

Weir Road-Boscawen Town Forest Trails

The City of Concord, Town of Boscawen, and the State of New Hampshire Fish and Game manage a total of 649 acres for your enjoyment.

Access to the trails:

From Route 3 in Penacook, take Washington Street and River Road to Riverhill. Cross the bridge over the Contoocook River to Horse Hill Road and travel uphill to Elm Street. Take a right and drive to Weir Road. Bear left onto Weir Road to a clearing and park your car. Weir Road continues but must be traveled on foot. **OR** To start this walk from Boscawen, take Queen Street off Route 3 in Boscawen. Turn left off Queen Street onto Weir Road, which leads you to the Boscawen Town Forest and trailhead parking.

The trails:

Hiking travel time: about 2 hours

Distance: about 3 miles total

From the Concord side, walk straight down the grassy, but not driveable road bordered by stone walls that once edged farmland. You will reach a sign on a tree on your right with a yellow blaze and an arrow directing you to turn right (east).

Follow yellow blazes throughout the trail. There is a bridge at the outlet into the marsh, and there are flowers to be noticed and enjoyed in the spring: wild oats, wintergreen and partridge berry. A marsh appears on your left and you soon reach a pool where the bridge crosses the outlet. Lemna minor, minute green flowers, float on the surface of the pool. Cattails edge the marsh.

The trail continues uphill, past a patch of mayflowers. When you see red paint on the trees you have reached the border of the Boscawen Town Forest. Painted yellow blazes indicate a turn around to return the way you came. **OR** continue to follow the yellow blazes; the Boscawen Conservation Commission has blazed through the town forest. Please respect the abutting owners; town forest boundaries are marked with red blazes.

History:

The City of Concord bought the land off Weir Road, where this trail is located, from Carter Hill Associates with open space funds. Previously, the land had belonged to Walter E. Sweatt. Part of it was probably on the Weir Farm, now part of the Boscawen Town Forest. The old stonewalls you will walk beside are relics of a time when these woods were clear and were part of an important dairy farm that provided milk to southern Boscawen and Penacook.

Robert and Hannah Hoit sold the Weir farm to James William John Landrick Weir and his sister in June, 1854. It remained in the Weir Family and was fully operational until the late 1930's, when John Weir had to give it up for health reasons. The remaining foundation of the farmhouse is an interesting feature of this trail.

The Boscawen Town Forest is owned and managed by the Town of Boscawen, which began to amass the Town Forest property in the 1930s. The majority of the forest consists of the 230-acre former Weir farm and the 180-acre Barnard lot. The land was designated as a Town Forest in 1975; and in 1982 the Boscawen Conservation Commission was given permission to manage the forest and established a Town Forest Management Fund.

Please abide by the Boscawen Town Forest restrictions as noted on the accompanying map.



**Boscawen Conservation Commission
796-2615**

**Concord Conservation Commission
225-8515**

Map 4

Concord Trail System

Weir Road - Boscawen Town Forest Trails



**Boscawen Conservation
Commission & Concord
Conservation Commission**