

Property Features

The Jones Mountain Preserve offers sweeping views of downtown New Hartford and the surrounding valley. It is an unfragmented, closed canopy forest, with wetlands, streams, and adjacent meadows, providing valuable wildlife habitat. The Preserve represents a microcosm of the Town's history, having provided water power for early industrial mills and farm fields and pastures, and, possibly, Native American campsites.

Trails: The Preserve encompasses carriage roads built by hand in the early 1900s, including stone walls, stone bridges, and stone-lined drainage ditches and culverts. These old carriage roads form the backbone of the trail system and are joined by hiking trails as shown on the map on the other side.

Future work: Future work planned for the Preserve includes; footbridges in wet areas, a graded parking area on Steele Road, erosion repair on the carriage road, a new pedestrian bridge on the Vista Road trail, and additional trails.

But two miles more, and then we rest!
Well, there is still an hour of day,
And long the brightness of the West
Will light us on our devious way;
Sit then, awhile, here in this wood--
So total is the solitude,
We safely may delay.

- Charlotte Bronte – *The Wood*

Rules of Use

Hours open to the public: dawn to dusk

Difficulty – Easy to Moderate (some steep areas)

Permitted uses and activities:

Hiking
Cross-Country Skiing
Snowshoeing
Pets are allowed on a leash.

*** Please see map of the other side of this sheet**

Caution – Hike Smart!

Please use caution when hiking on Vista Road trail, as this borders land that is actively used for hunting from October through March.

Please . . .

* No alcoholic beverages, fires, firearms, motorized vehicles, mountain bikes or overnight camping.

* Respect your neighbors - observe no trespassing signs.

* Do not remove or alter anything – leave only footprints.

As stewards, we all have a responsibility to take care of the land for the enjoyment of our own and future generations. If you observe any violation of these rules of use, please call Town Hall at 379-3389.



Town of New Hartford Jones Mountain Open Space Preserve

Welcome to the Jones Mountain Open Space Preserve. This 158-acre parcel was purchased in May 2006 with bond funds from New Hartford taxpayers, a grant from the Connecticut DEP, and donations from the New Hartford Land Trust, Farmington River Coordinating Committee, the Kingdom Game Club, and individuals. Thanks to the Trust for Public Land for making this possible and to the Jones Family for their willingness to support land preservation for all to enjoy.

Recreational activities on land acquired through the New Hartford Open Space Program are limited to passive recreation. Please respect the rules of use identified herein. The Town is currently developing specific standards and regulations for this and other Town-owned open space. The rules will be updated as part of this process.

**The trailhead is located on Steele Rd, 8 tenths of a mile from the intersection of Steele Rd, Central Ave., and Rt. 219 in downtown New Hartford.

Contact - newhartfordtrails@hotmail.com