

FOOTPATHS IN NEW LONDON



A GUIDE FOR COLBY SAWYER STUDENTS

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Wesson Honors Program
Capstone Project 2020

Acknowledgements: New London Conservation Commission (NLCC), Mike Vernon, Ruth White, Ann Page Stecker, Michael Jauchen, and anyone who joined me on these lovely trails

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About the Wesson Honors Program

This four year program, which has been Ann Page Stecker's child for the past 40 years, has elevated the humanities at Colby-Sawyer College (CSC). This program has allowed me to study classes outside my major and explore different realms of thinking. It is my hope that this program continues to influence the liberal arts at CSC.



About the Author

I'm a senior nursing major who has a passion for hiking and enjoys the solidarity of the woods. Over the past four years, I've spent much time in the woods of New London with friends and by myself. These trails, which are maintained by the NLCC, house some of my fondest memories of CSC. I hope others will appreciate them as much as I did!

About the Guidebook

This book was started in January 2020 and finished in April 2020. It is organized qualitatively into hikes that were easiest, labeled "Freshman Year" to hardest, or "Senior Year." Difficulty ratings were based on elevation change, condition of the trail itself, and ease of navigation. A trail that has lots of intersections, that would require a map, would be considered more difficult than an out and back hike even if the out and back was steeper.

I urge college students who are choosing to get out on the trails to **be smart!** Read the trail entry before you go. Bring a map. Wear comfortable shoes that you can walk in. Bring a jacket, snacks, and water! If you aren't sure which way to turn, just turn around and come back with a map another time. A NLCC trail map is available for only \$5 and would be very useful! This guidebook also features up-to-date maps of each trail. Still have questions? Check out: <http://www.nl-nhcc.com/trails/nlcctrails.htm>

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NLCC and Patch Challenge

The NLCC aims to protect open land and fragile environments; preserve water resources, scenic areas, agricultural and forest lands, and wildlife habitat; and develop the New London trail system for outdoor recreation. The NLCC has developed, maintained, and marked over 25 miles of hiking trails. These trails are in CSC's backyard yet many students do not utilize them. The NLCC Patch Challenge is a great way to get outside. To earn a Patch one must hike all 29.05 miles of trails and return the application form to the Town Office, Tracy Memorial Library, Morgan Hill Bookstore, or Village Sports. The link to the trail list can be found here: <http://www.nl-nhcc.com/images/pdfs/TrailChecklist.pdf>.





Messer Pond Trail

Messer Pond Trail is a short, flat, winding trail following an old cart path through wetlands to the shore of Messer Pond. There is a picnic table overlooking the pond. This would be an ideal place for a quick jaunt during a school day as it is located within 10 minutes of CSC and is only about 1/4 of a mile long each direction. This trail could also be incorporated into a long run or a bike ride.

Parking: From CSC take a right onto Main Street. Go left on Parkside Road across from Kearsarge School. Next to a left onto County Road. Parking will be along the opposite side of the road, in front of the trailsign and gate, in about 3/4 of a mile.

Directions: Follow the trail marked with orange triangles for 0.34 miles until you reach a small embankment with a picnic table. The land beyond this point is private property. Spend some time and then turn around!



Distance: 0.68 mi.
Time: 10-30 min
Difficulty: Easy



Clark Lookout Trail

This is a short trail, climbing 100 ft in elevation over 0.4 miles. Following an old carriage road, you reach a large opening overlooking Lake Sunapee and Mount Sunapee. This is a perfect place for a picnic and or for hammocking.

Parking: Parking is found near the junction of Rt 103-A with exit 12 on Rt 89 across from the Park and Ride. From CSC take a right onto main street and follow the road past Hannahford toward sunapee. When You get to the junction with Rt 89, drive past the on ramp and turn right 103A and then right onto Davis Hill RD, which is a dirt road. Park along the side of the road near the gate in front of a field on the lefthand side of the road.



Directions: There is only way trail up to Clark's Lookout and it is well marked. The trail ends at the major opening (see pg 9). This trail is 0.34 miles one way.

Distance: 0.68 mi.
Time: 10-30 min.
Difficulty: Easy



Map



Photograph taken by NLCC Member Ruth White



Shepard Spring Trail

This trail is located near Pine Hill Ski Club and Low Plains Trail. This trail passes Shepard Spring and has obstructed views through a thinned forrest. This trail is very quiet and provides solitude despite its short distance.

Parking: Parking is located on the side of Mountain Road. If you are coming from CSC, take Seaman's Road toward Route 11. Take a left onto Route 11 and then a quick right onto Shaker Street. Take the second second left onto Mountain Road. The trail is marked with a small sign and is easy to miss (see below). If you drive past the entrance to Pine Hill Ski Club, you have gone too far.

Directions & Suggested Route: Follow the yellow and orange trail markers (see next page) to do a clockwise loop. When I did this hike, the trail ended on Mountain road about 40 feet from where it began.

Distance: 0.5 mi.

Time: 10-30 min.

Difficulty: Easy



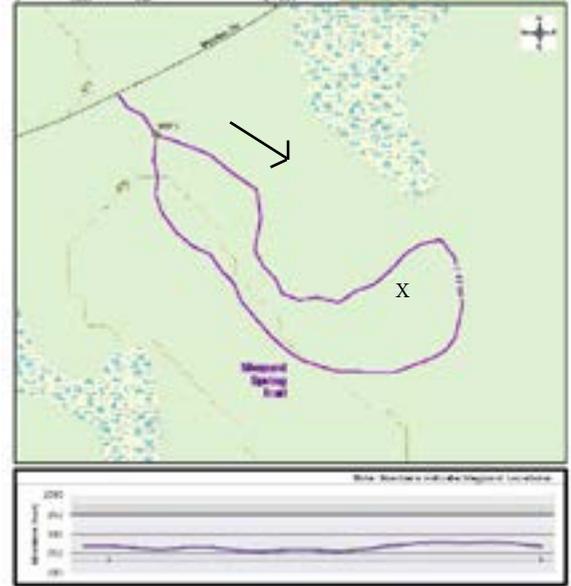
Trail marker visible from Mountain Road



Above is a picture of Shepard Spring in April

Map

X= approx. location of spring

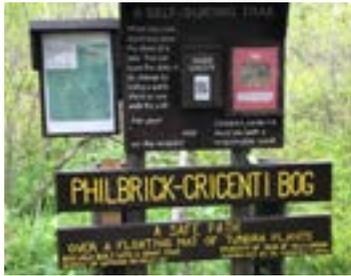


Follow the orange trapezoids and/or the yellow squares.





Philbrick-Cricenti Bog



This trail is composed of a system of boardwalks over a mat of tundra plants which float over an ancient lake. Arctic plants visible in the bog include, but are not limited to, pitcher plants, cranberries, cotton, bog rosemary, and sedge.

This is a self guiding

trail and many different points of interest are numbered and correspond with the map provided at the trailhead kiosk.

Directions: From CSC, take a right onto Main Street and continue on Newport Road past Hannahfords for a 1/4 mile. The dirt parking area will be on the left hand side. Maps are located at the kiosk. Continue on foot past the kiosk until you reach an intersection. Recommendation: There are 4 major loops which all lead back to this major intersection. The leftmost loop goes from boardwalks to dirt and follows the Old Shore Line until meeting back up with boardwalks.

Length: 1 mile

Time: 15 minutes or more...

perfect for inbetween classes or an entire afternoon

Difficulty: Easy



(Right) Marsh Marigold flowers are best seen in April.

Parking is located on the left side of Newport Road across from Spruce Lane just West of Hannahford. The trail sign (as seen on the left) is visible from the parking area.



Stay on
boardwalks
No dogs

(Above) Boardwalks and bog floor in early fall before the tamaracks drop golden needles



Molly Charles Trail

William R. Cordingley Preserve

This short 0.3 mile loop has two spurs off of the main trail that are clearly marked (numbers 3 and 4). Number 3 goes to the King Hill Brook which is the second largest tributary to Lake Sunapee, and number 4 goes a tree which grew on a rock (pictured below). Other features include a glacial erratic rock, pillow-and-cradle topography, and many tall white pine trees.

Directions: This trail is located on Soo Nipi Park Road and can be difficult to find. From CSC, take a right onto Main Street followed by a Left onto South Pleasant. Take a left and quick right onto Bog Road and follow Bog Road until it intersects with King Hill Road. Take a right onto King Hill Road and then continue straight onto Soo Nipi Park road after crossing Rt103A. In 0.25 miles, the trailhead will be on the lefthand side of the road.



The interpretative trail brochures available at the trailhead were created by a CSC student, Stephanie A. Seavy, in the fall of 2006.



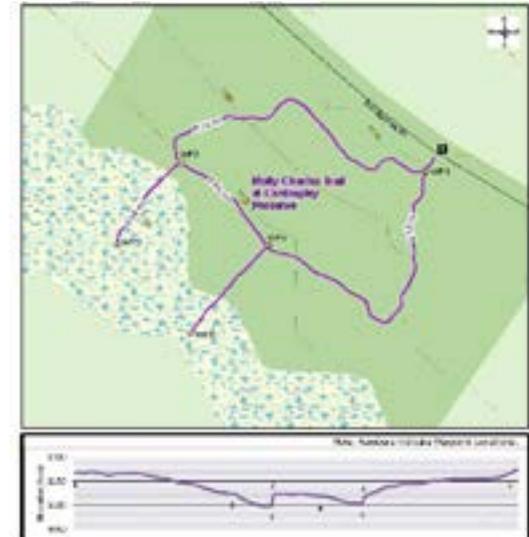
Map

Recommendation: Follow the arrow pointing left located behind the trailhead sign and mailbox containing maps. This loop is best done in a clockwise fasion going in order of the numbered points of interest. The trail is well marked by not well traveled and one should be sure to pay attention for trail signs.

Length: 0.5 miles

Time: 15 minutes or more

Difficulty: Easy





Hospital Community Trail

This trail is the result of a joint effort before New London Hospital and the NLCC. It runs along the powerlines behind the hospital and flirts with the nearby woods. This trail is grassy, mowed, and easy on the joints. It would be a good place to walk with visiting relatives who do not hike a lot. I like to include it with a run downtown to add on an extra mile. There are two stream crossings over Lyon Brook.

Parking: Parking is available behind the hospital or at the far side of the parking lot across from the main entrance and emergency department.

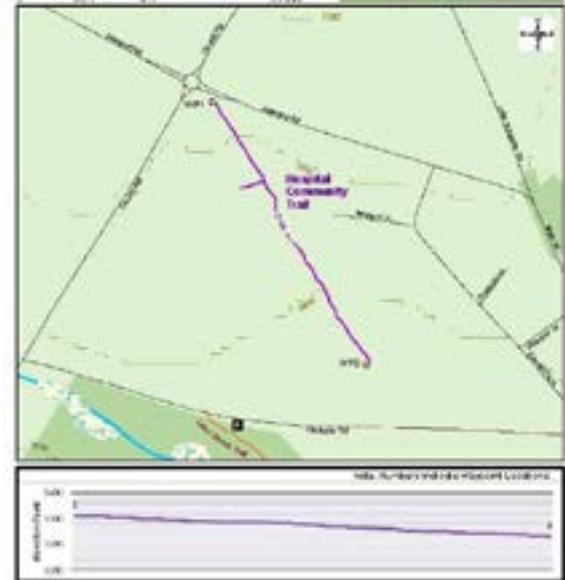
Directions: From CSC, go right onto Main Street and follow the road right onto Newport Road towards Hannahfords. At the circle, take the third exit and turn left into the New London Hospital parking lot (see below picture on left).

Suggested Route: Go 0.44 miles out and turn around at the end of the trail. On could also bushwack through to Parkside Road and take the roads back to New London



Total:
Distance: 0.88 mi.
Time: 10-30 min.
Difficulty: Easy

Map





Phillips Memorial Preserve Trails

Phillips Memorial Preserve Trails weave between Goose Hole Pond, which is visible from I-89, and Otter Pond. The Stone Wall Trail and Shore Loop Trail travel up and down a wooded hill with offers some views of Lake Sunapee and Mount Sunapee. There is a quarry located near the Stone Wall Trail and the Shore Loop Trail offers views of Otter Pond. The Ridge Trail bisects Shore Loop Trail and offers a lovely spot for a picnic in warm weather.

Directions: From CSC, take a right onto Main Street then continue onto Newport Road. Follow Newport Road past the entrance and exit ramps for I-89 for 0.75 miles then take a right onto Otterville Road for 0.5 miles. Turn left onto Goose Hole Road over the bridge. Stay right, and the trailhead will be on the left.

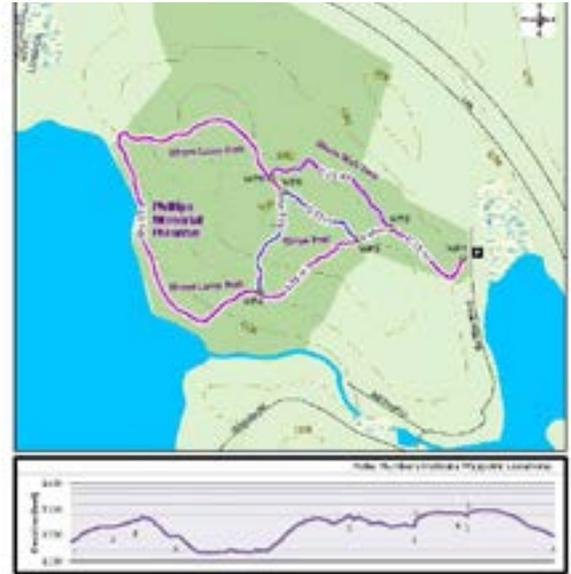
Parking: Continue past the trailhead and park in the dirt area at the end of the road.

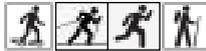
Recommendation: I recommend a counterclockwise loop by taking a right at the first intersection onto Stone Wall Trail and then taking a right onto Shore Loop Trail to view Otter Pond. Continue back up the hill and then take a left onto the Ridge Trail before taking a sharp right to return to the parking area.



Distance: 1.2 mi.
Time: 30-60 minutes
Difficulty: moderate

Map





Clark Pond Trail



Clark Pond Natural Area features an interpretative trail with 10 points of interest including natural features, common species, and human disturbances. A cattail marsh is located before the first intersection and is common in this area hosting species that include muskrats, painted turtles, frogs, and the red wing black bird (see below). During late spring many wildflowers can be seen in full bloom. The buzz of I-89 can be heard from the trail and the Allen Loop located off the Norman Trail features birches and blueberries which have grown over an access road from the 1970s.

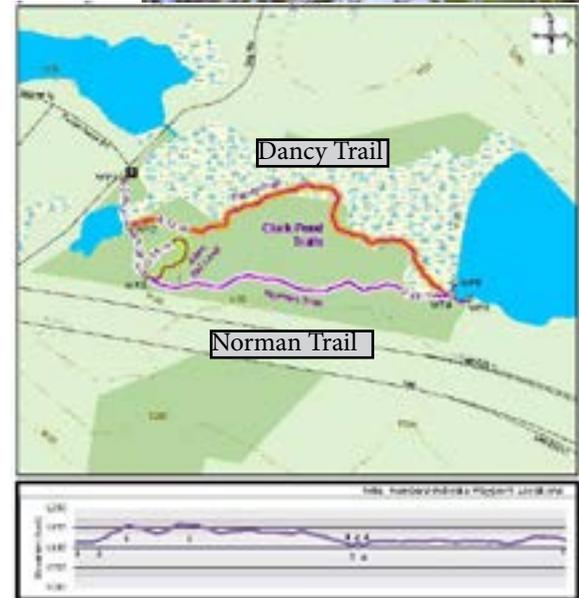
Directions: From CSC, take a right onto Main Street followed by a Left onto South Pleasant. Take a left and quick right onto Bog Road and follow Bog Road. The trailhead sign will be on the left.

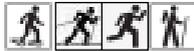
Parking: Plenty of parking is available off the shoulder of Bog Road in front of the trailhead sign.

Recommendation: This loop can be done clockwise, by taking a left onto Dancy Trail, or counterclockwise, by taking a right onto Norman Trail. Elevation change is minimal.

Distance: 1.63
Time: 1 hour
Difficulty: Easy

Red Wing Black
Bird photo-
graphed by Ruth
White





Kidder-Cleveland-Clough Trail

This trail consists of boardwalks and bridges transversing a wetland. During the spring months, the trail from the Pleasant Street Entrance may be closed due to high water levels. In the fall this trail is ideal for a midday walk, potentially between a morning and afternoon class, because of its proximity to the CSC campus. In the winter, this trail can be cross country skied, and if the snow is fresh one may be able to ski to the trailhead from campus.

Parking: Parking options include CSC, Spring Ledge Farm, and Kearsage Elementary School. It may be easiest to walk from CSC.

Directions: To park at Kearsage Elementary school, continue down Gould Road and go straight through the intersection with Pleasant Street; follow the loop around the playground and school building before taking a right toward the soccer field. Park in one of the back lots and walk through the soccer field to obtain trail access. Spring Ledge Farm is on the righthand side of Main Street if one is coming from CSC. To walk to the Pleasant Street trailhead, go straight down Gould road and then take a right onto Pleasant Street; one could also drive to this location and then park on the side of one of the nearby residential roads.



Time: 1-2 hours
Difficulty: Easy

Recommendation: The trail begins in the middle of the fence on Pleasant Street. Continue straight on this trail; at the first junction take a right toward Spring Ledge Farm. If you decide to take a left toward Kearsage Elementary School, you will return to Gould Road and can continue back to CSC from there. If you continue toward Spring Ledge Farm, you will come to another junction. Turn left to go to Spring Ledge Farm and therefore Main Street. Take Main Street back to CSC. See trail distances for both options on previous

CSC - Pleasant St Trailhead	0.5 mi.
Trailhead - 1st Junction	0.25 mi.
Left to Kearsage School	0.16 mi.
Kearsage - CSC	0.5 mi
Total:	1.41 mi.

Option 1 (1.41 mi.)

CSC - Pleasant St Trailhead	0.5 mi.
Trailhead - 1st Junction	0.25 mi.
Right toward Spring Ledge Farm	0.15 mi.
Left toward Spring Ledge Farm	200 ft.
Spring Ledge Farm - CSC	1 mi
Total	1.9 mi.

Option 2 (1.9 mi.)





Kidder-Cleveland-Clough Extension

This loop passes through the mixed hardwoods that are bordered by Seamans Road, Gould Road, Pleasant Street, and Birch Acres Road. This loops is mostly flat and is a lovely place for a walk in-between classes. This trail has a bench for observation and contemplation on the southern portion of the trail.

Parking: There is no available parking. I suggest parking at CSC and walking.

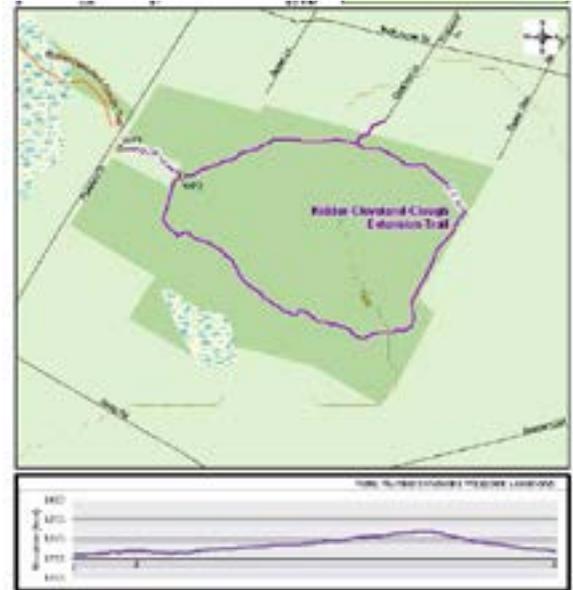
Directions: The trailhead is located across from the Kidder-Cleveland Clough Trailhead on Pleasant Street (see pg 23).

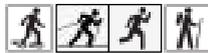
Recommendation: Walk to Pleasant Street trailhead, which is located across from the fence on the right side of the road from CSC. After 0.05 mi. the trail branches in two directions. Go right or left as either way will bring you back to this junction.

Time: 1 Hour
Difficulty: Easy

Distance

CSC - Pleasant Street	0.5 mi.
Loop distance	0.75 mi.
Pleasant Street - CSC	0.5 mi.
Total	1.75 mi





Morgan Hill Trail

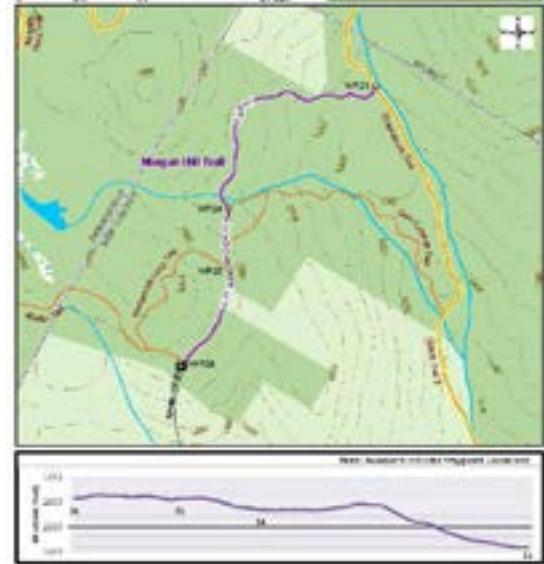
Morgan hill trail can be an out and back hike through the woods, passing the loop trail that goes over Morgan Hill and the Dura Crockett Brook. These trail is perfect for cross country skiing in the winter as it is wide and gradually descends. The trail could be combined with the Morgan Hill Loop Trail or the Great Brook and Dura Crockett Trails to make for a longer hike.



Parking: Parking is found at the end of Morgan Hill Road. Morgan Hill Road is a dead end; a house is located at the end of the road. The trailhead and parking is located to the left of the driveway.

Directions: Park and then walk along the edge of the driveway straight onto Morgan Hill Trail. To complete an out and back, continue straight and do not turn left onto Morgan Hill Loop. Do not turn right onto the first or second turn off onto Dura Crockett Trail. Turn around once Morgan Hill Trail intersects with Great Brook Trail near the Wilmot town line.

Recommendation: Take Morgan Hill Trail until it intersects with Great Brook Trail near the Wilmot town line and then turn right onto Great Brook Trail passing the Hayes Place, which is an old farm house foundation from 1813. Then take a right onto Dura Crockett Trail. Take a left at the intersection to return to Morgan Hill Trail. Take a left onto Morgan Hill Trail. From here you can continue back to the parking lot or take a right onto Morgan Hill Loop Trail. This makes for a much longer hike.



Distance of Suggested Hike

Morgan Hill Trail - Great Brook Trail	1 mi.
Great Brook Trail - Dura Crockett Trail	0.5 mi.
Dura Crockett Trail - Morgan Hill Trail	0.75 mi.
Morgan Hill Trail - Morgan Hill Loop T.	0.15 mi.
Morgan Hill Loop Trail - Parking lot	0.5 mi.
Total	2.9 mi.

Distance of Out and Back: 2 mi.

Time: 1-3 hours

Difficulty: Moderate



Morgan Hill Loop Trail

Morgan Hill Loop is a short loop climbing and descending Morgan Hill itself. The summit, at 1760 ft in elevation, is covered in evergreens (see picture at bottom).

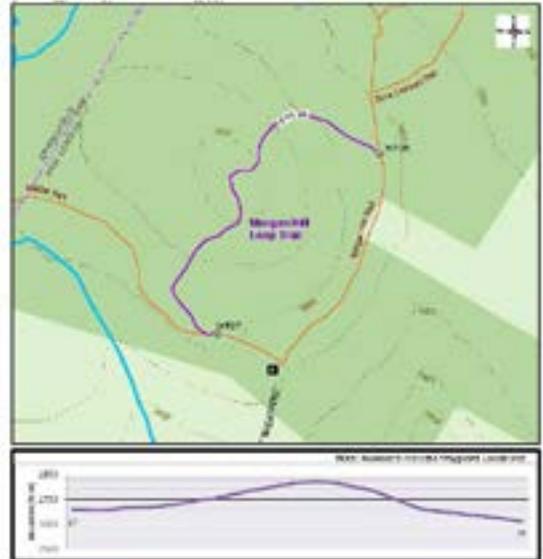
Parking: Parking is found at the end of Morgan Hill Road. Morgan Hill Road is a dead end; a house is located at the end of the road. The trailhead and parking is located to the left of the driveway.

Directions & Recommendation: From the parking lot, take Morgan Hill Trail, located by going along the side of the driveway, for 0.3 miles before turning left onto Morgan Hill Loop Trail as this section is the steepest part of the trail. Take Morgan Hill Loop Trail for 0.42 miles over the hill, before turning left on Kidder Trail for 0.09 miles to return to the parking lot.

Distance: 0.8 mi.
Time: 20-40 minutes
Difficulty: Moderate



Map





Dura Crockett Trail

This trail cannot be reached by car and connects the Morgan Hill Trail to the Great Brook Trail. This trail runs along the Dura Crockett Brook offering picturesque views. A stainless steel bridge crosses the brook about halfway along the trail (see below). The Dura Crockett trail is either all uphill or all downhill.

Recommendation: See Page 26 for my recommended loop (distances below). This loop would go up the Dura Crockett Trail.

Morgan Hill Trail - Great Brook Trail	1 mi.
Great Brook Trail - Dura Crockett Trail	0.5 mi.
Dura Crockett Trail - Morgan Hill Trail	0.75 mi.
Morgan Hill Trail - Morgan Hill Loop T.	0.15 mi.
Morgan Hill Loop Trail - Parking lot	0.5 mi.
Total	2.9 mi.

Time: 2-3 hours
Difficulty: Moderate

Alternative: One could also take Cocoa's Path to Great Brook Trail from the Webb Forrest Trailhead for 1.25 miles. Then take a left onto Dura Crockett Trail and a right at the first intersection on the trail (0.8 mi.). Then take a right onto Morgan Hill Trail for 0.62 miles. Take a right onto Great Brook Trail; go straight until the trail turns into Cocoa's Path for 1.87 miles pack to the parking lot.

Cocoa's Path - Great Brook Trail	0.50 mi
Great Brook Trail - Dura Crockett Trail	0.75 mi.
Dura Crockett Trail - Morgan Hill Trail	0.75 mi.
Morgan Hill Trail - Great Brook Trail	0.50 mi.
Great Brook Trail to Cocoa's Path - Parking lot	1.75 mi.
Total	4.25 mi.

Time: 2-5 hours
Difficulty: Moderate



Photograph of Dura Crockett Brook by Peter Brodeur

Parking: Either the Morgan Hill Trailhead (see pg 26) or the Webb Forrest Trailhead (see pg 38).





Great Brook Trail

This out and back trail runs along the Great Brook and SKRG connecting Cocoa's Path and the Bunker Loop Trail to the Dura Crockett and Morgan Hill Trails. This trail continues passed the Morgan Hill Trail up to Devil's Half Acre Pond which features a beaver dam. Views of modest waterfalls are visible along the gradually steepening trail.

Parking: Parking is found at the end of Morgan Hill Road (see pg 26), Webb Forrest Trailhead, or the Pingree Connector. The Webb Forrest Trail is located on Pleasant Street. If you are coming from CSC, take a right onto Main Street and then take a right onto Pleasant Street. Continue passed Pingree Road over the bridge. Just over the bridge there is a dirt parking area on the right. The trailhead is across the street behind the wooden fence. To get to the Pingree Connector, follow the above instructions but turn Left onto Pingree Road instead of continuing straight. The trail will be on the right side of the road and there is limited roadside parking.

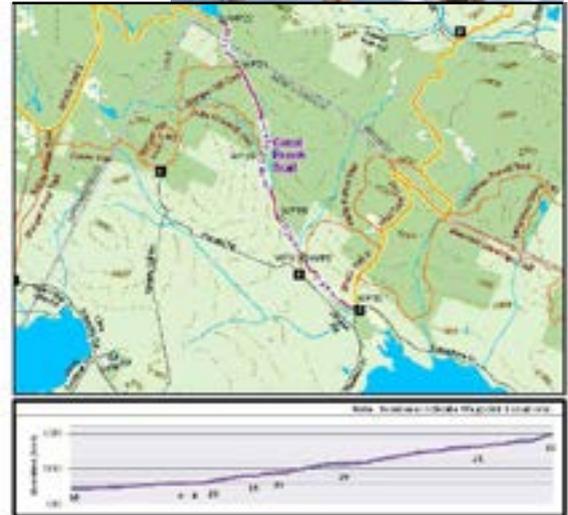
Recommendation: Park at the Webb Forrest Trailhead and take Cocoa's Path, which is the first left at the sign for 0.49 mi. Continue straight for 0.74 mi. before taking a right at the trail's intersection with the Dura Crockett Trail. Continue for 0.64 mi. and then keep right at the intersection with Morgan Hill Trail. The trail ends in 0.35 mi. at Devil's half acre pond. Turn around and hike back.



Keep left at next two intersections. Once back at the first intersection (see pg 33), go straight onto Cocoa's Path and back to the parking lot.

Map

Distance: 4.44 mi.
Time: 2-4 hours
Difficulty: Moderate





Low Plain Trail



The Esther Currier Wildlife Management Area at Low Plain is an excellent place to spend time. An overlook offers mostly unobstructed views of the beaver pond. Davis Path passes by a beaver dam, duck blinds, a small bog and small ponds, a marsh, a young hardwood forest, and spruce and hemlock wetlands.

Parking: Parking is available on the side of Route 11, on the right side of the road if headed from CSC toward Wilmot. From CSC go right onto Seaman's Road then turn left onto Route 11. The parking area will be on the right in about a 1.5 miles. There is also parking near the Pine Hill Ski Club entrance located on Mountain Road.

Directions & Recommendation: Park at either lot and walk out and back. If you have time, wander down the side trails leading to Turtle Cove and the Quaking Bog. This hike is 1.5 miles each direction.



Distance: 3 mi.
Time: 1-2 hours
Difficulty: Easy





Winter storm damage to bridge at K.C.C. trail near Pleasant Street.



Cook Trail



Ice skating on the beaver pond at Low Plain.



A song sparrow
Photographed by Ruth White



Trailhead of K.C.C. extension

A field at Knight's Hill Nature Park





Cocoa's Path



Cocoa's Path is a short, relatively flat trail that travels along Great Brook. Grandpa's Bathtub (see pg 39) is a large pool in Great Brook that could be used for a quick dip...depending upon how daring you are. Cocoa's Path could be done alone as an out and back or combined with the Great Brook Trail or Bunker Loop Trail.

Parking: Parking is available across the street from the Webb Forrest Trailhead. From CSC turn right onto Main Street and then right onto Pleasant Street for 1.8 miles until it turns into Lakeshore Drive. The parking lot will be on the righthand side of the road in 0.1 mile just after crossing the bridge.

Directions: From the parking lot, cross the street and walk past the gate until you reach the below sign. The Trail will be marked with the SRKG marker (see top of pg) and labeled "Cocoa's Path."

Recommendation: Complete Cocoa's Paths with Bunker Loop Trail and Wolf tree trail. Follow Cocoa's Path for half a mile and then turn right onto Bunker Loop Trail for 0.73 miles. Next turn right onto Wolf Tree Trail for half a mile.



Suggested Hike:
Distance: 1.73 miles
Time: 1-2 hours
Difficulty: Moderate

Out and Back:
Distance: 1 mile
Time: 30-60 min
Difficulty: Easy

Map





Bunker Loop Trail

This trail connects Cocoa's Path and the Great Brook Trail to the Wolf Tree Trail. Shortly after starting this loop, the trail crosses powerlines (see pg 41) and then continues steeply uphill until leveling out on an old woods road.

Parking: Parking is available at the Webb Forrest Trailhead (see pg 38) or from the parking area on Pingree Road. To get to the Pingree Connector head towards the Webb Forrest Trailhead but take the left onto Pingree Road before the bridge on Lakeshore Drive. Continue for about half a mile; the roadside parking will be on the right side of the road.

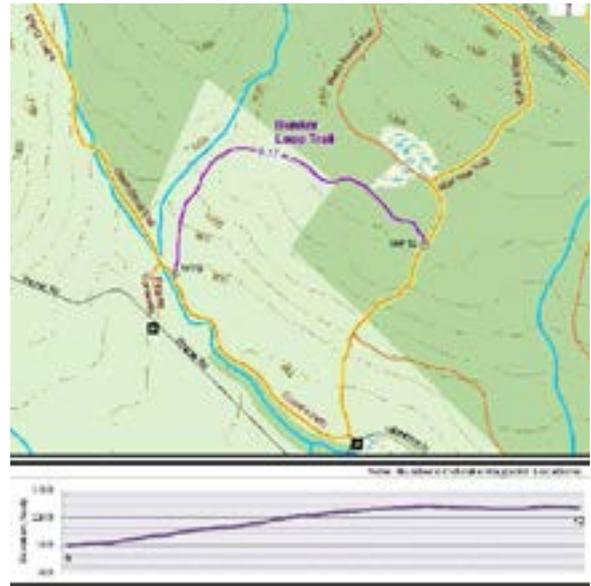
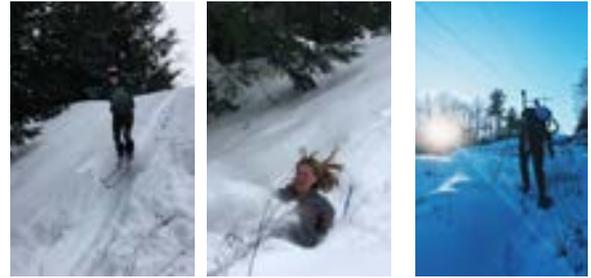
Directions: Take the Pingree Connector for 200 yds or park at the Webb FORrest Trailhead and take Cocoa's Path for 0.5 miles. If you took the Pingree Connector, cross the bridge (see below) and arrive at the junction with Cocoa's Path, the Great Brook Trail and the Bunkerloop trail. Follow signs for Bunker Loop Trail (from Pingree Connector go straight; from Cocoa's Path turn right). Bunker Loop Trail is 0.72 miles long and ends at Wolf Tree Trail. At the junction with Wolf Tree Trail, turn right (downhill) for about half a mile before reaching the parking lot.

Recommendation: Park at the Webb Forrest Trailhead and make a loop with Cocoa's Path and Wolf Tree Trail.

Picture (Right) looking back towards Pingree Connector from junction.



The powerlines offer many cross country or downhill skiing oppurtunities...





Wolf Tree Trail



The Wolf Tree Trail connects the Webb Forrest Trailhead with SRKG Trail No. 6 just past the Wilmot Town line. Wolf Trees (see picture on pg 43) are sugar maples who out-competed other trees. Their canopies create shade which prevents seedlings from growing. This trail can be combined with the Bunker Loop and Cocoa's Path or the Webb Forrest Trail.

Parking: Parking can be found at the Webb Forrest Trailhead on Lakeshore Drive (see pg 38).

Directions: Walk straight past the trailhead sign. Walk up hill for 0.22 mi. past the turn for Webb Forrest Trail on the right. After 0.23 mi. the trail will level off into a semi-open field with stone fences (see pg 43) which are remnants of the farm owned by Benjamin Bunker (1764-1847), his wife, and 12 children. The foundation of his son, Nathaniel's, house is 200 yards off the trail. Continue straight for 0.14 mi. until reaching an intersection with Webb Forrest Trail. Take a right to stay on Wolf Tree Trail and travel 0.53 mi. before taking a sharp right at the next intersection. Travel for 0.47 miles until reach a major intersection and the end of the Wolf Tree Trail.

Recommendation: I recommend following the above directions and then going right onto Webb Forrest Trail at the intersection with Lengenau Forrest Trail and the Pleasant Lake High Trail. Travel 1.23 mi. back to Wolf Tree Trail just 0.22 miles from the trailhead.

Out and Back

Distance: 3.18 mi.

Time: 2-4 hours

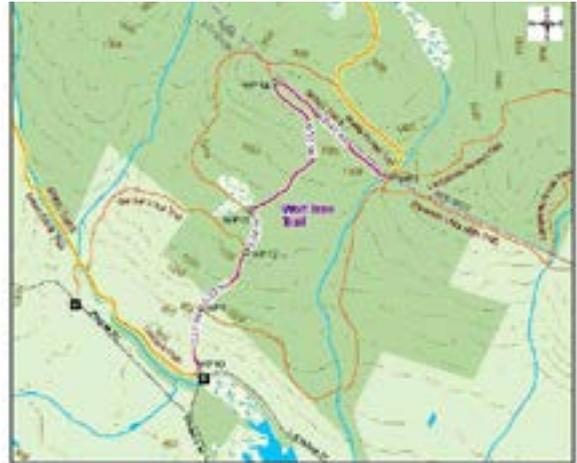
Difficulty: Moderate to Difficult

Suggested Route

Distance: 3.04

Time: 2-4 hours

Difficulty:





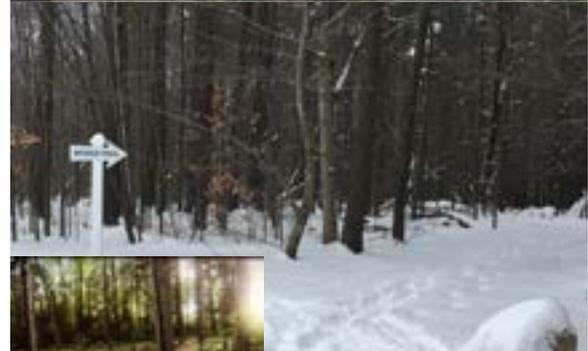
Morris Trail

This trail was new to CSC in 2017 and travels up and down a section of Kelsey Forrest. This winding trail is home for many cross country runners.

Parking: Available on campus or at the athletic fields located across from K lot on Seaman's Road.

Directions: Walk along the access road for the athletic fields and take the first right onto the marked trail (see pg 45). Smaller loops can be made (see map on pg 45).

Recommendation: I recommend completing the full loop by keeping right at the first two intersections. If you look at the map on the next page, take the yellow trail. Then turn right onto the green trail and right onto the red trail. The red trail ends by the backside of the baseball field and continues around the track and soccer fields. One could also go around the outside of the baseball field and onto the road to return to the beginning.



Suggested Route:
Distance: 1.8 mi.
Time: 15 min- 1 hour
Difficulty: Moderate



Kidder Trail

This trail connects the Morgan Hill Parking lot to Morgan Pond Trail and Kidder Brook Trail which are not on the NLCC list but would definitely be worth exploring if you had time.

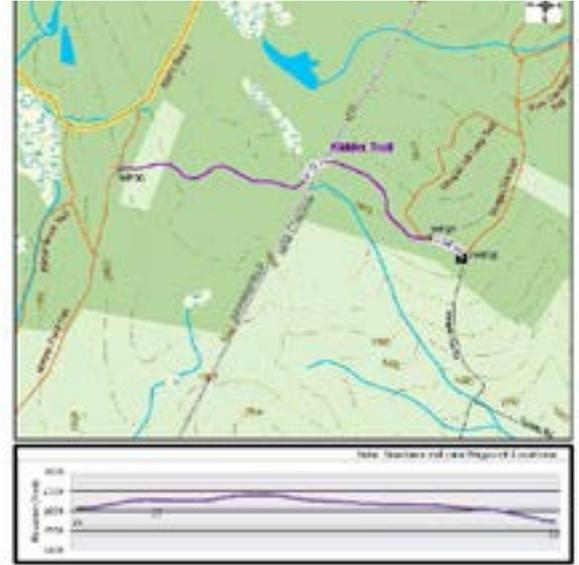
Parking: It would be easiest to park at the Morgan Hill Road parking lot (see pg 26). One could also park at 298 Twin Lake Villa Road which is the trailhead for Kidder Brook Trail and one SKRG segment. Take Route 114 past Morgan Hill Road. Just after passing Bucklin Beach take a right onto Twin Lake Villa Road; the trailhead will be on the right just after Kidder Bridge at the intersection with Morgan Pond Road. Doing so would result in a much longer hike.

Directions: & Recommendation: Park at Morgan Hill Road and go straight past the footpaths sign. After 0.09 miles take a left onto Kidder trail and continue for 0.72 miles. Turn around and return to parking lot.

Distance: 1.62 miles

Time: 1 hour

Difficulty: Moderate





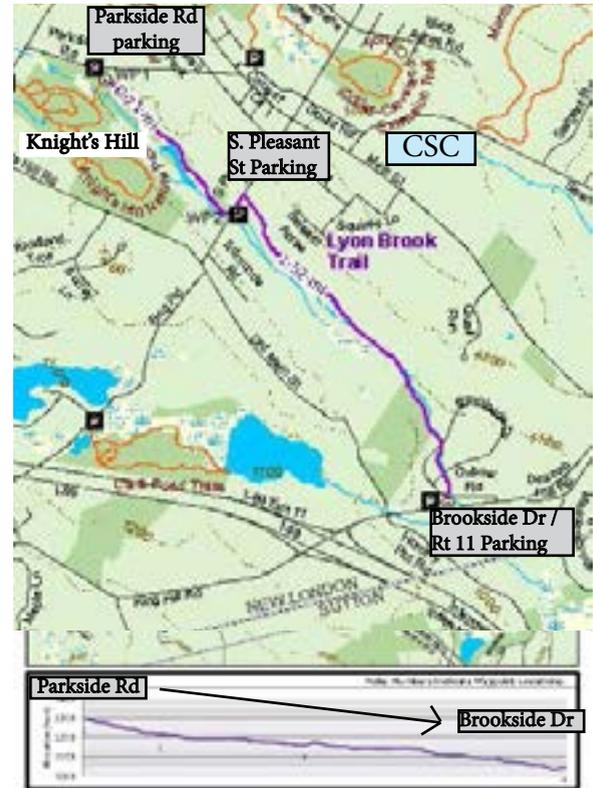
Lyon Brook Trail

This trail runs parallel with Main Street along Lyon Brook. Despite its close proximity to downtown, it still feels like you are deep in the woods. The section of this trail between Parkside Road and Pleasant Street could be added onto run before returning to CSC or a leisurely walk downtown. The length of the trail would make a nice out and back walk or run as well.

Parking: There are three parking options (see pg 49). To arrive to the Lyon Brook Trailhead is located on Parkside Rd (see pg 58) for directions. Parking is also available on S. Pleasant Street on the side of Frothingham Road. From CSC, go right onto Main Street and then left onto S. Pleasant Street. Take the second left onto Frothingham Road (there will be an NLCC sign on the left of this road). Lastly parking is available near the intersection of Brookside Drive with Rt 11. From CSC, go left onto Main Street and then right on Rt 11. Parking will be just available just after you take a right onto Brookside Drive.

Directions: The section between Parkside toward S. Pleasant is up and down and well marked. There are turn offs for other trails so be sure to follow signs for Lyon Brook Trail or S. Pleasant Street. Once on S. Pleasant Street, turn left and travel uphill on the road towards Frothingham Rd. Take this road to the end and follow signs to get around the fence. The trail will cross Brookside Road twice before terminating.

Out and Back: 4.68 mi.
Distance: 2.34 mi. each way
Time: 2-4 hours
Difficulty: Moderate



Suggestion: I recommend using the roads to create a mini loop to complete this entire trail in two different sections or parking at one end and going out and back. If you park at Brookside Dr and go towards Parkside Rd, it will be mostly uphill (see above).



Cook Trails



The Cook Trails are located off the beaten path near Pleasant Lake and offer a network of color coded trails. The view of Kearsage, Sunapee, and

Ragged from the top of the hill can be viewed from a bench provided by the NLCC. Stone walls and boulders of various sizes can also be appreciated along these trails.

Parking: Parking is available on the side of Whitney Brook Road near where the power lines bisect this dirt road. The trailhead is not programmed into google maps. From CSC, turn right onto Seamans Road; continue down hill until taking the second left onto Hall Farm Road. Take Hall Farm Road until it ends and then turn left onto Elkins Road past Pleasant Lake. Take the second Left onto Whitney Brook Road. The trailhead will be on the right.

Directions & Suggestion: To complete the Cook Interpretive Trail, follow the pink dots (see below). This trail can be confusing so it is important to key an eye out for the pink dots as other trails will leave and reconnect to this main trail.

Distance: 1.2 mi.

Time: 30-60 min.

Difficulty: Moderate

...you may find a geocache if you search hard enough...





Pleasant Lake High Trail

Pleasant Lake High Trail is one of the hardest, but most rewarding, trails maintained by the NLCC. This trail offers views of Kearsage, Ragged, Sunapee, and Pleasant Lake. Parts of this trail feel ridge-like and passes Deming Pond, fields, brooks, powerlines and stonewalls.

“The Carrot Trail”



Parking: For an out and back hike, park at Cook Trailhead (see pg 50). If car spotting at either Webb Forrest Trailhead (see pg 38) or Langenau Forest Trail on Messer Road, drop the “end” car first and return to the Cook Trailhead together in the “start” car. To get to Langenau Forest Trail from the Cook Trailhead, continue on Whitney Brook Road then take a Left onto Granite Hill Road. Granite Hill Road will become Messer Road and parking will be available at the end.

Directions & Suggestion: I recommend completing an out and back hike starting at Cook Trail. From The parking area, follow the green dots to the top of Sheep Juniper Hill. Follow the green dots and orange triangles up the hill. See maps on page 54 and 55. The trail terminates at the intersection with Webb Forrest Trail and

Langenau Forest Trail; there is a wooden bridge at this intersection. Turn around and return the same way that you came.

Maps on pg 54 and 55



Suggested Route

Distance: 5.4 mi. (2.7 each way)

Time: 4-6 hours

Difficulty: Hard

If combined with Langenau Forest Trail, 3.8 miles one way.





Webb Forest Trail

This is a four mile interpretative loop marked with 33 points of interest including an overlook, Sargent Brook, Red Oak, a stone wall down a cliff, wolf trees, war supplies, and an erratic block. This trail meets up with the SKRG from #17 to just before #22 and crosses the Wilmot town line. The SKRG trail sign is shown next to the orange trailmarker.

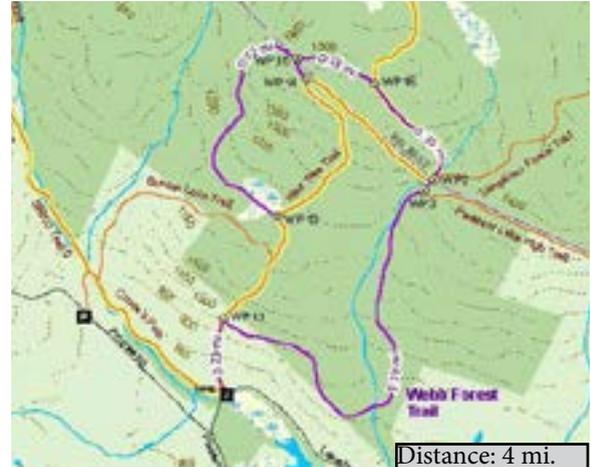


Parking: See page 38

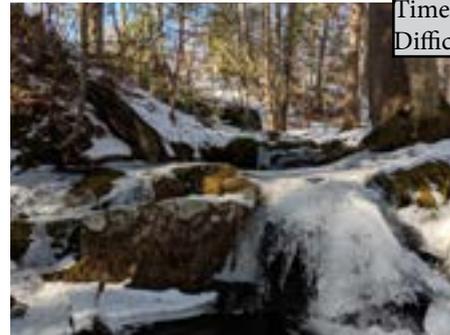
Directions: From the parking lot, cross the street and walk past the gate and trailhead sign. Continue up hill about 400 yards. The turn for Webb Forrest Trail will be on the right handside of the trail just after the hill turns sharply right.

Suggested Route: Complete a counter clockwise loop by following the above instructions. You will not meet a junction with another trail for 1.23 miles. At this junction (between point of interests #17 and #18), there is a bridge located across from the turn on the right for the Pleasant Lake High Trail. Do not turn right; cross the bridge. There will be a turn on the left for the Wolf Tree Trail and a turn on the right for Langenau Forest Trail (marked with yellow). Go straight and follow the orange and SKRG trapezoids. In about a quarter of a mile, the SKRG will branch off to the right; continue straight. In another quarter mile, there is a three way interestion where the Wolf Tree Trail connects again with Webb Forest Trail again on the left. Continue right for 0.73 miles. The end of the Webb For Trail is clearly marked; follow the signs and turn left. I recommend taking the Bunker Loop Trail on the right for 0.73 miles and hten turning left onto Cocoa's Path for 0.5 miles back to the trailhead and parking lot.

Before hiking, print the interpretive brochure that is available at <http://www.nl-nhcc.com/trails/trailpdfs/Webb&WolfTree.pdf>. Copies should also be available at the trailhead.



Distance: 4 mi.
Time: 2-4 hr
Difficulty: Hard



Sargent Brook in early February is shown on the left.



Knight's Hill Nature Park

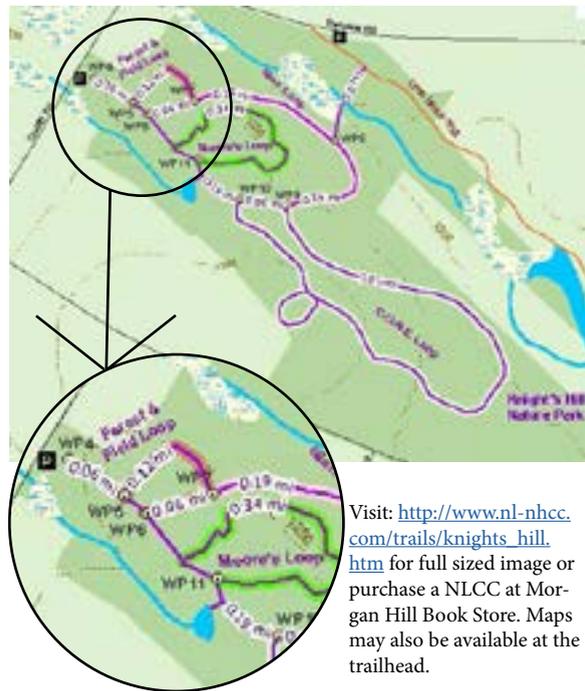
Knight's Hill Nature Park, located on 130 acres of fields and forests, is a lovely place to spend as much time as you have. Features include interpretive loop trails, a fern garden, a vernal pool, forests, ponds, fields, benches and wildlife. Foot travel only.

Parking: Available on the side of County Road inbetween where it intersects with Parkside Road and Knight's Hill Road. From CSC take a right onto Main Street and then a left onto Parkside Road (across from Tucker's Restuarant). At the end of Parkside Road, turn left and the parking lot will be on the left. Parking is also available on Parkside Road at the Lyon Brook Trailhead; from here take the Lyon Brook Connector to the Knight's Hill Trails.

Directions: From the Knight's Hill Parking Lot, walk past the sign and up the hill. On the right, there is a geology garden; shortly after on the left is a visitor log book. The entrance to Fern Loop is located just infront of the visitor building which is on the edge of a field. All the trails will eventually lead back to this field.

Suggestions: I suggest making multiple visits to best appreciate each loop. The C.O.R.E loop is the longest and has the most change in elevation, so I suggest

doing this trail when you have more time. The other loops are relatively short. I listed this trail system as "senior year" because one must be able to follow trail markers and directions, and understand maps to be successful.



Visit: http://www.nl-nhcc.com/trails/knights_hill.htm for full sized image or purchase a NLCC at Morgan Hill Book Store. Maps may also be available at the trailhead.

Fern Loop: Orange Blazes, 0.18 miles, easy

Glen Loop: Blue Blazes, 0.66 miles, easy

Moore Loop: Yellow Blazes, 0.34 miles, easy

C.O.R.E. Loop: Red Blazes, 1.01 miles, moderate