KENNEBUNKPORT CONSERVATION TRUST TRAIL OF PROPERTIES

About the Trust

Since 1973, the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust has been protecting recreational areas, scenic vistas, important wildlife habitats and the historic character that makes this community unique. Through the generosity of our members, the Trust has preserved over 2,300 acres for the benefit of not only today's generation, but all those who will follow.

The Trust enhances its conservation efforts with a variety of programs intended to build community and strengthen families. These include educational programs for the local schools, nature-based youth courses in the summer, community events on our properties, pristine island camping, lighthouse tours, seasonal clean-ups, and more!



You can be part of the Trust's legacy in Kennebunkport by becoming a member. Your membership will provide you with invitations to all of our events and programs, and the pride of knowing that through your generosity, what we cherish in Kennebunkport today will be forever preserved.

CAPE PORPOISE GREENBELT

The Cape Porpoise Greenbelt features the Bradbury Trail (1.4 miles), named in honor of KCT Executive Director Tom Bradbury. The system includes the 0.7 mile Beachwood Trail which continues into Rotary Park, and the 0.5 mile Rotary Loop. From the Cape Porpoise trailhead on Clement Huff Road, one can follow a four mile continuous yellowblazed path to KCT headquarters. A short way up Goose Rocks Road, the route resumes with the Steele Trail through the Smith Preserve. The ambition of a continuous greenway is nearly complete.

TO TRAIL HEAD PARKING: From the Conservation Trust Headquarters: Turn right from the parking lot onto Gravelly Brook Rd. Follow to end and turn right onto Stone Rd. At stop sign, turn left onto Beachwood Ave. Follow to Rt. 9 (Mills Rd.), and turn right. Continue into Cape Porpoise and bear right, passing Bradbury's Market. Look for Clement Huff Rd. and turn right. Follow to trailhead parking on right.

BEACHWOOD LOOP: From Cape Porpoise Trail Head Parking to Bradbury Trail and return via Beachwood Trail—2.2 miles. From the trailhead, following yellow blazes, head north. Enjoy the forested Greenbelt, crossing the stone bridge at the Falls and climbing to a highpoint at the intersection of the Rotary Loop. Continue on the yellow trail to the intersection with the Beachwood Trail and return. Include the Rotary Loop for an extra 0.4 miles and enjoy beautiful views of the open water of the Tyler Brook wetlands.

CAPE PORPOISE TO TYLER BROOK: From Cape Porpoise Trail Head Parking to Tyler Brook Trail Head via Bradbury Trail-2.2 miles. Find a friend and park a vehicle at each trailhead for a one-way trek. For a longer hike, continue on the Batson River Trail all the way to KCT Headquarters-4 miles.

ROTARY PARK

A cooperative project with the Kennebunk Portside Rotary club and the Town of Kennebunkport to connect KCT trails to Rotary Park at Beachwood (1 mile), along with a Rotary Loop Trail (0.5 miles).

SMITH PRESERVE

The four-mile-long Steele Trail is a popular route for hikers, bikers, runners, snowshoers, and skiers, The system includes the Trolley Trail (0.9 miles connecting the old trolley line and Seashore Trolley Museum lands) and the remote and beautiful Bobcat Ridge Trail (2.3 miles). A couple of loops near the trailhead (Fox Den Trail, 0.8 miles, and Brook Trail, 0.3 miles) afford some nice short walks with views of falls and rock walls, while more ambitious hikers can enjoy an eight-mile loop trek along Bobcat, the rocky spine of the town. The 200-foot Long and Winding Bridge is a magical walk through a sea of ferns, worth a side trip on Trolley. A special challenge for bikers is the sinuous Beacon Trail (1 mile).

TO TRAIL HEAD PARKING: From the Conservation Trust Headquarters: Turn left from the parking lot onto Gravelly Brook Rd. Follow to end and continue on Goose Rocks Rd. After 0.5 miles, bear right on to Guinea Rd., and see Parking Area 0.1 miles on right.

BROOK LOOP: From Trail Head Parking to Brook Trail to Marker 3. Return via Steele Trail—1.7 miles. See beautiful waterfalls along Round Swamps Brook. The trail is short, but hilly.

FOX LOOP: From Trail Head Parking to Fox Den Trail to Marker 5. Return via Steele Trail—2.1 miles. A relaxing walk in the woods, courtesy of Peter Wildes and Betty Davis, who have allowed the trail to pass through their private lands.

TROLLEY LOOP: From Trail Head Parking to Trolley Trail via Steele Trail to Marker 18 and return—4.8 miles. Enjoy the beautiful Long and Winding Bridge through a sea of ferns. For longer treks, continue in either direction along the old trolley line.

BOBCAT LOOP: From Trail Head Parking to end of Steele Trail at Marker 11 and return via Bobcat Ridge Trail—8 miles. This beautiful loop includes several Batson River crossings and follows the spine of Bobcat Ridge with many beautiful ledges through the most remote parts of Kennebunkport. If you see the bobcat den, please do not disturb!

MEADOW WOODS PRESERVE

Encompassing 371 acres of meadows, woods, and wetlands, Kennebunkport Conservation Trust.

TYLER BROOK

Feeding the Batson from the south, the brook originates in a wetland near the old town landfill at Beachwood, and flows though a beautiful falls into open marshland. Steve Emmons cut the first trails into the property soon after it was acquired, and he enjoyed many hikes through the area, capturing many beautiful images of the land, flora, and fauna. His photo of a formation he called Elephant Rock is a local mystery, as no one has been able to find it despite many searches and a challenge from Tom Bradbury. The 1.2 mile loop, dedicated to KCT founding member and trail volunteer Arnie Amoroso, includes relics of an old brick kiln and some benches for a quiet rest. The Tyler Brook Preserve can also be accessed from the Conservation Trust Headquarters via the Batson River Trail (1.7 miles), the Yellow Route on the map. Also from the south via the Cape Porpoise Greenway and the Bradbury Trail.

TO TRAIL HEAD PARKING: From the Conservation Trust Headquarters: Turn right from the parking lot onto Gravelly Brook Rd. Follow to end and turn right onto Stone Rd. At stop sign, turn left onto Beachwood Ave. Follow to Rt. 9 (Mills Rd.), and turn right. About 1/2 mile on the right see Tyler Brook Lane. Follow to trailhead parking on right.

BATSON RIVER LOOP: From Tyler Trail Head Parking, around Learning Trail loop, and return—3 miles. From the trailhead, following yellow blazes, head north and cross Wild Horse Run, into the forest. Emerge to a beautiful open field, with the banks of the Batson to your right. The views of the river are especially gorgeous in the fall. A short lane takes you to Beachwood Road. Turn left, and look for the trail to continue on the far side—taking care crossing the road. Re-entering the forest, cross a 75-foot wooden bridge and continue into deeper woods until you reach the Learning Trail, marked with blue blazes. Circle the Learning Trail in either direction, taking time to read about the flora, fauna, and history of the area. After completing the loop, return with a better appreciation of the lands you are exploring.

TYLER LOOP: From Trail Head Parking to Falls and return—1.2 miles (not including overlook detours). From the parking area, walk down the old lane to the beginning of Tyler Loop. In the spring, look for lady slippers, found in abundance on the edges of the lane. Enter the woods, and follow the white blazes in either direction. Take time to enjoy the falls, and check out the Brook Loop and Overlook. Can you find any bricks from the old kiln?

EMMONS PRESERVE

In the late 1990's, the late Steve Emmons cut some trails into his woods, enjoyed exploring the area, and donated the land to KCT that soon became the site of the Trust Headquarters. The original path became Jeremy's Trail (0.4 miles), named in memory of fifteen year old Jeremy Walker Georgitis. The short loop includes a beautiful overlook of the upper reaches of the Batson River and Teal Hole falls, the site of an old mill. Jenne's Loop (0.5 miles), affords better views of the falls and the water above them. A loop around the headquarters complex is named in honor of longtime volunteers Mark and Gail Roller (1 mile). Easy access to short, footfriendly trails with beautiful brook overlooks make these among the most popular KCT trails today. Tyler Brook is connected to the Emmons Preserve by the Batson River Trail, a two mile path through woods and fields, dotted by old cemeteries, and featuring a breathtaking stretch along the Batson, especially beautiful in the fall.

COMMUNITY LABYRINTH: Constructed with stones donated by members of the community in honor of loved ones, the labyrinth provide a quiet space for reflective walking. If you would like to contribute a stone in honor of someone, please visit KCT headquarters or www.kporttrust.org/labyrinth

BATSON RIVER TREK: From Trail HQ to Tyler Brook and return—2.5 miles round trip. Experience the breadth of the trail network with views of the Batson River.

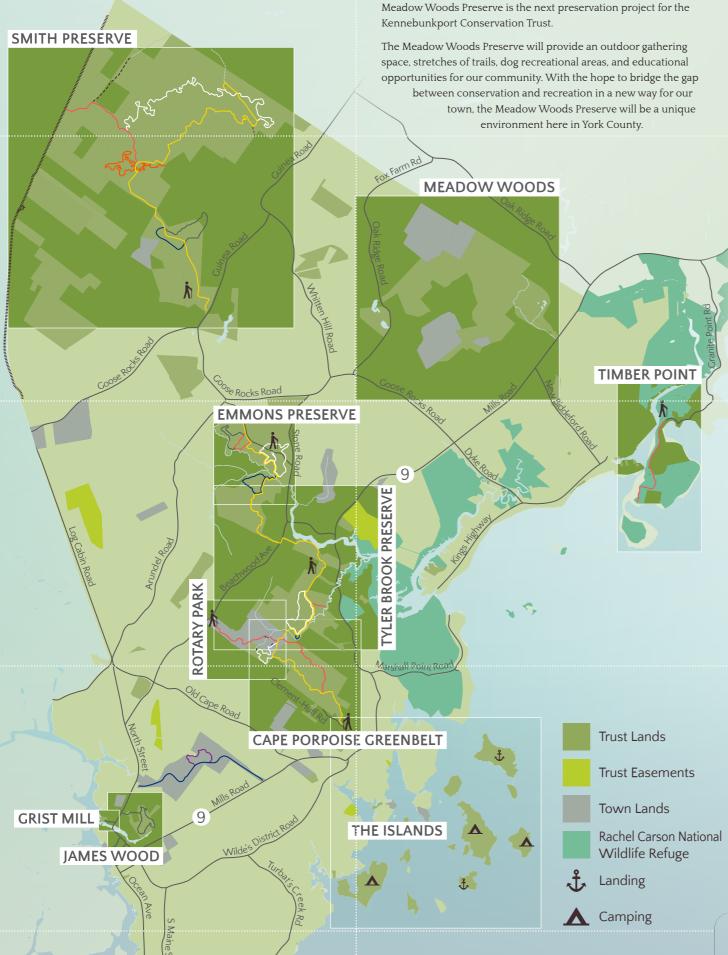
LEARNING LOOP: From Trust HQ to Batson River Bridge to Learning Trail loop. Return to Trust HQ-1 mile. Enjoy learning stations at natural and historic sites developed by the Trust In Our Children program in partnership with Kennebunk High School.

TWO J'S LOOP: From Trail HQ take Batson River Trail to Jeremy's Trail. At Overlook, take Jenne's Loop. Return via Batson River Trail—1.5 miles. Enjoy the beautiful Batson River at several overlook points, including Teal Hole Falls.

ROLLER LOOP: From Trust HQ, follow the Roller Trail—1 mile. This beautiful loop features views of the Batson River coupled with the Preserve's namesake historic site, the Emmons Cemetery. This loop is excellent for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

LEARNING TRAIL

With the leadership of our Director of Education, Leia Lowery, students from the Kennebunk High School constructed a loop off the Batson River Trail called the Learning Trail. The one mile loop includes thirteen learning stations with informative signs that describe the landscape, flora, fauna, and history of the area. Following classes developed the Storybook Trail adjacent to the headquarters, where young children can enjoy a short woods walk with a page of a changeable picture book at each stop along the path.



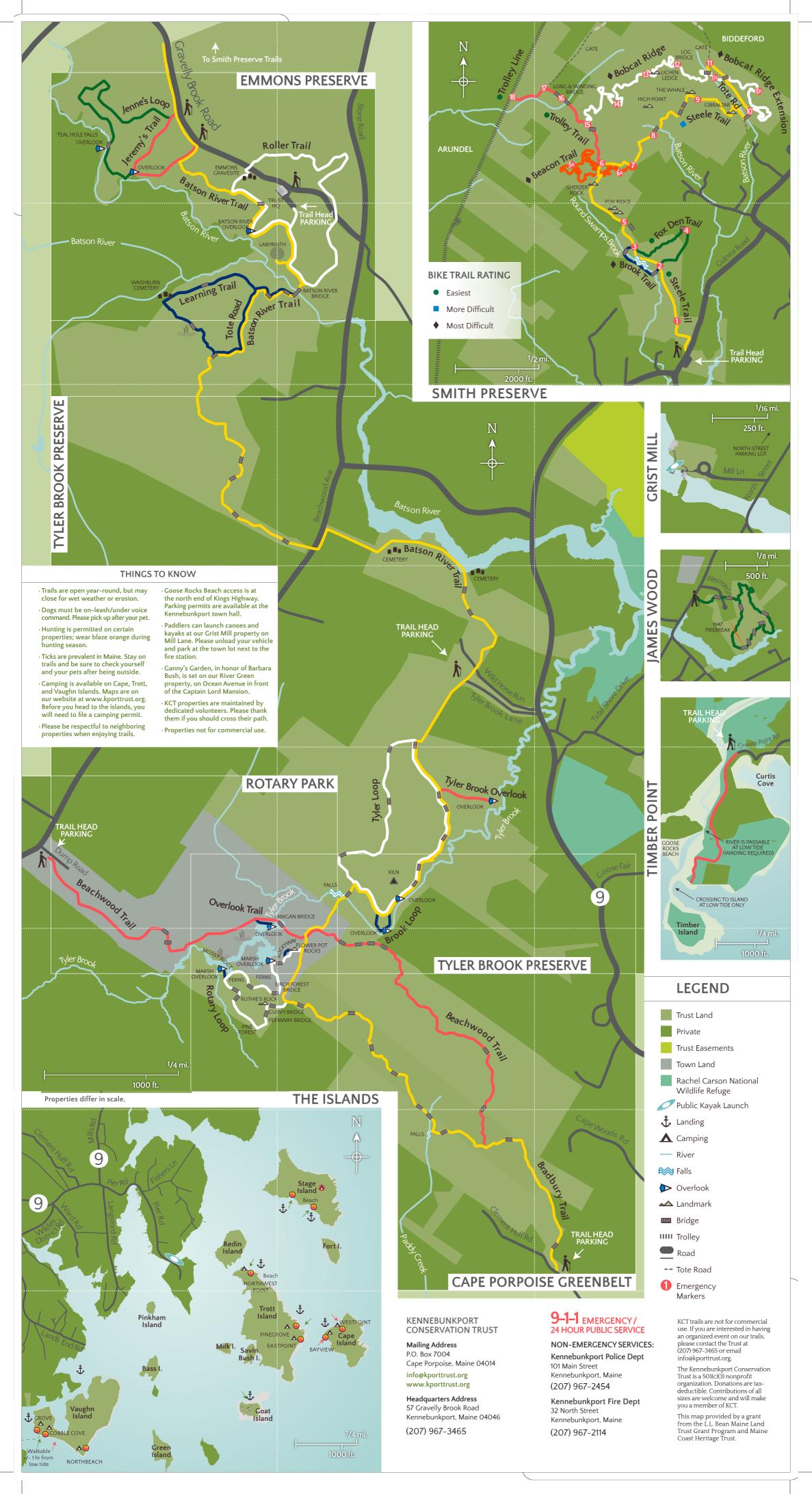


kporttrust.org 207-967-3465



PRESERVING SPECIAL PLACES SINCE 1973

GANNY'S GARDEN







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