

# Town of Wallingford, CT

**WA1:** Quinnipiac Linear Trail

**WA2:** Bertini Park 

**WA3:** Ferguson Woods 

**WA4:** Tyler Mill Preserve 

**S4:** Wharton Brook State Park

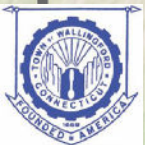
**WA1**

**WA3**

**S4**

**WA4**

**WA2**



1 inch = 5,750 feet



# Quinnipiac Linear Trail

Wallingford's newest park is the Quinnipiac River Linear Trail. This 1.25+ mile multi-use trail (2.5 miles to return to parking area) is predominantly paved with some gravel areas where trail construction is still pending. The first two stages of the trail construction that have been completed include a one-mile paved walking, biking, and skating trail that runs from Community Lake through picturesque areas to the Quinnipiac River and then extends through a tunnel under the Wilbur Cross Parkway.

The trail begins adjacent to the parking area with a trail map display showing both the completed trail and proposed extensions. The trail then passes by the Community Lake on your right and goes around the park on your left. After a 1/4 mile the trail splits. Take the right junction to continue on the trail, as the left returns to the parking area.

A special feature of the park is the Labyrinth which will be on the right side of the trail. Labyrinths are a circular walking pattern used for meditation or reflection. Soon after, a stop by the Quinnipiac River provides benches for resting. A new iron bridge takes you over the river where you come to an intersection. The paved trail continues left through a tunnel underneath Route 15 and ends next to the river. When the pavement ends, a gravel trail leads to a few more benches overlooking the river where the trail ends. Return back along the trail to the parking area.

In this area of the river, large dams were used to power the local silver industry, forming impounded lakes like Hanover Pond (in Meriden) and Community Lake. The dam at Community Lake broke in 1979, and the woods and meadow you see here in the former lakebed support many new wildlife. Plans are underway to rebuild a smaller lower dam, to partly re-flood the area, and create new wetlands.



Photo by Elm City Commuter

## Trail Description:

### Easy walk

The Quinnipiac River Linear Trail is a multiple-town project. The cross-town Wallingford portion of the trail will cover 6.7 miles from north to south. The park offers recreational access to all citizens - young and old, by foot, bike, skates, canoes, strollers, and wheelchairs.

Total trail distance is approx. 1.21 miles

## Directions and Parking:

Take the Wilbur Cross Parkway (Route 15) to Exit 65. Take North Turnpike Road (Route 150) as it curves southwards. The entrance to the Community Lake/Linear Trail parking lot will be on the left just after crossing over the Wilbur Cross Parkway. The trail begins next to the park entrance.

## Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

Walking, biking, and skating are allowed along the trail. Canoeing is allowed in the Quinnipiac River. Dogs are allowed on leash. Please bag and pick up all dog waste.



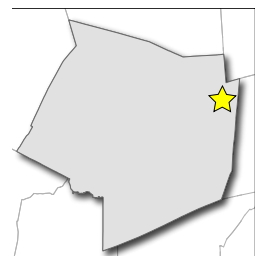
Photo by The Department of Environmental Protection

Total Trails Length: Approx. 1.21 miles

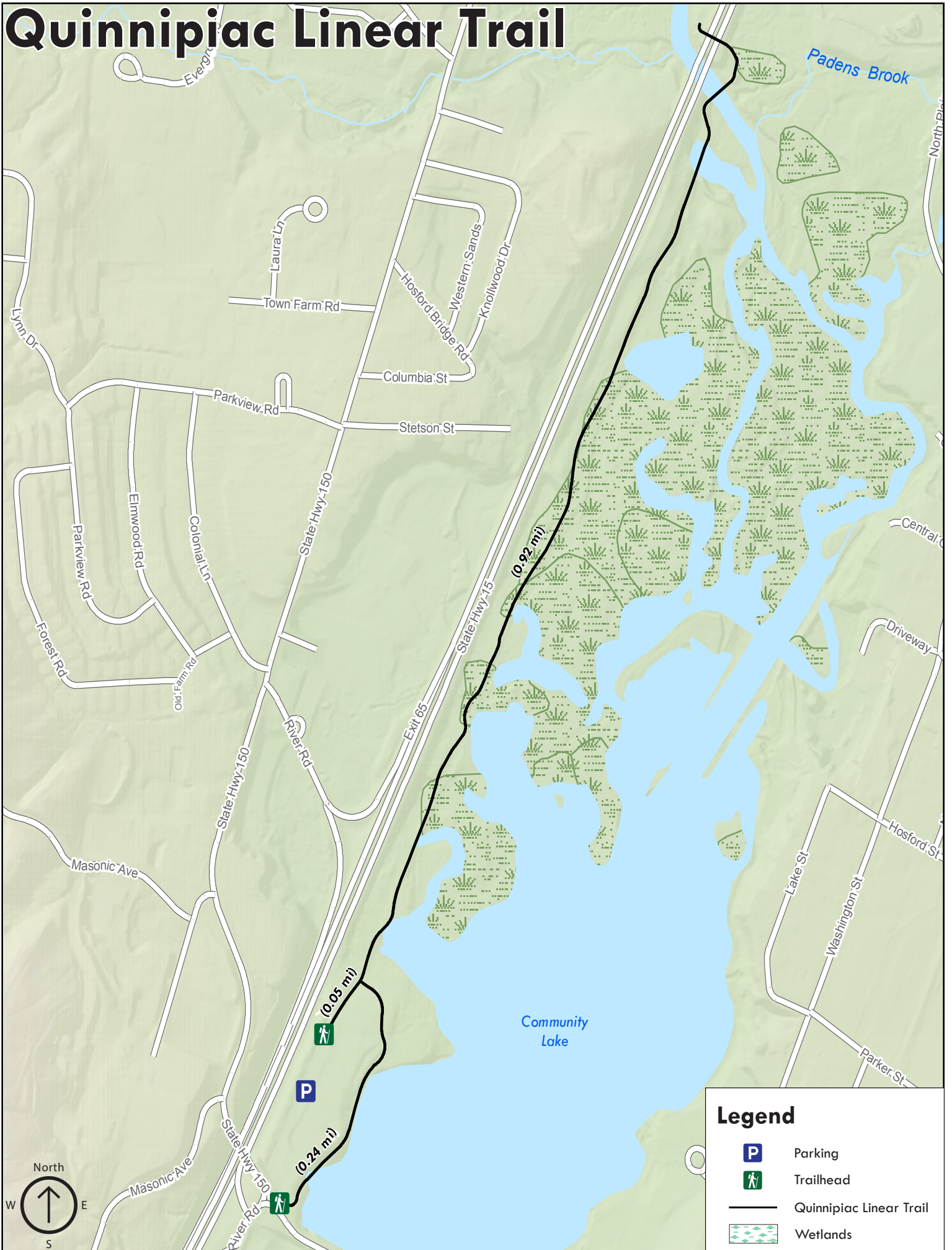


## For more information about this location, contact:

Town of Wallingford  
Parks & Recreation Department  
(203) 294-2120



# Quinnipiac Linear Trail



## Legend

- Parking
- Trailhead
- Quinnipiac Linear Trail
- Wetlands

# Ferguson Woods

The town purchased the approximately 65-acre parcel in 2005 from siblings Gary Ferguson, Donald Ferguson and Joyce Kowalczyk. It had been in the family's possession since 1939. It came with trails and a very well managed forest.

Pulling onto Dibble Edge Road, you cross over the railroad tracks and continue down a rustic road to a cul-de-sac. A small dirt road, with blue and yellow blazes on the trees, continued ahead.



Photo by the Wallingford Land Trust



Photo by Richie Rathsack



King Solomon Seal, a common plant on the trails

Photo by Buff View Nursery

## Trail Description:

### Easy hike

Ferguson Woods offers an easy hike for hikers of all ages. The trails loop around a pond and meander through the woods. There are opportunities throughout to see wildlife.

Total trail distance is approx. 2.5 miles

## Directions and Parking:

From I-91: Take exit 15 north or south and head east on Barnes Road (Route 68). After 1 mile, turn right onto Durham Road and then left onto Dibble Edge Road. The entrance is at the end of the road.

## Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

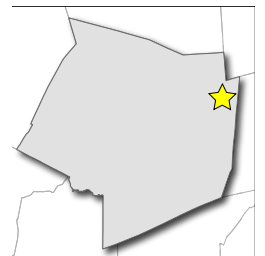
Recreational use only. No motorized vehicles. Pets are allowed on leashes. Please bag and remove pet waste.

Total Trails Length: Approx. 2.5 miles

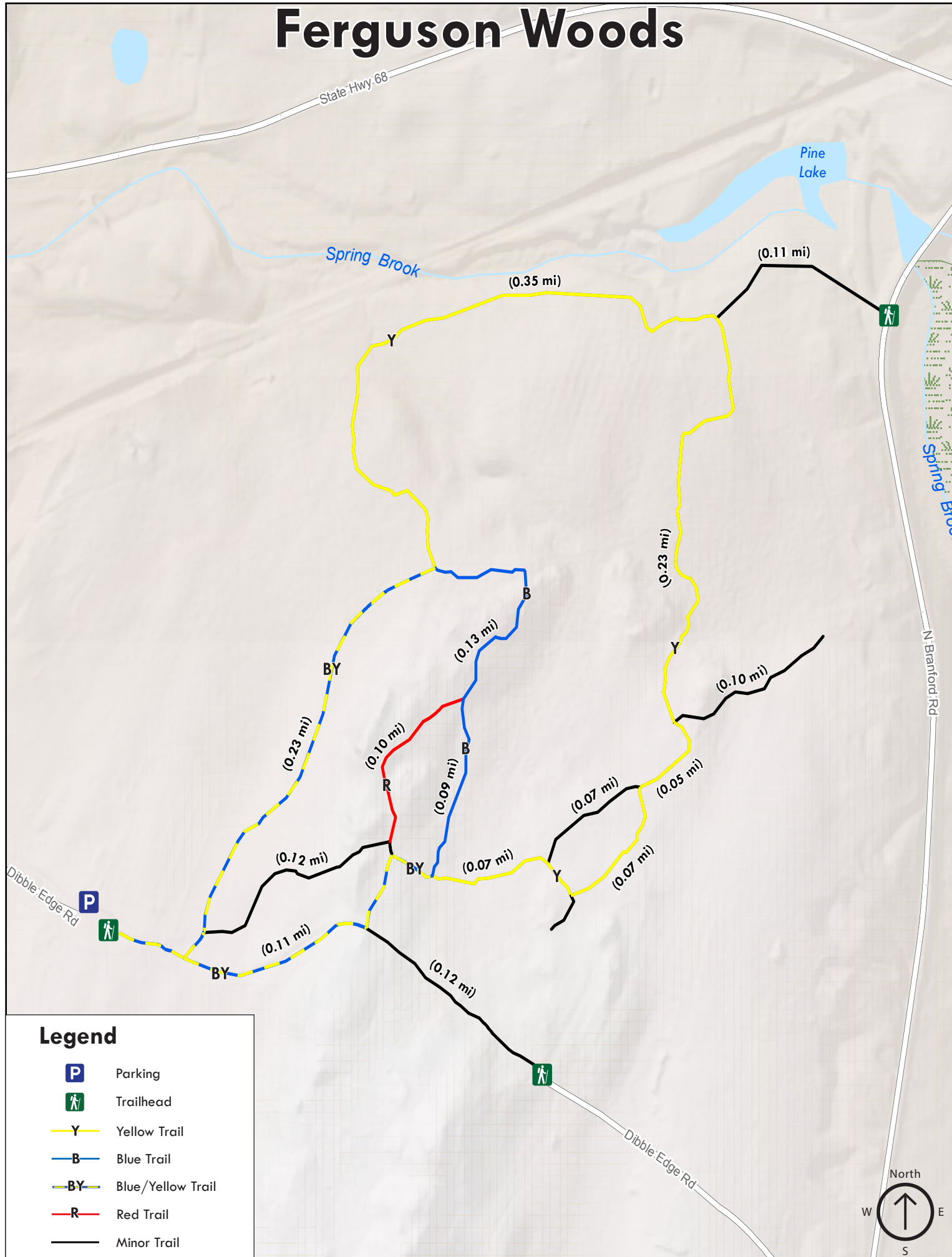


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# Ferguson Woods



## Legend

- Parking
- Trailhead
- Yellow Trail
- Blue Trail
- Blue/Yellow Trail
- Red Trail
- Minor Trail



# Tyler Mill Preserve

Tyler Mill Preserve is a 1,000-acre preserve in the southern portion of Wallingford near the Branford and Durham borders. If you have a mountain bike or ride in on horseback, the preserve has a good mix of trails and old roads. If you like to hike, there are miles of loop trails of various skill levels from easy, like walking along the banks of the picturesque Muddy River, to strenuous like scrambling to the top of Morris Rock.

Before setting out exploring the preserve, visitors should check out the map kiosk at the entrance to the preserve. Visitors can walk or drive along Tyler Mill Road and park at various points to access the trails.

The beauty of the preserve is in its diversity. There's a wonderful mix of farm fields, some with views, bordered by stone walls and large maple trees. There is a loop trail around the surprisingly scenic Tamarac Swamp. Farther down the road, visitors can park at the Tyler Mill Bridge and explore the ruins of an old raceway and mill foundation.

The red-blazed trail can be accessed after crossing the mill bridge. From here, the trail runs along the banks of the river as it cuts through a traprock gorge. The trail returns to the deep forest and eventually connects with a trail marked with blue and black blazes that plunges deeply into the gorge before leveling out with a nice jaunt along the river as a reward.

After visitors catch their breath along the river, they will find the preserve's most difficult trail: the blue-blazed path to the top of Morris Rock, with its beautiful views of the hemlock-filled river valley. The top of the rock will give visitors a look south with a bit of New Haven's skyline in the distance. The pitted and rutted top of the traprock ridge will also give visitors a look into the area's distant geological history, back to when volcanoes erupted and lava flowed through the middle of the state creating the ridges known as "Connecticut's Central Park."

The remainder of the blue-blazed trail will take you past more traprock ridges and through deep forests filled with huge hemlocks. The forest floor is lined with thick patches of ferns, creating a mystical setting. The preserve also features diamond-shaped signs with numbers on trees. In case of emergency, you can supply a number to would-be rescuers to help them find their way to you. It's a brilliant idea, especially at the state's larger preserves or parks.

## Trail Description:

### Easy walks to moderate hikes

Tyler Mill Preserve has winding trails throughout the woods. Short trails are great for a quick walk, while longer trails provide more of a challenge for serious hikers.

Total trail distance is approx. 14.7 miles

## Directions and Parking:

From I-91: Take exit 14 north or south and head east on East Center Street. Continue on East Center Street and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park will be on the right. Park at Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Park. At the end of the parking lot, look for a large sign and a wide trail. Follow the path around the perimeter of the field to enter the Tyler Mill trail system

## Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

Walking, biking, and horseback riding are allowed on the trails. Leashed pets are allowed, please pick up all waste. No camping, campfires or motorized vehicles. Fishing and hunting are allowed by permit only.



Photo by WFSB

Total Trails Length: Approx. 14.7 miles



## For more information about this location, contact:

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# Tyler Mill Preserve

## Legend

- |                         |                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Parking                 | Blue Trail                    |
| Trailhead               | Green/Yellow Trail            |
| Trailhead/Sign          | Red/Yellow Trail              |
| Moss Rock               | Unblazed Trail                |
| Tan Trail               | Dirt Road (Vehicle Access)    |
| Orange Trail            | Dirt Road (No Vehicle Access) |
| Green Trail             | Gate                          |
| Pink Trail              | Wetlands                      |
| White Trail             |                               |
| Purple Trail            |                               |
| Light Orange Trail      |                               |
| Yellow Trail            |                               |
| Red Trail (North/South) |                               |
| Light Green Trail       |                               |
| Dashed Red Trail        |                               |
| Pink/Light Green Trail  |                               |

