



Land Heritage Coalition of Glastonbury, Inc.
Hike Plan

Great Pond Preserve

Hike Date: Sunday November 25, 2018 (no rain date)

Time: 1:00 p.m. Bad weather cancels.

Coordinator and hike contact: Charley Smith - contact cell (860) 508-1844

Docents/Leader: Whit Osgood and Frank Kaputa

Meet: Hikers will meet at the trailhead on Great Pond Road in South Glastonbury

Directions from Glastonbury Center: Head south on Route 17, take a right onto Great Pond Road. Navigate about a half mile to 451 Great Pond Road. Park along Great Pond Road near the preserve entrance sign, which is visible from the road

Difficulty: Terrain is generally easy. Dana's Rim Walk, however, is on a steep hill and may be difficult for some. We will check in during this part of the walk – some may prefer to hang behind and wait for our return.

Description: Whit Osgood, member of the Glastonbury Town Council and former president of the Land Heritage Coalition, will lead the walk, and Frank Kaputa, a committee member of Notable Trees Committee, will share his extensive knowledge of trees along the way, including the largest Red Cedar tree in New England with a circumference of 10', and unique plants and animals able to survive both flood and drought at the 12-acre Great Pond. The area is known as a glacial drawdown pond. Both leaders will point out the unique features of the 70-acre preserve.

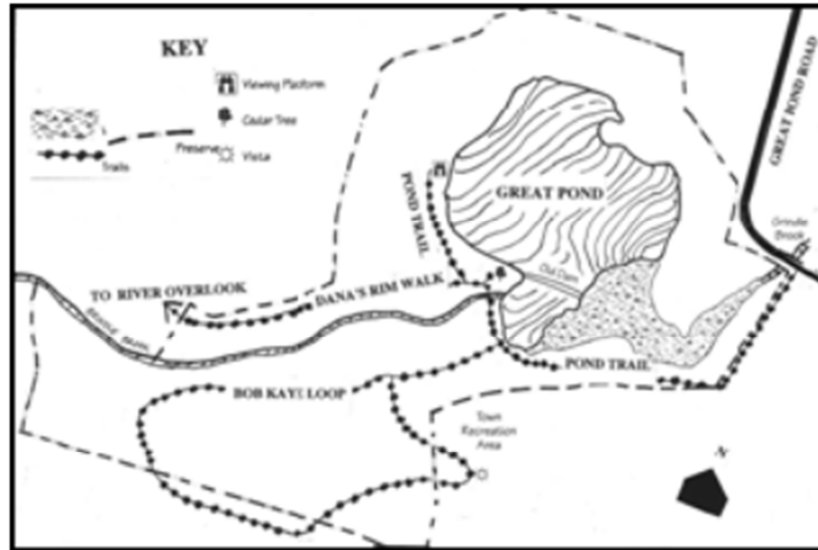
All hikers will receive a free copy of the updated trail guide published by the Land Heritage Coalition in 2013.

For more information about Great Pond at the Town of Glastonbury website,
<http://www.glastonbury-ct.gov/Home/Components/FacilityDirectory/FacilityDirectory/80/180>.

A trail map (attached below) is available at the link provided. A trail guide, authored by Ed Richardson and several members of Boy Scout Troop 540, and showing examples of some of the trees, is also available for download.

Sponsor: Land Heritage Coalition (LHC) of Glastonbury, Inc. focuses on local land use issues, seeking ways to foster support of farming, to acquire open space, and to protect wetlands, flood plains, surface and ground water sources. For more information on LHC call (860) 652-8995.

Great Pond Preserve



This 70-acre preserve is owned by the town and managed in cooperation with The Nature Conservancy. The terrain is gently rolling with good footing.

Great Pond itself is a 12-acre glacial drawdown pond. It experiences great fluctuations in water level throughout the year. The plants around the pond are specially adapted to survive conditions of total immersion and drought. Along the wooded uplands the preserve provides a home for a diverse community of plant and animal species. On the Pond Trail, just beyond the bridge, you will see the largest red cedar tree in New England. This tree has a circumference of about 10 feet and is 150 years old. The overlook at the edge of the pond is a great place for birding. Migrating waterfowl and wading birds favor this area. A walk to the platform and back is a one-mile round trip.

Dana's Rim Walk is named in honor of Dana Waring who conceived this route while a member of Glastonbury's Conservation Commission. One section of Dana's trail crosses a steep side hill and is tricky going.

Source: <http://www.glastonbury-ct.gov/Home/Components/FacilityDirectory/FacilityDirectory/80/180>.