



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 **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:

September 10 10:00 AM - 12:30PM Hillsdale Preserve Management Area, Richmond
YOU MUST REGISTER WITH JEFF VIA EMAIL DUE TO WATER CROSSINGS

AKA deCoppet Estate. About 3.5 miles, not for the faint of heart. The first crossing of the Beaver River has no bridge, so we'll take off our boots and socks to traverse the approximately 12' wide river. River can be knee-deep, but updated conditions will be e-mailed the day before to all registered. The second crossing has a bridge, but it's a single railroad tie about 5' above the river with a rope for optionally balancing yourself (or you can opt to ford the river again). Along the hike on a mix of grassy cart paths and single-track through the forest, we'll walk mostly flat surfaces except a 125' short hill in the middle, and we'll visit a historical cemetery and learn a bit of the history of the preserve and its donor. Meet and park in the dirt parking lot on the west side of Hillsdale Road, about 0.8 miles north of Route 138. Trailhead GPS 41.512509, -71.644507

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

September 17 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: Sheri Shamblin **Phone:** 860 326-4271 **Email:** Sheri.shamblin@gmail.com

September 24 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Fisherville Brook, Exeter

This lovely 937-acre Audubon Refuge has 5 miles of walking. Take I-95 to Rte 102 South to Widow Sweets Road (near old town hall) and go a short distance to Pardon Joslin Road (dirt road) on right. Continue for about 1 mile where you'll see parking on the right, marked with large Fisherville Brook Wildlife Refuge sign.

Leaders: Sue & Geoff Sewall Phone: [401-377-2826](tel:401-377-2826) Email: suemsew@gmail.com

October 1 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

October 8 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Crandall Family Preserve, Westerly

Take a short hike out to Wolf Island at the Crandall Family Preserve. This shorter hike leads to a small bit of upland in the sea of wetland that is the Crandall swamp. Rhododendron tunnels lead to an oak-holly forest. We will then walk out along the old Pound Road to a swamp overlook where we might witness some migrating songbirds. Total distance approximately two miles. Meet at gated parking lot about 150 yards before the end of Pound Road.

Leader: Marc Doherty Phone: 508 308-9787 Email: mdoherty@westerlylandtrust.org

October 15 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Great Swamp, Kingston

The hiking area is on a peninsula of high ground rising 80 feet above Worden Pond and the surrounding swamp. Most of the trails are gravel roads. The footing is solid, and the slopes are gentle. Directions: From Westerly: US-1 S; take exit for RI-110 N, turn right onto RI-110 N; turn left onto RI-138 W; turn left onto Liberty Lane which becomes Great Neck Road; once you turn onto Liberty Lane you go 2 miles, Liberty Lane turns into Great Neck Road, go past the Great Swamp Management headquarters, to the parking area at the dead end. Liberty Lane leads south from RI 138 - 200 yards west of the junction of RI 138 and 110. Follow the lane 2 miles, past the Great Swamp management headquarters, to the parking area at the dead end.

Leader: Janice Fifer Phone: 401-213-6479 Email: jhfifer@verizon.net

October 22 10:00 AM - PM Riverwood Preserve

This property is part of the Westerly Land Trust's Pawcatuck River Corridor Initiative. It consists of 148 acres of woodland, rocky ridges and fresh water wetlands adjacent to the Pawcatuck River and the Boy Scout Camp. It has interesting quarry remnants, river views and descent through a beautiful gorge. Some climbing in rocky areas may be involved as the best views are from the higher elevations. Meet on Old Hopkinton Road at the end of Boy Scout Drive. Please park along the road - we will walk into the preserve from there.

Leaders: Ray Chang & Lynne Ranallo Phone: 508 320-9691 Email: rayc88@yahoo.com

October 29 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Shelter Trail, (Arcadia) Exeter

We will meet at Breakheart Pond. Mostly flat with a bit on old gravel roads and the rest on narrow trails through dense forest. Take I-95 North to Rte 3 North, left onto Rte 165, right onto Frosty Hollow Road, right to end. Turn left when you see the pond, parking is on the left.

Leader: Janice Fifer Phone: 401-213-6479 Email: jhfifer@verizon.net