



Hanover Pond Trail Map

The map was created using open source software, Geographic Resources Analysis Support System (GRASS). The background is a shaded relief map generated from National Elevation Dataset (NED) data obtained from the United States Geological Survey (USGS), reproduced at a scale of about 1:17,000. Each shade of color represents a change in elevation of 100 ft. Map overlay data were obtained from USGS 1:24,000 scale topographic maps, with GPS field corrections for some brooks.

The location of each trail and landmark was determined from GPS tracks and waypoints recorded during the year 2009. Note that portions of blazed trails may have been relocated since then.

An excellent source of up-to-date information, photos, and activities related to these trails is the Meriden Linear Trails web site.

<http://www.meridenlineartrail.org>

Legend

—	Streets
— · — · —	Phase I Linear Trail (Gorge Trail)
— · — · —	Phase II Linear Trail
— · — · —	Ice House Spur
— · — · —	Unblazed Side Trail
P	Parking
—	Brooks, Ponds
—	Town Line
●	Trail Landmark (No Kiosk)
+	Kiosk

Trail Landmarks [Elevation]

A	Terminus, Phase I (Cheshire)	[115 ft]
B	Carpenter Dam	[100 ft]
C	Toboggan Bridge	[105 ft]
D	Boy Scout Island	[95 ft]
E	Oregon Dam	[95 ft]
F	Meriden/Waterbury Railroad	[100 ft]
G	Lions Club Park (Red Bridge)	[95 ft]
H	Quinnipiac River Watershed Association	[85 ft]
I	Terminus, Phase II (Near Dossin Beach)	[90 ft]
J	Historic Ice House	[90 ft]
K	Historic Hanover Park Bridge	[90 ft]
L	Footbridge (Near Harbor Brook)	[110 ft]
M	Footbridge (Near Platt High School)	[90 ft]
N	Terminus, Phase II (Platt High School)	[100 ft]
O	Historic Hanover Park	[105 ft]

Trail Descriptions

Gorge Trail [Red]

[Easy, 3.0 mi round trip from Dossin Beach Lot] This Linear Trail is paved and ADA (American Disabilities Act) approved. It travels along the Quinnipiac River, through a rock gorge area, following an historic railroad bed. Its scenic views are accompanied by multiple resting areas with informational kiosks. It was completed in 2007.

Phase II Trail [Black]

[Easy, 1.8 mi round trip from Dossin Beach Lot] This Linear Trail is currently under design with an "expected" completion date in 2011. It will be paved and ADA compliant. It follows along Hanover Pond and Sodom brook. It will feature 2 bridges and informational kiosks.

Unpaved Spur Trail [Orange]

[Easy, 0.25 mi round trip from paved trail] This dead end trail is on natural uneven terrain. It begins near the location of an historic Ice House and extends to the mouth of Sodom Brook and Harbor Brook.

Park History

Hanover Pond was created when a dam was built in 1855 to power the Meriden Cutlery Company. In the winter, pond ice was harvested to support local stores and homes. Several parks were developed around the pond over time. Hanover Park (once a major regional attraction) was home to a large amusement park, with theater productions, rides, games, and semi-pro baseball. The bath house for Dossin Beach, built in 1932, is now the Quinnipiac River Watershed Association (QRWA) headquarters building. Boating is returning to this whole area. The Quinnipiac River is stocked every year with trout. If you are quiet and pay attention, you will see much wildlife (and possibly Bald Eagles) less than one mile from downtown Meriden.

The Meriden Linear Trails network follows an historic rail bed. The Meriden, Waterbury & Connecticut River Railroad was built in 1885 and was used until 1917. The Gorge Trail (Phase I) has many historic sites. Carpenters Dam was home to Hough's Mill. Grist was made here and shipped to the West Indies. Oregon Dam was the home of a Button Factory. Red Bridge was built prior to 1890 as a road passage and continues to be a landmark today. Phase II follows Sodom Brook. This quadrant of land, originally Coe Farm, was home to the Meriden Ice Company and a civil war training facility called Camp Tyler.

Hiking Info

Location Hanover Pond is on the Quinnipiac River in South Meriden.

Parking Parking is available at Dossin Beach on the west side of Hanover Pond (with access from Oregon Rd.) and at each terminus.

Terrain/Gear The Meriden Linear Trails offer beautiful views of the Quinnipiac River, Hanover Pond and Sodom Brook. Bring comfortable walking shoes, bicycles, roller blades, strollers, wheelchairs, etc.

Credits Many thanks to Bob Pagini for the cover photograph and to Dwight Needels for the map and GPS data.

Printed courtesy of Connecticut Color, Inc. (located in Meriden, CT).

Order our consolidated trail guide or download free copies of trail guides for other Meriden Parks from our website.

Hanover Pond Hiking Trails



Meriden Land Trust
<http://www.meridenlandtrust.org>