

Orange Triangle Trail, Wepawaug Conservation Area & Kowal Nature Preserve

A variety of trails traverse this area linking land owned by the Orange Land Trust, the Town of Orange and Camp Cedarcrest. The Triangle Trail follows the course of the Wepawaug River and connects Kowal Nature Preserve, the Wepawaug Conservation Area, the Whitney Tract and the Ravine. The best access is from the Conservation Area parking lot off Mapledale Road between Orange Center Road and Derby Road (Route 34). There also is a very small parking area just south of Derby Road near the Ravine.

The orange trail goes through a majestic hemlock forest to a bridge over the Wepawaug River. Just before the bridge, a left turn leads to the red trail leading to the Kowal Nature Preserve. Continuing on the Orange Triangle trail across the bridge leads to the blue and yellow trails that include quiet forested areas, a vernal pool and frequent wildlife sightings. The Orange Triangle Trail leads through Camp Cedarcrest (private) and winds over rocky and treed knolls and through a relatively young forest.

At the Whitney Tract there is another hemlock forest before the trail crosses over into the Ravine, with dramatic rock outcroppings creating stunning white water rapids and falls. On the east bank of the river is the remains of the foundation of a old mill that manufactured cloth for Union uniforms during the Civil War.

You can return to the parking lot by reversing your route along the trail of walking back along Mapledale Road.



Photo by Sarah, RED-Living

Trail Description:

Easy Hike

These trails can be hiked separately or together. They take the hiker through scenic woods with views of vernal pools and historic sites.

Total trails distance is approx. 1.65 miles

Directions and Parking:

The Wepawaug Conservation Area parking lot is located on Mapledale Road which can be accessed either via Derby Road (Route 34) or Orange Center Road (Route 152). Both roads can be reached via the Wilbur Cross Parkway. Limited street parking is also available on Green Circle off Derby Road (34), at the end of Riverside Drive, or at the end of Surrey Drive.

Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

This property is for passive use only. No wheeled vehicles are permitted. No picnicking is available. The trail is for hiking only. During the summer season when Camp Cedarcrest is in session, please do not disrupt camp activities. Dogs are permitted on leash. Please bag and remove any dog waste.



Photo Provided by OCC

Total Trails Length: Approx. 1.65 miles

Yellow Trail: 0.19 miles. Easy Hike

Red Trail: 0.33 miles. Easy Hike

Orange (Orange Triangle Trail): 0.96 miles. Easy Hike

Blue Trail: 0.12 miles. Easy Hike



Orange Conservation Commission

For more information about this location, contact:

Orange Conservation Commission

(203) 891-4768

www.orangetconservationcommission.com/



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