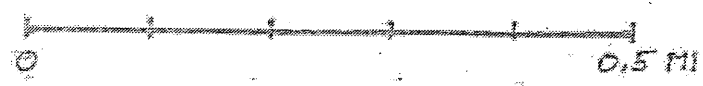


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PSA

	<u>BLAZE COLOR</u>
●●● KNOWLTON SPUR TRAIL	BLUE-WHITE
XXX NIPMUCK TRAIL	BLUE
ooo TALMADGE SPUR TRAIL	BLUE-YELLOW
▲▲▲ UCONN LOOP	BLUE-RED



The Willington-owned Talmadge Tract and Royal Knowlton Preserve, together with the UConn Forest, contain trails through some highly picturesque rolling terrain on 569 acres of conserved open space. The 28-acre Talmadge Tract, which contains the Talmadge Spur Trail, and the 138-acre Royal Knowlton Preserve containing the Knowlton Spur Trail, were purchased in 2006 and 2011 respectively, by the Town of Willington with the help of the Connecticut DEP Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program. Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust and the Connecticut Forest and Park Association also helped fund these purchases.

The Talmadge Spur Trail starts on gravel-surfaced Mason Road 0.3 miles north of its intersection with Route 44 and 0.8 miles south of its intersection with Daleville School Road. Look for a 2' by 3' green sign on posts 10 ft behind a stone wall on the west side of the road. Marked with yellow and blue blazes, the trail descends through open hardwood forest approximately 0.5 miles to a junction with the blue-blazed Nipmuck Trail. Going north (right), the Nipmuck passes through a mixed forest of large oaks and hemlocks and comes to the red-blue blazed UConn Loop trail in 0.2 miles. Here you can continue on the blue-blazed Nipmuck Trail to Mason Road (0.3 miles) or take the red-blue blazed UConn Loop which returns to the Nipmuck Trail a short distance farther on.

The 0.6-mile red-blue blazed UConn Loop trail is highly recommended, as it passes through a forest of spectacularly large hemlock trees and along the edge of a picturesque ravine above the Fenton River - the same Fenton River that flows through the Town's Fenton-Ruby Park 4 miles to the north. At the intersection of the UConn Loop with the Nipmuck, taking a left and going north on the Nipmuck will bring you to Mason Road in 0.3 miles. Taking a right and going south on the Nipmuck will retrace your path to the Talmadge Spur Trail (keep a lookout for the sign set back on your left) and then back to the trailhead where you started. You may notice many different features as you walk the trail in the opposite direction.

If you continue north on the Nipmuck Trail to Mason Road you have two options to return to your starting point: (1) A 0.4-mile walk south on Mason Road will return you to your starting point at the Talmadge Spur trailhead. (2) Continue across Mason Road on the Nipmuck Trail where you will see the large green sign for the Royal Knowlton Preserve. In 0.2 miles the blue-white blazed Knowlton Spur Trail branches to the south (right) through fairly level, open, hardwood forest and in 0.5 miles reaches Mason Road directly across from the beginning of the Talmadge Spur Trail. This last circuit (not counting the UConn Loop) is about 2.2 miles.

A circuit on the Knowlton and Nipmuck Trails and Mason Road is about 1.1 miles.