

The Conservation Land

This conservation area in West Concord is bordered by Laws Brook Road, Domino Drive, and Conant Street and is a 21-acre haven of woodland and marsh in a mixed commercial and high-density residential area. When purchased by Concord for use as conservation land, it included an exposed gravel pit, mixed hardwood growth, and a maple swamp, a neglected area previously referred to as The Pigeon Hill Lot.

The park land was formed from two abutting properties, the first purchased by the Town in 1962 from the Nocella family. The second was purchased in 1974 to preserve the Pigeon Hill high point of land that was slated for leveling as part of Domino business development. The hill and lowlands remain today as an important buffer between residential and commercial properties and help to protect the Warner's Pond watershed.

From its hard-scrabble past, followed by 40 years of little improvement as a conservation land, the park was revitalized in 2014. Trails were cleared and blazed, with a new access developed through Warner Woods from Laws Brook Road, invasive Japanese knotweed was removed from the Conant Street entrance, and an information kiosk was installed.

Location and Access

Access with street parking is located along Domino Drive off Conant Street or in a small parking lot behind Rideout Playground on Conant Street. Entrance to the conservation land is at the kiosk at the corner of Conant Street and Domino Drive. There are three other access points: one from Blue Jay Drive and two from Laws Brook Road where there is no parking.

Dog Owners: Keep dogs under your control at all times and away from private yards and buildings. It is the duty of each person who owns, possesses, or controls a dog to remove and dispose of any waste left by his or her dog.

Suggested Walk

From the Conant Street kiosk follow the main yellow blazed trail to the third junction with a red trail. Turn left onto the red trail around a marsh to the blue trail. Turn left onto the blue trail then right on the Main yellow trail back to the kiosk. Walking time 25 minutes.

Points of Interest

Varied Topography

The topography varies greatly, from the high ground of Pigeon Hill to the large bogs 60 feet below. The areas scarred by past gravel removal have forested over, leaving a pleasant natural setting for a brief walk.

Northern Bog Habitat

The park contains bogs of peaty deposits more typical of northern Maine and New Brunswick. The gradual accumulation of decayed plant material in these bogs functions as a carbon sink, making them ecologically important. They are fed entirely from precipitation and ground runoff, resulting in water that is acidic and low in nutrients, especially suited for the growth of flowering shrubs that root in sphagnum moss and peat. The bogs provide a habitat for a distinct group of plant and animal species, making them important for biodiversity.



Kiosk Installation



West Concord Park Trail Guide



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West Concord Park Trail Map

- — — Main (yellow blazes)
- . . . Secondary (red blazes)
- - - Connecting (blue blazes)
- - - Other Private Trails
- Railroads
- Pavement
- Contours
- Wetlands
- Town Conservation Land
- Right-of-Way
- Parking
- Buildings
- Pigeon Hill Peak
- Kiosk

0 75 150 Feet

Contour Interval 10 feet

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1 inch = 226 feet

Revised 5/15/15