

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.

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. 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.



Hiking



Pets on Leash



Horseback Riding

For more information about this location, contact:

Carol Lambiase
Stewardship Chair
(203) 393-2253

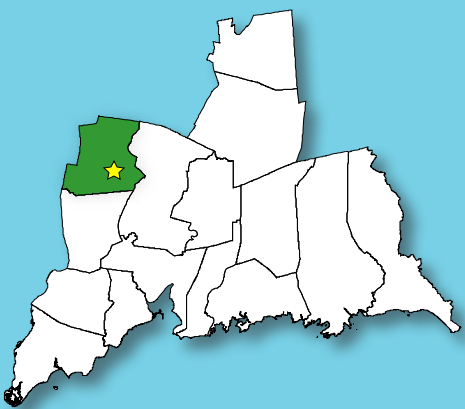

Questions regarding this brochure can be addressed to
South Central Regional Council of Governments
Phone: (203) 234-7555/Fax: (203) 234-9850
E-mail: trails@scrcog.org

Scan QR Code to access the South Central Regional Council of Governments Recreational Trails Webpage



Recreational Trails South Central Connecticut

The Welch Parcels



Bethany, CT

The Welch Parcels



Photo by Ray Andresen, Bethany Land Trust










Trail Description:

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.

Total trail distance is approx. 0.92 miles

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

