

Pemberton Memorial Forest Public Access Plan

FINAL 08/10/18

The 53-acre Pemberton Memorial Forest is owned and managed cooperatively by **Kestrel Land Trust (KLT)** and the **Pelham Conservation Commission (PCC)**, and is permanently protected for conservation purposes. This public access plan is intended to provide general guidance for public access uses, including those described by the terms of the Conservation Restriction.

Permitted and Prohibited Recreational Activities

Activity	Permitted	Prohibited	Detail
Hiking & Walking	X		
Snowshoeing & Cross-Country Skiing	X		
Wildlife Watching	X		
Human-Powered Bicycling	X		Please stay on trails.
Dogs	X		Please keep dogs on leash or under voice control and clean up after your pets (per Town of Pelham bylaws §5-7, §5-9)
Horseback Riding	X		Please stay on trails.
Hunting	X		During a 2-week shotgun season for white-tailed deer only. Exact dates designated by the State of MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. Buffer zones consistent with state regulations will be blazed to help ensure public safety. No other hunting is permitted.
Trapping		X	
Camping/Overnight Use		X	
Motorized Vehicles Including ATV/ORV, Motorbike/Dirt bike, Snowmobile		X	Exception is made for emergency vehicles and power-driven mobility devices for people with mobility disabilities.

All permitted activities shall be conducted in accordance with all applicable state laws and regulations.

HOURS: Access to the Premises is restricted to ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset, unless written permission is granted by KLT.

PARKING: Limited parking is available in a designated parking area along Arnold Road only. Unauthorized parking is prohibited. On street parking is prohibited in the Town of Pelham, §125-18 [Amended 5-3-1997 ATM, Art. 7]. Drivers are expected to obey local speed limits.

QUESTIONS: If you have questions about the terms or conditions of public access, please contact the PCC at 413-253-7129 or KLT at 413-549-1097.

Public Access Rules

1. **Do not disturb or feed wildlife**, nor leave food behind as an attractant for wildlife. The taking or removal of non-game species is prohibited as is the taking of game species out of season.
2. **“Carry in, carry out” all trash**. No trash receptacles are provided for public use on the Premises.
3. **Do not disturb** existing signs, structures, vegetation, water resources, soil, rock, minerals, or other natural deposit or feature.
4. **No dumping**, including the placing, filling, storing or dumping any substance, plant, animal, structure, or material whatsoever.
5. **The making, building, expanding, re-routing of trails or paths is prohibited**, unless during a sanctioned event authorized by Kestrel Land Trust and/or Pelham Conservation Commission.
6. **No campfires are allowed**. Smokers are asked to exercise caution.
7. **Respect the rights of neighbors and landowners** of adjacent properties. Obey signage and do not enter posted private lands without permission. Disruptive or illegal conduct is prohibited.

Liability

All public visitors to the Premises access the Premises at their own risk and assume full responsibility for their own safety. Visitors also shall be fully responsible to the Landowner for any damage they cause while on the Premises.

Amending this Public Access Plan

The Public Access Plan will be reviewed at a public meeting of the Conservation Commission every five years. In addition, public access for recreational activities may be periodically evaluated by PCC and KLT if issues arise that impact ecological health or public safety. If concerns and/or conflicts are identified, appropriate efforts to eliminate or minimize negative impacts may be pursued by PCC and KLT at any time and may result in a subsequent amendment to this plan. Other access or recreational activities may be permitted if they do not violate the terms of the Conservation Restriction. Upon approval of a previously unspecified access or recreational activity, PCC and KLT will incorporate the approved access or recreational activity into this plan and maintain a copy for public record.