.

To obtain a hiking permit or to investigate other recreational activities at Lake Saltonstall (biking, boating, fishing etc.) call (203) 401-2654.



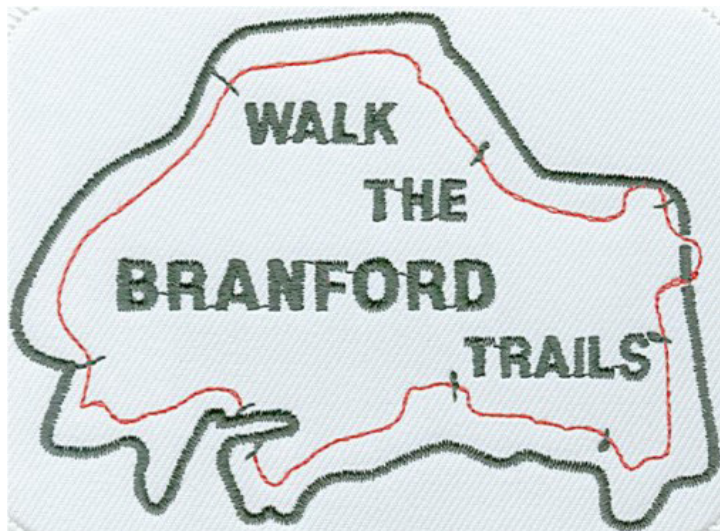
Photo by Alana Joli Abbott

Directions and Parking:

From I-95, take exit 52 and turn onto Route 1. Follow Route 1 and Hosley Avenue will be on the left in about a mile. Parking for this section is along Hosley Avenue. Hikers with a RWA permit may park in the Hiker's Parking Lot at 400 Hosley Ave.

Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

This trail follows public roads and private Regional Water Authority trails. A permit is required to access the RWA trails. Also, dogs are not permitted on RWA property. Hikers without a permit may walk along Hosley Avenue. This is a 3 miles, largely wooded stretch between Bushy Plain Road and West Main Street (Route 1).



Design for the Logo and Patch by Ralph Fuller

Easy Hike

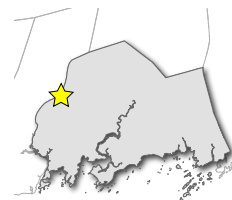
The Saltonstall section of the Branford Trail is the only section that uses the RWA Lake Saltonstall Lands. It offers a nice hike on the edge of the Lake Saltonstall reservoir. There are great views of Lake Saltonstall and the diverse ecology surrounding it along with connection to many other trails in the area. Please keep in mind that a permit is required for the RWA trails.

Total trail distance is approx. 3.7 miles

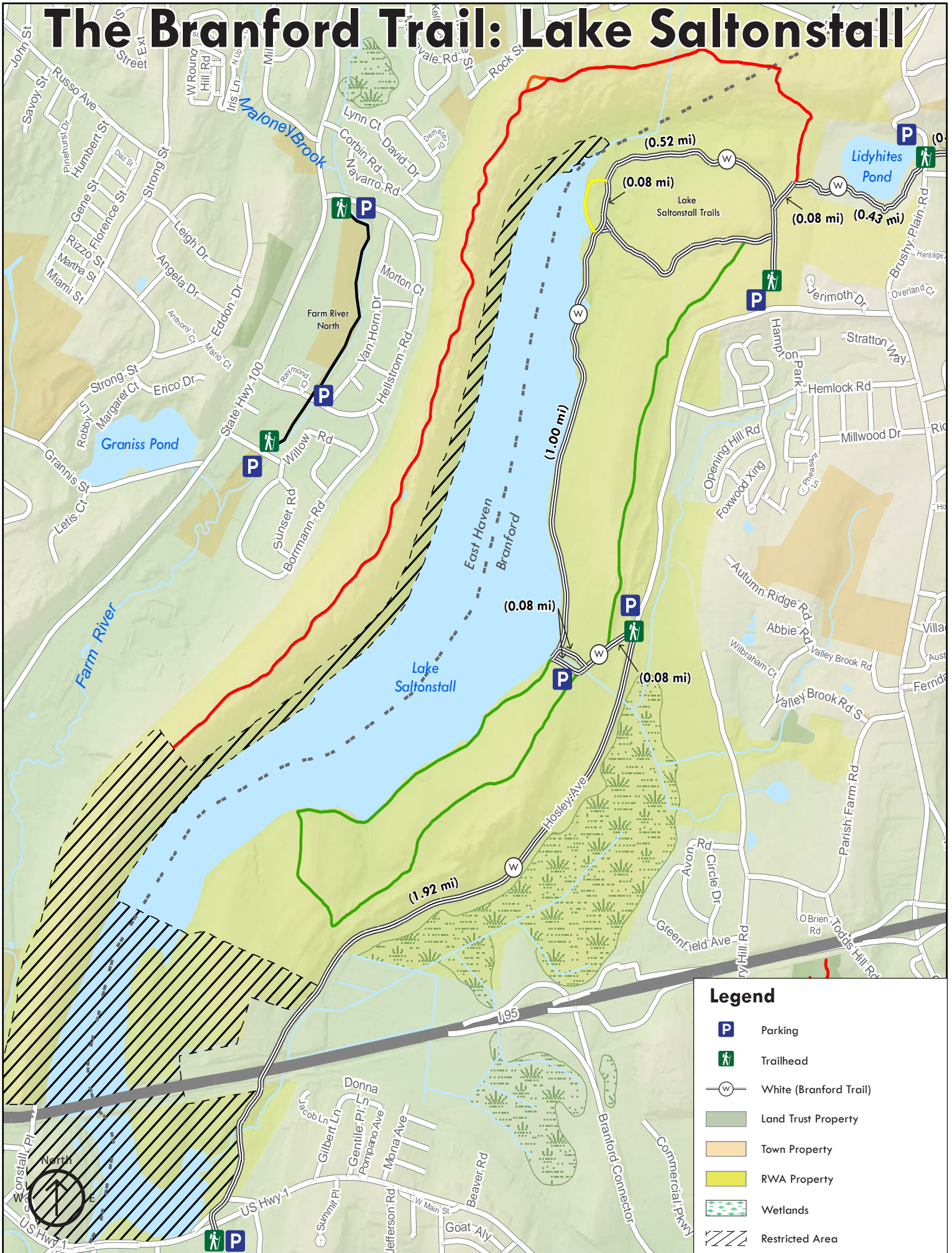


For more information about this walk contact:

Town of Branford
Parks and Open Space Authority
(203) 488-8394 ext:120



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Legend

- Parking
- Trailhead
- White (Branford Trail)
- Land Trust Property
- Town Property
- RWA Property
- Wetlands
- Restricted Area