



Trail System

Forty Four Acre Camp Denison currently has 9 trails in the system, as well as access trails from the Lodge to 2 Parking Areas. All trails are available from sun-up to sun-set the year round for hiking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, birdwatching, nature walks, etc. Not allowed are bicycles, horses, motorized vehicles, camping, alcohol, fires, illegal substances, smoking, hunting or target shooting.

Trails have white Blazes which carry a Trail Color ID. One Blaze means straight ahead and two off-set blazes mean a turn ahead to right or left. A large Trail Map is mounted at the Trail Head; approximately 238yds (0.13mi.) from Nelson St. Small hand maps with description of each trail, approximate length, terrain, etc. are available free as a brochure at the Trail Head. There are five orientation sites marked by white numbered posts. Parking Areas are noted on all maps, but space is limited at the Trail Head and Camp Road Entry.



RED TRAIL --- Opens up about 10 acres of previously unused Denison land. Primarily mature hardwood forest with a few pines. Terrain is most hilly of Denison acreage with a series of rather steep hills overlooking the Old Railroad Bed which runs from Boxford to Byfield through Georgetown. The trail is laid out to minimize steepest terrain; rather, it works back and forth along the peaks to offer relatively gentle climbing and downhill sections; however, it is not recommended for cross-country skiers! Primarily borders the East property line stonewall and runs from the Trail Head to the Playing Field/Parking Area. It joins the Green Trail just before reaching the Playing Field/Parking Area. Connects to Brown Trail at East edge of field, or Yellow Trail at Southeast corner of field, or **Purple Trail** at South edge of field. There is an access road back to **Camp Road** at Southwest corner of field.

Approximate Distances: Trail Head to **Green Trail** --- 704yds. (0.4mi.)

GREY TRAIL (x 2) --- This trail travels across the gentler Western slope of the higher Red Trail hills primarily to allow cross-country skiers, hikers or snowshoers a course of climbing and downhill runs w/o sharp turns. After leaving the Trail Head on the Red Trail, the Grey Trail veers South away from the Red shortly after crossing a stonewall and rejoins it just before the Red Trail merges with the Green Trail near the Playing Field/Parking Area. The Grey Trail passes and old "dug" well hole and an apparent old grave-site. The trail also has an option of a broader, flatter segment if desired.

Approximate Distances: Red Trail to **Red Trail** --- 185yds. (0.1mi.)

PURPLE TRAIL (x 2) --- Access trails to the Main Parking Lot and the Auxiliary Parking Area at the Playing Field.

Approximate Distances:
Main Parking Lot to Lodge --- 157yds. (0.09mi.)
Aux. Parking Lot to Lodge --- 282yds. (0.198mi.)

GREEN TRAIL --- Essentially a shortcut from the Trail Head to Playing Field/Parking Area and access to Brown Trail and Yellow Trail, or doubling back to Trail Head via Red Trail.

Moderate terrain and skirts some seasonally marshy areas. Point of interest is an old stone foundation from a bygone farm building just a short way from the Trail Head with a well preserved water well nearby. There is also a shortcut "Annex" around steep hill to Grey or Red trails.

Approximate Distances:
Trail Head to Brown Trail --- 206yds. (0.117mi.)
Trail Head to Yellow Trail --- 266yds. (0.15mi.)

BROWN TRAIL --- Primarily a straight access from the Green Trail to the Old Railroad Bed. Passes through mature as well as young pine forests. Turn right (South) at Old Railroad Bed Post #45 to head toward Yellow Trail Start. Turn right (West) at Old Railroad Bed Pole #46 to access Yellow Trail.

Approximate Distances Brown Trail to Yellow Trail --- 255yds. (0.15mi.)



YELLOW TRAIL --- Starting at Old
Railroad Bed Pole #46 it follows the Camp
Denison/Baldpate Pond shoreline within 5-20yds.
Meets Green Trail just short of Playing
Field/Parking Area. Continues through the Cabin
Area and across Foot Bridge prior to passing
through Lodge grounds on way to meeting Blue
Trail (route back to Trail Head) and the Foot
Bridge for access to Boxford State Forest. Yellow

Approximate Distances:
Old Rail Bed to Green Trail ---163yds. (0.093mi.)
Old Rail Bed to Blue Trail --- 697yds. (0.4mi.)

are 3 bird-watching benches along this trail.

Trail can also be accessed at Lodge grounds. There

BLUE TRAIL --- Generally follows the West property line stonewall from the Trail Head. Adjoins Purple Trail at Foot Bridge over stream until reaching Lodge clearing. A turn to the right (West) leads to Yellow Trail. About 23yds. Yellow Trail taken West leads across stonewall and then a Foot Bridge and thence into Boxford State Forest property.

Approximate Distances:

Trail Head to Yellow Trail --- 518yds. (0.3mi.)



Orange Trail---Begin from Red Trail at top of steep hill overlooking Old Railroad Bed.
(Spectacular views) Continue across cliff top and then down into the valley behind Old Railroad Bed. Then follow bank of excavation pit and into Demonstration Forest. Cross over the Brown Trail and bisect the one acre site North to South. Then join Yellow Trail.
(Not recommended for cross country skiing) Approximate Distance Red Trail to Yellow Trail 400 yds. (.23 mi.)

LONGEST ROUTE --- Trail Head to Red Trail to Orange Trail to Yellow Trail to Blue Trail and back to Trail Head.

Approximate Distance 1,956 yds. (1.11 miles)



Remember that Camp Denison is a Conservation Area. We ask that each person who uses these trails acts as a steward of this land. Always carry out what you carry in. Do not harm or remove plants. Keep pets leashed. Use at your own risk.

Additional Trail-Maps and information at www.campdenison.org

Camp Denison. 84 Nelson St. Georgetown, MA 978.729.6046