



Trail Walk Series 2025

Join us for our free-guided trail walks on Thursdays. All walks are at 10:00 AM unless stated to the contrary. We will visit various local conservation properties, including some of our Westerly Land Trust preserves. Walks are between 1 ½ to 3 hours and are open to all ages with our target group being agile seniors. Please keep in mind that 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 maybe a snack. Be aware that our hikes leave promptly so be on time!

PLEASE NOTE:

- o Ending times are estimated as it difficult to ascertain when it will finish due to number of people, how fast/slow the hikers walk, etc.
- o Please sign up with leader so that person will know how many are coming. If no one signs up the leader may not show up.
- o If you would like to lead a hike for March through mid-June just let Sally know the date and give her a blurb if she doesn't have it.
- o Inclement weather cancels and if in doubt, contact leader.
- o If you wish to bring a dog please contact the leader as some properties do not allow them. However, if a dog is present they must be leashed at all times.
- o If you wish to get the hiking schedule emailed to you contact Lauren Barber, lbarber@westerlylandtrust.org and ask her to put you on the Thursday hiking group email list.

FLUORESCENT ORANGE REQUIREMENTS:

In State Management areas everyone is 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 last Thursday in April to the last day in May, annually.

Details

January 2 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM 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: Janice Fifer **Phone:** 401 213-6479 **Email:** jhfifer@verizon.net

January 9 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Native American Ceremonial Stonework hike at Wyassup Lake, North Stonington, CT

This is another hike to see some of the Native American ceremonial stonework still standing but long abandoned in the woods all around us. The hike is mostly off-trail and in hilly terrain, and can take up to three hours depending upon the size of the group. Hiking sticks very strongly recommended. Due to the terrain, rain or snow cancels the hike until a make-up day is arranged. If weather is questionable on the day of the hike, you can text my cell after 6:00 AM for confirmation. Location of Start: 145 Wyassup Lake Road, North Stonington, CT. We will park and leave from the Wyassup Lake boat launch parking lot.

Leader: Mark Starr **Phone:** (860) 908-3870 **Email:** Jstarr@snet.net

January 16 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Barn Island, Pawcatuck, CT

Gentle 3-mile hike to see salt marshes, waterfowl, upland birds, an abandoned cemetery, and mature coastal woodlands. Mostly flat terrain with great views of Little Narragansett Bay and Wequetequock Cove. Meet at parking area just north of the Barn Island boat ramp. Barn Island Wildlife Management Area, 372-398 Palmer Neck Rd, Pawcatuck, CT 06320
41.33841° N, 71.87681° W

Leader: Bruno Hancock **Phone:** 860 501-0472 **Email:** brunohancock58@gmail.com

January 23 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Cottrell Preserve, Westerly

This is a WLT preserve. It is 21 acres which is bordered on the north by the nationally designated *Wild and Scenic* Pawcatuck River and on the south by the Westerly Town Forest. It will be a moderate woods walk. It is within walking distance of Flora Whitely Preserve at the Potter Hill bridge on Potter Hill Road. Parking is still a challenge so we will meet at Flora Whitely Preserve.

Leader: Casey Merkle **Phone:** 847 970-0229 **Email:** coordinator@wpwildrivers.org

January 30 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Mount Misery, Voluntown, CT

Steep, but short climb up Mount Misery in first mile, then easier rolling hills. Nice ledge views from Mount Misery. Total hike is about 4 miles. Meet and park at Pachaug State Forest Chapman Area. Entrance to forest is off Route 49, 0.6 miles north of intersection with Routes 138/165. Once you turn left (coming from the south) into Pachaug State Forest, follow road 1 mile to an open field and park there.
41.593608, -71.867344

Leader: Jeff Walker **Phone:** 401-447-1879 **Email:** Jeffrey.walker@cox.net

February 6 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Trustom Pond National Wildlife Refuge, South Kingstown

Come and walk about 3 miles on easy level trails in this National Wildlife Refuge known for its abundance of wildlife and varied habitats that protects Rhode Island's only undeveloped salt pond. While its visitors vary, we are likely to see and hear several species of winter water fowl, birds and mammals. If you have a pair of binoculars, bring them along to enhance your experience as we should have plenty of opportunities for some good viewing. Meet at the parking lot, bring water and binoculars. Bathroom at trailhead. 1040 Matunuck Schoolhouse Road, South Kingstown. N 41° 22.993' W. 071° 35.133'

Leader: Deirdre O'Connor **Phone:** 860 287-7281 **Email:** deirdreo@snet.net

February 13 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Canochet Preserve, Hopkinton

This moderate 3-5 mile hike on the Hoxsie and Canonchet trails features the remains of a sawmill and the foundations of a home and large barn on Lawton Foster Road. Take I-95, exit 2 to Rte 3. Turn left and travel .7 mi. to the trailhead on the right.

Leaders: Sue & Geoff Sewall **Phone:** 401 377-2826 **Email:** suemsew@gmail.com

February 20 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Mount Tom, Exeter

4-mile hilly loop hike to explore trails on Mount Tom and nearby granite ledges. Sandy trails, pine forests, granite bluffs, and mature woodlands. Meet at DEM parking area by the Wood River, Ten Rod Road, Exeter 41.57294° N, 71.72138° W

Leader: Bruno Hancock **Phone:** 860 501-0472 **Email:** brunohancock58@gmail.com

February 27 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Watch Hill

A walking tour of Watch Hill to parts you may not have seen. We will meet in the parking lot by the Watch Hill Yacht Club.

Leader: Sally Hanson **Phone:** 401932-5295 (c) **Email:** sallyhanson242@gmail.com