

# *Hopkinton*

## Recreational Guidebook



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# Hopkinton Recreational Guidebook

## Purpose of the Guide

It is the hope of the Recreation Committee that this guide will help residents find out about different programs and recreation locations/facilities in town and whom to contact for more information. It should also serve as the common thread among the many organizations/providers to assist in communication and planning.

**You may download this Guide at:**

[www.hopkinton-nh.gov/Recreation Guidebook.pdf](http://www.hopkinton-nh.gov/Recreation%20Guidebook.pdf)



## About Hopkinton

Hopkinton's natural beauty and the historic charm make it a special place to live. One of the most frequently asked questions is: "If it is the 'Town of Hopkinton', where does 'Contoocook' fit in?" Incorporated in 1765, the Town of Hopkinton actually consisted of three villages, Hopkinton, West Hopkinton and Contoocook. The first settlers came to the Contoocook River Valley in the 1730s eventually creating the three villages with forts, meeting places and other infrastructure. Because of its location on the river, Contoocook became the commercial center and Hopkinton Village the seat of town government, an arrangement that still exists today.

# Public Conservation Areas

## Trailheads and Cross-Country Skiing

For more detailed information and to download/print PDF maps go to:  
[www.HopkintonConservationLand.org](http://www.HopkintonConservationLand.org)

### **Bohanan Farm**

This large, privately owned, working dairy farm has a conservation easement protecting its valuable agricultural fields and working forests. The farmers, the Bohanan/Robertson families, continue to welcome public use and enjoyment of their extensive network of farm roads and river frontage.

There are four walking routes: The Blackwater Loop with views of the Blackwater River; the Contoocook River Overlook Trail (accessed from the Blackwater Loop); the Corser Hill Loop to the hilltop cellar hole of the old Corser farmstead; and Amesbury Field Road to the Amesbury farm field at the confluence of the Warner and Contoocook Rivers. These walking routes are also popular in winter for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

### **Directions:**

From Contoocook or Hopkinton Villages, take Penacook Road towards the Transfer Station. Parking for all trails is at the Bohanan Farm trailhead kiosk on the left after crossing the Contoocook River at Tyler Bridge (945 Penacook Road).

### **Blackwater River Loop:**

This walk begins at the edge of the cornfield on Burrage Road, the road directly across from the entrance to Bohanan Farm. After a short walk along the Contoocook River, look for the sign that marks the beginning of the Blackwater River Loop. The path starts in the woods next to the cornfield and enters a flat wooded area of well-managed pine and mixed hardwood. A network of woods roads and foot paths leads past vernal pools before reaching the edge of the old river bed, now floodplain along the Blackwater River. A side loop called the Contoocook Overlook Trail leads to Horne Town Forest and a spectacular lookout at the confluence of the Blackwater and Contoocook Rivers. Other lookout points along the Loop offer river views. The relatively level terrain and wide pathways make this ideal for cross country skiing as well as walking.

### **Contoocook Overlook Loop:**

This loop trail was added in the fall of 2016 to provide access to Horne Town Forest, a 14-acre parcel acquired in 2015. The new town forest is surrounded by Bohanan Farm at the confluence of the Blackwater and Contoocook Rivers. The trail to the overlook leaves the Blackwater River Loop at the half way point, adding  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile to the Blackwater Loop (2.2 miles total with the overlook trail). The trail follows a bluff above the Blackwater River before turning toward the Contoocook River where an overlook provides beautiful views where the two rivers converge. The trail climbs a short hill to a bluff along the Contoocook River, follows through mature woodlands with views over Bohanan fields, and rejoins the Blackwater River Loop.

### **Corser Hill Loop:**

This walk begins by turning left from the parking area at Bohanan Farm and following the gravel farm road as it passes through farm fields. Access to Corser Hill is on the right side of the road shortly after turning onto the farm road. This path follows along the edge of a field before reaching the woods road that leads to Corser Hill. (Note that this access way may change from time to time depending on agricultural activities.) The loop enters the Corser pasture through a stile at the stone fence, and climbs through the open pasture to the top of the hill where a grove of large maple trees marks the site of Ham Corser's cellar hole. Large

boulders in the field have markings where Native Americans ground their corn. Be aware of the cows grazing in the pasture in season. The path continues north through the pasture to a stile at the far end, then follows a woods road back to the juncture south of the pasture. Retrace the path and farm road back to the parking area.

### **Amesbury Field Road:**

This walk begins by turning left from the parking area at Bohanan Farm and following the gravel farm road as it passes through farm fields. After passing through the Bohanan fields, the road crosses onto the Dustin property which was protected by a conservation easement in 2014. The roadway connects back to Bohanan Farm land and the Amesbury Field at approximately 1.6 miles. The farm road traverses several interesting water features including a small oxbow pond to the north (once the river channel) and an area along the Contoocook River that still floods during high water, helping to prevent downstream flooding during heavy rains. The silver maple floodplain forest provides an unusual and dynamic environment, which makes the area an important habitat for wildlife.

### **Walking Times** (from parking area):

Blackwater Loop (blue blazes): 1.5 miles round trip; 45 minutes.

Contoocook Overlook Trail (yellow blazes): 2.2 miles round trip; 1 to 1-1/4 hour

Corser Hill Loop: (orange blazes): 2.3 miles round trip; 1 hour

Amesbury Field Road: 3.2 miles round trip; 1.5 hour

## **Brockway Nature Preserve**

This 98-acre town-owned lot is located on the northeast side of Farrington Corner Road, across from the Brockway Road intersection. A unique feature of the lot is that it was used as a water storage system for two water-powered mills. One mill was located on this property and the other mill foundation is still visible on the southwest side of Farrington Corner Road. In addition to the ponds and swamps along Boutwell Mill Brook, the lot contains numerous but scattered vernal pools and seeps.

A trail hiking system starts on Farrington Corner Road at the Brockway Dedication Boulder and crosses into the lot on the top of an old fieldstone dam. The trail incorporates some of the existing woods roads and has a few side loops to the various wetland areas. Trails can also be used for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.

### **Walking Times**

McAnerny Marsh Loop (yellow blazes): 10 minutes

Verville-Benson Pond Loop (red blazes): 15 minutes

### **Directions:**

From the center of Hopkinton Village, take Route 103 toward Concord. Jewett Road is on your right. Once on Jewett Road: after .60 mile, turn left onto Farrington Corner Road; after 1.5 miles, look for a small parking area on your left at the trailhead.

## **Chase Wildlife Sanctuary**

In 1931, Samuel Myron Chase left in trust 63 acres of wooded land southeast of Hopkinton Village. Samuel Chase had a lifelong interest in and concern for wildlife and wished his land to be held in trust as a greenbelt around the Town of Hopkinton, “where the axe of the lumberman shall never ring again, and where New Hampshire bird life, wildflowers, and animals shall be protected in perpetuity.” The seed he planted has led

to steady growth of the sanctuary, which is now approximately 660 acres. The greenbelt Chase envisioned decades ago is slowly coming to fruition.

The following trails are part of this system:

**Chase Trail:** (Yellow markers)

This trail is the longest in the sanctuary. It runs from Jewett Road through the forest and ends at the marsh. The trail is home to many fern species, wildflowers, tracks that would include white-tailed deer and moose, and to many of the state's woodland birds.

**The Fred Pilch Loop:** (Red markers)

This short loop starts near Jewett Road and takes you to a lookout on the edge of the beaver meadow.

**The Will Brown & Voydatch Loops:** (Red markers)

These trails are located near the end of the Chase Trail where there are several overlooks on the edge of the marsh. The Voydatch Loop is especially good as a place to watch forest succession in progress, as there are a variety of stages to be seen, from lichen to forest.

**The Stack Brook Trail:** (Red markers)

The trail begins and ends from the Chase Trail, a short distance from the Fred Pilch Loop. The trail follows Stack Brook upstream over an area of rocky ground to a crossing at an old ford and bridge. The trail then follows the brook back down to rejoin the Chase Trail. Walking conditions can be a little rocky and wet, so care should be taken.

**The Brown Robinson Trail:** (Red markers)

This relatively short trail begins on Jewett Road about 0.25 miles south of the Chase Trail trailhead. It takes you to the edge of the marsh, to a huge beaver dam. Note: The Brown Robinson Trail includes sections on private property. Please stay on the trail and logging road.

**Directions:**

Take Route 202/9 east from Hopkinton Village and turn right onto Jewett Road. The trailhead pullout is 1.7 miles on the right.

## **Hawthorne Town Forest**

This 111-acre lot is located just east of Hopkinton Village between the east end of Main Street and Rollins Road. Access to the lot is from Rollins Road or via the Hopkinton Village Greenway Trail. The gorge-like valley found along Rachael's Brook in the northern part of the lot is quite scenic and contains several small cascades during periods of high water. You can sled on a nice slope just 50 yards from the Rollins Road pullout. The sliding slope is the only publicly owned slope in town. However, the most impressive feature of the lot is the numerous stone walls that mark several old croplands and pastures.

The 1.7-mile trail begins by a kiosk in the parking area off Rollins Road and is marked by yellow blazes. About 100 yards after entering the forest, the trail crosses a bridge over Rachael's Brook. Soon after the crossing, a trail junction marks the beginning of the loop trail. To the right is a gradual incline, the left is fairly level. Along the trail are historic stonewalls and tall stands of Hemlock, Oak and Beech. There is a cutoff situated halfway through the loop. This trail is about 200 yards long and reconnects to the loop trail. In the spring, this trail passes through a marshy area so hikers should wear sturdy boots.

There is also a trail spur to Main Street which comes out just before Hawthorne Hill Road. It's a short walk down Main Street to connect with the trails at Kimball Lake. These trails are part of the Greenway loop trail around Hopkinton Village. From the trailhead parking on Rollins Road, the Greenway trail heads east, parallel to Rollins Road, before crossing Rollins Road and following an unmaintained town road to Briar Hill Road.

**Directions:**

From the center of Hopkinton Village, proceed north on Briar Hill Road for 0.3 miles, then right on Rollins Road for 0.3 miles to a small pullout on the right.

**Hopkinton Village Greenway**

The Hopkinton Village Greenway consists of 4.5 miles of walking trails that connect town forests and conservation lands surrounding Hopkinton Village. The Greenway can be accessed at the trailhead parking areas at Kimball Lake, Ransmeier Woods, Hawthorne Forest or from the center of Hopkinton Village.

Walking Times

2 ½ hours to complete the entire Greenway. Shorter loops are available by walking individual sections. The trail is marked with yellow blazes. Starting at Kimball Lake and walking in a clockwise direction, the trail breaks into five sections:

**Kimball Lake to Hopkinton Center (1.23 miles)**

Beginning at the parking area at Kimball Lake, the trail follows an old woods road along the lake. The trail skirts the edge of the water, then winds by wetlands and streams before joining the unmaintained section of New Road. Turn right on New Road and continue to South Road. Follow South Road to the center of Hopkinton by the Cracker Barrel Store.

**Hopkinton Center to Route 103 (.84 mile)**

At the Cracker Barrel, cross Route 202, turn left and follow along the road to Old Putney Hill Road. Follow Old Putney Hill Road .3 miles to a woods road on the right. The trail winds its way through forested land owned by the Hopkinton Village Precinct and the town's Aqueduct Lot. Cross Route 103 to pick up the trail on the opposite side of the road.

**Route 103 to Stagecoach Road at Sweatt Preserve (.61 mile)**

This section begins on the northeast side of Hopkinton Road on the Ransmeier Woods property. A short section crosses over boardwalks and bridges before joining the existing blue trail of Ransmeier Woods. Turn left at the trail junction and follow the blue trail to its intersection with the Greenway. Turn left on the Greenway (yellow blazes), heading north across private land to the junction with Old Stagecoach Road. The trail emerges directly across from the trail on the Sweatt Preserve.

**Note:** From the parking area at the Ransmeier Woods trailhead (next to the Police Station), follow the orange trail to the blue trail, cross over the footbridge and continue on the blue trail to its junction with the Greenway (yellow blazes).

**Stagecoach Road to Hawthorne Forest trailhead (.79 mile)**

Turn right on Stagecoach Road and continue .2 mile to Briar Hill Road. Turn right on Briar Hill and look for the Greenway trail on the left. The trail follows an unmaintained town road up the hill to Rollins Road. The upper portion of the public way serves as a driveway for several homes off Rollins Road. Cross Rollins Road and pick up the trail on the other side. The trail parallels Rollins Road until it joins the trailhead parking area at Hawthorne Forest.

### **Hawthorne Forest trailhead to Kimball Lake trailhead (1.15 miles)**

Follow the Hawthorne Forest trail from the parking area, through the woods and across the footbridge. After the bridge, turn right and follow the yellow blazes to the connector trail to Main Street. Turn right on the trail (marked “to Main Street”) and turn right again on Main Street. It is .3 mile back along Main Street to Kimball Lake.

### **Connector from Greenway to Putney Hill Road and Dolly Road**

In the fall of 2014, a new trail section was built to connect the Greenway to the historic sites on Putney Hill Road and to Dolly Road via the First Parsonage Road trail. The trail connector begins on Putney Hill Road at the historic cellar hole identified as the “First Parsonage”. To the east, the trail crosses a field and follows stone walls on the Aqueduct Lot town forest where it connects with the Greenway. Along this section of the trail, recent logging opened a view to the northeast. To the west of the First Parsonage site, the trail follows the old roadway downhill to Dolly Road.

### **Kimball Lake**

From the parking area at the cabin, follow the gravel road to a footpath along the lake. The original trail, marked with yellow blazes, follows along the lakeshore to the height of land and then loops back through the woods to the shore.

The main trail, part of the Hopkinton Village Greenway, continues west to New Road, a Class 6 road that connects to South Road. This section of the trail was built by the Hopkinton Conservation Commission after additional land was deeded to the town by the developers of the adjacent Fieldstone Road neighborhood.

There is a short loop off the main trail, marked with red blazes, that leads to some large boulders.

Walking times:

Short yellow loop: 10 minutes; yellow trail from cabins to New Road: 20 minutes

### **Directions:**

Located at 185 Main Street in Hopkinton Village; accessed via the gravel road next to Kimball Lake. Parking is available at the main log cabin.

### **Little Tooky Trail**

The trail, which can be accessed from a parking area .2 miles down Little Tooky Road, is a 1-mile loop through an oak-pine forest. Walkers can find evidence of past farming and pasture land in abandoned farm equipment and old sheep fencing.

A recent logging operation created openings where raspberries and blueberries abound. The trail connects to the abandoned track of the Concord-Claremont Railroad line that went from Concord to the tip of Lake Sunapee.

For a longer walk, start at the gazebo in Riveryway Park and follow the Little Tooky Trail signs through the Village and the Contoocook cemetery to the trailhead on Little Tooky Trail.

Walking Times:

From trailhead on Little Tooky Road: 1 mile, 30 minutes

From Riverway Park: 2.5 miles, 1 to 1-1/4 hour

## **Mast Yard State Forest Trails**

Mast Yard State Forest lies in the northwest corner of Concord and northeast corner of Hopkinton, and provides 5 miles of interconnected trails that wind through shady forest and provide scenic views of Dolf Brook and the Contoocook River. The trails are open to hiking, mountain biking and cross-country skiing. Some trail sections follow former railroad grade, making them fairly flat, while others traverse slightly hillier terrain.

### Walking time:

About 2 hours

Distance: about 5 miles total

### **Directions:**

Take Broad Cove Road from Briar Hill Road. After passing under the powerlines, there is an opening on the left and a small area to park your car. Step over the large log to begin your walk.

## **Putney Hill Trails**

### **Putney Hill – Hopkinton Village Greenway Connector**

This trail connects Putney Hill Road, just north of its intersection with Old Putney Hill Road, to the Hopkinton Village Greenway, approximately .4 miles south from Hopkinton Road/Route 103. Marked with blue blazes, the trail crosses an open field on privately owned land and along stone walls to Town-owned property known as the “Aqueduct Lot”, previously a well-field for the Hopkinton Village Precinct. Along this section of the trail, recent logging opened a view to the northeast. The trail continues downhill to where it connects with the Hopkinton Village Greenway.

### **First Parsonage Trail**

This is an old town road, now Class VI, which begins on the west side of Putney Hill Road near the historic marker and cellar hole designating the site of Hopkinton’s First Parsonage, located approximately .4 miles south of Hopkinton Road/Route 103. It is a short and pleasant downhill walk to Dolly Road. Many folks use this trail as a loop walk or fitness run which includes other routes on town roads or the trail network on Putney Hill Road which heads east to the Hopkinton Village Greenway or west to Cross Road toward Contoocook Village.

### **Putney – Cross Trail**

There are two signed entrances to this trail. Without going all the way to Cross Road the two entrances can also be used as a convenient loop trail beginning on and then returning to Putney Hill Road. The north entrance is approximately .1 mile south from Hopkinton Road/Route 103 on the west side of Putney Hill Road. The south entrance is approximately .3 miles south from Hopkinton Road also on the west side. Both access points cross private land all the way to Cross Road and are permitted by trail agreements between generous cooperating landowners and the Town of Hopkinton. The longer term plan is to connect the Hopkinton Village trail network with Contoocook Village and its trails.

### Walking times:

Putney Hill – Greenway Connector: approximately .5 miles and about 10 minutes

First Parsonage Trail: approximately .5 miles to Dolly Road and about 10 minutes

Putney – Cross Trail: 1.5 miles; about 35 minutes downhill to Cross Road from the southern entrance on Putney Hill Road.

**Directions:**

There is limited parking for several cars at the end of Putney Hill Road near the intersection with Route 103 and Gould Hill Road. The trails are a short walk from there. A possible future plan is to have a trailhead parking lot on Old Putney Hill Road that will be convenient to these trails. Stay tuned!

**Ransmeier Woods**

The 68-acre property has two trails, offering both a field and woodland hiking experience within a short drive of Hopkinton Village. The shorter trail circles a large hayfield and passes Smith Brook near an old dam. The longer trail continues through a mature woodland with views of the brook at the base of a steep ravine. The Ransmeier Woods trails connect to the Hopkinton Village Greenway from the longer loop trail.

Walking time

Orange loop 25 minutes; Blue loop via Orange loop 45 minutes

**Directions:**

Parking is located next to the Police Station on Hopkinton Road. The parking lot is not plowed in the winter.

**Smith Pond Bog**

The 59-acre Smith Pond Bog Wildlife Sanctuary is made up of a diverse mosaic of wetland habitats surrounding Smith Pond. This kettle hole pond, named for James Smith who settled nearby in 1765, covers almost eight acres. A kettle hole pond is created when a block of ice, buried in soil left behind by a retreating glacier, eventually melts and creates a deep, steep-sided pond.

Smith Pond Bog is open throughout the year during daylight hours. Although the trails are not currently maintained because of beaver activity, walkers can view the pond from the adjacent Beyer Property where an old logging road leads to a view the bog. The sanctuary's primary purpose is to protect vital habitat for wildlife and plant life.

**Directions:**

From Hopkinton Village, proceed 1/4 mile west on Rte. 9/202, across from Gage Hill Road. The property is owned and managed by New Hampshire Audubon.

**Stevens Rail Trail**

The Stevens Rail Trail is a former railroad bed now used as a multi-purpose trail. It starts on the north side of Spring Street near Krzyzaniak Lane and continues for approximately 2 miles, ending at Kearsarge Avenue near Interstate 89 Exit 7 and the entrance to Knoxland Equipment. In 2019 this trail was improved in cooperation with Friends of the Concord-Lake Sunapee Rail Trail.

**Directions:**

Park at Houston Fields behind the Library (61 Houston Drive). After parking, follow the gravel road next to the playground towards the back athletic fields. Just after reaching the field, turn right on another gravel path and follow it through the woods to Spring Street. The trail starts on the north side of Spring Street at the beginning of Krzyzaniak Lane.

## **Sweatt Preserve Nature Trail**

The Sweatt Preserve Nature Trail is located on the north side of Old Stagecoach Road near Hopkinton Village, a dirt road that rises from Briar Hill Road up to Gould Hill. Consisting of a 2-mile pathway marked by a roadside sign, the trail leads hikers and snowshoers deep into the forest, over brooks, up a slight hill, around a loop, and back to the start.

This woodland trail is a great one for kids, with its two footbridges over a brook, hidden away in a hemlock grove at the bottom of a steep ravine. After the stream and a short climb, the trail loops back through thinly wooded former pasture land edged with stone walls. The property is owned and managed by Five Rivers Conservation Trust.

**Walking times:**

Full one-mile loop: 30 minutes

### **Directions:**

From Hopkinton Village, follow Briar Hill Road 0.8 mile to Old Stagecoach Road. The trailhead is 0.2 mile up Old Stagecoach Road on the right. Park along the side of the road.

## Scenic Views & Vistas

Hopkinton has a rich variety of scenic views and vistas. As you travel along the rural roads, you will see the Contoocook River, farms, open pastures, wooded land, historical New England homes, stone walls and panoramic views of area hills and mountains. Some of Hopkinton's beautiful landscapes include:

Kast Hill Road  
Maple Street to West Hopkinton  
Galloping Hill Road  
Corner of Hatfield & Thain Roads  
Putney Hill Road  
Briar Hill Road  
Gould Hill Orchards  
Tyler Bridge on Tyler Road  
Patch Road  
Beech Hill Farm  
Stone Bridge in Contoocook Village  
Brockway & Jewett Road intersection  
Penacook Road & Gould Hill Road intersection

Enjoy a casual drive along the Currier & Ives Scenic Byway. It is located in the scenic New Hampshire towns of Henniker, Hopkinton, Warner, Webster, and Salisbury along routes 202, 103 and 127. For more information:

**[www.currierandivesbyway.org](http://www.currierandivesbyway.org)**



## **Ponds & Lakes**

### **Drew Lake**

Drew Lake lies southeast of the Hopkinton-Everett reservoir. It has an area of approximately 38 acres in size and is a popular fishing site. This lake is located 0.8 mile from the junction of Route 202/9 and Sugar Hill Road, west of Hopkinton Village.

### **Hopkinton-Everett Lakes**

The Hopkinton-Everett Lakes Reservoir protects Contoocook and other towns and cities along the river from flooding. It provides Hopkinton with a variety of recreational opportunities including Elm Brook Park, which is formed by a dam on the Contoocook River in West Hopkinton, and the Everett Flood Control Dam on the Piscataquog River in Weare. The major bodies of water involved in the reservoir that are located in Hopkinton are: Contoocook River, Pool Canal No. 1, Elm Brook Pool and Marsh, Stumpfield Pond and Marsh, Drew Lake, and Canal No. 2. The many recreational opportunities offered in this area are described online at [www.nae.usace.army.mil](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil).

### **Kimball Lake and Cabins**

This lovely lake is approximately 75 acres in size with adjoining cabins and hiking trails located at 185 Main Street in Hopkinton. Residents are encouraged to use this area for snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, hiking, mountain biking, fishing and canoeing/kayaking. A nature walk is also available. The Hopkinton Village Greenway Trail begins at the end of the parking lot, behind the large log cabin. A trail map can be found on the kiosk or available online at [www.hopkintonconservationland.org](http://www.hopkintonconservationland.org).

The cabins are owned by the Town and used for summer day camp, school, special events and the Boy/Girl Scouts. To use this area or the cabins, contact the Recreation Director for information. No motorized boats or motorized vehicles are permitted. During the winter months, ice skating is at your own risk. The Town does not maintain the ice, but a group of volunteers give it a good effort.

### **Kimball Pond**

Kimball Pond is located at 58 Rollins Road. It can be used by residents of Hopkinton and Contoocook from late June to mid August. It is staffed with American Red Cross-trained lifeguards. The pond has no running water but offers portable toilets for public use. There are designated swimming areas and several docks. Swim lessons are offered through the Recreation Department. Personal watercraft is allowed outside of the designated swimming area. Please respect the posted hours and safety guidelines.

### **Whittier Pond**

Whittier Pond, also called Fry Pond, lies north of Hopkinton Road. It is a natural shallow pond that has been raised by damming giving it 14 acres in size. Access is located at the junction of Route 103/202 and Currier Road, about 1.5 miles east from Hopkinton Village.

## **Rivers**

### **Contoocook River**

The Contoocook River has been cited as Hopkinton's prime natural resource. The river originates in southwest New Hampshire and flows approximately 66 miles northeast to join the Merrimack River in Penacook. The Blackwater and Warner Rivers are its main tributaries. You can enjoy kayaking, boating, canoeing, fishing and swimming in the Contoocook River. You can easily access the river in two public places in Contoocook Village, either upstream or downstream of the covered bridge. Kayak and canoe access are available at the ramp located upstream from the Bohanan Farm parking area at the end of the Tyler Bridge on Penacook Road. You can paddle down nine miles of the Contoocook River, that begins in the Contoocook Village behind the Railroad Depot Station.

Contact: Contoocook River Canoe & Kayak Rentals (603)753-9804  
9 Horsehill Road, Concord, NH 03303

## **Boat Launches**

### **Bohanan Farm Conservation Property**

This gangway style ramp allows easy access to the river from the steep bank at the farm for canoes and kayaks. A drop-off area is located near the ramp and parking is provided at the informational kiosk off Penacook Road.

### **Cedar Street Municipal Parking Lot**

If you want to paddle upstream, park in the Municipal Parking lot on Cedar Street, adjacent to the Grange Hall. You can put your non-motorized craft in upstream of the safety barrels. If you are interested in a downstream paddle, park in the Municipal Parking area behind the Gazebo. You will find the "ramp" to the river near this area. There is a nine-mile stretch of calm water downstream from here that eventually ends near the Riverhill Bridge in Penacook, NH.

### **Clement Pond Boat Launch**

Clement Pond, also called Lake Josylvia, is 100 acres in size and has a maximum depth of 50 feet. There is public access from Bound Tree Road in Contoocook. Take a right onto Bound Tree Road from Pine Street and travel for 2.3 miles and take a left at the "Y." Travel another .6 miles and the boat ramp and parking will be on your right.

### **Kimball Lake Boat Launch**

This beautiful lake is located in downtown Hopkinton with access from the dirt road that leads to the Kimball Cabins. Powerboats are not permitted at this site. Rowboats, canoes, kayaks and other small boats may be launched from this site.

### **Kimball Pond Boat Launch**

Kimball Pond is located off Rollins Road and is open from late June to mid-August. There is a nice sandy beach, docks and ample parking. Powerboats are not permitted at this site. Rowboats, canoes and other small boats may be launched from this site.

### **Riverway Park Boat Launch**

This boat launch is located in the middle of Contoocook Village and can be found right after the Covered Bridge. This launch is not meant for powerboats. Rowboats, canoes and other small boats may be launched from this site.

### **Stumpfield Road Boat Launches**

The boat launch is for powerboats and other small boats. It is located at the end of Stumpfield Road and has two places for launching.

## Biking

### **Hopkinton – Henniker – Hillsborough**

This is a great ride, starting in the village of Contoocook, riding out to the center of Henniker, and along the Contoocook River just into Hillsborough. It features three covered bridges, the Hopkinton Dam, Elm Brook Park, and several enjoyable miles along the Contoocook River.

Most of the ride is on quiet back roads, though ½ mile is along Route 202/9 which, though busy, has a wide shoulder. Total distance is 27.3 miles, or 18 miles without the river spur.

If you don't live in Hopkinton, a good place to start is at the Hopkinton Library off Pine Street on Houston Dr., just ¼ mile from the bridge in Contoocook (see the end of the ride directions below).

0.0 R from the end of the library driveway on Houston Drive onto Pine Street  
2.1 L onto Clement Hill Road  
3.5 on the left is Rowell's Covered Bridge, one of two in Hopkinton  
3.8 R bear right onto Kast Hill Road near the top of the hill  
4.5 R onto French Road  
5.6 L bear left onto French Pond Road  
5.8 R onto Foster Hill Road  
7.1 R onto 202/9 (busy road/wide shoulder)  
7.6 R get off 202/9 at Route 114 to Henniker  
7.9 L at ramp end onto Route 114 South  
8.6 Henniker Center

If you wish, you can eliminate over 9 miles here by simply taking a left on Western Avenue and rejoining the directions at 18.3 miles below.

8.6 R onto Western Avenue  
9.9 L bear left and choose one of two bridges over the Contoocook River  
10.1 R after bridge, keeping the river on your right (still on Western Ave.)

The next several miles along the river are probably the best part of the ride. This quiet road follows one of the most scenic parts of the Contoocook River. Don't be afraid to stop and stick your toes in the water or bring a fishing pole and throw in a line.

13.5 U turn around and retrace your path to Henniker Center  
(note that the road is now Contoocook Falls Road, in Hillsborough)  
18.3 Continue across Route 114 on Western Avenue  
22.1 Cross 202/9 here, onto Route 127 North  
22.8 R Over the Hopkinton Dam  
23.1 L Stay on 127N (no choice)  
23.2 R Stay on 127N (you pass Rowell's Covered Bridge again here)  
24.2 Elm Brook Park is on your right here, another great place to stop  
26.9 L Onto 103/127 North, over the stone bridge in Contoocook Village  
(The covered Railroad Bridge is on your right as you cross the river.)  
27. Go straight here, turning off 103/127 immediately after the bridge  
27. L Onto Pine Street, in front of the fire station  
27.2 R Into library driveway on Houston Drive.

## **Hopkinton – Contoocook – Webster**

**A bike repair station is located directly behind the Contoocook Depot passenger coach.**

This is a beautiful ride that passes through three scenic villages, crosses three rivers numerous times, and includes plenty of scenic, quiet back roads. It starts in Hopkinton Village, and on the way out passes through Contoocook Village, over the Contoocook River, through what remains of Davisville, then over the Warner River. On the way back, it passes over the Blackwater River twice, back over the Contoocook River, and by many beautiful farms. Typical of our area, it also includes lots of hills! Keep in mind that what goes up must come down: the direction you ride will make a difference. As described below, it is somewhat easier. Reverse the course for an even better work out!

The ride begins at the First Congregational Church parking lot in Hopkinton Village, which has ample parking, except on Sunday mornings.

0.0 R From the parking lot onto Hopkinton Road/Route 103

2.8 R After stone bridge onto Route 103/127 (on right is a Covered Railroad Bridge)

4.6 R Onto Route 127, just before Davisville Store (cross Warner River)

8.0 R Sharp right onto Tyler Road

8.1 Cross Blackwater River (a very pretty spot to put your toes in the water)

11.4 Straight through, now on Penacook Road

12.3 L Onto Briar Hill Road (caution: difficult to see oncoming traffic)

15.5 R Onto Route 103, then R again into Church parking lot

## **Road Races**

### **July 4<sup>th</sup> 5k Fun Run**

A 5k fun run and walk is held on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Come wearing your red, white and blue! This is a fun, social run, but there is informal (stopwatch) timing at the finish. Awards are presented during the July 4<sup>th</sup> Family Fun Day held at the Houston Field Complex. The race is hosted by the Town of Hopkinton Recreation Department. There is no fee for this event but donations are gratefully accepted.

### **Turkey Trot**

Join us on Thanksgiving morning at the Slusser Center for a 6K Turkey Trot and a Pancake Breakfast to benefit the Hopkinton Food Pantry! The 6K Race, sponsored by the Granite State Track & Field Team, kicks off at 8 am. Prizes will be awarded to top runners. Then from 8-11 am, the Hopkinton Lions Club will be cooking up a delicious Pancake Breakfast. You do not have to participate in the 6K to have breakfast! All proceeds go directly to the Hopkinton Food Pantry.

## **Riding Stables**

### **Back in the Saddle Equine Therapy Center (BITS ETC)**

BITS ETC offers Therapeutic Riding, Hippotherapy and SpiritHorse Therapeutics, and Autism Intervention for people living with disabilities in central NH. They additionally offer volunteer opportunities for area high school and college students, as well as able-bodied adults, who wish to enjoy some exercise in the presence of horses.

**Contact: Pauline Meridien, Director (603) 746-5681**

334 College Hill Road  
Hopkinton, NH 03229

### **Dawn-Mar Farm**

Dawn-Mar Ranch Riding Academy ([www.shared-gifts.org](http://www.shared-gifts.org)) on Stumpfield Road is the home of Shared Gifts, a 501 (c) (3), non-profit organization dedicated to helping people with life challenges find acceptance through love, care and riding of retired and rescued horses. Able-bodied and disabled individuals are paired with a rescued horse to learn to ride, drive or simply enjoy an equine experience. All ages and abilities are welcome.

Through her 4H Easy Riders program (of 40 years) and her Merrimack Valley Equestrian Special Olympics program (of 20 years), Marcia has pioneered the "unified barn" concept by which special students are included in 4H competition in addition to competing in Special Olympics. Thanks to this equal opportunity approach, in addition to learning to ride, children in both clubs work together to care for their service animals as they embrace their differences and offer each other support and friendship.

**Contact: Marcia Evans (603) 746-3884**

64 Stumpfield Road  
Hopkinton, NH

### **MRF Dressage at Harvest Moon Farm**

MRF Dressage at Harvest Moon Farm is a premier boarding, lesson and training facility located in beautiful Hopkinton, NH. We are conveniently located near Route 89 and just off from Route 202 on Hatfield Road in Hopkinton, NH. Owned and operated by Michele Routhier Schurman, MRF Dressage at Harvest Moon Farm is a beautiful, well maintained facility that offers the very best care and conveniences for both horse and rider. Riders will enjoy a supportive, professional atmosphere in which to learn and enjoy their horse. With the offering of lessons, clinics and shows, you'll never need to go anywhere else!

### **Phoenix Stables**

295 Stumpfield Road, Hopkinton  
**(603) 746-6418**

### **Red Horse Ranch**

Offering horse leases, horse day camp, horse training, riding lessons, supervised arena rides. Visitors are welcome by appointment only. Come for a visit!

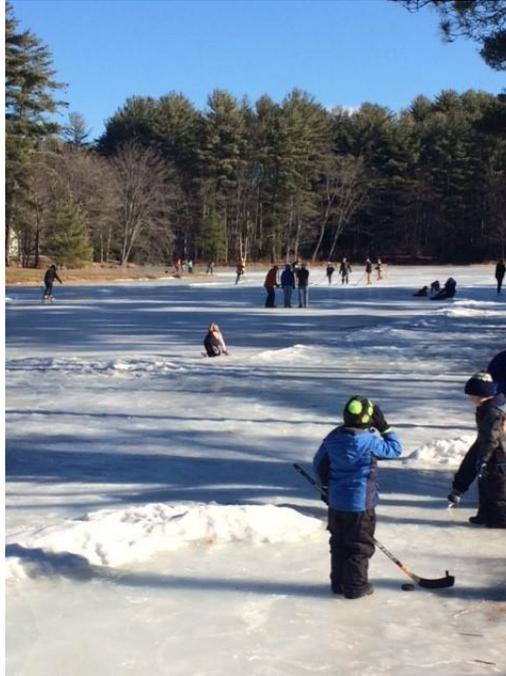
**Contact: Linda Ogden (603) 856-4478**

410 Broad Cove Road  
Hopkinton, NH 03229

## Ice Skating

### Kimball Lake

Use at your own risk. The ice is not maintained by the Town of Hopkinton. Several skating parties are organized by the Recreation Department during the winter months.



## Snowmobiling

### Contoocook Sno-mads Snowmobile Club

The Contoocook Sno-mads Snowmobile Club was established in 1969 and has over 75 active members from Contoocook, Hopkinton, Concord, Warner, Henniker and Webster. The Club maintains and grooms over 62 miles of trails throughout Hopkinton and Contoocook. The trails are located on state, town and privately owned property. Without these trails, northern travel into the Mt. Kearsarge region would be nearly impossible. Many local businesses benefit from snowmobile traffic. The Sno-mads have a dedicated team of volunteers that keep the trails safe and in top-notch condition throughout the season.

For more information go to Contoocook Sno-Mads Facebook page.

**Contact: Dennis Travers (603) 746-8300**

## ATV

### **BoundTree ATV Club**

The BoundTree ATV Club's Trail System is located in the towns of Hopkinton and Warner. The trails in Hopkinton/Contoocook are primarily on private property with the trails in Warner being primarily on Class VI roads. For more information: [www.boundtreatvclub.org](http://www.boundtreatvclub.org)

## Sports Fields and Parks

### **Civil War Park**

The Civil War Park, formally known as "The Park" or "Veteran's Park" is located across the street from the First Congregational Church of Hopkinton. The Park includes monuments dedicated to those who served in the Revolutionary, Mexican, Spanish, Civil, Korean, Vietnam, and World War I and II. The 1933 wooden flag pole was replaced with a new pole and light donated by the Rotary Club of Hopkinton. The Park is maintained by the Town of Hopkinton with garden work performed by the Rotary Club.

### **Dog Park**

The Hopkinton Dog Park is located along the walking trail behind the playground at Houston Park. The park, like the playground and athletic fields, is not winter maintained but the community is welcome to use them for wintertime enjoyment. The park rules are posted at the park and adherence is necessary for the safety of all dogs. Also, note that the small park is to be used by small dogs only (25 lbs or less) to ensure their safety. Dog waste bags will be provided, please ensure a clean and healthy park by cleaning up after your dogs. Special thanks to Paws on Pine for spearheading the fundraising efforts for the large park and to our Troop 77 Eagle Scout who fundraised for the small park.

### **Elm Brook Park**

The facility is open mid-May through the second weekend in September and offers picnic tables, grills, playground equipment, horseshoe pits, a swim beach (no lifeguards), a short nature trail, a boat ramp, hiking, biking, ATV trails, and four picnic shelters are available on a fee basis. There is an entrance fee for this park.

Park information is found at [www.nae.usace.army.mil](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil) or **603-746-3601**. Shelter reservations are made through the National Recreation Reservation Service at 1-877-444-6777 or online at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov).

Directions: Take Exit 6 from I-89. Turn onto Route 127 South (left turn if traveling North, right turn if traveling South). Follow Route 127 South for approximately 1 mile. Turn left at the Elm Brook Park sign.

## **Gazebo**

The Lewellen Gazebo is located in the center of Contoocook Village next to the Railroad Depot Station. There is a municipal parking lot located next to the Gazebo for patron use. The Gazebo is used during the summer months for various concerts, community events and the July 4<sup>th</sup> Kids Parade. The Gazebo can be used by any community member or group. For more information, contact the Recreation Department at (603) 746-8263.



## **George Park**

George Park is located adjacent to the Hopkinton Middle/High School and is the primary recreation area. At present, the park is composed of Hopkinton's only full-sized baseball field, two little league/softball fields, a soccer field, a field hockey field and a 1/5-mile track. Also at this location are two tennis courts, an outdoor basketball court and the Spirit Skateboard Park. The park is used for school team activities and other organized sporting teams. For scheduling of field use, please contact the Recreation Director at (603) 746-8263.

## **Houston Fields**

Houston Fields, located on Houston Drive off of Pine St. behind Hopkinton's Town Library and the Slusser Center, is the gemstone of the Town's recreational facilities. It is designed to serve all age groups from the very young to the elderly and it is the home for most town sponsored team recreational activities. At present it is comprised of four multi-purpose fields used for lacrosse, soccer and football, an official little league field, a children's playground and a dog park. Lovely picnic areas, one with views of the entire park, have been developed near the playground. Walking paths and nature viewing locations are also available. Houston Fields is today a first-class example of a recreational facility that is designed to maintain the delicate balance between nature and people. A walking/bike path connects Houston Park with Spring Street and the Stevens Rail Trail.

## **Kimball Lake Recreational Area**

Located at 47 Kimball Lake Dr. in Hopkinton, this facility offers many recreational opportunities. Enjoy fishing off the platform or from a non-motorized boat, hiking along the Village Greenway Trail, picnicking, and nature viewing. Cabins are available to rent. If you would like to use the area for an event, contact Paula Simpkins of the Hopkinton Recreation Department at: [recreation@hopkinton-nh.gov](mailto:recreation@hopkinton-nh.gov)  
This facility is open dawn to dusk.

## **Park Avenue Field**

The Hopkinton Youth Sports Association (HYSA) has worked on developing a field on town acquired land adjacent to the Hopkinton Fairgrounds. The field is used for baseball, soccer and lacrosse.

## **Spirit Skate Park**

This “state of the art” skate park is located on Park Ave. (next to the High School) and is part of George Park. The Park features multiple ramps that vary in size and difficulty. The Park is open to skateboarders, scooters, inline skates, BMX bikes, and is geared to kids of all ages. The Shumway & Carr families built this park as a memorial to honor the lives of their sons, Robbie Carr & Jake Shumway. The Park is open seven days a week. The Park is not staffed and all participants use at their own risk. Children under the age of 10 years old must be accompanied by an adult at all times.



## **Sport Organizations**

### **Blackwater Nordic Skiing**

The mission of the club is to build a strong community of Nordic skiers from BKL through the high school race team and beyond.

“Races come and go but skiing stays forever.” Bill Koch

[www.blackaternordic.org](http://www.blackaternordic.org)

### **Contoocook Men’s Softball League**

This league offers men (18+) an opportunity to participate in recreational softball.

### **Countryside Community Church**

Provides co-ed softball opportunities for residents over the age of 15 years

### **Hopkinton Lacrosse Club**

HLC is a travel lacrosse club.

[www.hopkintonlacrosse.com](http://www.hopkintonlacrosse.com)

### **Hopkinton Soccer Club**

HSC is a travel soccer club that offers a competitive soccer program year-round. Players are selected at tryouts, which attempt to evaluate skill, athletic ability, and player attitude.

[www.hopkintonsoccerclub.com](http://www.hopkintonsoccerclub.com)

### **Hopkinton Youth Sports Association (HYSA)**

HYSA offers recreational sports for all Hopkinton youth who sign up and emphasize fair play, sportsmanship, and equal playing time. HYSA offers youth baseball, softball, T-ball, basketball, fall soccer, flag football, field hockey and tennis.

[www.hysasportsnh.com](http://www.hysasportsnh.com)

## Hopkinton Recreation Department Information/Events

### Easter Egg Hunt

The week before Easter (Saturday), the Recreation Department hosts an Easter Egg Hunt at the Hopkinton Middle/High School. The Hunt is for children up to grade 3. We begin the day with a visit from the Easter Bunny and then the Hunt. The event is weather dependent, either taking place in the school or on the fields. Don't forget to bring your Easter Basket!



### July 4<sup>th</sup> Family Fun Day

This event always takes place on July 4<sup>th</sup> and a lot of the community members and groups volunteer to make this day a special one. It starts off with a 5K fun run/walk and a pancake breakfast hosted by the Hopkinton Lion's Club. Then, there is a Canoe/Kayak race starting at Riverside Road. The Kid's Parade starts at 11:30 am at the Gazebo before the main parade. Kids are encouraged to decorate their bikes and wagons and themselves. The Independence Day Parade starts at 12 noon. Line-up begins at 11:30 am at the Hopkinton High School and is hosted by the Hopkinton Fire Department. Immediately following the parade, patrons head to Houston Fields for the Family Fun Day. This event is packed with fun and games for all ages. All kinds of refreshments and food are available, and there is music, entertainers and contests.



## **Halloween Holler**

The weekend before Halloween we host the fall festival “Halloween Holler” geared toward families, and is a day filled with a costume parade, food, games and fun.

## **Breakfast with Santa**

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in December, Santa makes his way to the Slusser Center to visit with the community children. The Hopkinton Recreation Committee, along with other volunteers, cook up a hot breakfast to include eggs, pancakes, bacon, muffins, and hash browns while the kids can have a special visit with Santa and partake in craft activities. All proceeds go towards Operation Christmas which is organized by the Human Services Department and housed at the Center. All are welcome!

## **Gingerbread House Workshop**

During the first weekend in December, coinciding with the Town’s Starry, Starry Weekend, the Department hosts a Gingerbread House Workshop at the Slusser Center. All tools necessary to build and decorate a gingerbread house, along with hot chocolate and cookies, will be provided. This is a family workshop, so all children must be accompanied by an adult. Spaces are usually limited and often sell out.

## **Winter Fun at Kimball Cabins**

Come explore Kimball Lake and the surrounding trails during the winter months. The Recreation Department opens the cabin from noon-3pm on several dates in the winter serving hot cocoa and treats. Community members can enjoy snowshoeing and cross country skiing on the Greenway Trail, ice skating, hockey, broomball or ice fishing on the Lake.

## **American Red Cross Babysitting Training Course**

This course is offered and is geared for children ages 11-15. Skills taught are general first aid, identifying safety hazards, making good decisions, supervisory skills, safe toys and games, bedtime issues and more. This is a one day course.

## **Granite State Track & Field**

The Granite State Track & Field Program was created to promote youth physical fitness and provide fun learning experiences for youth. Hopkinton Granite State Track is a 4-week program designed to provide children experience in the sport of track & field. Varsity participants will have an opportunity to compete in the regional meet and qualifying athletes may compete at the State Meet. Practice is on the track at George Park, next to the high school, twice a week.

## **Hopkinton Summer Day Camp**

Every summer, the Department offers a summer day camp for children ages 6 - 11 years old, and Counselors-in-Training (CIT) program for older campers. The camp runs for seven weeks and allows campers to sign-up on a weekly basis. Camp starts at the end of June and ends mid-August and is based out of the Harold Martin School. We offer arts and crafts, sports, games, field trips, swimming, kayaking/canoeing, adventure activities and more. We hire skilled camp counselors that often return summer after summer.

## **Senior Activities/Services**

The Slusser Center, located at 41 Houston Drive in Contoocook, offers many senior activities and programs Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Slusser Center opened on November 3, 2007 as a Senior Center, thanks to the generosity of Gene and Anne Slusser. It is a public building owned by the Town of Hopkinton and is operated under the Recreation Department and under the direction of the Recreation Director.

The Slusser Center provides a place for the community of Hopkinton/Contoocook to meet together to pursue mutual interests, receive health and educational services and participate in social and recreational activities that will enhance their dignity, support their independence and encourage their continued involvement in the community. The Center strives to create a place that is welcoming, comfortable, safe and accessible. There is a large, comfortable living room, a commercial kitchen, a dining room that can seat 80 people and host special events, a large fitness room that is used for various fitness classes, and a game room with a pool table and card tables.

The Slusser Center invites you to drop in and visit, take a tour, and participate in an activity! At present, there is no charge to become a member of the Slusser Center. Some activities are free, and some require small fees, and donations are always accepted. Feel free to contact the Slusser Center at (603) 746-8265.

Volunteers are an integral part of the Slusser Center community. The daily activities and many of the programs, classes and meals are run by volunteers. We are always looking for volunteers and if you are willing to help, we will find you a spot!

## **Swim Lessons at Kimball Pond**

Swim Lessons are held at Kimball Pond off of Rollins Road during the summer months. The classes are for children ages 4 years old or older and includes five levels. The levels vary from beginner water readiness, to floating/kicking, to stroke development, to advanced stroke technique. We offer three, two-week sessions that run Monday through Thursday with Friday as the rain make-up day. Each lesson is 20-30 minutes long and is taught by a certified swim instructor.

## **Tai Chi**

Tai Chi meets every Tuesday and Saturday for advanced Tai Chi, and Thursday for beginner at the Slusser Center.

## **Other Annual Town Events**

### **Contoocook Carry/ Wood for Warmth**

The Contoocook Carry Triathlon was first held in 2002, as a gift from the Congoran family, to help build the town's Spirit Skateboard Park. The event takes place towards the end of September. Every year since, the proceeds have gone to a different cause and the past several years they gave 100% of all proceeds directly to **Fuel Assistance** for those who might need a little extra help with the coming winter.

The "Carry" begins from Hopkinton High School with a 2-mile run to the bank of the Contoocook River and a beautiful view of Putney Hill. After putting your boat in the water, you'll paddle about 1 ½ miles to the

portage, just above the dam and bridge in the Village of Contoocook. You and your boat will portage (you carry, it rides) about 200 yards to return to the river. At the end of the paddle, you can begin the 14-mile bike ride through the lightly rolling country back to the high school.

You can also read more about the community effort to supply fuel assistance through the Contoocook Carry Fund and the newly created Sean Powers Wood Bank at [www.woodforwarmth.org](http://www.woodforwarmth.org)

**Triathlon:** 2-Mile Run, 5-Mile Paddle (with short portage—help will be available) & 14-Mile Bike Ride.  
**Contact:** For more information, call Mary at (603) 529-2692 or email [tcongoran@hotmail.com](mailto:tcongoran@hotmail.com).

## **Farmer's Market**

The Farmer's Market is held each Saturday morning in the center of Contoocook in the parking lot of the Railroad Depot Station from mid-June to early October and at the Town Hall during the winter months. You can shop for local produce, crafts and much more. For more information, check <https://harvesttomarket.com/farmers-market/Contoocook-Farmers-Market-NH>.

Hopkinton Memorial Day Parade

**Each year the Town alternates between Contoocook Village and Hopkinton Town Center for the Memorial Day Parade that begins at 10:00 am. Following the parade, a community cookout is hosted by the American Legion in Contoocook.**

## **Hopkinton State Fair**

Over its history, the Hopkinton State Fair has become a large, top-ranked agricultural fair in New Hampshire. It is well known for their agricultural exhibits, as well as the fine entertainment, which it provides every year. The Directors and Staff strive to improve the Fair each year to make it more enjoyable for our many guests. The fair is a full five-day event opening on Thursday and continuing through Labor Day. For more information visit [www.hsfair.org](http://www.hsfair.org)

## **Starry, Starry Weekend**

“One Weekend, Two Villages... More than twenty destinations”. This annual event takes place the first weekend of December and includes the participation of local merchants/restaurants, artists, town departments, churches with music, food, tree lighting ceremonies and much more. Visit <http://starrystarryweekend.blogspot.com/> for more details.

## **Veteran's Day Memorial Service**

Every Veteran's Day all are invited to the Hopkinton and Contoocook Candle Lighting Ceremony at the Civil War Park across from the Cracker Barrel in Hopkinton Village. At dusk there is a gathering with a color guard (kindly provided by the Veterans of Foreign Wars) and a small ceremony to remember those who have sacrificed their lives in the past and for those who are sacrificing today. Please come, rain or shine. You may bring your own candle or one will be provided for you. Please check [www.hopkinton-nh.gov](http://www.hopkinton-nh.gov) for updates and more information.

## **Local Organizations/Services**

### **American Legion**

The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veteran's organization devoted to mutual helpfulness. It is the nation's largest wartime veterans service organization, committed to mentoring youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow service members and veterans.

**[www.legionnh.org](http://www.legionnh.org)**

### **Boy Scouts of America Troop 77, Hopkinton, NH**

The Scouting program offers boys ages 11 through 18 years an opportunity to experience some outdoor activities as part of a larger (world-wide) organization. Activities include hiking, bike trips, camping and community service. Troop 77 meets weekly at the Odd Fellows Hall on Park Ave. in Contoocook.

### **Contoocook Chamber of Commerce**

Working together to promote civic, commercial, industrial, professional, artisanal and agricultural welfare of Contoocook and Hopkinton.

**[www.contoocookchamber.com](http://www.contoocookchamber.com)**

### **Contoocook Riverway Association**

The mission of the Contoocook Riverway Association is to restore and maintain the Contoocook train depot and its property for the education and enjoyment of the community and its visitors.

**[www.contoocookdepot.org](http://www.contoocookdepot.org)**

### **Cub Scouts**

Cub Scouts do fun things with other kids! Cub scouting is a year-round family program designed for boys who are in the first grade through fifth grade.

For more information on Cub or Boy Scouts visit **<https://hopkinton77.mytroop.us>**

### **Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains, Hopkinton**

Girl Scouting provides leadership opportunities to girls from all areas and backgrounds. By working with caring volunteers, girls are mentored in a variety of areas and skills. Girl Scouting is a girl led program which uses resources designed by skilled professionals. Our organization provides training and professional support to our adult volunteers. Girls may participate via traditional troop structures, or through short term, interest specific activities. We operate both day and resident camps in the summer to provide outdoor educational opportunities to girls. The Girl Scouts in Hopkinton welcome all girls and adults. Many volunteer opportunities are available. Join Us!

For more information visit **[www.girlscoutsgwm.org](http://www.girlscoutsgwm.org)** or contact **(888) 474-9686**

## **Hopkinton Historical Society**

The Hopkinton Historical Society is Hopkinton's history museum and resource center. We are open March through December, Thursdays and Fridays 9-4, Saturdays 9-1. Programs include three new exhibits each year, including new perspectives on Hopkinton history, a cemetery walk, and a showcase on local artists. Collections include items that help elucidate Hopkinton's history, including deeds, diaries, photographs, postcards, paintings, furniture, and crafts. All are welcome to see the exhibits, conduct research, or volunteer. [www.hopkintonhistory.org](http://www.hopkintonhistory.org).

## **Hopkinton Lion's Club**

The Hopkinton Lions Club was founded on, and continues to live by, the motto "We Serve". Members of the Hopkinton Lions Club live in and/or work in the community and have forged strong bonds with their neighbors and local businesses. From performing hands-on service projects to providing emergency assistance, our community and environmental programs improve our community, and the communities around us – and protect the environment.

[www.hopkintonnhlions.com](http://www.hopkintonnhlions.com)

## **Hopkinton PTA**

The mission of the Hopkinton PTA is to support and speak on the behalf of children and youth in schools, to assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children, and to encourage parent and public involvement in schools. [www.hopkinton.my-pta.org](http://www.hopkinton.my-pta.org)

## **Hopkinton Rotary**

The Hopkinton Rotary is a service organization consisting of men and women dedicated to improving our community both near and far. Through our own efforts and in partnership with similar minded groups, we strive to provide assistance where it is needed. To create a better informed and cooperative community, we act to convene various individuals and groups in our town for the purpose of discussion and education. We welcome all who share a similar vision to join the Hopkinton Rotary.

[www.hopkintonrotary.org](http://www.hopkintonrotary.org)

## **Hopkinton Woman's Club**

The Mission of the Woman's Club is to promote educational and philanthropic community service and to provide members with the opportunity for personal enrichment, leadership experience and social opportunities. It is a non-profit, non-sectarian, non-political organization.

## **Independent Order of Odd Fellows & Rebekahs**

These groups are the family of Odd Fellowship, composed of men, women, and youth, believing in a supreme being, the creator and preserver of the universe, who have come together in our local communities having the same beliefs and values as others, that; Friendship, Love and Truth are the basic guidelines that we need to follow in our daily lives. Through working in our local Communities, States, Provinces, or Nationally, we understand that we can make a difference in the lives of people in our World. [www.ioof.org](http://www.ioof.org)

## **Campgrounds**

### **Keyser Pond Campground**

1739 Old Concord Road

Henniker, NH 03242

603-428-7741

**[www.keyserpondcampground.com](http://www.keyserpondcampground.com)**

At Keyser Pond you can set up your campsite beneath mature trees, relax on one of our two beaches, swim, rent a canoe, rowboat, or a fat kayak.

### **Mile-Away Campground**

Mile-Away provides activities and the facilities to make your stay comfortable and rewarding.

479 Old W. Hopkinton Road

Henniker, NH 03242

603-428-7616

**[www.mileaway.com](http://www.mileaway.com)**

### **Sandy Beach RV & Camping Resort**

Sandy Beach Campground is situated among stately pines, overlooking a picturesque New England spring-fed lake. Centrally located in Contoocook, NH, this RV resort is ideal for day trips to surrounding areas including the White Mountains, the Lakes Region and the New Hampshire Seacoast.

677 Clement Hill Road

Contoocook, NH

1-877-570-2267

**[www.rvonthego.com](http://www.rvonthego.com)**



This Guide is published by volunteer efforts of the Hopkinton Recreation Committee, The Hopkinton Conservation Commission and community volunteers. If you have any corrections, want to be added to the guide or suggestions on how this guide could serve you better, please contact the Recreation Director.

#### Hopkinton Recreation Committee Mission

The Recreation Committee of the Town of Hopkinton exists to aid and promote the establishment of recreation programs for all citizens of Hopkinton, NH; to sponsor, co-sponsor, organize and conduct recreation programs; to encourage wholesome and healthful use of recreation; to encourage public and private support and financial sponsorship of recreation programs; to support private organizations involved in providing recreation activities; and to coordinate the use of recreation facilities and provide opportunities for all.

The Recreation Committee meets on the last Tuesday of every month at 6:30 PM at the Slusser Center. If you would like to volunteer or join the committee, please contact the Recreation Director.

#### **Hopkinton Recreation Department**

**Mailing address: 330 Main Street, Hopkinton, NH 03229**

**Physical address: 41 Houston Drive, Contoocook, NH 03229**

**Contact: (603) 746-8263**

**recreation@hopkinton-nh.gov**

**www.HopkintonRec.com**

***In Memoriam of  
Vernon Miller  
1956 - 2016***

*Vern joined the recreation committee in 2006 and was one of the committee's most dedicated volunteers for over 10 years. Vern was our Santa Claus, our Easter Bunny, MC for our 4<sup>th</sup> of July events, mastermind behind the haunted houses at the Kimball Cabins, and our go-to guy for all of our tech support. Vern's quick wit always kept us laughing. Once you knew Vern, you had a friend for life.*

Fourth Edition, November 2019