

Peacham Pathways:

Town Forest Loop (12 miles) and Foster Pond Trail (4 miles)

This walking route begins at the historic Roller Barn in Peacham Corner, follows town roads to Penny Street and winds its way over the hill to the Town Forest, where moderate hiking trails lead to the ledges on Cow Hill and through the Town Forest to Mack's Mountain Road. The route then continues along that road onto Lanesboro and Foster Pond Road. The route follows an abandoned town road to its conclusion at Green Bay Loop.

Directions to Cow Hill (Town Forest Loop) and Mack's Mountain Road

Proceed from the trailhead at the Roller Barn and take a left onto Mack's Mountain Road, follow it uphill for 34 mile to the junction with Ha'Penny Street. Make a right onto Ha'Penny Street and after 1 mile a left onto Penny Street. Continue up hill for 2.2 miles to a gate at the last driveway on Penny Street. Along the way, you will pass several historic homes, a former one-room schoolhouse and numerous cellar holes. After a gate, proceed on the abandoned upper section of Penny Street over the hill to the Town Forest, taking care to stay left on this road at the fork with a VAST trail about ¼ mile past the gate. After 1 mile, you will reach the Peacham Town Forest and a trail kiosk. Watch for the trail marker for the Cow Hill trail to the right. The blue-blazed trail takes you to two overlooks on the ledges of Cow Hill. There are some steeper sections along this 0.8 mile trail, but overall the difficulty remains moderate. The ledges offer beautiful views of Camel's Hump and other mountains in the far distance and are a good spot for a picnic. Retrace your steps back to the kiosk in the Town Forest opening. You may want to turn around and return to your starting point. Alternatively, you can proceed south for 1.5 miles along the blazed wooded trail through the Town Forest and continuing on private land around Lookout Mountain to Mack's Mountain Road. From there go left along Mack's Mountain Road for 2.6 miles to a right onto Lanesboro Road for 0.6 miles, followed by a left onto the Foster Pond Road for 0.6 miles to the Fishing Access.

Directions to the Foster Pond Trail to Green Bay Loop

As an alternative to walking the full route, you can drive to the Foster Pond Fishing Access parking lot and start your hike. Walk up from the pond, take a left onto Foster Pond Road and continue for about 1 mile along this legal trail, staying left at the fork to a driveway. In less than a mile you will reach an open wetland area with a small bridge crossing. Depending on the season and beaver activity, this part of the trail may be wet. Proceed for 0.9 miles from the bridge crossing along the blazed route to the end of the trail on Green Bay Loop. Return to parking lot or continue to Devil's Hill.

<u>Parking:</u> Available at the Roller Barn; along the upper parts of Penny Street; Foster Pond Fishing Access parking lot; at the trailhead on Green Bay Loop; and the Devil's Hill Trail parking area.

<u>Uses</u>: The trails are open to foot traffic. Bicycles and motorized vehicles are only permitted on Town roads. Pets are permitted. Please respect private land.

Extension Suggestions: The Foster Pond section of the trail ends on Green Bay Loop. One extension is to follow that road south for 0.7 miles, turn right at the sign to Devil's Hill and continue 0.9 miles to a small parking area at the Devils Hill trailhead. It is about a mile to the top of Devil's Hill, which has great views of Peacham Bog, the hills in Groton State Forest, and higher Vermont mountains towards the west. A second extension takes you to Peacham Bog. Follow Green Bay Loop ½ mile past the Martin's Pond Fishing Access and take the right at the kiosk on a Groton State Forest Road and follow that road 1.6 miles to the crossing of Red Brook. From the crossing it is about ¼ mile along the road to the trailhead of the Peacham Bog trail on the left.