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Legend:

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Private land or easement. Please stay on trail | Primary trail | Parking | Contour lines at 20' intervals |
| Town or Conservation Land. Please obey trail restrictions. | Secondary trail | Photo location | |
| Lake or Pond. Permanent water. | No access | Point of interest mentioned in the text | |
| Swamp, wetlands or area subject to flooding. | Stone wall | Trail susceptible to flooding | |
| CR Conservation Restriction | Marsh or swamp | Bridge | |
| | Wooded area | Kiosk | |
| | Disused railway | Use Caution | |



Wilder Farm Conservation Area: The original 5.6 - acre parcel was purchased by the Town from the Trustees of Reservations in 1991. The property contains a small pond and part of an agricultural field. It is adjacent to 27.3 acres of farmed Conservation Land. The Still River flows under the old Railroad Bed close to Route 117 and through the area to feed the Wilder Goose Pond. During wet periods or due to beaver activity the pond can spread out to fill the swamp.

Goose Pond Trail: This area was donated to the Town in 2019 as part of the Tadmor residential development. This trail meanders to the cul-de-sac at the end of a private driveway. A sidewalk was created from the development to Forbush Mill Road.



① Railroad Bed Bridge



② Trail on the railroad bed



③ The trail loops around a wall near the pond



④ Railroad embankment



⑤ The meadow in Winter




⑥ Goose Pond in Summer

Parking: 1000 Main Street.

Suggested walks: *Convenient.* The Wilder Farm trails offer a quiet route for pedestrians to avoid traffic on Route 117. The Tadmor sidewalk ends opposite the High School and near the Post Office and businesses at the intersection of Forbush Mill Road and route 117.

Seasonal. At certain dry times of year it is possible to cross the Wilder Conservation Area from 1000 Main St to Wilder Road using the walkway easement next to the shared driveway. Note that the makeshift bridge in the meadow is a single plank in a hollow and difficult is to cross.

Exploration: This is one of the areas where the Old Lancaster Railroad bed can be seen closely. For more information on this see <https://boltontrails.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Lancaster-Railroad.pdf>. The rail bed can also be followed near to the Bolton Community Garden close to Memorial Field. In other places this rail bed crosses private property but can be seen from a distance.

Another area to explore from here is Wilder Road and it's view west towards Mt Wachusett. There is a small brook  running through a culvert close to the high point of the road. It has been said that this is where Henry David Thoreau stopped for refreshment on his walk from Concord to Mt Wachusett in 1842. About 0.4 miles in the opposite direction on Wilder Road is the site of The Hillside Church that was built by S V S Wilder in 1828. The final gathering was in 1859.



Bolton Conservation Land Rules and Regulations

The Bolton Conservation Commission welcomes responsible public use and enjoyment of land under its stewardship. Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 40, section 8c, the Conservation Commission has adopted these rules and regulations to provide to provide a pleasant experience to users and in order to protect in perpetuity the wildlife, aesthetic, 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 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 wading by 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 1/2/2011

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Dogs must be under the direct control of an adult on Conservation Land.



Individuals walking dogs on Conservation Land shall remove all feces. (not just on trails).



Please keep dogs out of vernal pools and wetland resource areas.



Do not let dogs or other individuals chase or harass wildlife.

