Did you know you can hop on the East Coast Greenway in Columbia and walk or bike to Key West, Florida? Or, north to Calais, Maine? Or, take a shorter jaunt to Portland, CT? No matter the trail, there’s diverse habitats and beautiful scenery to enjoy.

Please help to protect habitats by: taking only photographs, leaving only footprints, keeping dogs on-leash, and respecting private property.

Motorized vehicles are not permitted on any trail.
Szedga Farm was acquired in 2008 with funding from Columbia’s Open Space funds and State of Connecticut DEP grant. The goal is to preserve open space and passive recreation and enable active use of agricultural lands. Szedga Farm includes 1.8 miles of hiking trails. There are two parking areas on Szedga Road, a small lot serving the Upper Trails on the east and a larger lot for the Lower Trails to the west, the two areas are connected by an unblazed mown trail through the field. Visit ColumbiaCT.org for a map of Szedga Farms Trails.

The Upper trails consist of the Habitat and Ridge Top Trails. Habitat Loop (purple blaze) is a mostly level trail that passes through a variety of habitats that are great for observing wildlife, vernal pool wetlands, early succession fields, and a hardwood forest. Ridgetop Trail (yellow blaze) climbs to the top of a rocky ridge with nice views in winter, then descends fairly steeply to a small hemlock grove and returns below the cliffs.

The Lower Trails consist of a Multi-use Trail and the Quarry Trail. The Multi-use Trail (red blaze) follows old farm roads along the edge of an old hayfield and then to the top of a ridge. A nice intermediate trail for cross-country skiing; also permitted on this trail is horseback riding and bicycles. The Quarry Trail (blue blaze), somewhat a misnomer as the old quarry was very small, leads to a rocky knoll with seasonal views of the valley below.

Potter Meadow Preserve (Joshua’s Trust) [5] Potter Meadow was given to the Trust by Whitehall Properties in 1988. It is a 34-acre parcel that lies entirely within the floodplain of the Willimantic and Ten Mile Rivers, and may be impassable after heavy rains. Long used by the Potter family as pasture land, today it provides excellent wildlife habitat with a variety of wetland and riparian types as well as an adjacent sandy area used as a turtle nesting area. Access is at the end of Commerce Drive. Trail maps are available at www.joshuastrust.org.

Sunrise Drive Preserve (Columbia) [9] located at the end of Sunrise Drive, a trail leads to the Ten Mile River.

Ten Mile River Access (Columbia) [10] located at the end of Samuel Hill Road, there is a hiking trail and fishing along the Ten Mile River.

Columbia Town Green (Columbia) [11] Found at the intersection of Route 87 and Route 66 in the center of town, is the Town Green and the Town Hall Campus with the Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices, Yeomans Hall, Town Hall Annex, The History Place, Saxton B. Little Library, Chapel on the Green, Moor’s Charity School and Horace Porter School. The grounds are landscaped and have several war memorials around the flag poles and other memorials that have been placed over the years.