

Parks & Preserves

Take a Walk With Us!

Click on www.MansfieldCT.org/TrailGuides/ to download interpretive trail guides for parks and preserves owned and managed by the Town of Mansfield. These trail guides contain up - to - date information and maps of Mansfield's Parks and Preserves in an easy - to - use format. You may also purchase all trail guides in a sturdy folder for \$7.50 at the Mansfield Community Center.



The following natural areas have been purchased for your enjoyment using Mansfield's Open Space Acquisition Fund.

2. Coney Rock Preserve - Access from Chaffeeville Road. Loop trail climbs through old pastures reverting to forest. Cliff on top offers views of Mansfield Hollow State Park.

3. Dunhamtown Forest - Access from Dunham Pond Road. Hiking trails (includes loop trail) through mature forest. Managed as a demonstration forest.

4. Eagleville Preserve - Access from Eagleville Dam through State land. Loop trail along scenic bend of Willimantic River and through old pasture reverting to forest.

5. Fifty-foot Cliff Preserve - Access from behind Old Town Hall on Rte 195. Forested trails culminating in cliff with views across the Fenton River Valley and Mansfield Hollow State Park. Nipmuck Trail connects this preserve with adjacent State land.

Donated to the Town by the Merrow Family

6. Merrow Meadow Park - Access from Merrow Road. Along the Willimantic River. Canoe launch. Loop trail through meadows, wetlands and forest. Handicap accessible with part of trail paved.

7. Mt. Hope Park - Access from Rte 89. Loop trail through meadows and woodlands leading to a pond and the Mt. Hope River.

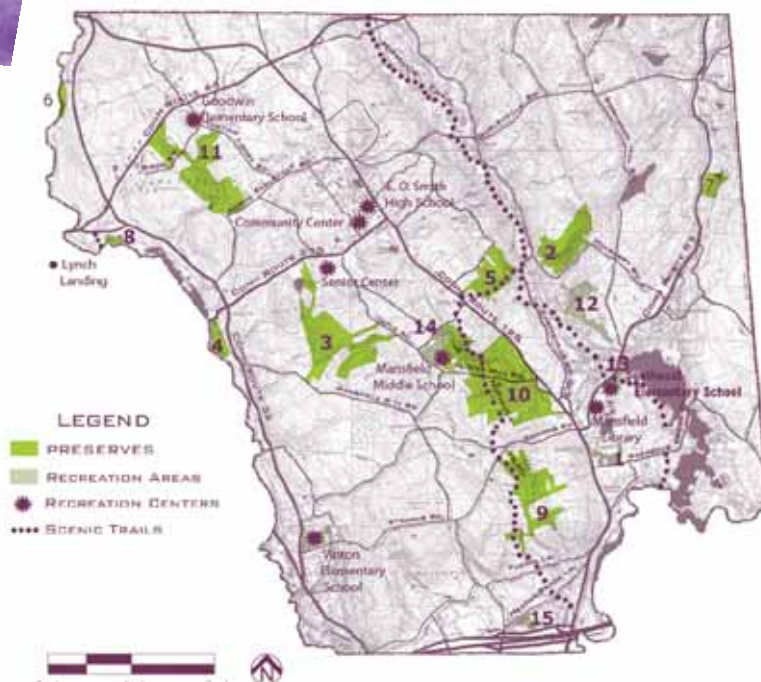
8. River Park - Access from Plains Road. Wheel chair accessible Canoe/Kayak launch along the Willimantic River. Trail link to Lynch Landing. Part of the Willimantic River Greenway Mid River Trail.

10. Schoolhouse Brook Park - Access from Clovermill Road and Mansfield Middle School. Nineteen trails, including a portion of the Nipmuck Trail, through mature woods. Views of colonial mill site and house sites. Park includes Bicentennial Pond Recreation Area.

11. Shelter Falls - Access from Birch Road. Waterfall and scenic rock formations along Cedar Swamp Brook. Connecting trails to UConn lands and adjacent DEP land.

Links

Both public and private organizations offer recreation opportunities in open spaces in Mansfield and many of them are linked to town parks. For more information about these organizations click on www.MansfieldCT.org.



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New

Farmer's Market Kitchen

Learn to create simple delicious dishes from foods gleaned from Storrs Farmers' Market. This series of farm to fork cooking demonstrations will provide simple tasty recipes made from fresh ingredients grown on local farms. Each class different ingredients will be featured depending on availability. Examples include: salad mixes, spinach, strawberries, herbs, summer squash, tomatoes, blueberries, corn, beans, etc. Bring your appetite and join us on the last Saturday of each month right before the Storrs Farmers' Market begins to be inspired by the seasonal bounty available to us all summer long.

Instructor: Rebecca Canfield is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America. She has built a career around supporting and sustaining a local food system. Now a resident of Storrs, Rebecca has lived and cooked in Seattle, Washington and Missoula, Montana. Her love of good, wholesome, and simple food drives her support of local, sustainable food producers. Co-sponsored by Mansfield's Agriculture Committee.

Location: CC Community Room

Day: (510001-E) Sat., Sept. 26

(510001-F) Sat., Oct. 31

Time: 1-2:30 p.m.

Fee: \$10/class for residents \$20

class for non-residents OR

(There will be an additional ingredients fee of up to \$5 collected by the instructor at each class).

Explore Mansfield's Parks
by joining Friends of Mansfield Parks (FOMP)
for the following FREE family events.

Kayak Trials, Backyard Games, and Guided Walks -River Park

Join Mansfield Parks and Recreation for free Kayak trials, guided walks and backyard games (volleyball and badminton) at River Park, along the Willimantic River, state designated greenway. Eight kayaks are available to rent for a nominal fee at the Mansfield Community Center. Volleyball and Badminton sets are also available to rent.

Location: River Park (Plains Road on the Willimantic River)

Date(s): Sat, Sept 12

Time: 9-11 a.m.

Fee: Free

The Historic Sites of Dunhamtown

Bring your family for a tour of the historic sites of Dunhamtown Forest. This 226-acre Town-owned preserve contains numerous historic features and hiking trails traveling over ridges and valleys. This property was farmed by the Dunham family from 1695 until the early 20th century. When farming was abandoned, the property grew into a diverse forest with 50-to 130-year-old trees. Learn about the cemetery where the Dunhams were buried, the old stone dam owned by the Donovan family from 1885 into the 20th century, and a stone foundation that formerly supported a home. Recommended for children age 5 and over.

Instructor: Michelle Baughman, Mansfield Parks Advisory Committee

Location: Dunhamtown Forest White Oak Road Entrance

Date: Sat., Nov. 7

Time: (211002-A) 1 p.m.

Fee: Free

Nature Reading Group

Join our Mansfield Parks/Joshua's Trust Nature Reading Group as we discuss the classics of American environmental literature. Our fall reading list includes topics on wilderness exploration, local history, observations about humans intersecting with nature, and the future of the conservation. On Nov. 5 join us for a discussion of Linda Hogan's *Dwellings: A Spiritual History of the Living World*, an amazing, humbling, and often inspiring melding of wonderful descriptions of the environment with poignant reflections on humans' place in the world and our relation with other beings in nature. Dec. 3rd's discussion will concern Diana Muir's *Reflections in Bullough's Pond: Economy and Ecosystem in New England*. Those concerned with the tensions between economic success and the deterioration of the natural systems that supply essential services to the human economy will enjoy this read.

Instructor: Jean Haskell and Madge Manfred

Location: CC Teen Center

Date(s): Thurs., Nov. 5

Thurs., Dec. 3

Time: (211004-A) 7:30-9 p.m.

Fee: Free

NATURAL AREAS VOLUNTEERS (NAV)

NAV is a volunteer corps sponsored by Mansfield Parks and Recreation, the Parks Advisory Committee. Workday Volunteers attend workdays as their schedules permit, helping with supervised projects such as trail blazing and natural area improvements. Service groups are welcome, as are children over 8 when accompanied by an adult. All participants are required to pre-register by the Thursday before the workday by calling 429-3015.

FALL NAV Work Days

Sat., Sept. 12, 10 a.m.-noon

Call for location.

Sat., Sept. 19, 10 a.m.-noon

Call for location

Sat., Sept. 26, 10 a.m.-noon

Call for location

Sat., Oct. 3, 10 a.m.-noon

Call for location

Sat., Oct. 17, 10 a.m.-noon

Call for location

Sat., Oct. 24, 10 a.m.-noon

Call for location

Parks & Preserves



WALKTOBER

For the 19th year the Last Green Valley is sponsoring WALKTOBER. Enjoy the many free, guided walks and experience the natural, historical and cultural treasures of "The Last Green Valley." The complete walk schedule, with directions and descriptions, is available at the Mansfield Community Center and is posted on www.thelastgreenvalley.org.

Below is a listing of WALKTOBER events sponsored or co-sponsored by the Mansfield Parks Advisory Committee and are Free of Charge:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 10 a.m.

A Fifty-foot View-(Fifty-foot Cliff Preserve) From the intersection of Rt. 275 and Rt. 195, head south on Rt. 195 for 1.25 miles. Turn left at the Mansfield Historical Society

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 11 a.m.

Merrow Village and Mill Walk (Merrow Meadow). From the intersection of Rt. 195 and Rt. 32, head south on Rt. 32 for .83 miles. Turn right onto Merrow Rd. and go for 0.1 miles. Parking entrance in on the left.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 25, 1 p.m.

Between a Rock and a Marshy Place (Wolf Rock Preserve and Sawmill Brook Preserve). Going south on Rt 195 in Mansfield make a right onto Brown's Road next to the Congregational Church and near the intersection with Rt. 89. Go up a long hill and at the first fork, take the left onto Crane Hill. The trail is a short way down on the right. Park along roadside.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 10 a.m.

A "Hunt" in the Woods- family scavenger hunt. (Dunhamtown Forest). Head south on Rt. 32, at .8 miles from junction with Rt. 275 turn left onto Mansfield City Road. At 1.2 miles turn left onto White Oak Rd. The Parking lot will be .2 mile up on the left.

Lew DeCinque
Owner

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<p>Monday 1:00 - 7:00 appt. & walk in w/Michelle Tues. 8:00 - 7:00 Wed. 8:00 - 5:00</p>	<p>Thurs. 8:00 - 5:00 also appt. w/Lew after 5 Fri. 8:00 - 5:00 Sat. 7:00 - 3:00</p>
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