

Description

THE HEADWATERS CONSERVATION AREA (HCA) protects the headwaters of the Assabet River. The walking trails include expansive hilltop overviews of Mill Pond, glacial rock formations and unique wildlife habitat. The area is the nesting location for osprey and several families of white swan. Beaver, fox, deer and small mammals are also found here. HCA is also an important stop for warblers and other migratory birds.

HCA contains 100-acres of open space, most of which was purchased by the Town in 1998. It protects 35 percent of the Town's water supply, important wildlife habitats and open space for passive recreation. The Westborough Historical Commission has identified some archeological sites on the area, containing prehistoric artifacts dating back 8,000 years.

The area is suitable for hiking, cross-country skiing and related passive recreation. The trails are easy to hike with mild grades. During summer months, the area features a rich variety of woodland and shoreline wildflowers.

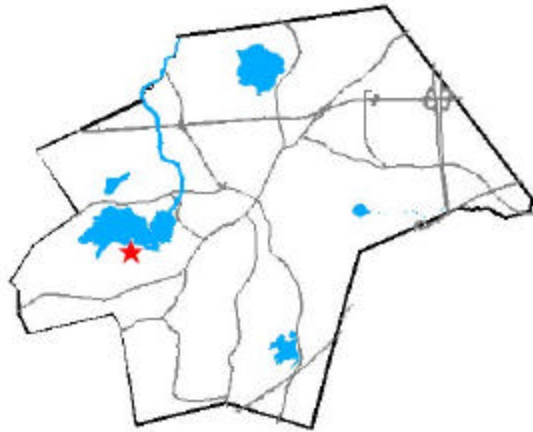
Recommended Walks

From Andrews Street, walk into the sand pit area and past the kiosk to enjoy the views of Mill Pond. Continue on the Osprey Point Trail past a large vernal pool on your left to Osprey Point ½ mile from the start. Stop here to catch a view of the osprey, then follow the Assabet Trail past glacial boulders to one of the streams that forms the headwaters of the Assabet River. You have now walked a mile from the start. Follow the Oak Bluffs Trail 7/10 mile through a mixed hardwood forest back to your car.

Cover photo courtesy of John Gareri

Directions

From Westborough center, follow West Main Street (Route 30) west towards Grafton. Just past the Lutheran Church take a right onto Old Nourse Street; then a right onto Andrews Street to the end. A small parking lot is available at the end of Andrews Street. Parking is available at Mill Pond School when the school is not in session.



Westborough Community Land Trust

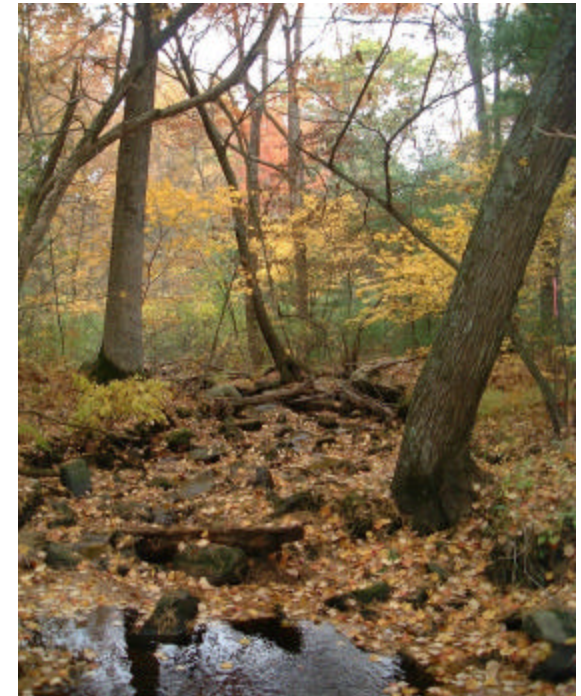
The Westborough Community Land Trust (WCLT) is a private, nonprofit, 501(c)3 organization created to protect Westborough's essential natural resources and to preserve open space for future generations. Membership is open to anyone committed to protecting open space in Westborough. Help preserve Westborough's valuable open space and rural character by joining WCLT.



<http://www.westboroughlandtrust.org>

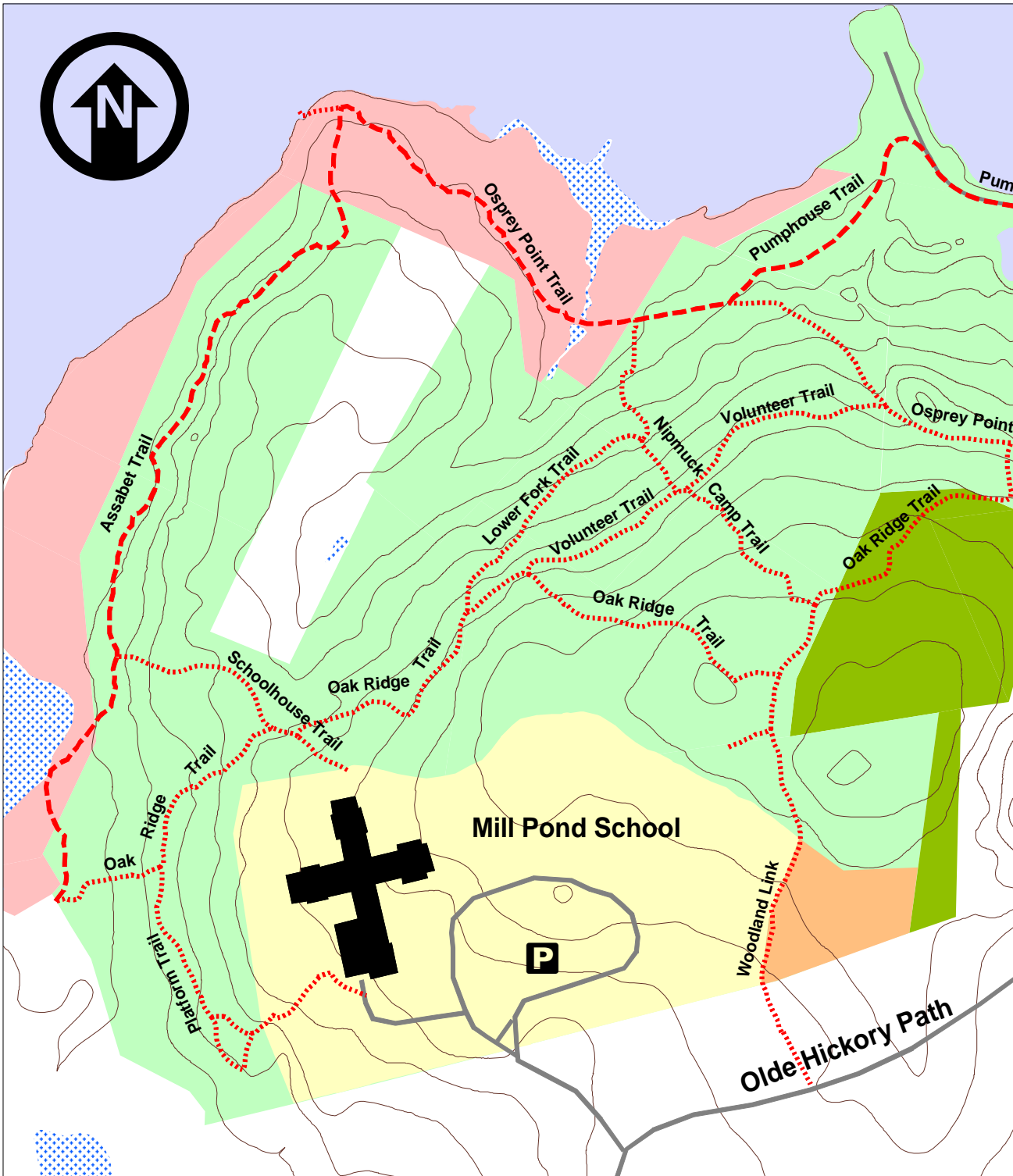
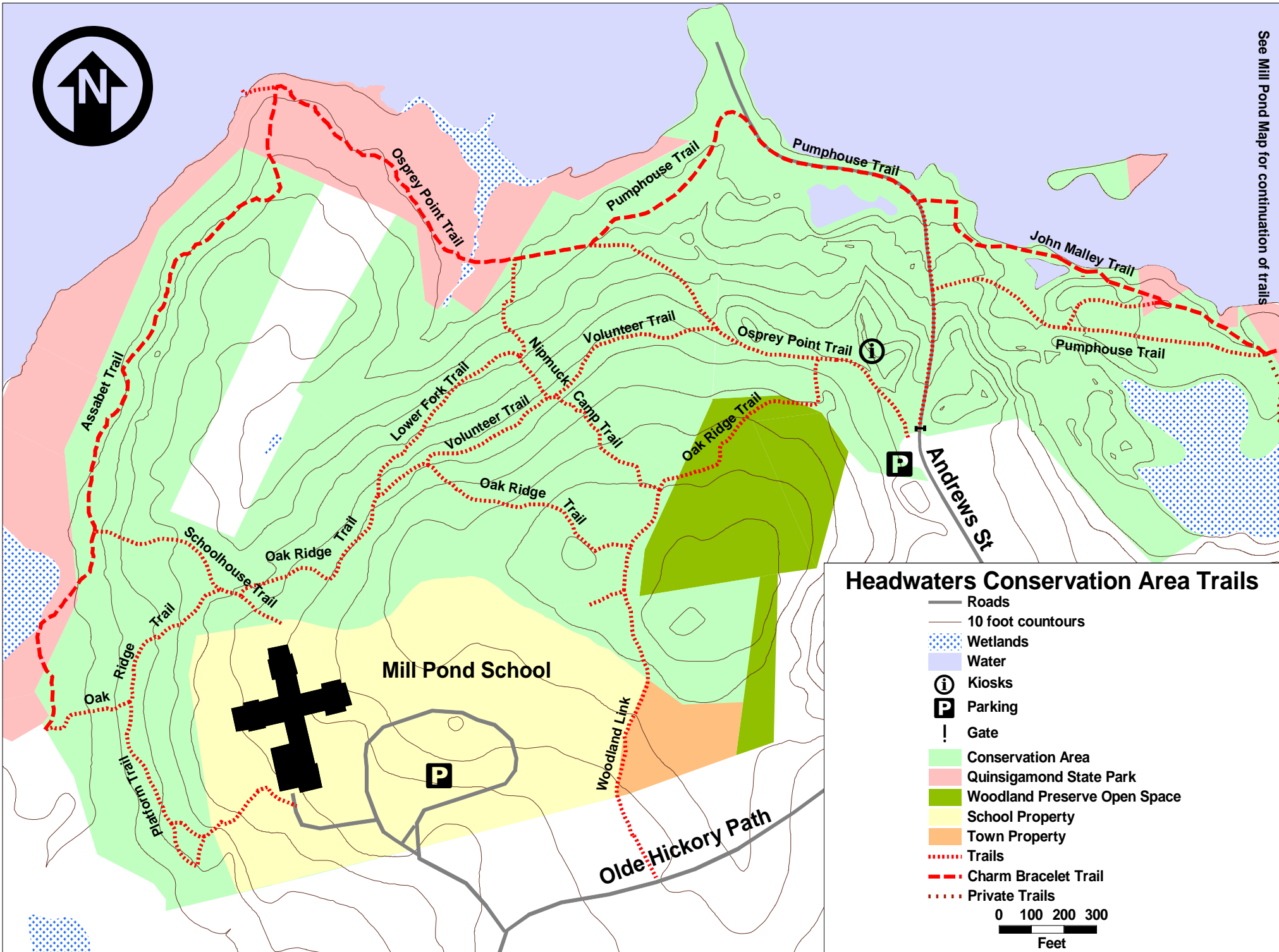
PO Box 838, Westborough, MA 01581

Headwaters Conservation Area Trail Map





See Mill Pond Map for continuation of trails



Headwaters Conservation Area Trails

- Roads
- 10 foot contours
- Wetlands
- Water
- Kiosks
- Parking
- Gate
- Conservation Area
- Quinsigamond State Park
- Woodland Preserve Open Space
- School Property
- Town Property
- Trails
- Charm Bracelet Trail
- Private Trails

0 100 200 300 Feet