Foster Farm was purchased in 1998 through an action of Town meeting. The 92.72 acres of vacant farmland and woods was purchased from the estate of Earl L. Foster. This land acquisition was under the provisions of Chapter 61A. For the purposes of management by the Town, the property is comprised of 3 parcels designated as the following: Parcel A – Future School Site, Parcel B – Protected Open Space, Parcel C (Bruin Hill) – Protected Open Space

Foster Farm Property is located off of Foster Street in North Andover. The acquisition of Foster Farm by the Town of North Andover demonstrates the strength of a coordinated municipal and school effort by addressing multiple needs of the community. This site addresses the needs of Open Space preservation, a future school site, and trail linkages. The 92.7 acres includes unique vistas, aesthetic character, and highly valued natural resources. The property provides a vital "green belt" links with adjacent properties including Smolak Farm, Town Farm, Town Forest, and Farnsworth Reservation. Critical riverfront and floodplain habitats (Mosquito Brook) provide a vital wildlife corridor second to none in the Town.

Parking for access to Foster Farm Property is on Bridges Lane. Please park well away from the intersection of Bridges Lane and Foster Street. Please be considerate of private homeowners and their property along Bridges Lane. To reach the trail head walk back along Foster Street towards Salem Street. Extreme caution should be used when walking along Foster Street.

For more history on Foster Farm and the Barker Farm reference *Founding Farms*, *Portraits of 5 Massachusetts Family Farms* by Stan Sherer and Michael E. C. Gery.

To keep the grounds safe for everyone, we ask that is you see any illegal or hazardous conditions please notify The North Andover Conservation Committee at 688-9530 or the North Andover Police at 683-3168.

For the protection of the property's natural resources and for the enjoyment and safety of visitors, the following rules and regulations apply to everyone entering and using the property:

- These trails are for walking and skiing.
- Adjacent private property is not to be entered without the consent of the property owner.
- Do not litter or dispose of any household or yard waste. Carry out all that you bring in.
- Do not remove or disturb any natural resources or historical features of the property.
- Dogs must be on a leash.

The following are strictly prohibited:

- Hunting, and the possession and use of firearms and archery devices;
- Swimming, camping, and fires of all types;
- Possession and/or use of alcoholic beverages.
- If you must smoke, please do so on the paved road only and carry away the butts.

For more information on trails in North Andover please visit our website at www.natrails.org

North Andover Trails Maps provided by

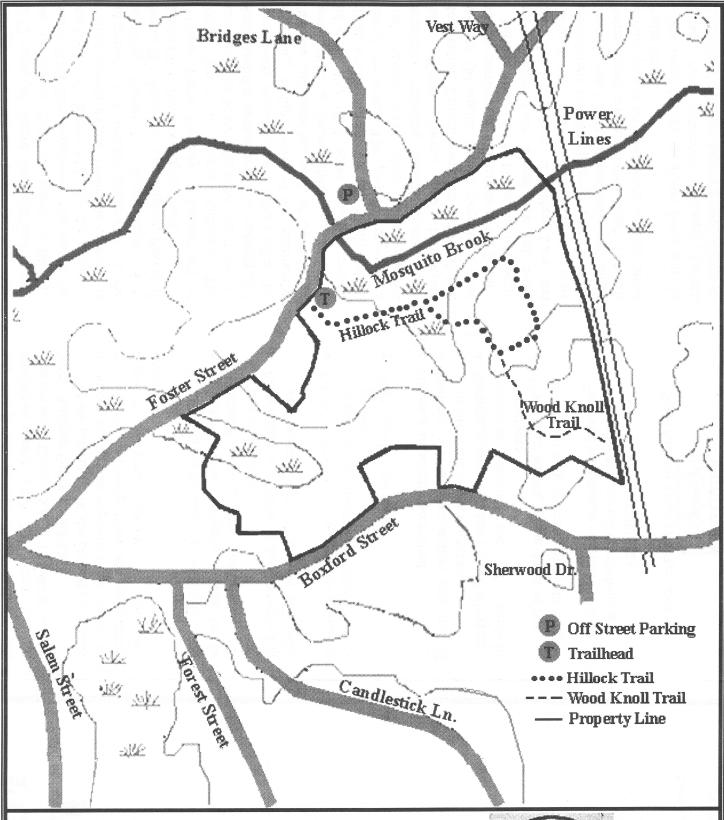


Rt. 114, North Andover

#### FOSTER FARM







## Town of North Andover Foster Farm Property





Published by: North Andover Trails Committee 27 Charles Street North Andover, MA 01845 The Mazurenko Farm Site, 105 acres in all, supports a tremendous diversity of natural resources. These include a number of streams, over 20 acres of wetlands, mature forest, fertile agricultural fields and an abundance of wildlife. This parcel is located in the northeast corner of Town and within the Lake Cochichewick Watershed. To the west of the Mazurenko site is the Rea's Pond Conservation area. This 14-acre site includes a 3.8-acre pond and abuts Great Pond Road immediately adjacent to Lake Cochichewick.

The Mazurenko site includes 15-20 acres of wet meadow, an area of diverse plant growth dominated by grasses and other non-woody plants that experience seasonal flooding or saturated soil conditions. This wet meadow is dominated by purple loosestrife and reed canary grass. Other dominant vegetation includes 3 species of goldenrod, spotted joe-pye weed, various ferns, rushes, sedges and wildflowers.

A number of vernal pools have been found on the Mazurenko site. A vernal pool is a small isolated body of water that completely dries up in the summer. These pools are important recharge and filtration points for surface water entering the groundwater system. These pools are a unique and valuable habitat for many species of animals.

Forest areas of the Mazurenko site include Pinewoods and Hardwood Forests. White pine, scotch pine, white ash, red oak, and red maple dominate the Pine Wood Forests. The Hardwood forests are comprised of red maple, red oak, cherry, and white ash. Shrubs are thick within the hardwood forests and include Buckthorn, poison ivy, blueberry and barberry are prevalent in this area. Just to the right of the main trailhead is a mature grove of black locust (along Bradford Street) The Higher elevations of Barker Hill and the uplands along the shores of Rea's Pond are dominated by a mixture of Pine and hardwoods. This forest has less undergrowth and is easier to traverse due to the shade of the pines. There are also a variety of large (and some uncommon)

trees scattered throughout the former Rea property.

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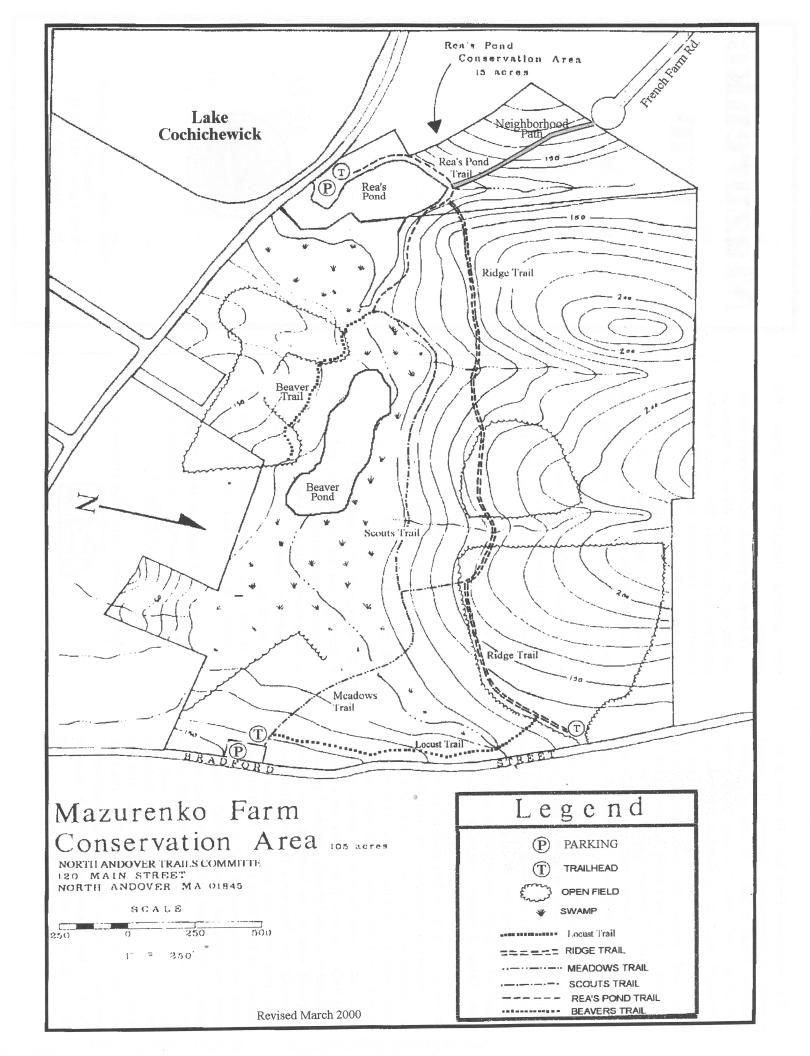


Rt. 114, North Andover

#### Mazurenko Farm







James Swamp & Reynolds Field is 57 acres in size and has 3 soccer fields, a softball field, and a basketball court. This property also includes much undeveloped land that is predominantly wetland. The Reynolds Cider Mill and two outbuildings are also located on this parcel, these buildings were leased to an adjacent property owner prior to the donation of the land to the town in 1971.

Parking for the use of this property is off of Rea Street. To access the hiking trails walk directly across the soccer fields or down the newly installed sidewalk along the edge of Johnson Street. Cross the small bridge over Mosquito Brook and walk to the opposite corner of the soccer field where the trail begins.

The trail winds in and around numerous pine trees before sloping down into the drier parts of a swamp. Be sure to bring insect repellant when hiking in the spring and summer for the mosquito's are numerous. On the right you will pass a trail which connects a neighborhood path. Continuing around the back of the property along a stone wall the swamp is plainly visible. Please avoid crossing the stone wall for it is private property. The trail eventually loops around and brings you back close to the entrance. The trails are well marked for your convenience.

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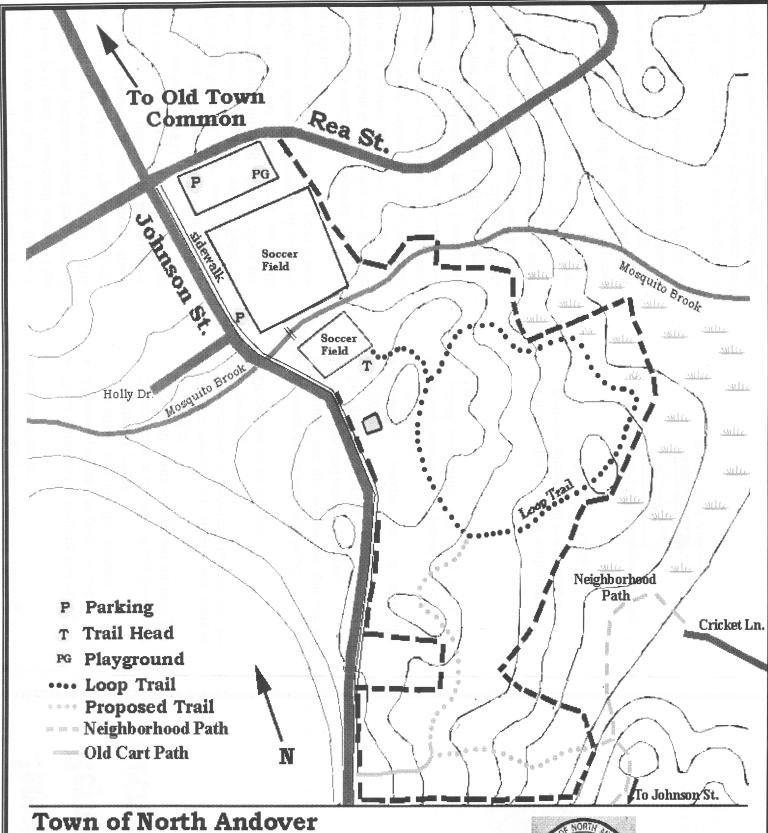


Rt. 114, North Andover

#### James Swamp Reynolds Field Recreation Area







Town of North Andover James Swamp & Reynolds Field Recreation Area





Published by: North Andover Trails Committee 27 Charles Street North Andover, MA 01845

#### Welcome to North Andover's Osgood Hill Property

People of all ages are welcome to enjoy the natural beauty of the Osgood Hill Trails on 165 acres of land on which the 1886 home of Moses T. Stevens (1825 – 1907) still stands. The citizens of North Andover purchased the land and the Stevens Mansion in 1994 for permanent preservation.

Two trails, blue and white, have been "blazed" (marked with a colored paint patch on the trees) to guide you along the way. Signs are posted at the trail intersections to identify the trails.

The forest is thick with many varieties of trees, including oak, hickory ash, beech and white birch. Numerous species of plants, birds and other wildlife can be seen, including deer.

One portion of the trail lies along the edge of Lake Cochichewick, where a rustic bench is placed to encourage you to linger and contemplate the peaceful sights and sounds of this woodland property.

Cameras and binoculars may help you observe even more details. Picnicking is allowed provided you carry out whatever you bring in.

Parking is available on Osgood Street between Prescott Street and Chickering Road (Route 125). Crossing the stone wall where the Osgood Hill Trail sign is affixed to a large tree one may enter the trail.

To keep the grounds safe for everyone, we ask that if you see any illegal or hazardous conditions please notify the Conservation Office at 688-9530, or the North Andover Police at 683-3168.

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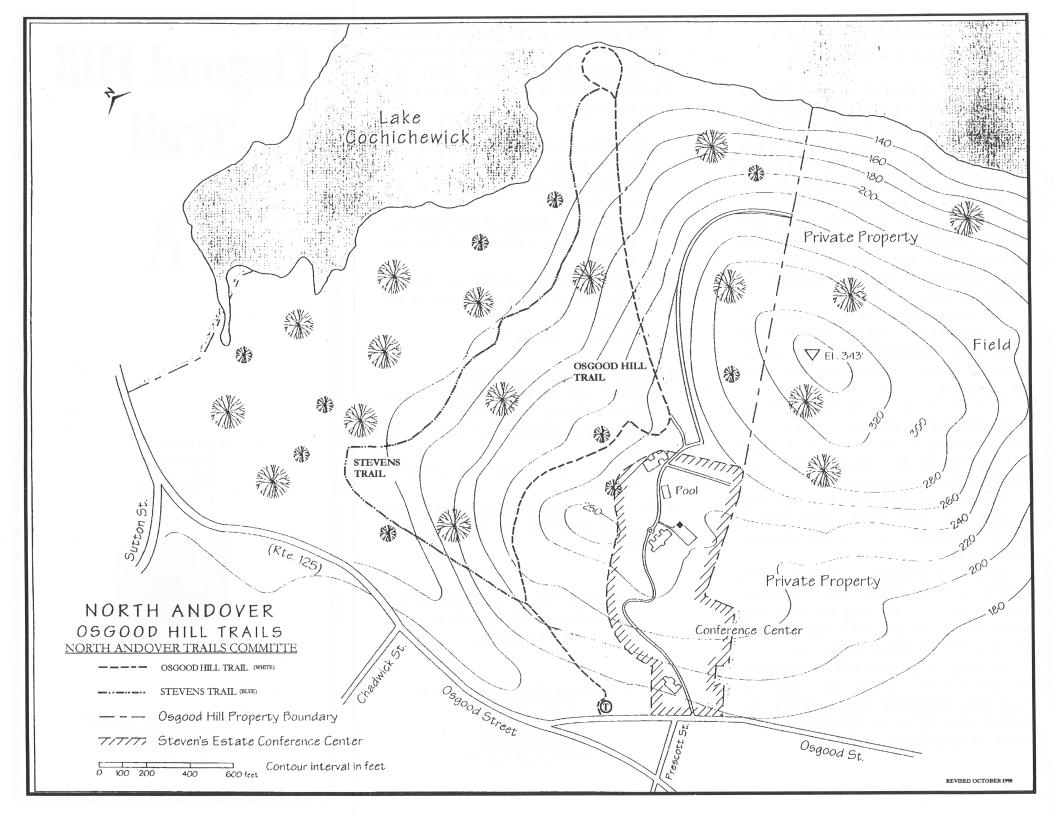


### Osgood Hill Trail



Enjoy a scenic walk In the woods of North Andover's Treasured estate





The Trustees of Reservations manage Weir Hill Reservation which is the largest area (192 acres) of protected open space in the Lake Cochichewick watershed. This property includes one mile of Lake Frontage and numerous trails. Weir Hill (305') offers good views of the North Andover and Lawrence area. This reservation can be entered from two locations on Stevens Street. The south entrance is next to Stevens Pond and the north entrance is closer to Osgood Street.

The access from Stevens Street is next to Stevens Pond Beach. Parking is provided in a small area located after the access road. A short trail in the back corner leads to the main access road. This dirt road continues through the old stone arch constructed in 1848 to provide passage under the tracks of the Essex Railroad. The trail immediately after this is the Hatch trail. The Hatch trail tees off into the Stevens trail (left) and the Alewife Trail (right).

The Stevens trail is hilly and at some points very steep. This trail leads to the scenic vista at the top of Weir Hill. The Alewife trail winds along the shores of Lake Cochichewick.

Numerous trails branch off of the Alewife trail. Weir Hill trail takes you up the back of the hill. This trail eventually merges into the Stevens trail and the Johnson trail. The Alewife trail if followed along the waterfront will merge into the Edgewood Farm trail. This trail runs along the border of Edgewood Farm and eventually leads out to the North entrance into Weir Hill reservation.

To keep the grounds safe for everyone, we ask that if you see any illegal or hazardous conditions please notify TTOR's North Andover Office at 682-3580 or the North Andover Police at 683-3168.

For the protection of the property's natural resources and Lake Cochichewick's

drinking water quality and for the enjoyment and safety of visitors, the following rules and regulations apply to everyone entering and using the property:

- These trails are for walking and skiing.
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- Dogs must be on a leash.

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- Possession and/or use of alcoholic beverages.
- If you must smoke, please do so on the paved road only and carry away the butts.

The property is managed by the Trustees of Reservations, a non-profit land trust.
(Tel. 978-921-1944)

For more information on trails in North Andover please visit our website at <a href="https://www.natrails.org">www.natrails.org</a>

North Andover Trails Maps provided by



Rt. 114, North Andover

## Weir Hill Reservation



Enjoy a scenic walk
In the woods of
North Andover



North Andover Trails Committee 27 Charles Street North Andover, MA 01845 978-688-9530





### Reservation

A Property of The Trustees of Reservations North Andover, Massachusetts

Massachusetts Landscape

Regional Headquarters 572 Essex Street Beverly, Mass. 01915 (508) 921-1944

Property Boundar Paved Roads Unpaved Roads Stonewalls ---- Major Tralls

..... Minor Trails

The Town Forest is the largest parcel of municipal open space. The original 126 acres were purchased from Mr. Samuel Jenkins in 1856. The community's poor farm operated on this property for approximately 100 years. Pine plantations are also located on this property which may have been the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s. Additional acquisitions were made as late as 1985 (Leland parcel). Although not purchased for watershed protection purposes the 120 acres of the Town Farm/Forest now serves this vital purpose. A management plan is now underway for this property and baseball and soccer fields have been constructed. Parking is allowed on Dale Street directly in front of Gallagher Field. Please park as far off the road as possible.

The Town Forest trailhead starts at the left-hand rear of the property behind the baseball field backstop. The sports field is dedicated to CPL. Sean R. Gallagher, U.S.M.C. killed in Beirut, Lebanon on October 23, 1983. The trail is slightly rocky and can get quite soft in the wet weather. Tall hemlocks and white pines line both sides of the trail. Halfway down the trail is the ropes course. The entire trail is approximately 1/2 mile long and will end up at South Bradford Street.

Parking to access the Town Farm Recreation Area is located at the end of Carriage Chase Road. Please park vehicles appropriately in this cul-de-sac being courteous of people's property. A short walk down the long driveway beyond a black iron-gate will bring you to the trailhead located on the left just before a stone bridge. The Stewart Family, who has generously allowed the public to use their driveway to access the Town Farm Property, owns this driveway. A short walk into the property brings one to the waters edge. Beavers in this area have caused the size of this Pond" to swell over the years. Proceeding across the brook and up over a ridge the trail winds in and around the tall hemlocks and white pines. Great Horned Owls have been spotted nesting in this area and are an incredible site to see. Approximately 1/4 of a mile into the property the trail crosses another brook. Stones are placed in the water but caution should be taken when crossing. Slightly beyond this water crossing

the trail crosses a stone wall which marks the boundary of the Town Farm Property.

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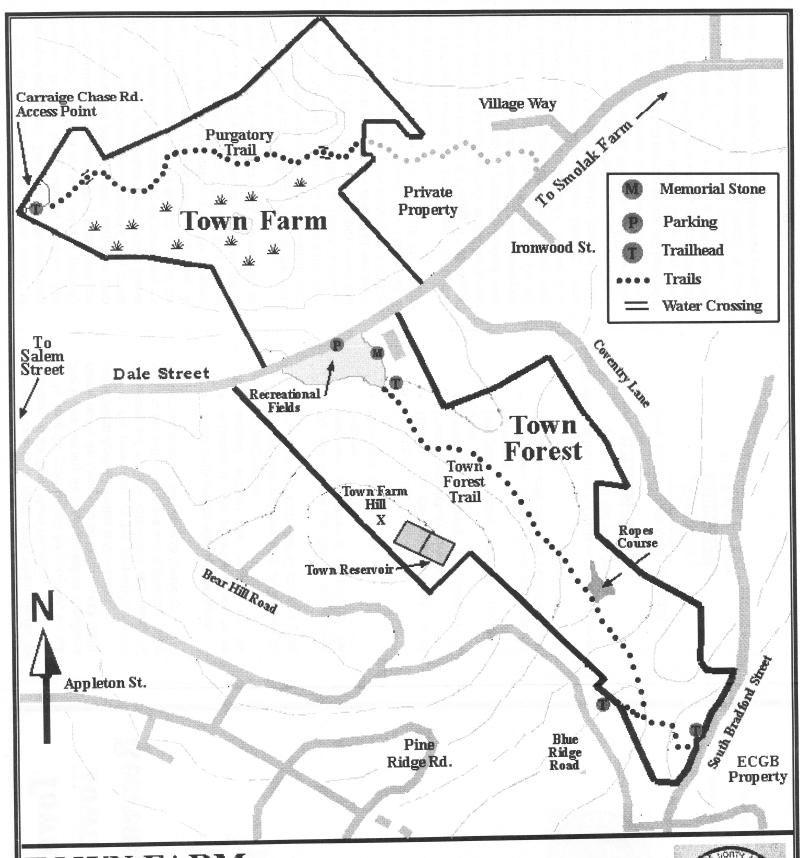
North Andover Trails Maps provided by



# Town Farm Town Forest Recreation Area







## TOWN FARM TOWN FOREST RECREATION AREA

North Andover Trails Committee 27 Charles Street North Andover, MA.



Revised March 2000