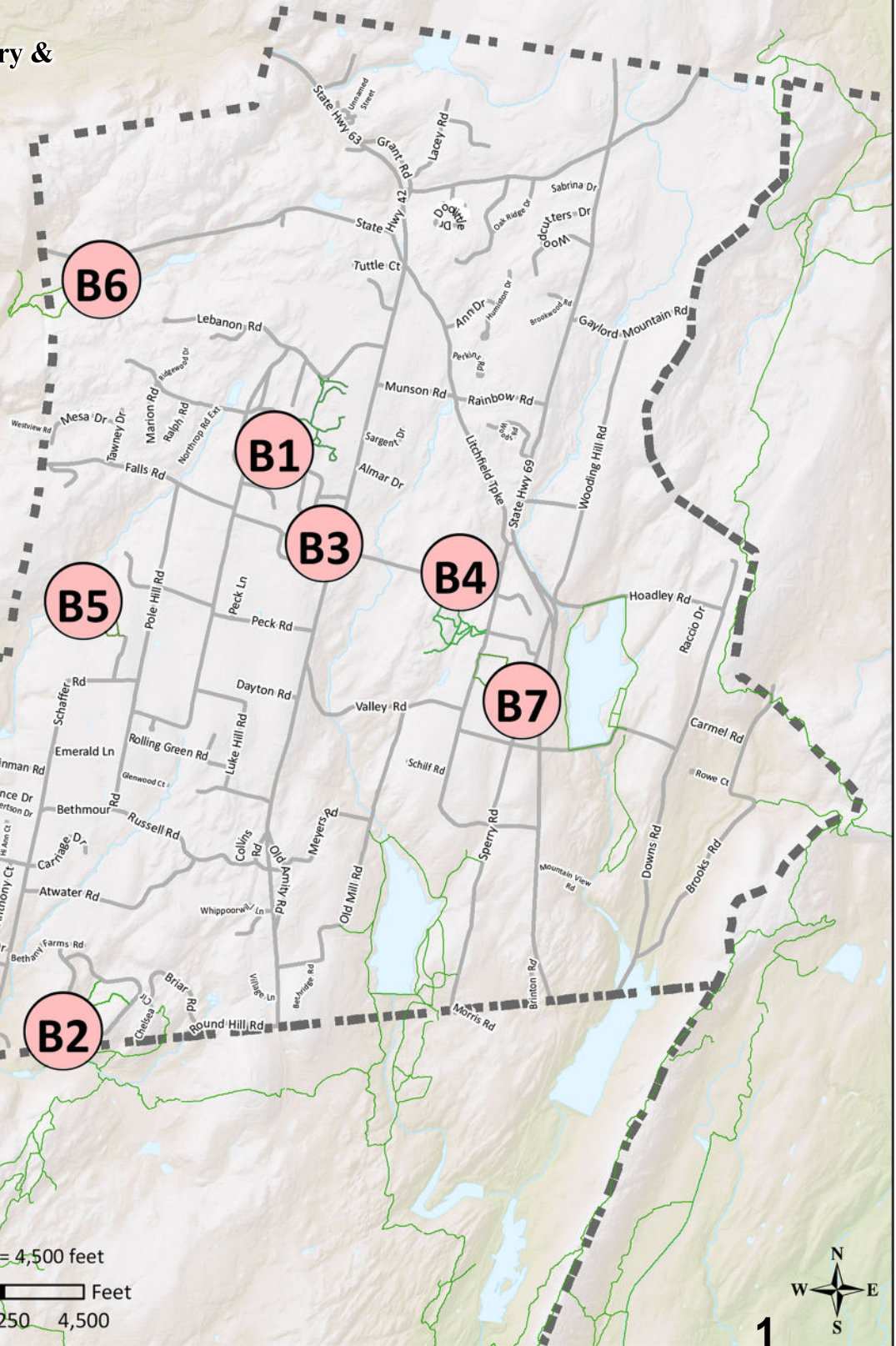


# Town of Bethany, CT

## Recreational Trails

- B1: Airport Trails**
- B2: Bethany Farms**
- B3: Delano Sanctuary & Rodell's Roost**
- B4: Hein Trails**
- B5: Ida Carrington Lowell Land**
- B6: Mendell's Folly**
- B7: Welch Parcels**



1 inch = 4,500 feet

0 2,250 4,500 Feet



# Airport Trails

Bethany Field, later known as Bethany Airport, was opened in 1923. It was one of the first airports in New England. It was closed in 1965. The original 112-acre property was intended to become an industrial park when purchased by the Town of Bethany in 1967, but instead has become a multipurpose property which currently has a recycling center, two equestrian rings, announcer's stand and a soccer field. It also contains the Town Garage and the old Airport Hanger which is being converted into a recreational facility. An astute hiker will spot some of the old airport markers in the wooded area. The property is still called the Bethany Airport by residents and municipal officials.

Approximately half of the property is open field, but a majority of the property is wooded. Within this wooded area, there is a network of multi-use passive recreational trails, and many side trails. No motorized vehicles are permitted on the trails. The trails are generally level, with some seasonal wet areas.

In 2005, as his Eagle Scout Leadership Project for Bethany Boy Scout Troop 59, Ben Francois mapped and blazed the airport trails with a team of helpers, creating a system of three main trails designated with rectangular blazes. Alternative loop and connecting trails use a triangular blaze.



Bethany Airport Community Center Project Committee

## Easy to Moderate Hike

1. The Yellow Trail from northernmost equestrian riding ring to Fairwood Road to the White Trail (with an alternate Yellow Triangle Trail) (approx. 0.28 mi).

## Easy to Moderate Hike

2. The White Trail running from the rear of the announcer's stand to Old Fairwood Road Extension (approx. 0.47 mi) (with two alternate White Triangle Trails).

## Easy to Moderate Hike

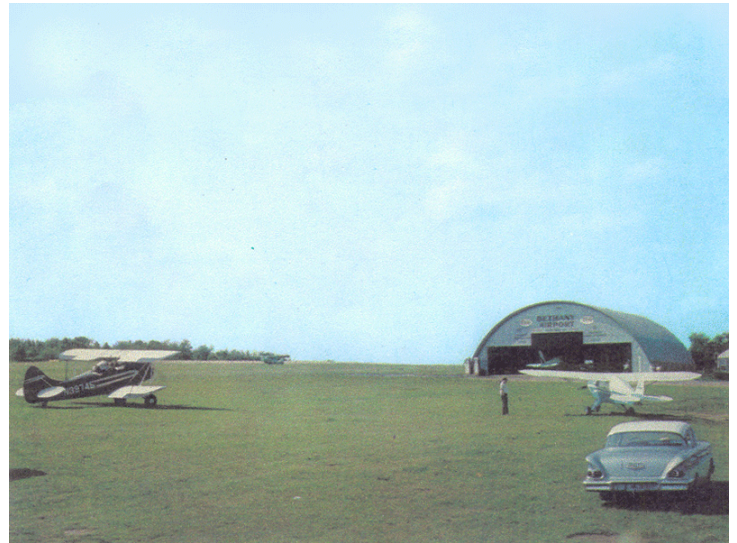
3. The Red Trail from the White Trail to the soccer field (approx. 0.90 mi) with an alternate Red Triangle Trail (approx. 0.24 mi).

## Directions and Parking:

Parking is ample on the Airport property along the main drives through the open area. Access is from two main entrances on Amity Road (Route 63).

## Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

This land is for passive recreation use only. No motorized vehicles are permitted. Dogs are permitted on leash. Please bag and pick up all dog waste. Horseback riding is permitted only on marked trails. Hunting or trapping on Trust Land is prohibited.



Bethany Airport circa 1958

**GPS Directions:** 790 Old Toll Rd, Madison, CT 06443

**Total Trails Length:** approx. 2.17 miles

**White Trail:** 0.54 miles

**White Traingle Trail:** 0.04 miles

**Red Trail:** 0.84 miles

**Red Triangle Trail:** 0.34 miles

**Yellow Trail:** 0.25

**Yellow Traingle Trail:** 0.13 miles



## For more information about this walk contact:

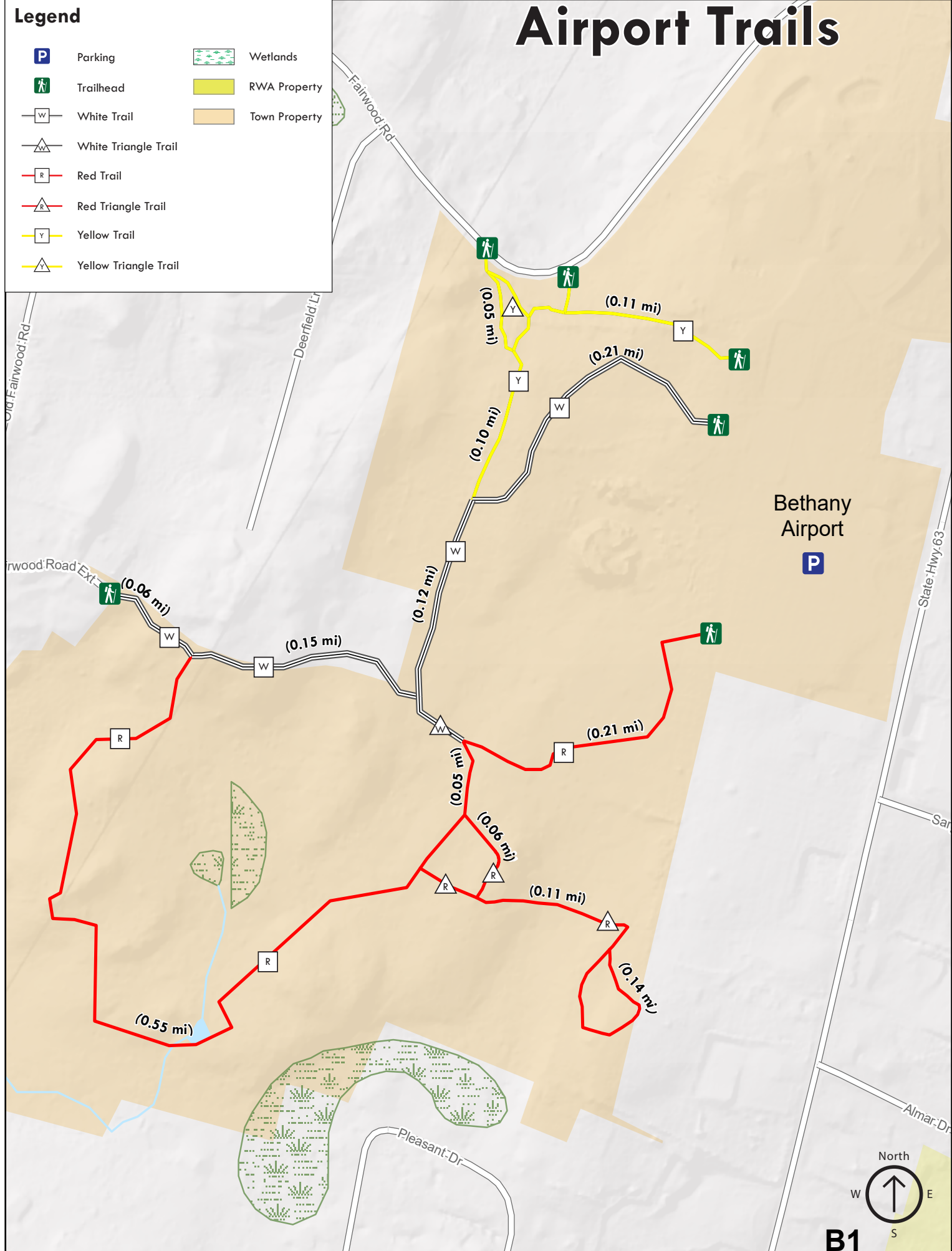
Town of Bethany Parks and Recreation Department  
(203) 393-2100 ext:127



# Airport Trails

## Legend

- Parking
- Trailhead
- White Trail
- White Triangle Trail
- Red Trail
- Red Triangle Trail
- Yellow Trail
- Yellow Triangle Trail
- Wetlands
- RWA Property
- Town Property



Bethany Airport

North  
W ↑ E  
S

**B1**

# Bethany Farms

Located in the southwestern corner of Bethany, the Bethany Farms Trail System has been created by the Bethany Land Trust to provide a peaceful retreat within one of Bethany's largest housing developments. When the 250-acre Bethany Farms Development was approved in the mid-1990s, the Town of Bethany and the Land Trust worked diligently to provide hiking trails on the property. The developers generously donated 10 open space parcels encompassing 70 acres and six trail easements to the Land Trust; and work began on a new trail system in 2001.

The Bethany Farms Trail System consists of five separate trails that connect with remnants of the old Naugatuck Trail in Woodbridge to offer a variety of hiking experiences. The main trail, the blue-blazed Naugatuck Trail, begins on Farm View Road and follows a watercourse downhill to the Woodbridge town line, where it connects with a section of the Naugatuck Trail that runs beside Bladen's Brook to Sanford Road. The Narrows Trail cuts through an easement on Country Lane and proceeds downhill to the Naugatuck Trail. The Big Tree Trail starts on Chelsea Circle and goes down a steep grade before turning south and crossing over into Woodbridge, where it eventually joins the Naugatuck Trail. The Ridge Trail, which is mostly in Woodbridge, connects the Big Tree Trail to the Bethany portion of the Naugatuck Trail. And a short fifth trail connects the Naugatuck Trail with the cul-de-sac on Country Lane. Additional trails will be added in the future.



Photo by Ray Andresen, Bethany Land Trust

## Easy to Moderate Hike

This trail system is suitable for hiking and nature study. Easements on private land are narrow, so hikers should stay on the trails where boundaries are not clearly marked. Horses are allowed on Bethany Farms Trail at the end of Country Lane and a quarter - mile long section of The Naugatuck Trail.

## Directions and Parking:

The Bethany Farms Trail System can be reached via Amity Road (Route 63) to Round Hill Road to Briar Road. Roadside parking is available near the trailheads located on Country Lane (two locations), Farm View Road, and Chelsea Circle. Access from the Woodbridge side is available on Sanford Road near Route 67.

## Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

This land is for passive recreation use only. No motorized vehicles are permitted. Dogs are permitted on leash. Please bag and pick up all dog waste. Horseback riding is permitted only on marked trails. Hunting or trapping on Trust Land is prohibited. is permitted only on marked trails. Hunting or trapping on Trust Land is prohibited.



Photo by Ray Andresen, Bethany Land Trust

**Total Trails Length:** approx. 2.44 miles

**Big Tree Trail:** 0.54 miles

**Ridge Trail:** 0.34 miles

**Narrows Trail:** 0.34 miles

**Bethany Farms Trail:** 0.19 miles

**Naugatuck Trail:** 0.46 miles



## For more information about this walk contact:

Carol Lambaise  
Stewardship Chair  
(203) 393-2253

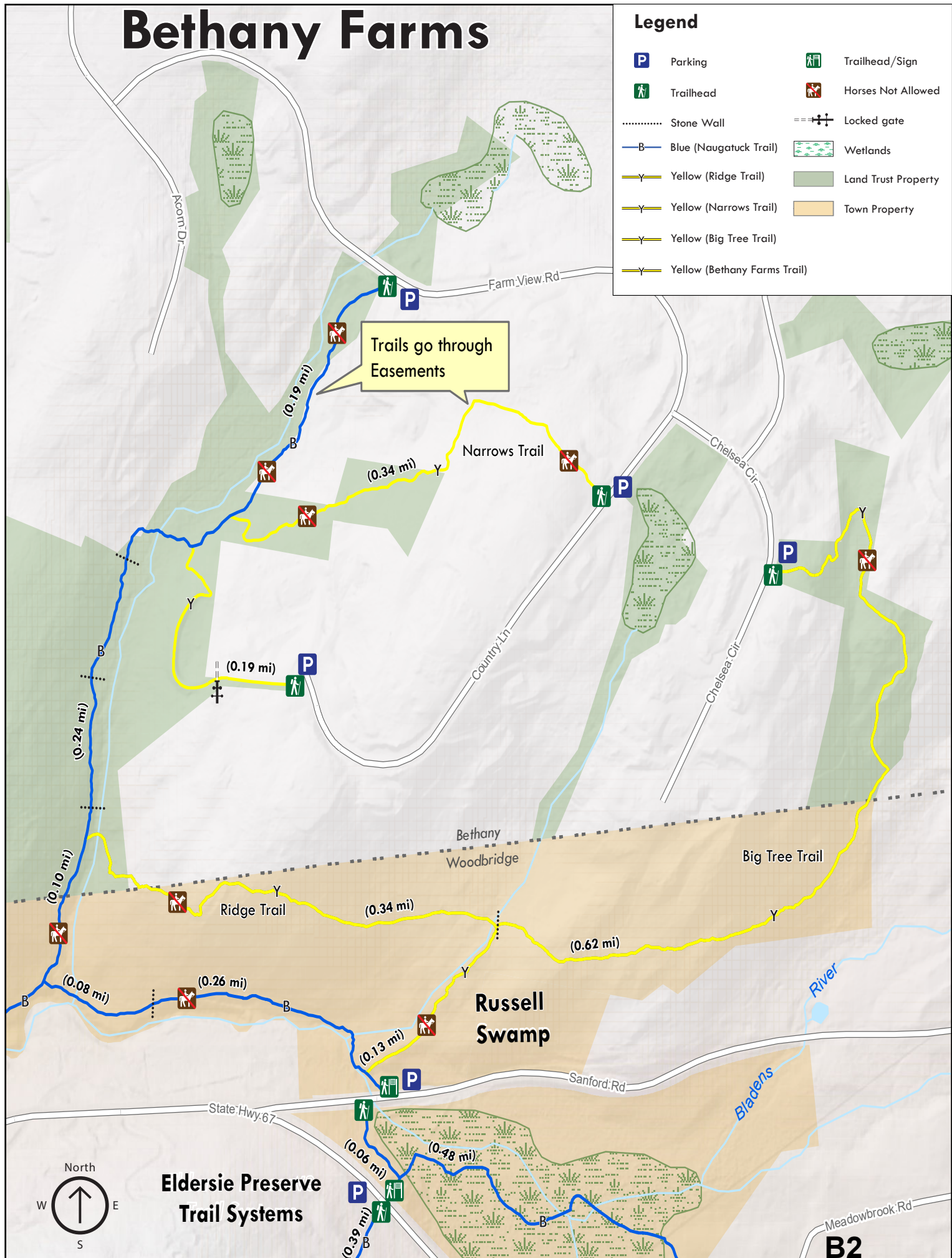


# Bethany Farms

## Legend

-  Parking
-  Trailhead
-  Trailhead/Sign
-  Horses Not Allowed
-  Stone Wall
-  Blue (Naugatuck Trail)
-  Yellow (Ridge Trail)
-  Yellow (Narrows Trail)
-  Yellow (Big Tree Trail)
-  Yellow (Bethany Farms Trail)
-  Wetlands
-  Land Trust Property
-  Town Property
-  Locked gate

Trails go through Easements



Eldersie Preserve  
Trail Systems

B2

# Delano Sanctuary & Rodell's Roost

Located in the historic center of Bethany, the Edna L. Delano Nature Sanctuary and Rodell's Roost for Robins offer hikers a short but interesting walk in the woods right next to Amity Road (Route 63).

The Delano Sanctuary was given to the Bethany Land Trust in 1996 by Hubert and William Delano. It is named in honor of their mother, Edna Delano, who lived for many years in the Lysias Beecher House to the north side of the property. The Beecher House, built in 1762, is one of the oldest homes in Bethany.

Rodell's Roost was given to the Land Trust in 1999 by Janet Rodell, her stepson Michael Rodell, and his wife Taffy. It borders the western side of the Delano Sanctuary, with trails leading to the Bethany Community School and out to Falls Road. Today, these two adjoining properties provide hikers a fully wooded, natural wonderland right next to Bethany's busiest road. Built by Eagle Scout volunteers, the trails work their way up a small hillside, from which seasonal views are possible.

Looking across Amity Road from the Delano Sanctuary, visitors can see the Clark Memorial Library, the Episcopal Church and the Bethany Historical Society. To the south is the Congregational Church and the historic Carriage Shed,



*Photo by Ray Andersen, Bethany Land Trust*

## Easy Walking and Hiking

Delano Sanctuary and Rodell's Roost offers easy hiking and walking on two properties just under six acres with a few trails crossing both properties.

## Directions and Parking:

These trails are both accessible via Amity Road (Route 63). Route 63 is best reached off the Wilbur Cross Parkway (15) - Exit 59. Parking for these two trails is located behind either Clark Memorial Library or, except for Sunday mornings, behind the Bethany Congregational Church.

## Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

This land is for passive recreation use only. No motorized vehicles are permitted. Dogs are permitted on leash. Please bag and pick up all dog waste. Horseback riding is permitted only on marked trails. Hunting or trapping on Trust Land is prohibited.



*Photo by Ray Andersen, Bethany Land Trust*

**Total Trails Length:** approx. 0.44 miles

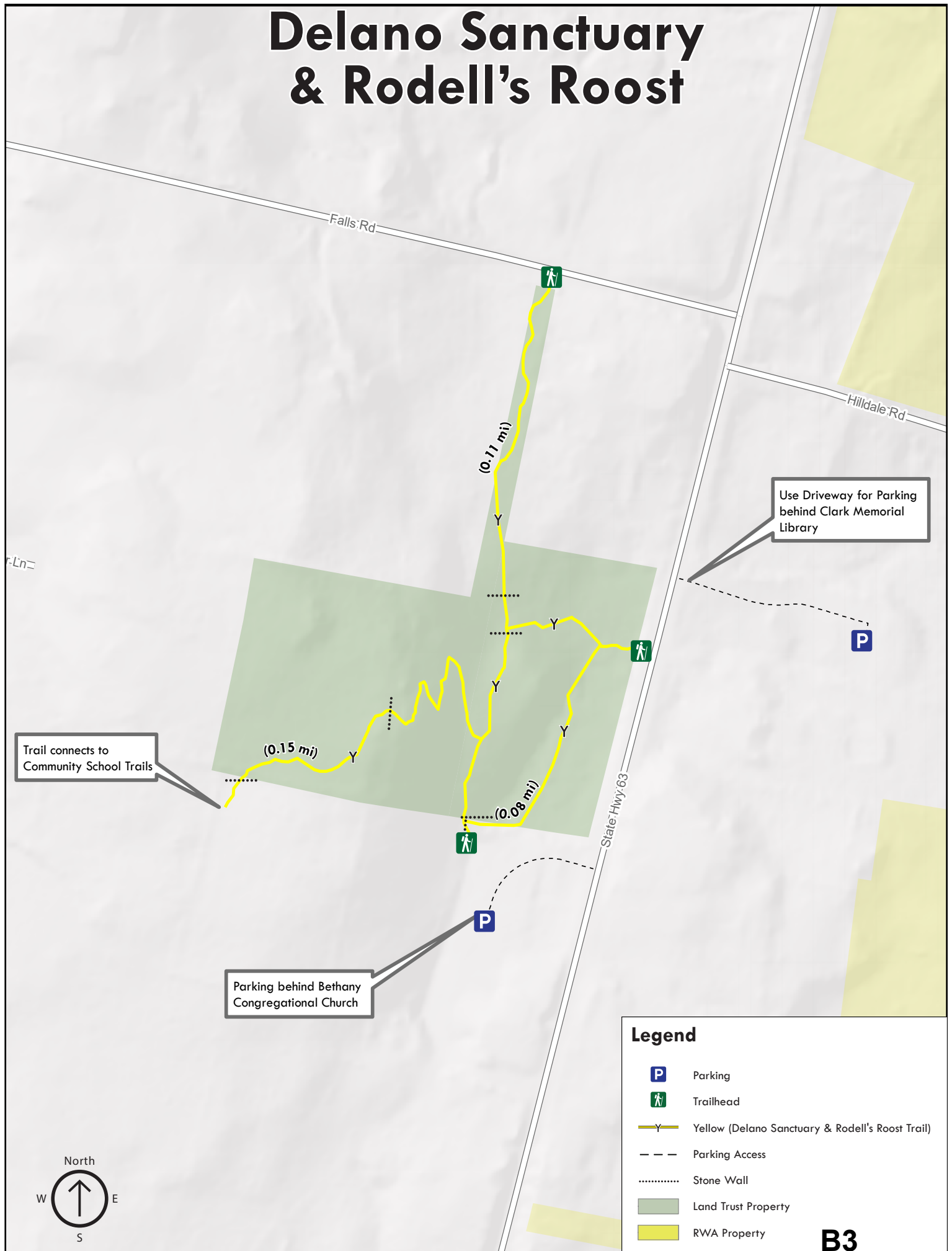


## For more information about this walk contact:

Carol Lambiase  
Stewardship Chair  
(203) 393-2253



# Delano Sanctuary & Rodell's Roost



Trail connects to Community School Trails

Parking behind Bethany Congregational Church

Use Driveway for Parking behind Clark Memorial Library

**Legend**

- Parking
- Trailhead
- Yellow (Delano Sanctuary & Rodell's Roost Trail)
- Parking Access
- Stone Wall
- Land Trust Property
- RWA Property

# Hein Trails

The Hein Trails are the result of a cooperative land purchase involving the Bethany Land Trust, the Regional Water Authority, the Bethany Conservation Commission and the Hein family. Norvin and Jeanne Hein were interested in protecting their land while generating some income from it, so this innovative partnership enabled them to donate a portion (6.68 acres) of their land for hiking trails while selling the majority of it to the Regional Water Authority to protect the public watershed.



Photo by Emmeline Alaconis, SCRCOG

The entrance to the Hein hiking trails is located at the corner of Tuttle and Carrington Roads. There is a separate entrance there for a horse trail that crosses over into Water Authority property and is for horseback riders only. The hiking trails head west from Carrington through a combination of wetlands, mixed hardwood forests and rocky outcroppings with boulders the size of a small truck. Some of those outcroppings were given colorful names, such as Ambush Rock, the Rock Garden, and Council Rock. (By the Hein family.)

This property is drained by a small stream that joins the Sargent River and flows into Lake Chamberlain. Most likely, the land had been lumbered off in the 19th century and the forest began regrowing at the turn of the century. Lots of red oak stumps signify the plight of the gypsy moth caterpillar infestation around 1970. The Heins also planted hundreds of seedlings on the property, as evidenced by many spruce and hemlock trees.



Photo by Ray Andresen, Bethany Land Trust

## Directions and Parking:

The Hein Trails can be accessed most easily off Carrington Road via the Litchfield Turnpike (Route 69). The trailheads start near the intersection with Tuttle Road, where parking is available at the side of the road.

## Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

This land is for passive recreation use only. No motorized vehicles are permitted. Dogs are permitted on leash. Please bag and pick up all dog waste. Horseback riding is permitted only on marked trails. Hunting or trapping on Trust Land is prohibited.



Photo by Ray Andresen, Bethany Land Trust

## Easy Walking and Hiking

Delano Sanctuary and Rodell's Roost offers easy hiking and walking on two properties just under six acres with a few trails crossing both properties.

**Hein Horse Trail:** approx. 0.44 miles

**Hiking Trails:** approx. 1.27 miles

**Total Trails Length:** approx. 1.71 miles



## For more information about this walk contact:

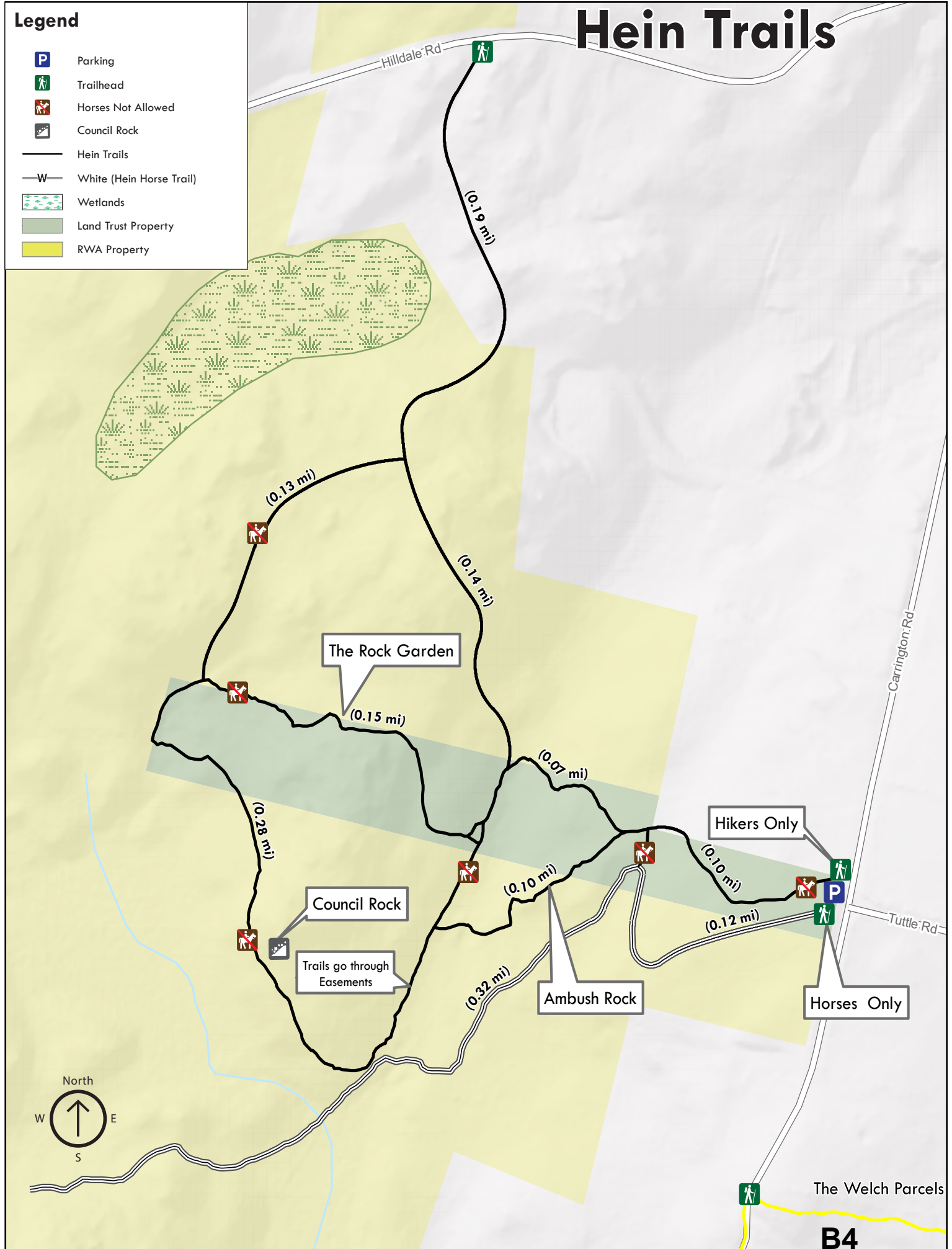
Carol Lambiase  
Stewardship Chair  
(203) 393-2253



# Hein Trails

## Legend

- Parking
- Trailhead
- Horses Not Allowed
- Council Rock
- Hein Trails
- White (Hein Horse Trail)
- Wetlands
- Land Trust Property
- RWA Property



The Welch Parcels

**B4**

# Ida Carrington Lowell Land

The first piece of property given to the Bethany Land Trust, the Ida Carrington Lowell Land is a 27-acre tract of beautiful woodlands off Cedar Road on the west side of Bethany. The Bethany Conservation Trust (later renamed the Bethany Land Trust) was created in 1968 to receive this property from Marion Jenkins, the daughter of Ida May Carrington and William Lowell.

Abram Carrington, Marion's grandfather, had purchased the land in 1867 as a cow pasture from Jay Andrew, and the so-called "Jay" land was given to Marion and her husband, Tom Jenkins, in 1943 as a weekend and summer retreat. The couple, who both held doctorates in psychology, eventually built a cabin, barn and root cellar on the property, where they spent weekends writing and wandering through the woods.

The property slopes down toward Hopp Brook and Birmingham Utilities (water company) land on the western side of town. There is over a mile of wide hiking trails going around most of the perimeter and through the middle of the rectangular-shaped property. The property is surrounded on three sides by stone walls and features an abundance of large trees. Old Abram Carrington planted an apple orchard there, and Dr. Jenkins transplanted many nut trees and other specimens onto the property.

The trails in the Ida Carrington Lowell Land are best for hiking and nature study. From the main entrance, the Upper Trail hugs the eastern and northern edges of the property. On the western side, the Lower Trail crosses two seasonal streambeds. The Gooch Trail connects the Lower and Upper Trail, near the spot where the Jenkins' cottage once stood. The Center Trail cuts across the Gooch Trail back to the main entrance.



Photo by Ray Andresen, Bethany Land Trust

## Directions and Parking:

The Hein Trails can be accessed most easily off Carrington Road via the Litchfield Turnpike (Route 69). The trailheads start near the intersection with Tuttle Road, where parking is available at the side of the road.

## Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

This land is for passive recreation use only. No motorized vehicles are permitted. Dogs are permitted on leash. Please bag and pick up all dog waste. Horseback riding is permitted only on marked trails. Hunting or trapping on Trust Land is prohibited.



Photo by Emmeline Alaconis

## Easy to Moderate Hike

Located on the West Side of Bethany on a 27 acre tract of land are the easy to moderate hiking trails. Along with hiking horseback riding is acceptable except on the western most section of trails.

**Total Trails Length:** approx. 1.09 miles



## For more information about this walk contact:

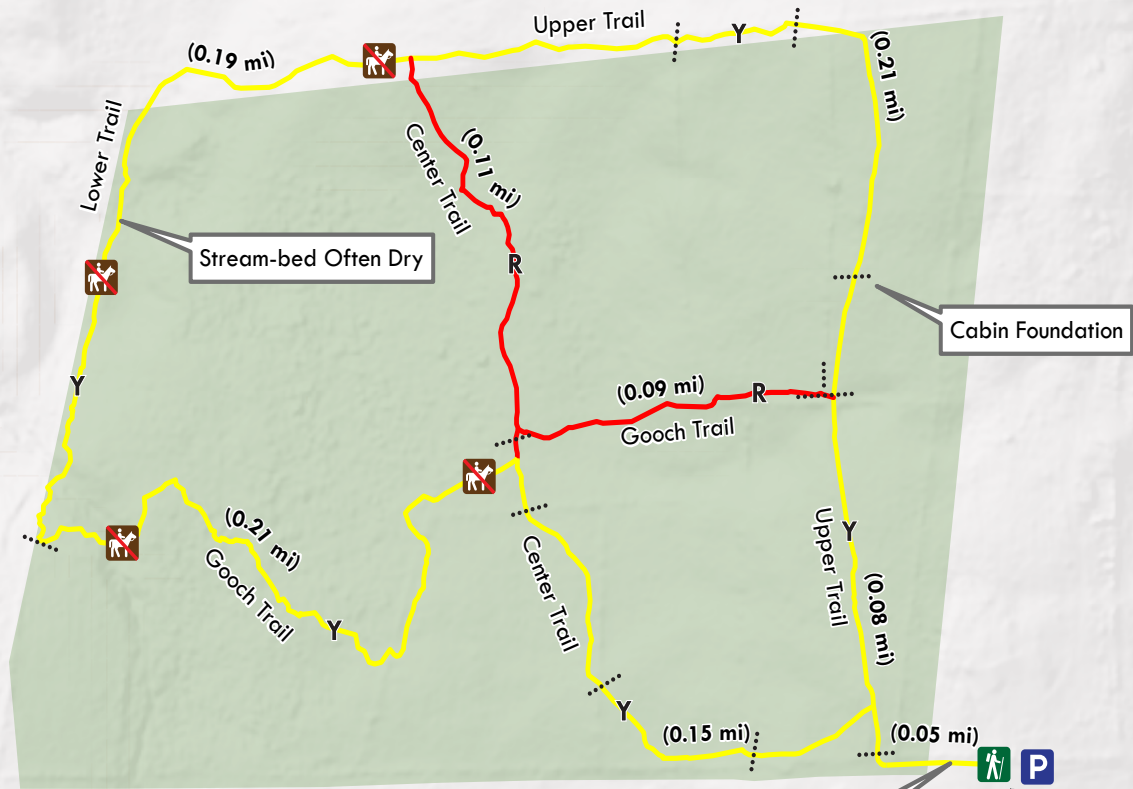
Carol Lambiase  
Stewardship Chair  
(203) 393-2253



# Ida Carrington Lowell Land

Hopp Brook

Virginia Rail Dr



Driveway for 45 Cedar Rd.  
Right-of-way leading into Trails

## Legend

- Parking
- Trailhead
- Horses Not Allowed
- Stone Wall
- Yellow (Upper Trail)
- Yellow (Lower Trail)
- Yellow (Gooch Trail)
- Red (Gooch Trail)
- Red (Center Trail)
- Land Trust Property
- Town Property

North

W ↑ E  
S

**B5**

# Mendell's Folly

The largest property belonging to the Bethany Land Trust, Mendell's Folly is a 125-acre site given to the Trust in 1971 by Elizabeth "Tibby" Mendell. One of the original incorporators of the Trust, Tibby and her husband Clarence Mendell, the former Dean of Yale College and Sterling Professor of Classics at Yale, had purchased the property and adjoining pieces in 1936.

In all, the Mendells acquired 190 acres. Some of the land had been a cow pasture, some an apple orchard, some just plain Bethany woods. It's been said that one of Clarence Mendell's students, on seeing this wilderness of muddy fields and rocky hillsides, called it Mendell's Folly; a play on the name Seward's Folly given to the U.S. purchase of Alaska. After Clarence Mendell died, Tibby remained in Bethany on her "Folly."

Mendell's Folly includes heavily wooded hills, rocky outcrops and ridges, a charming brook, a marsh, a beaver lodge and dam, a ravine, and lots of wildlife and wildflowers. Hockanum Brook, or Lebanon Brook as it is sometimes called, flows through the property westward from Bethany's Veterans Memorial Park toward Beacon Falls and eventually the Naugatuck River. The stream widens into a marsh in the middle of the property, where beaver have felled many trees and created a small pond.



Photo by Emmeline Alaconis, SCRCOG

## Moderate to Difficult Hike

The hiking trails also have limited biking and horseback riding. Tibby's Trail (0.66 mi) offers good views of Hockanum Brook and the marsh, but becomes somewhat difficult near the beaver dam. The White Birches Trail (0.50 mi) has some steep, rocky inclines and rises to 560 feet. The Beaver Trail (0.36 mi) starts out easy but presents some difficult passages near the pond. western most section of trails.

## Directions and Parking:

The main trail entrance of Mendell's Folly can be reached by parking at the end of the paved section of Northrop Road and walking northwesterly along the unpaved abandoned portion of the road. Another entrance is located off Route 42 in Beacon Falls, with limited parking (1 or 2 cars) by the side of the road. There is also parking for 2 or three vehicles on the south side of Rt. 42 in Bethany with access on foot across a field followed by crossing of Hockanum Brook. A previous access from the north along the terminus of Northrop Road in Bethany is now closed.

## Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

This land is for passive recreation use only. No motorized vehicles are permitted. Horses are allowed on marked trails only. Dogs are permitted on leash. Please bag and pick up all dog waste. Hunting or trapping on Trust Land is prohibited.

In 2016 the Bethany Land Trust received the Woodward Preserve, 36 acres abutting Mendell's Folly on the south side. Trails are not currently established on that parcel.



Photo by Ray Andresen, Bethany Land Trust

**Total Trails Length:** approx. 1.52 miles

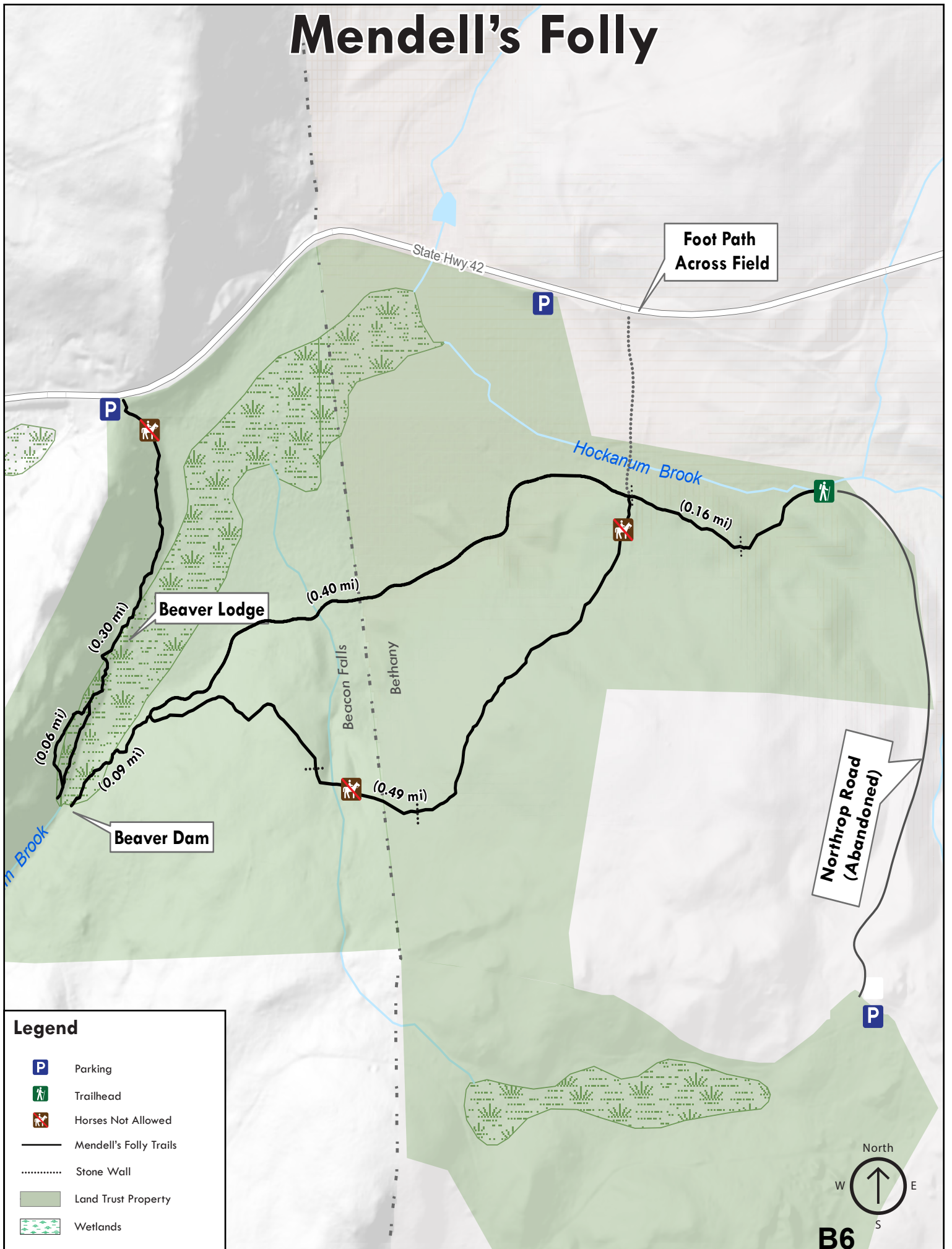


## For more information about this walk contact:

Carol Lambiase  
Stewardship Chair  
(203) 393-2253



# Mendell's Folly



Foot Path  
Across Field

P

P

P

Beaver Lodge

Beaver Dam

Northrop Road  
(Abandoned)

P

## Legend

- Parking
- Trailhead
- Horses Not Allowed
- Mendell's Folly Trails
- Stone Wall
- Land Trust Property
- Wetlands



B6

# The Welch Parcels

Protected by the Bethany Land Trust, the Welch Parcels sit between Sperry and Carrington Roads two of Bethany's most scenic roads. In fact, they were the first roads in town to be designated scenic roads. Today they are connected by a trail system that can provide a short, pleasant hike or can be expanded into a longer one with the nearby Hein Trails.

The Welch Parcels, which include four easements protected by the Bethany Land Trust and a 50-foot-wide strip owned by the Trust, preserve more than 24 acres between Sperry and Carrington Roads. The Cedar Meadows Scenic Easement is a 50-foot wide strip covering about 1.1 acres along Carrington Road. The Cedar Meadows Trail Easement adds an additional 0.5 acres in trails heading east from Carrington Road. Welch's Way was donated by Susan Chafee Welch in 1994 and features a trail heading west from Sperry Road. The Hunt Welch Easement, named in memory of Sue's husband, totals 18.4 acres and includes open agricultural fields and another trail entrance on Sperry Road. It is designed to perpetuate the agricultural use of the land as well as provide trail connections between Sperry and Carrington Roads. The Hunt Welch Preserve, the fifth piece of land preserved by the Welch family, covers an additional 3.5 acres and includes a trail that connects with Welch's Way and Cedar Meadows.

All of this land has been owned by the Welch family since 1921. Hunt Welch's parents built a summer house there in the 1930s. They later subdivided the land among their four children. Like several other donors before her, Sue Welch was named Conservationist of the Year by the Bethany Conservation Commission for her tireless efforts in preserving open space and the town's rural landscape.



Photo by Ray Andresen, Bethany Land Trust

## Easy to Moderate Walk

Originally used as farmland, the Welch Parcels offer a blend of open fields, numerous stone walls, and winding passages through the woods.

## Directions and Parking:

The Welch Parcels can be accessed most easily off Sperry Road via the Litchfield Turnpike (Route 69). Most trails have little or no provision for parking cars at the trail heads, so please be careful and considerate when finding a safe parking spot in the area.

## Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

This land is for passive recreation use only. No motorized vehicles are permitted. Dogs are permitted on leash. Please bag and pick up all dog waste. Horseback riding is permitted only on marked trails. Hunting or trapping on Trust Land is prohibited.



Photo by Emmeline Alaconis, SCRCOG

**Total Trails Length:** approx. 1.52 miles

**Welches Way:** 0.14 miles

**Cedar Meadows Trail:** 0.27 miles

**Carol and Polly's Path:** 0.35 miles



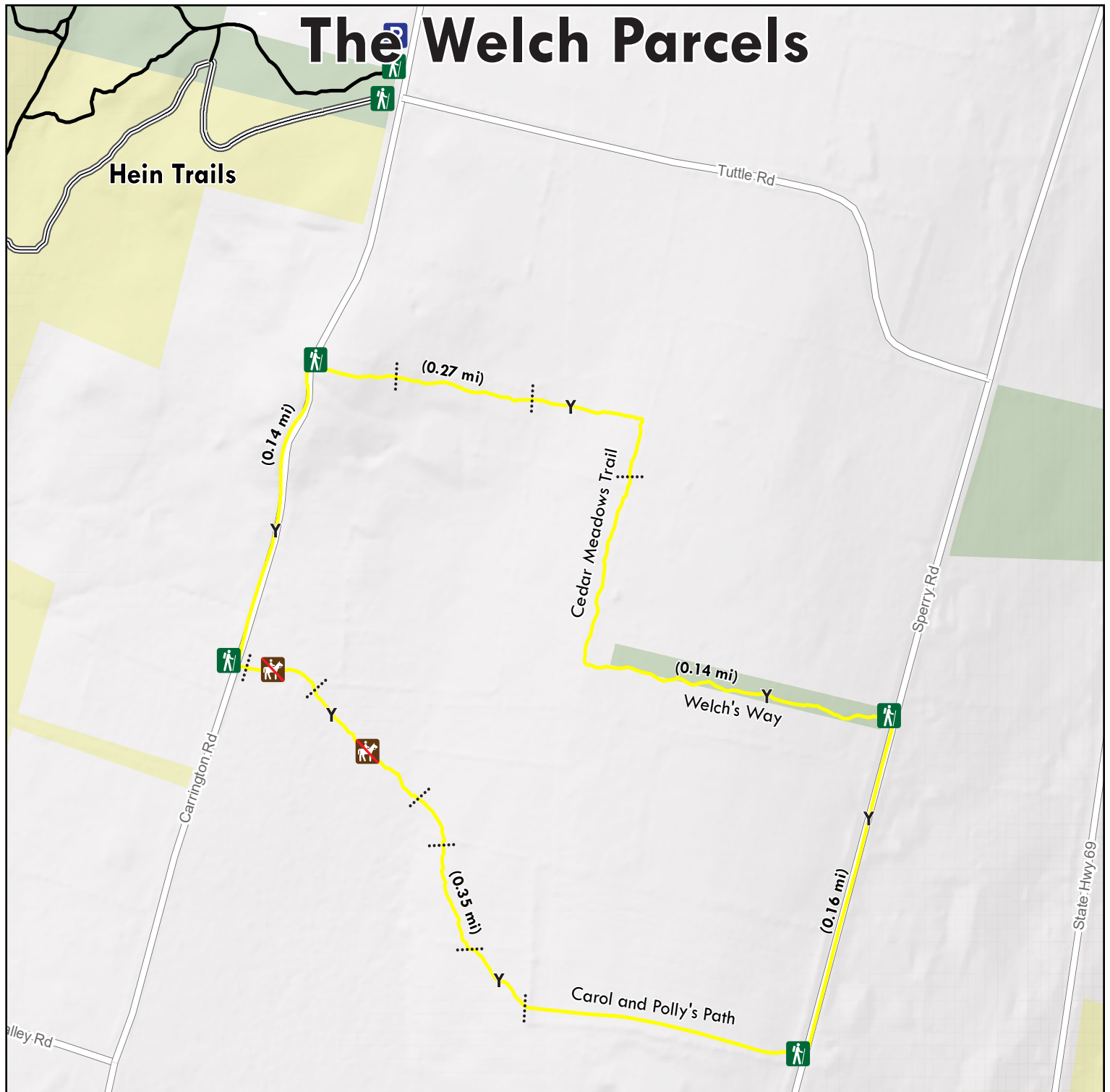
## For more information about this walk contact:

Carol Lambiase  
Stewardship Chair  
(203) 393-2253



# The Welch Parcels

Hein Trails



## Legend

- Parking
- Trailhead
- Horses Not Allowed
- Stone Wall
- Yellow (Welch's Way)
- Yellow (Cedar Meadows Trail)
- Yellow (Carol and Polly's Path)
- Land Trust Property
- RWA Property



**B7**