

**KESTREL
LAND TRUST**

SWEET ALICE CONSERVATION AREA POND LOOP TRAIL

AMHERST, MA

DISTANCE: 1 MILE



A TRAIL FOR EVERYONE AT

SWEET ALICE CONSERVATION AREA POND LOOP TRAIL

AMHERST, MASS

Welcome to Kestrel Land Trust's "Home on the Range." This easy walk at the base of the Mount Holyoke Range follows a scenic loop around the pond that connects the Town of Amherst Sweet Alice Conservation Area and Kestrel's office grounds.

SUGGESTED ROUTE

From the Sweet Alice parking area on Bay Rd, head west/right toward the private driveway. Follow the signs up the right side of the driveway, then turn right at the trail sign and take the stairs to cross over to Kestrel's driveway. Begin the Pond Loop Trail (purple blazes) by continuing straight across the driveway to the grassy dam that creates the pond. Enjoy the view across the pond of the Mt. Holyoke Range and look for signs of turtles, beavers, and other wildlife. Continue into the woods and follow the historic trolley line that went over the Notch from 1906 - 1932.

When you reach the powerline cut, bear left/east to follow the purple blazes into the woods. Pass through the wooded wetland that surrounds the pond, and cross over the Plum Brook inlet that creates it. Continue out of the woods and on to Kestrel's grounds, where you can check out our Native Names Poetry box. From here you can visit the Lower Meadow or Gazebo, and enjoy the view of the pond.

To complete the loop, continue up the hill staying along the edge of the woods the Kestrel office parking lot, and follow the painted animal tracks back down the driveway to return to the stairway bringing you back to the public parking area.

www.kestreltrust.org

FEB. 2023



WHAT YOU CAN DO HERE



Walk/Jog



Visit Wetlands



Take in the View



Sit a Spell

DIRECTIONS

- **GPS address: 73 Bay Rd, Amherst, MA**
- Public parking at Sweet Alice Cons. Area accommodates 15 cars.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

- Views of Mount Norwottuck
- Turtles, ducks, muskrats, and herons on the pond
- Native Names poetry box

YOU SHOULD KNOW

- Open dawn to dusk, year round
- Trail provides access to miles of Mt. Holyoke Range State Park trails
- Please enjoy gazebo with caution: No water access. Max. capacity 4 adults.
- No public parking at the Kestrel Office (staff & guest parking only)

PARTNERS MAKE CONSERVATION POSSIBLE

Kestrel Land Trust collaborates with many partners to create, conserve, and care for public lands to help everyone connect with nature.

Kestrel partnered with the Town of Amherst to conserve the land around Kestrel's office as an expansion of the Town's Sweet Alice Conservation Area, and Kestrel holds a Conservation Restriction over the pond and woods.

For more information contact us at kestreltrust.org or call (413) 549-1097.

Town of Amherst
Department of
Conservation:
413-259-3045

