



Trail Hike Series 2026

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 **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

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

May 7 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Lantern Hill, North Stonington

We will at trailhead off Wintechog Hill Rd. (parking in pull-out at base of hill). Lantern Hill marks the Western terminus of the 16 mile Narragansett trail in North Stonington. Although this section leads to the RI border, we will hike a 2 mile loop, about 2 hours total. The trail is steep and rugged in a couple of spots, but the views are worth the effort. Early May is good for wildflowers and migrating birds, so feel free to bring binoculars.

Leader: Maggie Jones

Phone: 860 941-7682

Email: margarettljones@gmail.com

May 14 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Grills Preserve, Hopkinton (RTE 91)

This easy 3 - 4 1/2 mile hike on Hopkinton Land Trust features mixed forest, streams, farm fields, an old foundation, a cemetery and an abandoned gravel bank. Directions: from Westerly take Rte 91 N into Bradford. Cross the river into Hopkinton and take the first driveway right into the preserve. From I-95 take Exit 4, Woodville-Alton Road to Rte 91. Take right into Bradford. Turn left into preserve before crossing river.

Leader: Sue & Geoff Sewall

Phone: 401-377-2826

Email: suemsew@gmail.com

May 21 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](tel:4013772826) (h) **Email:** suemsew@gmail.com

May 28 **No Leader/No Hike**

June 4 **10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Wahanetta Preserve/Woody Hill, Westerly**

This walk goes through Wahaneeta Preserve and adjacent Woody Hill Management Area. The hike is about 4 miles long, and will go past interesting geological features, foundations from the 1800s, remains of an old quarry, and the Woody Hill Marsh. Moderate terrain. There are several flat sections on dirt roads, but note there are also a few short hill climbs. Meet and park at Wahaneeta Preserve, 118 Moorhouse Road, Westerly. The gate will be open; drive through the gate, turn left, and park in the field at Wahaneeta.

Leader: Marc Doherty **Phone:** (508) 308-9787 **Email:** marcdoherty@westerlylandtrust.org

June 11 **10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Crandall Family Preserve, Westerly - END OF SEASON PICNIC**

This flat walk in WLT's preserve is through an interesting variety of woods, which are surrounded by extensive Atlantic White cedar swamp and open peatlands. Hopefully, some mountain laurel will have bloomed. Park in the parking area on the left prior to the end of Pound Road (do not block the gates), which is off Rte 91, Westerly Bradford Road. Bring your own lunch, beverage and lawn chair.

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

June 18 - PADDLES START