



SHEEPSKIN HOLLOW PRESERVE

The Sheepskin Hollow Preserve is south of Mt. Parnassus Road and accessible via Sheepskin Hollow Road, or via Ridgebury Road, which is the first road on the right off Warner Road, about ½ mile from Mt. Parnassus Road. The trail system begins at the cul-de-sac at the end of Ridgebury.

Part of the preserve is open water and swamp with active beaver colonies. The beaver's dam is at the southern end of the pond where a manmade stone dam was once located. Local legend supports the idea that the pond was mucky, and an entire team of horses was lost in it! The shallow pond is surrounded by buttonbush, alder, tussock sedge, sweet pepperbush, and other emergent wetland vegetation. The pond/beaver dam is part of the headwaters for Roaring Brook, which eventually flows into the Connecticut River at Hadlyme. Roaring Brook is bordered by huge boulders and picturesque cascading water falls.

Most of the preserve is hardwood forest with scattered wet areas and brooks. A well marked loop trail provides a brisk 45 minute walk to complete. New trails are being established.