

**MAJOR TRAILS IN THE
GROTON STATE FOREST
AREA, INCLUDING
LEVI POND W.M.A.**

LEGEND

- Town Highway
- State Forest Road
- Multi-Use Trail/Road
- Hiking
- Stream

- Mtn. Peak
- Wetland
- Parking Area
- Trail Described in Text





(Trail distances are for one way travel)

7. Coldwater Brook Trail (1.9 miles, 1 hour) A moderate trail through diverse woods. Some rocky sections at the upper end of the trail. Starts at the Nature Center parking lot, climbs an embankment, then traverses flat terrain following the brook. Crosses Peacham Bog Trail (0.4 mile) and turns left, ascending gradually. (Elev. Chg.: 1086 ft - 1575 ft)

8. Owls Head Trail

(1.5 miles, 1 hour) An easy walk to a scenic vista of Lake Groton, Kettle Pond and the Green Mountains. Trail starts off the road from New Discovery to the Osmore Pond scenic area. Level to intermediate terrain. Bypassing a swampy area, trail descends and then climbs to parking lot. The trail to the top continues to the left, following the rock steps of a path built by the CCC in the 1930's. (Elev. Chg.: 1746 ft - 1958 ft)

9. Kettle Pond Trail

(3 miles, 2 1/2 hours) This moderate walk goes around a secluded lake. Trail leaves the parking lot off the forest road. The trail divides for a short distance (0.2 mile). One way follows the pond's edge while the other is a more direct route through the woods. At the far end (south side) of the pond, the trail is rocky and wet. Ends at Kettle Pond Group Camping Area. (Elev. Chg.: 1443ft - 1477ft)

10. Peacham Bog Loop Trail

(4.5 miles, 3.5 hours) A moderate hike through diverse woods with an opportunity to view Peacham Bog and a beaver dam. The trail can be accessed by hiking the Little Loop Trail, which begins at corner of Nature Center parking lot. The trail crosses a gravel road and heads east for two miles to a viewing platform on the edge of Peacham Bog. **Caution:** the bog is fragile. Please make your impact as light as possible and stay on the trail. After the bog, you will take a right on a dirt road which will eventually turn to trail again, heading westward until it reconnects with the gravel road. Take a right and follow the road until it meets up with the trail again. (Elev. Chg: 1086 ft - 1526 ft)

11. Silver Ledge Trail

(0.6 mile, 1/2 hour) Trail heads off the Beaver Brook Road and crosses level terrain for a short distance. After crossing the brook, trail climbs steeply. Ends at a split boulder with views of Lake Groton and Beaver Meadows. (Elev. Ch.: 1358 ft - 1838 ft)

12. Railroad Bed

Good place for walking, bicycling or horseback riding.

13. Little Loop Trail

(0.8 miles, 45 minutes) Access Little Loop at corner of Nature Center parking lot. This short loop has a vista overlooking a wetland. Both Coldwater Brook Trail and Peacham Bog Loop can be reached from this trail.

1. Big Deer Mt. Trail from New Discovery State Park

(1.7 miles, 1 hour) This easy trail passes through the forest and climbs up to scenic vistas. From New Discovery's Loop B, turn left onto the road to Peacham Pond. After 0.3 miles, the trail leaves the road in a red pine plantation. Trail is fairly level for most of its distance but climbs steeply from trail junction (1.1 mile) to ridge top. Views include Peacham Pond, Peacham Bog and the White Mts. (Elevation Change: 1746 ft - 1992 ft)

2. New Discovery Campground to Osmore Pond Trail (0.5 mile, 1/2 hour) Trail starts from New Discovery's Loop B next to the bathhouse, travels downhill, passing through a spruce-fir stand and an old fuelwood logging area. At the pond, the trail joins the Osmore Pond Hiking Loop. (Elev. Chg: 1746 ft-1456 ft)

3. Osmore Pond Hiking Loop

(2 miles, 2 hours) This scenic loop begins at the Osmore Pond picnic shelter. The trail veers south, away from the pond edge. It passes under a powerline just before the junction with the Little Deer Trail (0.6 mile). Continuing around the pond, the trail crosses Hosmer Brook and heads north to the trail junction. At the north end of pond, trail may be wet near the junction with the trail from New Discovery Campground. The trail follows the pond back to the picnic shelter. (Elev. Chg.: 1456 ft - 1477 ft)

4. Little Deer Trail

(0.5 miles, 1/2 hour) Leaves south end of Osmore Pond Hiking Loop (0.6 miles from shelter). Trail follows a powerline for a short distance before heading uphill, steeply at times, to a ridge top. Good views of Lake Groton and surrounding mountains. (Elev. Chg: 1456 ft - 1760 ft)

5. Big Deer Mt. Trail (from Osmore Pond Hiking Loop) (0.9 miles, 3/4 hour) Starts at the intersection of the hiking loop and Hosmer Brook Trail. Climbs steeply, then descends to cross a marshy area before joining the trail from New Discovery, to ascend to the top for several scenic vistas. (Elev. Chg: 1456 ft - 1992 ft)

6. Hosmer Brook Trail

(1.3 miles, 1 hour) This moderate trail winds through woods and by a quiet stream. Some rocky sections. Starts on the road to Boulder Beach just west of Big Deer Camp-ground and ascends gradually. Midway, the trail begins to follow the brook. Trail ends shortly after leaving the brookside at the junction of the Osmore Pond Hiking Loop and Big Deer Mt. Trail. (Elev. Chg: 1086 ft - 1456 ft)

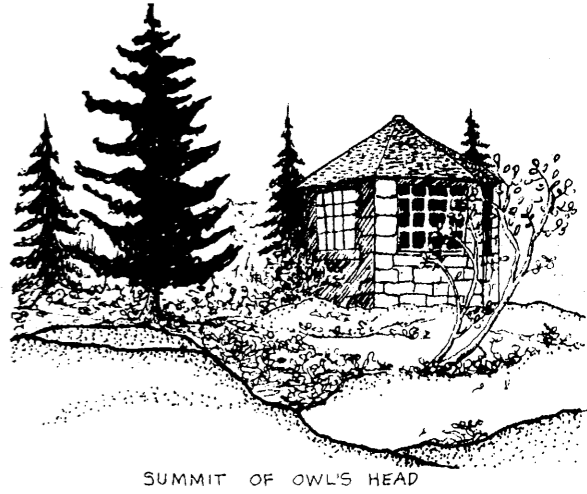
Nature Center Loop Trails

■ **The Nature Trail** is a 0.6-mile self-guided walk through diverse woods. Brochures are available at the Nature Center or from the ranger station.
■ **Little Loop Trail** is a 0.9 mile unguided trail. (See description at right) **Both trails are easy.**

This brochure available on request in large print, braille and audio tape
Printed on recycled paper 12/05

The Groton State Forest Trail System

- Hiking/snowshoeing trails are shown as a **single dashed line** on the map and are marked with **blue paint**.
- Multi-purpose trails are shown with a **double dashed line** and are marked with orange reflectorized diamonds. They are intended for almost any use, including mountain bicycling, horseback riding, and cross-country skiing and snowmobiling in the winter (trail bikes and all-terrain vehicles are prohibited on state land).
- The forest boundaries are blazed in red, please respect private property.
- The Groton State Forest is being managed as a multiple use unit by the Department of Forests and Parks to provide maximum recreation, wild-life, water and wood product benefits.



Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation

FOREST INFORMATION

At over 25,000 acres, Groton State Forest is the second largest contiguous land holding of the State of Vermont. This scenic and rugged place is known for its developed camping facilities. It offers a wide range of outdoor recreational opportunities. Though only a half-hour drive from Barre, Montpelier, or St. Johnsbury, Groton Forest retains a sense of wilderness and supports a wide variety of wildlife, including black bear, moose, deer, grouse, mink, beaver, otter, fisher, loons and herons. A variety of fish are found in the clear ponds and brooks.

A year-round trail system connects most major points of interest. Peacham Bog Natural Area (748 acres) contains one of the largest bogs in Vermont, and is home to some interesting and unusual plants and animals. The summit of Owls Head Mountain, accessible by trail or the summer road that leads almost to the top, offers spectacular panoramic views of the surrounding area.