

Legend:

- 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
 - Dam
 - Parking
 - Photo location
 - Point of interest mentioned in the text
 - Trail susceptible to flooding
 - Bridge
 - Kiosk
- Contour lines at 20' intervals

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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 Wattaquaddock Hill as the highest point in Bolton. There are several routes from these trails 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 close to the Hansen Land creating a wetland area frequented by birds and other wildlife. Herons visit here often and there are usually signs of nests in the 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 Sullivan story is full of speculation and mystery and is well documented.

The Held Trail which follows along the wooded edge of open fields 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.

Parking: Vaughn Hill Road. The Moen Parking area has space for 4 cars. There is also a kiosk where maps and information are displayed.

42.467139, -71.625472

Green Road. There is space for 2 two 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 via the Held and/or Bartsch Trails.

Bolton Flats via Vaughn Hill and Still River Roads.

The Cross Town Trail North passes through this area. For details please contact the Trails Committee

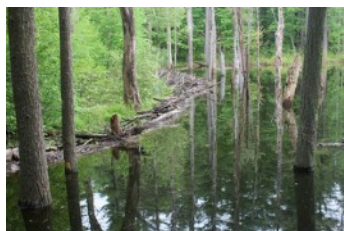
Viewing:

The Beaver Dam and the heron nests from anywhere near to the wetland area.

Suggested walks:

Circuit of the wetland area starting at Green Road, passing the Sullivan hut .

A walk from Moen with ascent of North Peak.



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 Massachusetts General Laws chapter 40, section 8c, the Conservation Commission has adopted these rules and regulations 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.

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

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

