

This trail guide covers walking trails in the Town Forest and Ollie Turner Park. Combined there is 221 acres of open space with a brook, large pond, vernal pool, woodlands, marshes, and steep eskers.

The Town Forest is the largest conservation land owned by the town and extends along the Rosemary Brook from north of Rt. 9 into Needham. It includes Longfellow Pond, the third largest pond in town.

There is a total of 4.5 miles of woodland trails. The three marked trails are: Longfellow Pond Trail, Esker Trail, and a section of the Charles River Path.

Location

The Town Forest is located in the southeastern part of town near the Fiske School. Parking for all trails is available at Longfellow Pond. From the light at Rt. 9 and Oakland St, follow Oakland St. south for 0.9 miles, and the parking lot is on your left.

Longfellow Pond Trail

Distance: 0.8 miles, round trip
Elevation gain: 25 feet
Marking: Purple arrows
Difficulty: Easy
Time: 30 minutes

Start this trail from the right side of the Longfellow Pond parking lot as you face the pond. The trail goes along the pond shore, and then ascends gradually to a knoll where there is a stone marking the Hastings' grave site. Look to your right through the trees to see the steep esker that parallels the pond. At the dam you cross Rosemary Brook. At the corner of the pond, look to the left for posts in the water that are the remnants of the Metropolitan Ice Company's storage house. On your right is Ollie Turner Park. Continue around the pond, and return to the parking lot.

Esker Trail

Distance: 0.8 miles, roundtrip
Elevation gain: 80 feet
Marking: Purple arrows
Difficulty: Moderate
Time: 30 minutes

To get to the trail, follow the Charles River Path (red arrows) northbound for 0.1 mi. from the Longfellow Pond parking lot to the top of the esker. Take the trail to the right (purple arrows) and ascend to the highest point on the esker (80 feet above the pond).

Descend off the esker, circle around a drumlin and briefly join the Charles River Path. Turn left just before Longfellow Pond, ascend the esker, and continue to the start of the loop.

Charles River Path

Distance: 0.4 mile, north; 0.4 mile, south
Elevation gain: 80 feet
Marking: Red arrows
Difficulty: Moderate
Time: 45 minutes

Northbound: Facing the pond, take the trail on the right side of the Longfellow Pond parking lot. After the butterfly garden, turn right, and ascend to the top of the esker. To the left and right is the Esker Trail (purple arrows). Descend gradually, and turn left at trail sign for Fiske School. Briefly join the Esker Trail, then follow trail to Rt. 9 along a small esker.

Southbound: Start across Oakland Street at the entrance to the Longfellow Pond parking lot. Cross the footbridge, ascend to the top of the esker, and follow the ups and downs of the trail along the esker to the Sudbury Path along the Sudbury Aqueduct.

Trail Use Guidelines

- All motorized use prohibited.
- No littering or dumping.
- No fires or smoking.
- No camping.
- No alcoholic beverages.
- Do not feed, approach or touch wildlife, including waterfowl.
- Take personal protection measures to reduce your exposure to ticks and mosquito bites.
- Abide by town's restriction of no more than 2 dogs per person or 3 dogs with a permit.
- Please pick up after your dog and properly dispose of the waste. Thanks!

Contact Information

For additional information on Wellesley's trails and to report trail problems, please go to our web site, call us, send email, or visit us at the NRC office.

- Web Site: www.wellesleytrails.org
- Phone: 781-431-1019, extension 2294
- Email: trails@wellesleyma.gov
- Address: Town Hall, 525 Washington Street, Wellesley, MA 02482.

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Trail Guide & Map



Town Forest Longfellow Pond Ollie Turner Park

Wellesley Natural Resources Commission

Wellesley Trails Committee
www.wellesleytrails.org