

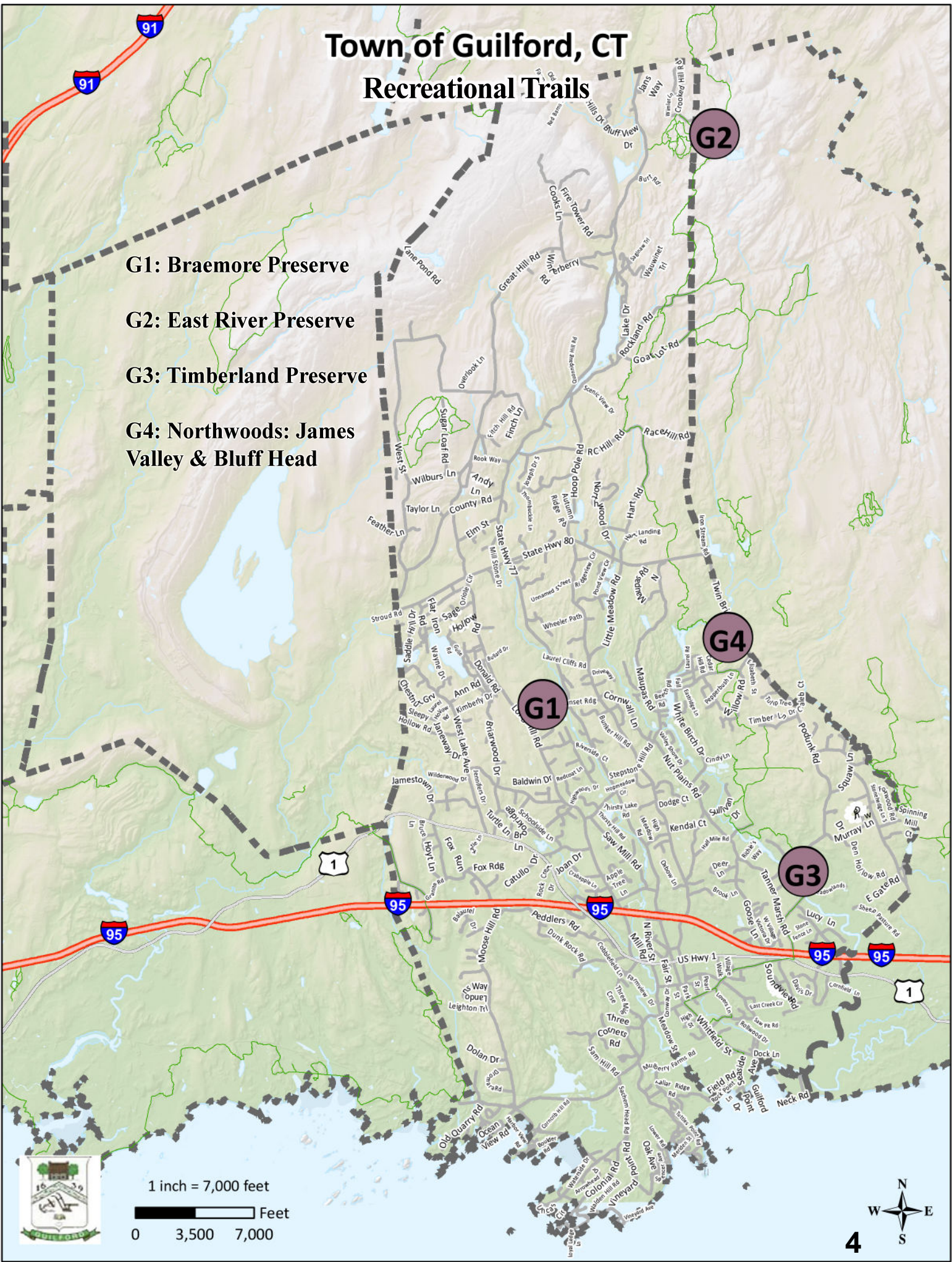
Town of Guilford, CT Recreational Trails

G1: Braemore Preserve

G2: East River Preserve

G3: Timberland Preserve

**G4: Northwoods: James
Valley & Bluff Head**



1 inch = 7,000 feet
 0 3,500 7,000 Feet



Braemore Preserve

Town of Guilford

The Braemore Preserve is a 95-acre open space tract. The preserve was purchased by the Town of Guilford in 2000 with matching funding from the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection Open Space Program. Braemore consists of both lowland and upland zones. The lowland features open meadow, open wetlands, pine grove, and red maple swamp. The upland is characterized by deciduous forest, sprinkled with small stands of red cedar. It rises abruptly from the lowland about 200 vertical feet in a series of rock bluffs with several rocky ridges rising another 50 to 100 feet.

The Braemore Preserve is part of Guilford's Northwoods Trails network that links a collection of open space tracts that are spread across North Guilford including Bluff Head, the Meyerhuber Preserve and the James Valley Preserve. The trails also link to Mica Ledges and Rockland Preserve in Madison. There are currently over 600 acres of permanently protected land in Guilford north of Lake Quonnapaug. Seventeen miles of recreational trails currently exist in Northwoods.



Photo by Emmeline Alaconis, SCRCOG

Moderate Hike

Braemore Preserve is comprised of both wooded uplands and open meadows and wetlands. On the Ridge Trail, which is the highest point, one can see to the Long Island Sound on a clear day. Hikers can extend their hike by walking to Bluff Head, another section of Northwoods.

Directions and Parking:

Braemore Preserve can be accessed via Route 77 (Durham Road) in Guilford coming from north or south. On the east side of Route 77 a small gravel parking area can be found. Access to the Braemore preserve trails can also be found at this gravel parking lot.

Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

The passive woodland area contains a marked trail for horse riding trails, hiking trails and acres of woodlands to hike, walk and cross country ski. Prohibited activities include motorized vehicles, camping, fires, or alcohol. Dogs must be on leash, please pick up all animal waste.



Photo by Emmeline Alaconis, SCRCOG

Total Trails Length: Approx. 4.02 miles

Lone Pine Trail: 0.88 miles

Bridle Trail (Yellow): 1.19 miles

Bridle Loop: 0.56 miles

Ridge Trail: 1.33 miles

Vista Spur: 0.06 miles



For more information about this location, contact:

Town of Guilford
Natural Resources Office
(203) 453-8146



Braemore Preserve











Wimber-Li
Winview-Li
Crooked Hill Rd

Guilford
Madison

Rockland Preserve

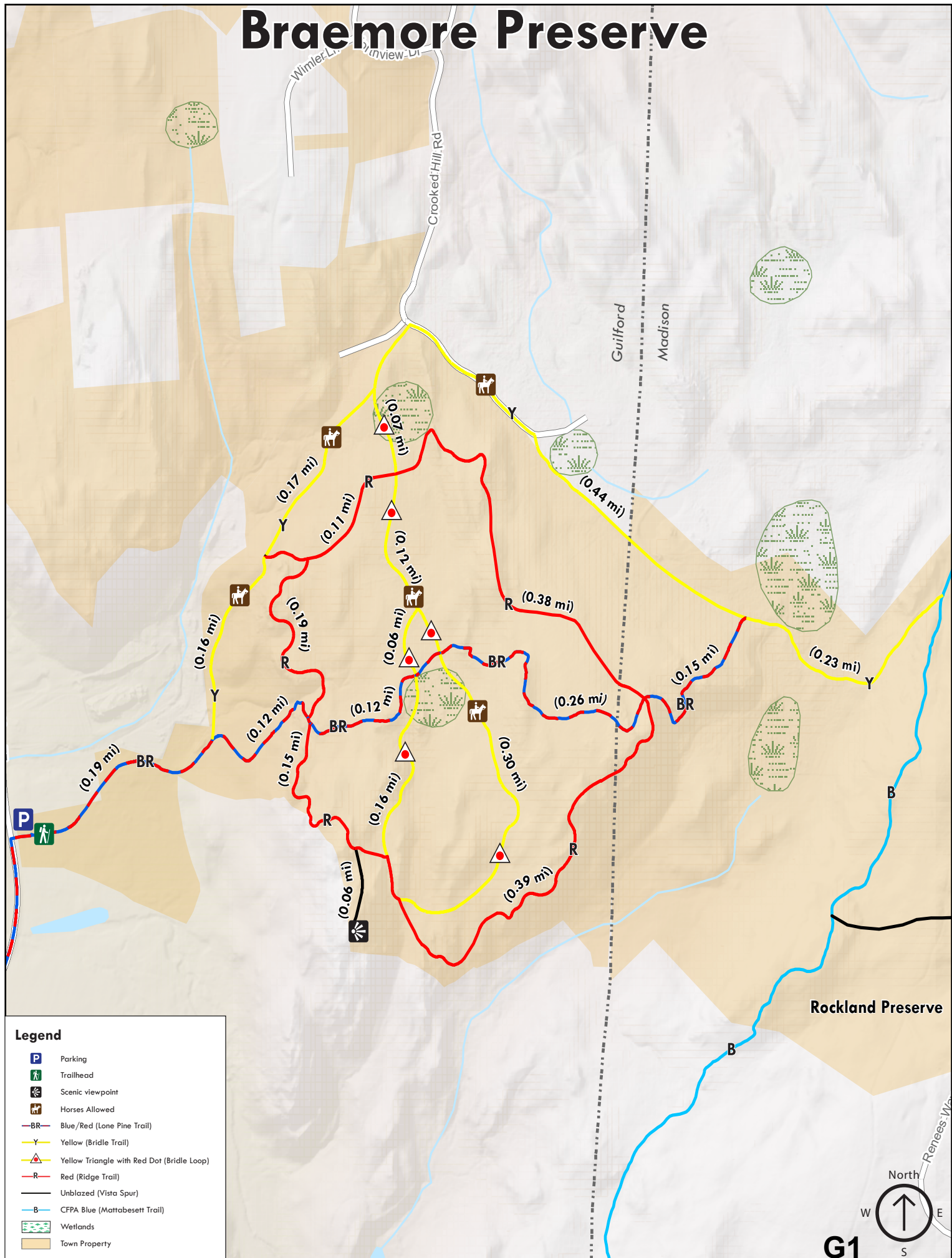
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Legend

-  Parking
-  Trailhead
-  Scenic viewpoint
-  Horses Allowed
-  Blue/Red (Lone Pine Trail)
-  Yellow (Bridle Trail)
-  Yellow Triangle with Red Dot (Bridle Loop)
-  Red (Ridge Trail)
-  Unblazed (Vista Spur)
-  CFPA Blue (Mattabessett Trail)
- Wetlands
- Town Property

North
W ↑ E
S

G1



East River Preserve

Town of Guilford

The Town of Guilford acquired the East River Preserve in 2009 from the Goss family. The East River Preserve is named for the East River that extends through the property to Long Island Sound. The East River Preserve contains critical ecosystems providing migrating fish, estuarine-dependent and interior forest birds, old field successional grasslands, large intact legacy upland forest, and high quality inland wetland systems. The preserve provides miles of marked trails including the New England National Scenic Trail. The East River Preserve was purchased for Conservation and Passive Recreation with partial funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration through the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program in Cooperation with the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection's Coastal Management Program.



Photo by Guilford Land Conservation Trust

The East River Preserve has a section of the New England Trail. Designated as a national scenic trail in 2009, the 215 mile New England Trail includes portions of four largely contiguous trails: the Mattabessett, Menunkatuck, and Metacomet Trails in Connecticut and in parts of the Metacomet- Monadnock trail in Massachusetts. To learn more about the New England Trail please visit www.newenglandtrail.org. The managing organization for the New England Trail in Connecticut is the Connecticut Forest & Park Association (CFPA), a non-profit, conservation-based membership organization. CFPA's mission is to connect people to the land, to protect forest, walking trails and open spaces for future generations.

The East River Preserve is managed by volunteers of the Guilford Conservation Commission. The Conservation Commission was established in 1963 and is charged with the development, conservation, supervision and regulation of natural and water resources within the territorial limits of Guilford. Volunteers are always needed for trail maintenance projects.

Directions and Parking:

There are numerous entrances to the East River Preserve. The main entrance is on Sullivan Drive. From I-95 take exit 59 and head north to Sullivan Drive. Additional parking is located off of Clapboard Hill Road and Podunk Road.

Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

The trails are open to hikers during daylight hours. Biking is allowed on Bearhouse Hill Road and along the power lines. Prohibited activities include motorized vehicles, camping, fires and alcohol. Dogs must be on leash, please pick up all animal waste.



Photo by Janet Lopes

Moderate Hike

The trails at East River Preserve are nice hikes through the varied ecosystems of Guilford. The trails go along the East River, an edge of a field, over streams, and through glacial erratics. There are plenty of opportunities to see wildlife throughout the preserve.

Total Trails Length: Approx. 7.63 miles

Red Trail: 0.29 miles

White Trail: 0.86 miles

Green Trail: 1.21 miles

Blue (Menunkatuck Trail): 2.88 miles

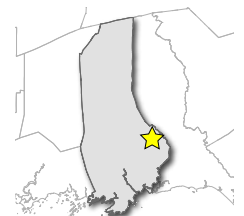
Orange (Power Line Trail): 0.89 miles

Yellow (Bear House Hill Road Trail): 1.50 miles

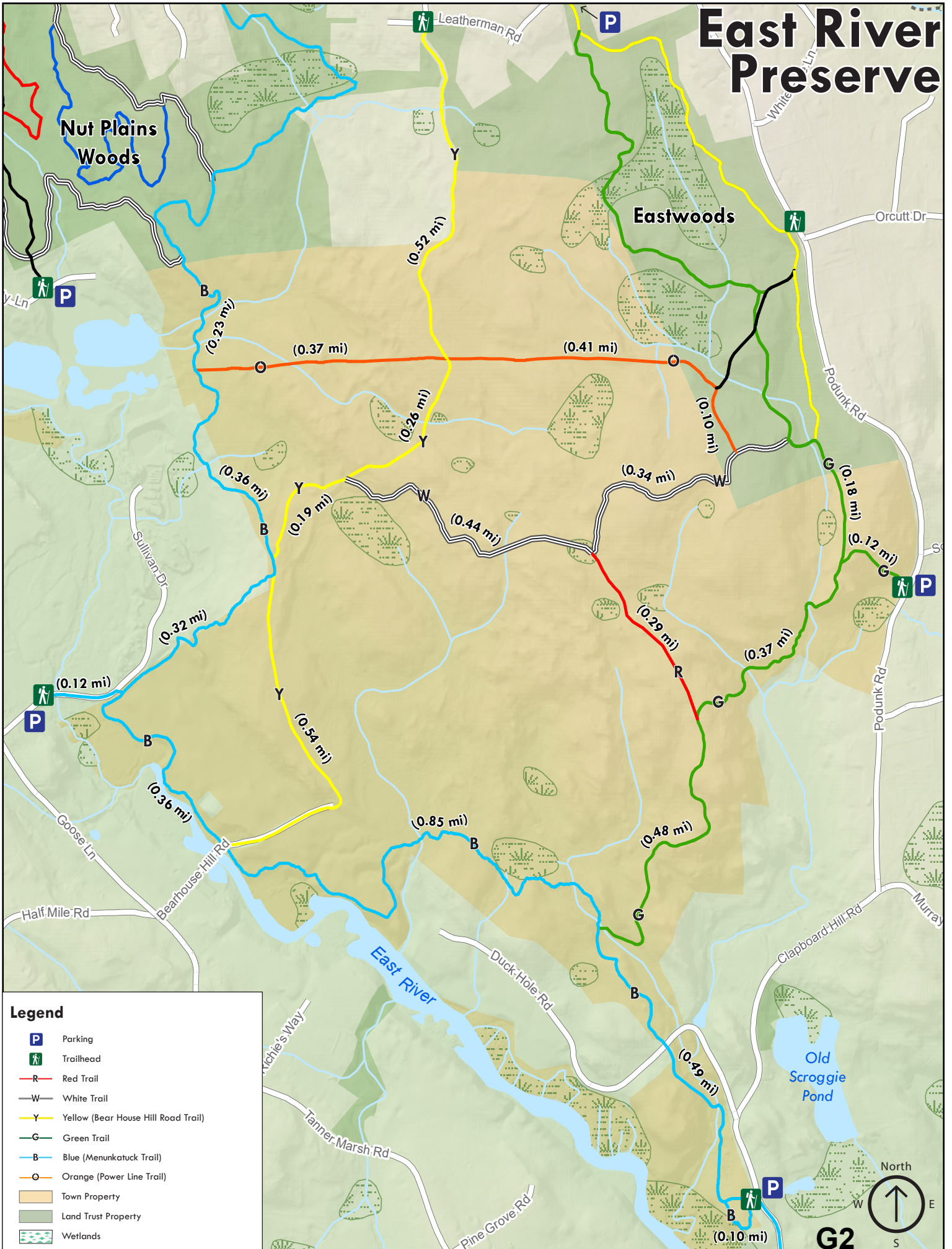


For more information about this location, contact:

Town of Guilford
Natural Resources Department
(203) 453-8146



East River Preserve



Legend

- Parking
- Trailhead
- Red Trail
- White Trail
- Yellow (Bear House Hill Road Trail)
- Green Trail
- Blue (Menunkatuck Trail)
- Orange (Power Line Trail)
- Town Property
- Land Trust Property
- Wetlands

North

↑
E
S
W

G2

Timberland Preserve

Town of Guilford

The Town of Guilford acquired the 600 acre Timberland Preserve in 1975 and the forest is managed primarily for wildlife habitat, nature-based recreation and education. Comprised of a mixed upland forest, the Preserve offers access to the beautiful Iron Stream, a cool, high-quality trout stream and the headwater for the East River.

Timberland is part of a large expanse of forest, relatively unfragmented by paved roads or development. This greenway provides ample habitat for fisher and warblers, veery, wood thrush and other forest nesting birds.

With over 15 miles of marked trails, including the New England Trail and a tree identification trail, visitors are sure to find many opportunities to explore this naturally rich and unique property.



Photo by Emmeline Alaconis, SCRCOG

Easy to Moderate Hike

The trails at Timberland Preserve are extensive. They wind through the forest and offer multiple scenic views of the Upper Guilford Lake. The New England Trail is a national trail that hikers can follow through the Preserve and continue onto other trail systems in Guilford.

Directions and Parking:

There are numerous entrances to Timberland Preserve. Two of the entrances are on Route 80 between Twin Bridge Road and Maple Hill Road. There are also entrances on Maupus Road near Lakeside Drive and Twin Bridge Road.

Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

The trails are open to hikers, bikers and horseback riders during daylight hours. Hikers and bikers must yield to horse users. Dogs are allowed and must be leashed; please pick up after your animals. There is no swimming allowed in Upper Lake. Licensed anglers may fish in Iron Stream. Prohibited activities include hunting, trapping, fires, camping and motorized vehicles.



Photo by Emmeline Alaconis, SCRCOG

Total Trails Length: Approx. 14.69 miles

Orange Trail: 0.38 miles

Red Trail: 0.98 miles

White Trail: 3.95 miles

Purple Trail: 0.89 miles

Green Trail: 0.91 miles

Yellow Trail: 0.58 miles

CFPA (Menunkatuck Trail): 3.30 miles

Blue/White Circle Trail: 1.36 miles

Red Circle Trail: 0.72 miles

Yellow Circle Trail: 0.16 miles

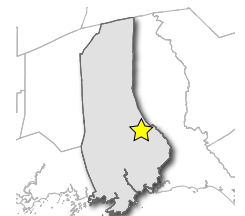
White Circle Trail: 0.74 miles

Cross Trails: 2.53 miles.



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Northwoods: James Valley & Bluff Head

Town of Guilford

Guilford's Northwoods Trails network links a collection of open space tracts that are spread across North Guilford including Bluff Head, the Braemore Preserve and the James Valley Preserve and neighboring towns such as Madison's Mica Ledges and Rockland Preserve. There are currently over 600 acres of permanently protected land in Guilford north of Lake Quonnapaug. Seventeen miles of recreational trails currently exist in Northwoods.

James Valley Preserve is a 75-acre open space tract. Owned by the Town of Guilford the great trap rock ridge of Totoket Mountain reaches its northern-most extent and drops 400 vertical feet to Hemlock Brook, headwaters to the Coginchaug River. Two streams cut the broad northeast face of the ridge into three distinct projections. James Valley Preserve encompasses much of the westernmost projection and a portion of the Hemlock Brook Valley. The highest point in the preserve is 720 feet above sea level. The principal hiking trail at James Valley is the Lone Pine Trail, which provides a 10 miles loop with the Mattabessett Trail.

The Bluff Head Preserve is perhaps the Guilford Land Conservation Trust's crown jewel. Not only is it one of the most beautiful places in Guilford, so voted in a recent townwide survey of natural resources, but it is also geologically one of the most significant places in south central Connecticut.

Please stay on marked trails as Regional Water Authority property is also in this area and access to this site is restricted.



Photo by Peter Otis

Moderate Hike

The trails at Northwoods are extensive. James Valley Preserve and Bluff Head both provide beautiful trails for hikers and equestrians. One can extend the hike by continuing on the trails at Braemore Preserve to the east.

Directions and Parking:

These trails are all in North Guilford adjacent to Durham Road (Route 77). Visitors currently can access the James Valley Preserve on foot from Route 77 via the Lone Pine Trail (1.5 mile hike), or by car to Red Barns Road via the town of Durham. The largest parking area at Bluff Head is located on Route 77, one half mile north of Great Hill Road.

Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

The passive woodland area contains a marked trail for horse riding trails, hiking trails and acres of woodlands to hike, walk and cross country ski. Prohibited activities include motorized vehicles, camping, fires, or alcohol. Dogs must be on leash, please pick up all animal waste.



Photo by Tom Conway

Total Trails Length: *Approx. 7.17 miles*

Blue/Red (Lone Pine Trail): 2.74 miles.

Blue/White (North Slope Trail): 0.5 miles.

Blue/Orange (Bluff Loop Trail): 0.96 miles.

Blue (Mattabessett Trail): 2.73 miles.

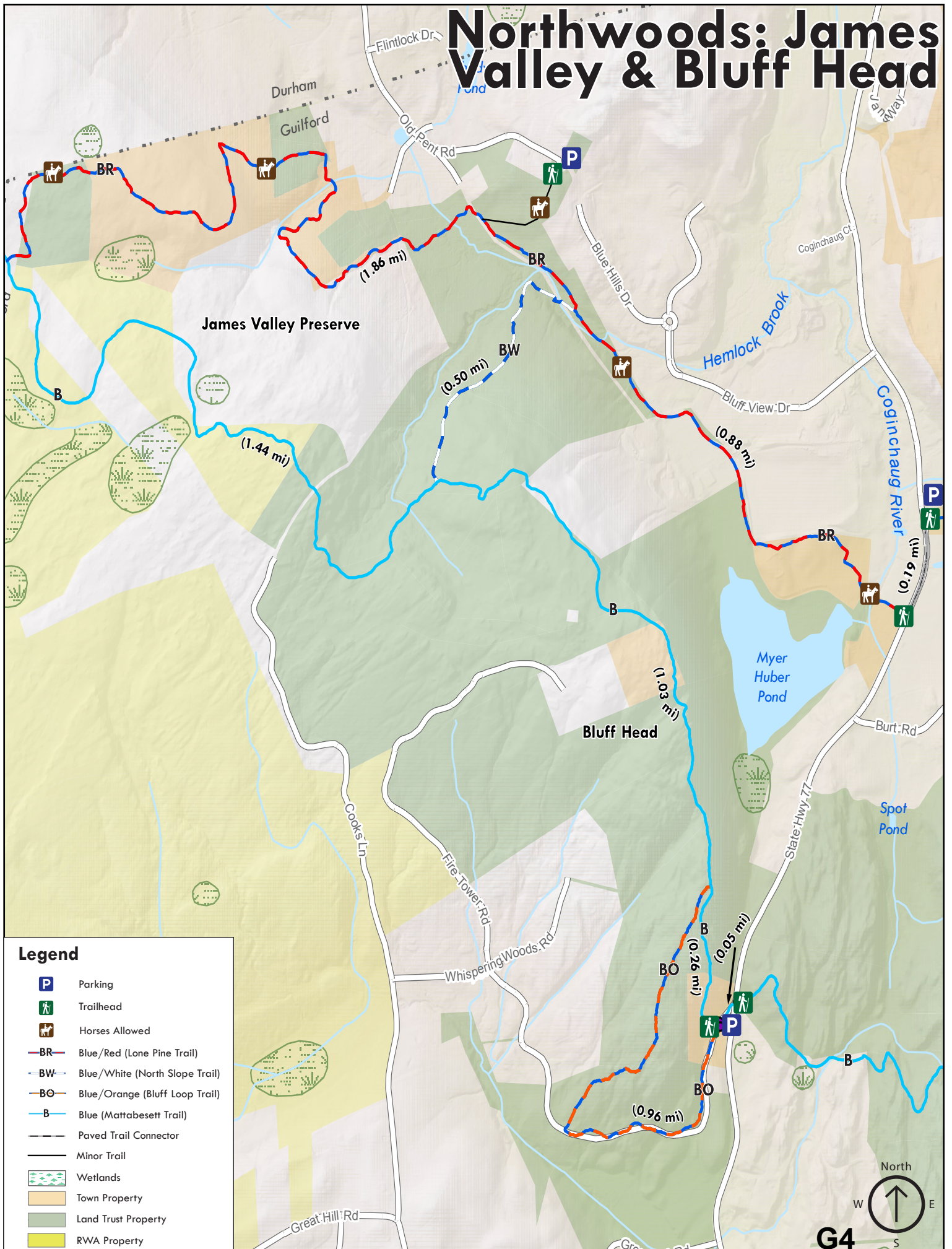


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Northwoods: James Valley & Bluff Head



Legend

- Parking
- Trailhead
- Horses Allowed
- Blue/Red (Lone Pine Trail)
- Blue/White (North Slope Trail)
- Blue/Orange (Bluff Loop Trail)
- Blue (Mattabesett Trail)
- Paved Trail Connector
- Minor Trail
- Wetlands
- Town Property
- Land Trust Property
- RWA Property

