

Suggested Hikes, Rides and Paddles!

Granville State Forest

323 West Hartland Road, Granville, MA 01034, (413) 357-6611

To help you plan your visit to DCR's Granville State Forest, we offer the following suggested experiences that we think you might enjoy.

- **“Introductory”** are short and appropriate for most users, including families with children.
- **“Signature”** are recommended trail experiences. These may be longer or more difficult but highlight some of the best park features.

For a safe and enjoyable park experience please review the **Things to Know Before You Go** section at the end of this document. Download a map before you go:
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/granville-state-forest-trail-map/download>

Introductory Hike

Healthy Heart Loop

Trailhead: Park at state forest headquarters. Trailhead is by kiosk on north side of lot.

Lat/Long: 42.057343, -72.972558

Distance: 1.5 mi **Difficulty:** Easy

Brief Description: From park headquarters (HQ) head north on HQ Trail N. Turn left onto Corduroy Trail. Turn left onto CCC Trail. Turn left onto HQ Trail S and return to HQ.

Signature Hike

Halfway Brook-Hubbard River Trails

Trailhead: Off West Hartland Road, 0.5 miles south of park headquarters, near and opposite campground entrance. **Lat/Long:** 42.050608, -72.971099

Distance: 3+ miles **Difficulty:** Moderate

Brief Description: The tumbling and scenic Hubbard River is the highlight in both the following hike options. Head (east) along the Halfway Brook Trail for 0.7 miles to the junction with Hubbard River Trail. Be aware, crossing the Hubbard River here requires you to ford across it. In times of high water this may be difficult, or impossible. This may be an adventure on its own, use your best judgement. Option 1: Head upstream. Turn left (north) on the Hubbard River Trail which soon becomes paved. In 0.25 miles a side trail loops over to view the impressive Hubbard River Falls. Continue

north to the gate on West Hartland Road. Turn left, and cross the bridge. At the next gate on your left, turn left (south), and follow the paved road back to Halfway Brook Trail. Turn right onto Halfway Brook Trail to return to your starting point (3 miles total). Option 2: Head downstream. This route is a bit steeper going down and coming back. Turn right (south) on Hubbard River Trail. Along the way look for the remains of a large steam boiler from a former sawmill site. Follow the trail to about where it meets Ore Hill Trail. Return by the same route, ford the river, and back up Halfway Brook Trail to your starting point (3.5 miles total).

Signature Hike

Ordway-Searles-Sattler Loop

Trailhead: Off West Hartland Road, 0.5 miles south of park headquarters, near and opposite campground entrance. **Lat/Long:** 42.050608, -72.971099

Distance: 3.75 miles **Difficulty:** Moderate

Brief Description: This is a woodland walk across former farmland. Look for evidence of stone walls, cellar holes and old wood roads lined with ancient sugar maple trees--ghosts of past land use. Head north on West Hartland Road for 350 feet to the Orway Trail on the left. Head west along the Ordway Trail for 1.25 miles. At Hartland Road, turn left (south) and walk 0.6 miles carefully to the Searles Road Trail. Turn left onto Searles Road Trail and continue for 1.1 miles to the Sattler Trail. Turn left onto Sattler Trail and follow for 0.7 miles back to your starting point.

Things to Know Before You Go

- **Time, distance, difficulty.** The average hiker pace is estimated at 1.5 miles per hour. Most distances are round-trip. Plan conservatively, start early. Be aware of weather and sunset. Trail difficulty ratings based on ruggedness and gradient are *easy*, *moderate*, or *difficult*.
- **Wear weather appropriate clothing**, layer for temperature changes. Bring sunblock. Wear appropriate and sturdy footwear.
- **Parking at trailheads.** [Parking fees](#) may apply. Space may be limited. Be courteous to avoid blocking in others. Do not leave valuables in your car.
- **Bring a map and share your plans with someone.**
- **Drinking water** may not be available on site. Bring plenty!
- **Stay on designated trails.** Follow painted blazes and signs if available. Generally, double blazes indicate an intersection or direction change.

- **Pace & group size.** Keep your group together; hike only as fast as your group's slowest hiker or rider. Limit your group size to 12 people or fewer to lessen impacts.
- **Carry-in, carry-out all trash and personal belongings.** Follow the Leave No Trace outdoor ethics. [More information here.](#)
- **Know which parks are pet friendly.** Dogs are not permitted in DCR Water Supply Protection areas (such as Quabbin and Wachusett Reservoirs) and certain state parks. Always keep your dog leashed, 10-foot maximum. Always pick up after your dog and dispose of waste properly. [Complete guidelines here.](#)
- **Be aware of hunting seasons.** Wear blaze orange when appropriate. [More information here.](#)
- **Wear a bicycle helmet** while biking. Riders age 16 and under must wear a helmet. It is the law. [More information here.](#)
- **Wear your PFD** while boating. A Personal Flotation Device (PFD), or life preserver, must be worn by boaters age 12 and under; and canoeists/kayakers from Sept. 15-May 15. [More information here.](#)
- **Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers.** Prevent the transport of nuisance species. Clean all recreational equipment. It is the law. [More information here.](#)
- **Be aware some trails may not be well marked, and some may not be identified on a trail map.**

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) oversees over 450,000 acres of state parks, forests, beaches, bike trails, parkways, watershed lands, and dams across the Commonwealth. DCR's mission is to: *Protect, promote and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural and recreational resources for the well-being of all.*