



## Trail Hike Series 2024

Join the Thursday Hikers for *free* guided trail hikes on Thursday mornings. These hikes begin at 10:00 AM unless otherwise stated and leave promptly, so please arrive on time. This group will visit various local conservation properties, including some Westerly Land Trust (WLT) preserves. If you would like to lead a hike for the next series, please provide Sally with a date and a blurb.

### Important Notes

- o **Sign Up Required:** Sign up with listed hike leader so they know how many are coming. If no one signs up the leader may not show up. Thursday hike is FREE.
- o **Distance/ Target Group:** Walks are 1 ½ to 3 hours and are open to all ages with the target group being agile seniors.
- o **Estimated Times:** Ending times are estimated as it is difficult to ascertain when it will finish due to number of people, how fast/slow the hikers walk, etc. Hikes leave promptly.
- o **Inclement weather:** Inclement weather cancels and if in doubt, contact the leader.
- o **Dogs:** If you wish to bring a dog, contact the leader as some properties do not allow them. If a dog is present, they must be leashed at all times.
- o **Trail Safety:** These are wooded trails with stumps, roots and rocks so be sure to wear hiking boots or good walking shoes. Make sure you bring water and a snack if you want one.
- o **Snow:** If there is a lot of snow consider bringing snowshoes, stabilizers, or something for traction.
- o **Thursday hike/WLT events:** [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up for WLT's email list and receive a monthly email including Thursday hike schedule and other WLT events/programs.

### FLUORESCENT ORANGE REQUIREMENTS:

Fluorescent orange safety clothing is required during the hunting season statewide for all hunters. To meet this requirement, safety clothing must be **solid** daylight fluorescent orange. Fluorescent camouflage does not meet this requirement. The hunter orange must be worn above the waist and be visible in all directions. Examples are: a hat that covers 200 square inches or combination of hat and vest covering 500 square inches.

1. . 200sq. in. by small game hunters during the small game season.
2. . 200sq. in. by fall turkey hunters while traveling.
3. . 200sq. in. by muzzleloader hunters during the muzzle-loading deer season.
4. . 200sq. in. by archers when traveling to/from stands during the muzzleloader deer season only.
5. . 500sq. in. by *all hunters* (including archers) *and all users of management areas and undeveloped state parks* during *all portions* of shotgun deer seasons.
6. . Hunters using Pop-up blinds during the firearm deer season must display 200 square inches of fluorescent orange visible on the outside of the blind from all directions. Hunters must also wear orange in accordance with the rules for the specific seasons while in the blind.

Exemptions: Specifically, waterfowl hunters while hunting from a boat or a blind, over water or field, when done in conjunction with decoys; crow hunting over decoys, spring turkey hunters, first segment dove hunters, not required in areas limited to Archery by regulation..

### ALL OTHER USERS:

In addition to the above hunter requirements, **all other users** (hikers, bicyclists, horseback riders, etc.) of State Management areas are required to wear 200 square inches of solid daylight fluorescent orange from the second Saturday in September to the last day of February and the third Saturday in April to the last day in May, annually.

## Details

### **November 14 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Tippecansett, Exeter**

This 4 mile hike will take us on both sides of the state line, along the shore of picturesque Beach Pond, through hemlock and pine forests, and past rock ledges. Note that while most of the hike is on level ground, there are some rocky sections and several hill climbs. Meet and park at the new RI DEM Tippecansett lot on the north side of Route 165, approximately 1/4 mile east of Beach Pond. 41.57534, -71.78272

**Leader:** Jeff Walker      **Phone:** 401 447-1879      **Email:** [Jeffrey.walker@cox.net](mailto:Jeffrey.walker@cox.net)

### **November 21**

#### **10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Wahaneeta Preserve, Westerly**

Let's wander the varied trails of this former Girl Scout Camp, Homestead and Saw Mill. Trails are well maintained with mostly gently ups and down. A trailside visit with a Rhode Island "noteable" is promised. Parking will be available at Wahaneeta Preserve, 118 Moorehouse Road, Westerly. The gate will be open; drive through the gate and park in the field. Meet at the cabin just up from the from the parking area.

**Leader:** Deirdre O'Connor      **Phone:** 860 287-7281      **Email:** [deirdreo@snet.net](mailto:deirdreo@snet.net)

### **November 28 HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

#### **Friday, November 29 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Turkey Trot @ Grills Preserve, Westerly**

It's the Friday after Thanksgiving and all of the food has been eaten - what is there to do next? How about a walk at Grills Preserve? This walk on WLT's 500-acre preserve is over primarily flat terrain often along the Pawcatuck River on clear, wide trails. We should be able to see most of the popular attractions, including the Polly Coon Bridge, the Larkin Foundation dating from the 1660s, and views from Big Hill after a short but steep climb. Meet at the parking lot at the cul-de-sac at the end of Bowling Lane in Bradford Village.

**Leader:** Sally Hanson      **Phone:** 401 932-5395      **Email:** [sallyhanson242@gmail.com](mailto:sallyhanson242@gmail.com)

#### **December 5 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Dr. John Champlin Glacier Park, Westerly**

A walking tour of the WLT's Glacier Park preserve featuring wooded trails with gentle hills and some rocky sections. This site's unique geological features are worth the trip. Meet at the trailhead off of Tom Harvey Road just outside the entrance to Winnapaug Cottages. Please park in the designated area outside of the Winnapaug Cottages gate or in the parking lot across the street.

**Leader:** David Prigmore      **Phone:** 401 348-2855      **Email:** [d.bprigmore@gmail.com](mailto:d.bprigmore@gmail.com)

#### **December 12 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Grills Wildlife Sanctuary, Hopkinton (222 Chase Hill Road)**

3-5 miles, easy to moderate. The Hopkinton Land Trust trails follow the Pawcatuck River and Tomaquag Brook. We will cross the brook and hike to the Polly Coon Bridge that leads to the Westerly Land Trust Grills Preserve. Directions: From Westerly, take Rte 91 to Bradford. After crossing the river into Hopkinton take a left onto Rte 216. Go .8 mile to a left onto Chase Hill Road. The sanctuary is on the left before the bridge from points north. I-95 S, Exit 1 (which is Rte 3), to Rte 216 in Ashaway (this is a left hand turn), in about 2.5 miles at the intersection of Chase Hill Road is where we will meet. N 41° 24.647' N W 71° 4581'

**Leaders:** Sue & Geoff Sewall      **Phone:** 401 377-2826 (h)

