

From the trailhead, follow the trail north along the well-defined woods road. On the left, at the bottom of the dip near the State Forest gate, is the junction of the Blinshed Ridge Trail. (On that trail, almost immediately, is an old, stone-lined firepond that once provided a source of water for firefighting.)

Where the road enters a white pine plantation the Blinshed Loop soon crosses a small, intermittent stream. This flows into the eastern end of an extensive wetland. Early spring brings lush groundcovers of skunk cabbage and false hellebore and a bit later, a yellow haze of spicebush flowers. After a short rise, the old road drops and crosses a larger stream that year-round feeds the wetland. Cross on stepstones on the north (right) side of the trail and continue up hill to a large opening where several logging roads intersect. To the left, the trail makes a short loop (described later) and returns to the intersection. The main trail turns north (right), and soon splits. This point is the base of the "loop."

### Directions and Parking:

This trail is best reached via Opening Hill Road. Opening Hill Road can be accessed off Durham Road (Route 79) directly from the north or from the south from Warpas Road, to Winterhill Road and finally connecting to Opening Hill. Continue on Opening Hill until it splits right into Blinshed Road. Parking is on the right side of the road.

### Permitted Activities:

The trails areas in the MLCT properties are for hiking only. Dogs are allowed, but must be leashed. Please pick up all animal waste. Contact the State Forest HQ for other activities allowed on their sites.



Hiking



Pets on Leash



False hellebore

Photo by Old Dominion Wildlife

### For more information about this walk contact:

Madison Land Conservation Trust  
State Forest: Eastern District HQ

[www.madisonlandtrust.org](http://www.madisonlandtrust.org)  
(860) 295-9523

Questions regarding this brochure can be addressed to  
South Central Regional Council of Governments  
Phone: (203) 234-7555/Fax: (203) 234-9850  
E-mail: [trails@scrcog.org](mailto:trails@scrcog.org)

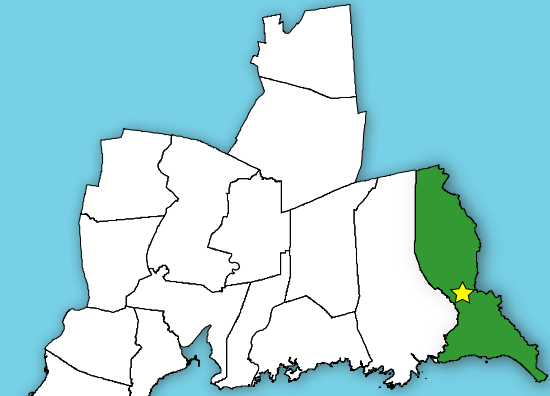

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# Recreational Trails

## South Central Connecticut

# Blinshed Loop



Madison, CT

# Blinnshed Loop



Photo by Emmeline Alaconis, SCRCOG

## Trail Description:

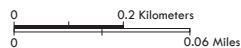
### Easy Hike

The Blinnshed Loop Trail offers an excellent and easy walk through a variety of second growth forest settings. There are a few boggy areas and waterproof footwear is recommended. The undulating topography and associated diverse wet lands, is a special feature of this walk. Especially impressive is the extensive wetland near the beginning of the trail. This trail has a junction with the Blinnshed Ridge Trail.

Total trail length is approx. 1.66 miles

## Legend

- Parking
- Trailhead
- Trail Junction
- Blue (Blinnshed Loop Trail)
- Blue (Blinnshed Ridge Trail)
- Wetlands
- Land Trust Property
- State Property
- Town Property



Trail Data and Content was provided by the Madison Land and Conservation Trust. The Trail Map and Brochure was prepared by SCRCOG (2016).