

## INDEX OF ATKINSON'S TRAILS

**1. Caroline Orr:** The Caroline Orr trails meander through 60 acres of forested woodlands with ponds, streams and marshes as points of interest. The trailhead of the primary loop trail is blazed in yellow and leads from the rear of the Atkinson Community Center parking lot, and follows an old carriage trail over some hilly terrain. Along the trail loop are trail branches blazed in red to several points of interest to explore: 2nd Pond, Bryant Marsh, and Bryant Brook. A second trailhead is located at the end of Robie Lane. The Orr land has ample open spaces to wander and enjoy nature.

**2. Sawyer:** The Sawyer Land nature area covers nearly 140 acres of new growth forest, includes several small streams and vernal ponds, as well as historic 18th century stonewalls and state boundary marker. The primary flat 1 1/2-mile Blue blazed loop is a well-defined old woodlot road from which several red and yellow branch trails emanate. Points of interest are the Champion white ash tree, the original 1741 NH/MA state boundary marker, and the Bonin field, where there is a good chance in seeing a White-tail deer. There are two trail heads; one off Sawyer Ave. and other off Juniper Lane, both with limited parking. Trails are dog friendly, so take a walk in the woods with your buddy!

**3. Woodlock:** The Woodlock trails in the Chadwick Town Forest cover approximately 50.7 acres of beautiful woodlands with scenic views of Hovey Meadow Pond, a network of colonial stonewalls, and a historic site: Meeting Rock. The primary trailhead is located adjacent to Woodlock Park recreational area, which also provides ample parking. A secondary trailhead is located off Merrill Drive. With a watchful eye, one may observe a beaver in the pond, a deer in the meadow or a red-tailed hawk circling high overhead.

**4. Crown Hill:** The Crown Hill Trail System is a combination of two yellow blazed Conservation parcels of old field roads and both hiking and mountain biking trails that meander over rolling, new forested hills and streams through a network of 18 century stonewalls. They are connected by a red blazed trail corridor that parallels and shares trails of the Plaistow and Hampstead trail systems. Points of interest are the old tri-town (A/P/H) boundary marker and Noyes rock shelter. The primary trailhead is off East Road with ample parking and second trail entrance off Crown Hill Rd. Trails are dog friendly and provide an excellent opportunity to explore the trail networks of adjacent communities.

**5. Sawmill South:** The Sawmill Swamp Trail system is comprised of two conservation parcels separated by wetlands. The South parcel is a descending, forested valley that has deeded access to the town land through privately owned land. The blue-blazed trail entrance is over a deeded right-of-way approximately one-half mile long leading to town-owned land and joining the primary trail loop blazed in red. Along the trail loop are points of interest such as the new town water tank, many granite outcroppings, and a mega size white oak tree along the edge of the swamp. Off the loop is a trail exit which reaches Maple Ave over private land, but is not

open to the public. The trailhead for the South trail is located at the end of Woodlawn Avenue, with limited parking. This trail is an excellent fall and winter hike to the edge of Atkinson's most ecologically significant wetland.

**6. Sawmill North:** The North parcel trail system of the Sawmill Swamp Conservation Area is an old field road, blazed in red, that passes through old and new growth forest with many 18<sup>th</sup>-century stone walls, and travels along a portion of Atkinson's most ecologically significant wetland. There is a scenic vista overlooking Sawmill Swamp. Another significant point of interest is the 1940 Atkinson/Hampstead town boundary marker. There are branch trail segments, blazed in blue, which crisscross throughout the primary trail. This is a scenic four-season trail system, especially during the fall when the marsh turns to a brilliant golden meadow.

**7. Stickney:** Stickney Trail System is a network of both hiking and mountain biking trails that meander over hilly, wooded terrain, through and around granite outcroppings, and along the shoreline of Big Island Pond. There is a primary trail loop, blazed in white, that circumnavigates the conservation parcel, with numerous branch trails blazed in blue. There are excellent views of the pond from the shoreline as well as a view of the Atkinson kayak/canoe dock and launch site. The primary trailhead with limited parking is at the end of Lakeside Drive. If biking is your passion, these trails will definitely be a challenge.

**8. Marshall:** The Marshall Land Trail System meanders about 35 acres of old and new-growth forest, through late 1700's stone walls / fences and down old field roads. This land was originally the homestead of Moses Brown, and later in 1847, by Luther Chase. The primary trail loop, blazed in white, follows an Eagle Scout restored 14-station nature trail, with blue blaze trail segments leading to points of interest such as the 1741 Atkinson/Hampstead boundary pointer, the 1847 Luther Chase cellar, and views of Boulder Cove at Big Island Pond. There are several exit trails blazed in red that lead to adjacent roadways, and one which provides access to the Hampstead trail system. The primary trailhead is off Boulder Cove Rd with limited parking, and a secondary trailhead is off the West Rd at the Hampstead trailhead with abundant parking. Enjoy a nature walk back to the colonial times!