



Suggested route

Other trails

Streams & rivers

MINERAL HILLS CONSERVATION AREA

NORTHAMPTON, MASS

DISTANCE: 2 MILES

PRIVATE CONSERVATION LAND

MINERAL HILLS
CONSERVATION AREA
City of Northampton

PRIVATE LAND

TURKEY HILL RD.

LOCATOR

WESTHAMPTON

NORTHAMPTON

SOUTHAMPTON

EAST-HAMPTON

Rock wall

Large birch tree

Rock with a view

Barbed wire/
maple tree

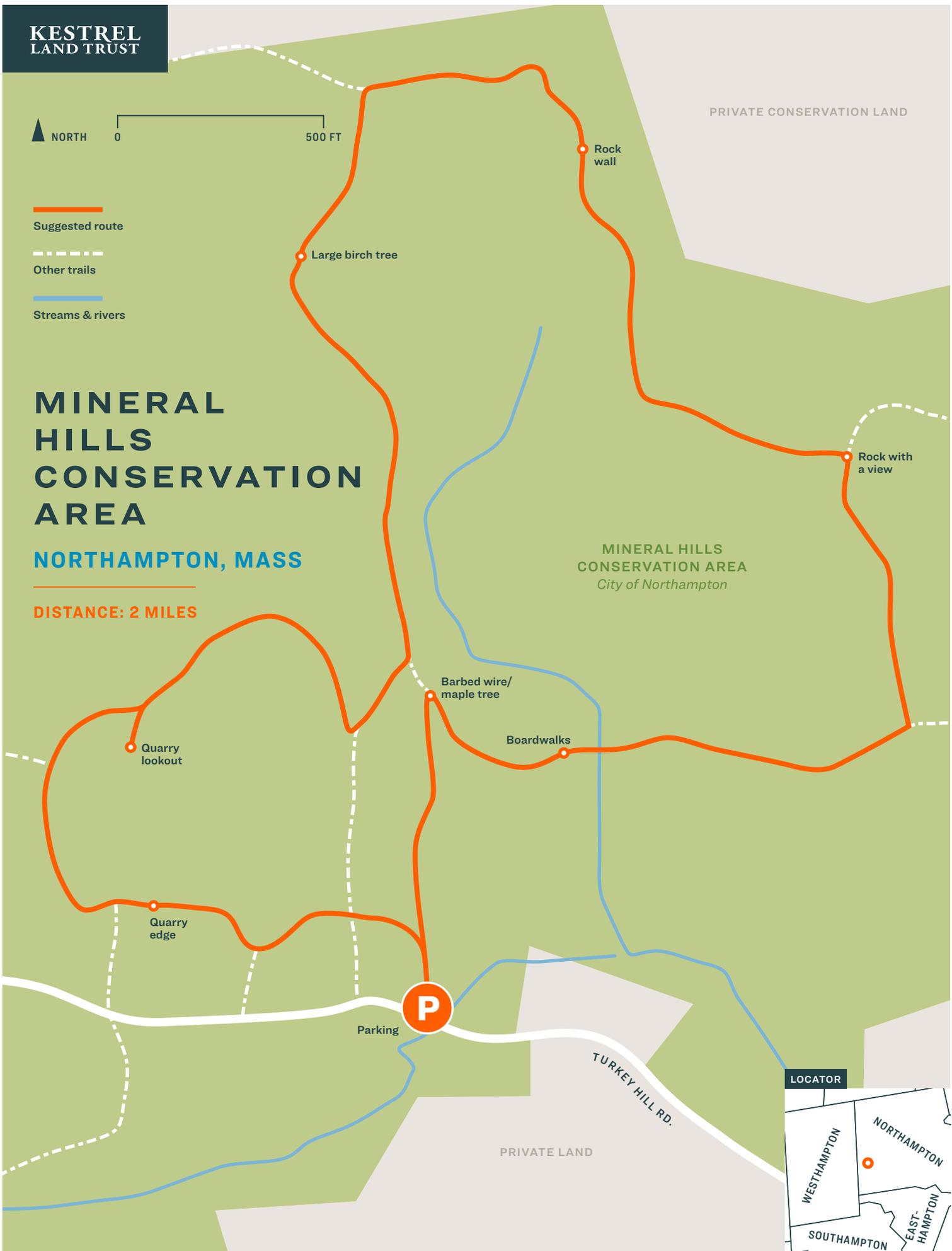
Boardwalks

Quarry
lookout

Quarry
edge

P

Parking



A TRAIL FOR EVERYONE AT MINERAL HILLS CONSERVATION AREA NORTHAMPTON, MASS



Fifteen minutes from downtown Northampton exists a special place that seems a world apart from the nearby bustling cultural center. The Mineral Hills is a hilly forest with dramatic ridge-top views, wetlands, beaver ponds, and an abandoned rock quarry.

SUGGESTED ROUTE

There is an extensive trail system here marked by signs and numbered intersection thanks to the Friends of the Mineral Hills. To begin, go a short distance on the entrance path to the first intersection (#111), and turn right onto Big Meadow Trail. At the next intersection (#114), keep right and pass by a meadow on the right. At the next intersection (#107) take a sharp right onto Kohl Trail. Note the large old **maple tree** on the right with bark growing around rusty **barbed wire**, a sign of historic pasturing. Pass by rock outcroppings on the right, and cross a series of **boardwalks**. At the next intersection (#108), go left at The Chute. At the top of the hill, take a breather at a large round **rock with a view** a bit beyond the trail junction (#104). Returning to intersection #104, proceed on Ravine Trail. At intersection (#105) go left on Creek Bed Trail. Look for a **large black birch** on the left as you make your way downhill (before the trail bends left with the creek on your right). Follow the blue-blazed trail over the narrow creek as you continue gently descending. At intersection (#106), go right "To Old Quarry" and then right again at intersection (#113) onto Quarry Loop Trail. Soon a side trail on your left leads to an opening overlooking the **rock quarry**. From here, on a clear day, you can see the Mount Holyoke summit house. Return to the trail and follow it left along the quarry rim. It soon opens up and you can stand on the **quarry edge** looking down where water now pools. Bear right away from the quarry, go through the intersection, continue following the blue blazes, and bear right until you come to intersection #111 (where you began).

www.kestreltrust.org

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WHAT YOU CAN DO HERE



Walk/Jog



Take in the View



Watch Wildlife



XC Ski / Snowshoe

DIRECTIONS

- **GPS address: 398 Turkey Hill Rd., Northampton, MA 01062**
- Parking is available at the end of Turkey Hill Road marked by a Mineral Hills Conservation Area sign

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

- Abandoned rock quarry with view of Mount Holyoke

YOU SHOULD KNOW

- Open dawn to dusk, year round
- Please keep dogs on leash and pick up after your pet
- Respect adjacent private property by staying on the trail

PARTNERS MAKE CONSERVATION POSSIBLE

Kestrel Land Trust partners with the City and friends groups to create, conserve, and care for public lands to help everyone connect with nature. The conservation lands here are owned by the City and portions are monitored by Kestrel through a Conservation Restriction. Friends of Mineral Hills maintains the trails. For more information contact Kestrel or:

City of Northampton

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Friends of Mineral Hills

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