



## Columbia Trails

Columbia's public trails are owned by the town, the state, or Joshua's Land Trust, and are maintained by volunteers. Only the rail trails are multi-use trails - allowing hikers, bicycles, and horses. All other trails are pedestrians only. None allow motor vehicles. The town and Trust trails are marked with paint blazes.

Please observe normal trail courtesy. Keep your pet under control. Clean up after your pet. Do not collect of plant, animal, or mineral matter. Respect the integrity of historical structures or ruins. Carry out all waste or trash matter. Report any problems with the trail to the Joshua's Trust or the Columbia Conservation Commission.

Enjoy and help protect the scenic and historic beauty of our town!

### Mono Pond Recreation Area

(State: 180 acres)

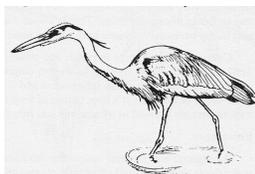
1. The main parking lot off Hunt Road near Yeoman's Road provides access to two trails which start at the same trail head near a large boulder at the edge of the lot.

The Yellow Trail is a one mile loop. The shoreline portions are popular for fishing access. Part of the Yellow Trail has been developed as a Nature Trail with a guide available on the back of the sign board at the parking area. The guide emphasizes succession of the area from farmland to forest, and the variety of plants and animals in the different habitats along the way.

The Red Trail begins where the Yellow Trail loops back. It is a fairly rough and sometimes wet trail that parallels the shoreline of the pond as far as the main inlet with a short loop at the end that then returns you along the same path. One way: one mile

2. Park at the dead end of Lake Ridge Road, the main road through the Island Woods Subdivision. The White Trail is a half mile loop through second growth forest. The trail begins at either side of the cul de sac. It is fairly level and dry year round.

Adjacent abandoned roads access Columbia's "ghost town" Wells Woods. These roads are now privately owned and permission is necessary to walk them.



### Recreation Park / Utley Hill Area

(Town and Land Trust: 233 acres)

See separate map and trail guide for more detail.

3. There are two short white blazed connector trails that lead from either end of the rear parking lot at Rec Park to the Utley Preserve's Yellow Loop Trail. The Yellow Loop is 1 1/4 miles long and is signposted at main intersections.

4. Limited parking off Lake Road opposite Erdoni Road gives access to the other end of the Yellow Loop Trail, and closest access to the White Trail, a loop trail on the south side of Utley Brook which passes historic mill ruins.



### Potter's Meadow

(Joshua's Trust : 34 acres)

5. Parking is at the end of Commerce Drive. This preserve lies entirely in the Ten Mile and Willimantic River floodplains and is often impassable after heavy rains. Insects and ticks can be numerous.

The Yellow Trail here provides a one mile loop along river and marsh with excellent wildlife viewing opportunities.

### Airline Rail Trail

(State: six miles, but continues to East Hampton)

6. This trail has a number of access points. Parking is limited at all of them. The trail is under restoration. Currently it provides a level and wide but sometimes rough trail along scenic portions of the Lebanon-Columbia border. Abutting property is private, so please keep to the trail.

### Charter Oak Rail Trail

(State: five miles, but continues to Vernon)

7. This trail has a number of access points. Parking is best off Hop River and Parker Bridge Roads in Coventry. The trail parallels and recrosses the Hop River numerous times. The trail is wide and level with new bridges. Abutting property is private, so please keep to the trail.

### Szegda Farm

(Town: 135 acres, trails 1.5 miles)

8. The parking area off Szegda Road is signposted Szegda Farm: Upper Trails. Two 3/4 mile loops.

Purple Loop: fairly level trail leading through a variety of habitats

Yellow Loop: reached from the Purple Trail - a woodland trail with views from a rocky ridgeline. One steeper section.

