

Dark Hollow Preserve

Trail Distances

Returning by Road:

Summit Trail ~ 1.3 miles

Lower Trail ~ 0.9 miles

Farnum Field Trail
.5 miles

Difficulty:
EASY



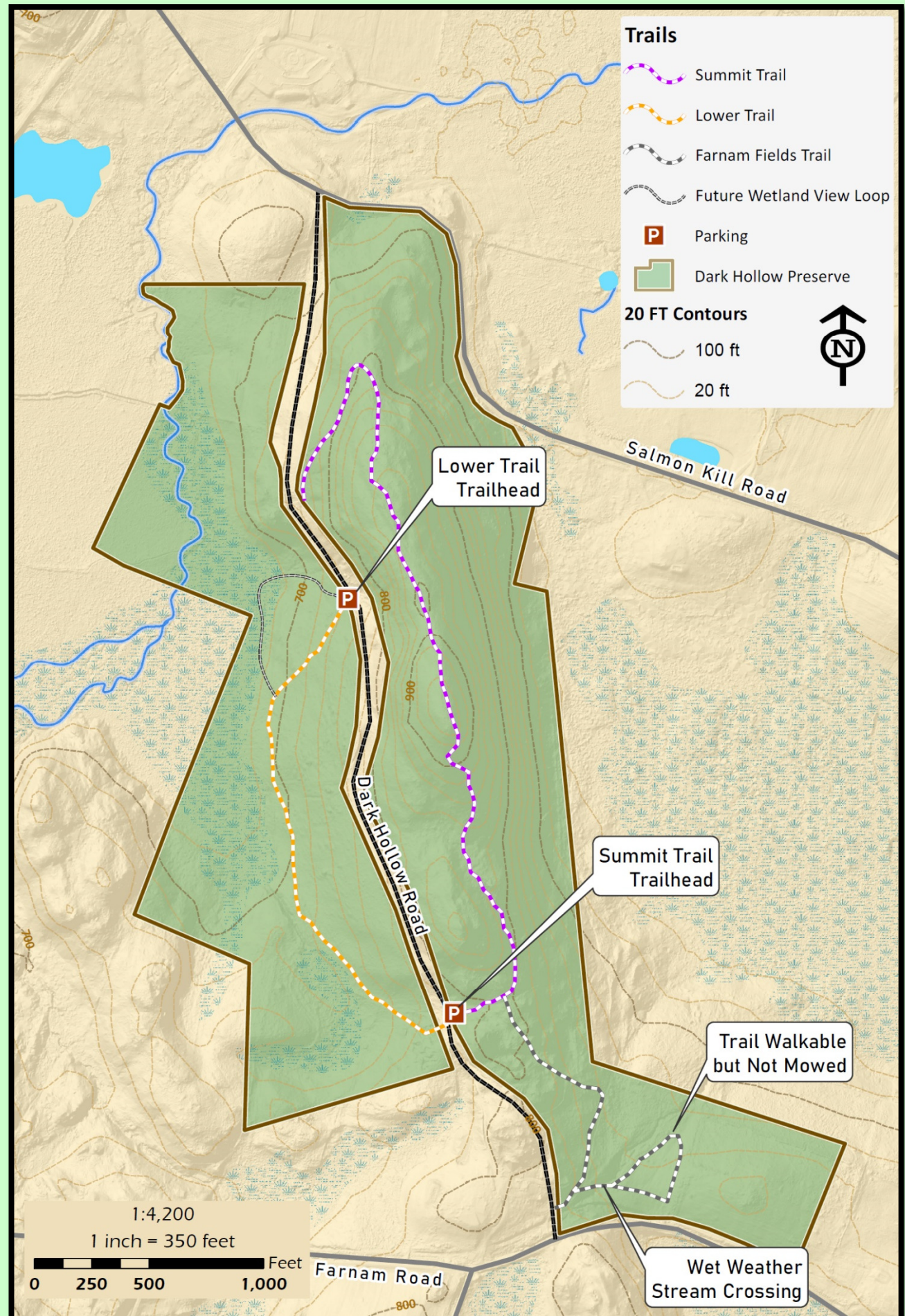
Leave No Trace,
keep our preserves clean

Open dawn to dusk

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Dark Hollow is a 140 acre wooded preserve that lines both sides of Dark Hollow Road, a quiet 1 mile dirt road that is closed to vehicular traffic in winter. It runs from Salmon Kill Road, approximately 1/4 mile from the intersection of Route 44, for 1 mile to Farnam Road. The east side is a rocky hemlock covered outcrop. The west side descends to wetlands and Factory Brook.

There are 3 trails; The Summit Trail 1.3 miles, the Lower Trail .9 miles and the Farnum Field Trail a short .5 miles. There are different trail heads but the trails can be combined using sections of Dark Hollow road so you end up where you started. As an alternative many people just walk the quiet road.

The Dark Hollow preserve started with a 5 acre donation in 1993 from Louise Gross. In 2003 123 acres were purchased from the Cannon family with financing from the State of Connecticut Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition program, the Belcher Charitable Trust, and many generous Salisbury donors. In 2008 an additional 12 acres were purchased from the Pope Family.

The land was once part of a holding of Yale College. James Fitch of Norwalk gave Yale 637 acres in Killingly, CT and "all the glass and nails which should be necessary to build a college house and hall." Yale traded this for 628 acres in Salisbury in 1730. From 1829 to 1927 it was leased from Yale and was part of the Salisbury Asylum, a refuge for the poor and a 'bettering house' for evil doers.



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