

Passing the Buck Trail

Description:

This 0.75-mile trail connects Buck Hill Road West with Lavigne Hill Road. The gently undulating trail passes through mixed deciduous woods and is suitable for walking, snowshoeing, and X-C skiing. A portion of the trail is located on a permanent trail easement but the rest crosses private properties where the property owners have given permission for the trail – permission that can be revoked, if abused.

A pleasant 1.5-mile counter-clockwise loop can be walked by starting at the Buck Hill Road West trailhead. Enter the woods and walk north along the trail, following it for approximately 0.4 miles, where the trail will turn left (west) and heads downhill to Lavigne Hill Road. Turn left (south) on Lavigne Hill Road and follow it to the four-way intersection with Buck Hill Road West. Turn left (east) and walk up Buck Hill Road to your starting point. Or reverse these directions to walk the loop in a clockwise direction.

Driving Directions:

Buck Hill Road West:

From Hinesburg Town Hall go south on Rte. 116 for approximately 0.7 miles to Buck Hill Road. Turn left on Buck Hill Road and then go about 0.5 miles to a 4-way stop. Proceed straight, going uphill approximately 0.4 miles to the trailhead on your left. Park as far off the road as you can, avoiding blocking traffic and driveways. A two-car pull-off is planned for this trailhead. DO NOT PARK HERE IN WINTER.

Lavigne Hill Road:

From Hinesburg Town Hall go south on Rte. 116 for approximately 0.7 miles to Buck Hill Road. Turn left on Buck Hill Road and then go about 0.5 miles to a 4-way stop. Turn left on Lavigne Hill Road and go approximately 0.4 miles to the trailhead on your right. Look for a HART blaze as the trailhead sign gets stolen from time to time. Park as far off the road as you can, avoiding blocking traffic and driveways. DO NOT PARK HERE IN WINTER.

Notes:

Four families have generously given permission for this trail to cross their properties. Please respect the privacy of these landowners by staying on the trail and keeping your dog from wandering toward the houses. Also remember to clean up after your dog and to take the bags home. Trail permission can be revoked at any time. Thank you.

From the Buck Hill Road West trailhead you can explore uphill and to the east by traveling up the Class IV portion of Buck Hill Road to reach Buck Hill Road East. This route follows an old stonewall and is marked with plastic HART trail blazes. For an extended outing, you can continue east across North Road and up Hayden Hill Road West to reach the Hinesburg Town Forest and its network of trails.

From the Lavigne Hill Road trailhead you can explore to the north and west by continuing on Lavigne Hill Road for approximately 0.25 miles to reach the Sullivan Trail. Turn left and follow the Sullivan Trail approximately 0.75 miles through the woods and over several bridges to reach the Thistle Hill trails and the Russell Family Farm perimeter trail.