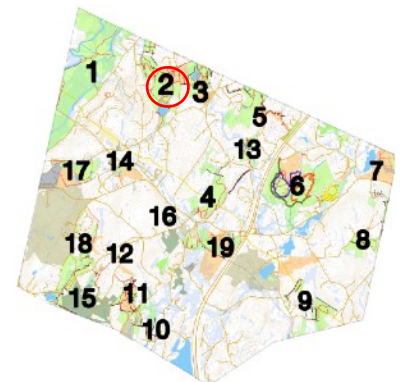


Legend:

- High Point on trails
 - Private land or easement
Please stay on trail
 - Town or Conservation Land
Please obey trail restrictions
 - Lake or Pond
Permanent water
 - Wetlands
 - Primary trail
 - Secondary trail
 - No access
 - Stone wall
 - Marsh or Swamp
 - Wooded area
 - Parking
 - No Parking
 - Photo location
 - Point of interest mentioned in the text
 - Use Caution
 - Bridge
 - Kiosk
- Contour lines at 20' intervals

Click for GPS in KMZ format

Map made by Bolton Trails Committee with MassMapper data and route locations collected by volunteers © Bolton Conservation Trust 2025



Vaughn Hills form one of the highest land areas between Boston and Mount Wachusett. Trails circle the North Peak **1** which is second only to Wattaquadock Hill as the highest point in Bolton. Several routes lead to the summit. The South Peak is on private land. Vegetation varies greatly from pine forests, to oak scrub, to stands of birch and beech. Of special interest is the huge beaver dam frequented by birds and other wildlife. In the spring, herons and ospreys nest in the pond's dead trees.

The Hansen Property consists of an upland pine forest bordered by a brook on its western edge. A cart path leads into the property and ultimately to Vaughn Hills. This path passes the site of the old Sullivan cabin where there is a marker and a bench.

The Held Trail follows along the wooded edge of open fields and provides a connection between the Vaughn Hills/Hansen land and Bowers Springs. The trail is named after Rob Held, one of the leaders of Bolton's conservation work from the 1970s to the 2000s.

The Moen Property is a wooded area with a pleasant valley and connections to Harvard conservation land. It was acquired by the Town of Bolton with receipt of grant from Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEOA)

Parking:

- *Vaughn Hill Rd.* The Moen Parking area. Space for 4 cars and a kiosk where maps and information are displayed.
42.467139, -71.625472
- *Green Rd.* 2 carefully parked cars at the start of the cart track. Another car can be parked on the shoulder not impeding traffic.
42.453250, -71.619139
- *Woodside Drive cul-de-sac.* 2 cars along the shoulder, not impeding traffic. Please do not block the driveways of the nearby houses.
42.462722, -71.622667

Connections:

Bowers Springs ([map 3](#)) via the Held Trail and/or the Bartsch Connector.

Bolton Flats Turn right from the Moen parking lot on to Vaughn Hill Rd. At the junction with Still River Rd. turn left and continue to the Red Barn ([map 1](#)).

The Bolton Loop Trail passes through this area. For more information, contact the Trails Committee.

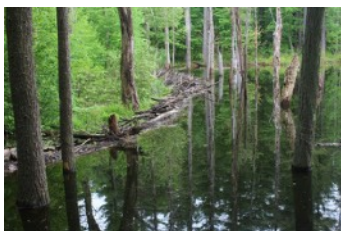
Viewing:

The beaver dam and the heron nests from anywhere near to the pond.

Suggested walks:

See the herons: Wetland area circuit; 1.25 miles; start at Green Rd., past the Sullivan marker.

Hill climb: A walk from Moen with ascent of North Peak. 2 miles.



Beaver Dam



Heron on nest



Sullivan Hut site



Bolton Conservation Land Rules and Regulations.

The Bolton Conservation Commission welcomes responsible public use and enjoyment of land under its stewardship. Pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Section 8c, the Conservation Commission has adopted these rules and regulations to provide a pleasurable experience for users and in order to preserve and protect in perpetuity the wildlife, ecological, environmental, and conservation values of these properties which include:

- Protection of surface and groundwater resources
- Protection of unfragmented forest habitat
- Protection of wildlife habitat
- Protection of open space and the Town's trails system.

Prohibitions

- Hunting, trapping and discharging of firearms, arrows, paintballs, and pellets
- Motor vehicles, except for emergency response or municipal vehicles
- Dumping and/or littering
- Alcoholic beverages and glass containers
- Smoking
- Swimming except by waders at the Tom Denney Nature Camp

Advance permission needed in writing from the Bolton Conservation Commission for the following:

- Camping
- Fires
- Memorials or Displays
- Building new trails, extensions, and modifications to existing trails
- Cutting, removing, or damaging vegetation, except for the control of invasive species
- Collecting dead or downed wood, rocks or wildlife

Any activities or uses not set forth here require the prior written permission of the Bolton Conservation Commission.

Adopted 12/21/2010

Filed with the Bolton Town Clerk 1/3/2011

Bolton Conservation Commission
663 Main Street, Bolton, MA 01740
978 779 3304

concom@townofbolton.com



Dogs may be walked on conservation land as long as they are under effective control of a person. People walking dogs shall remove feces from trails and all environmentally sensitive areas. Please keep dogs out of vernal pools during breeding season for frogs and salamanders (generally mid-February through April). Do not let dogs chase or harass wildlife.

