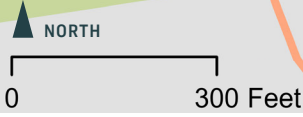
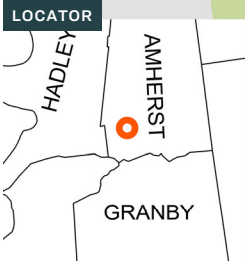
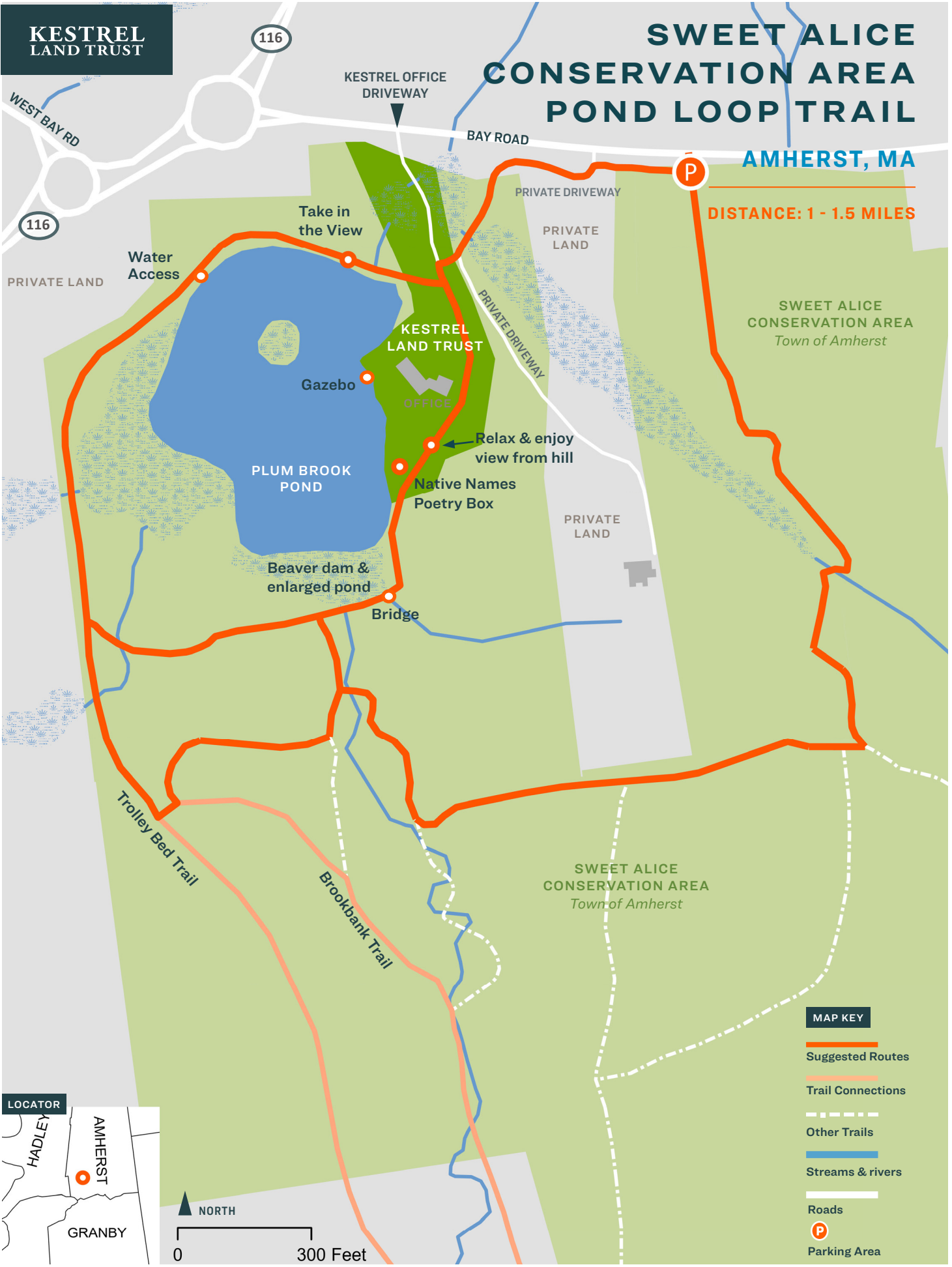


**KESTREL
LAND TRUST**

SWEET ALICE CONSERVATION AREA POND LOOP TRAIL

AMHERST, MA

DISTANCE: 1 - 1.5 MILES



MAP KEY	
	Suggested Routes
	Trail Connections
	Other Trails
	Streams & rivers
	Roads
	Parking Area

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 hike at the base of the Mount Holyoke Range follows a scenic loop around the pond within the Town of Amherst Sweet Alice Conservation Area adjacent to Kestrel's office grounds. From here, you can connect to miles of state park trails on the Range.

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 otters. 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 "Pond Loop Trail" signs to circle the pond for a short walk. For a longer hike, you can continue up the Trolley Bed Trail, which connects to the Brookbank Trail on the Mt. Holyoke Range. You can also make a longer loop hike following these trails to the eastern portion of Sweet Alice Conservation Area, returning to the Bay Road parking lot.

Continuing along the Pond Loop Trail, cross the boardwalk over the Plum Brook Pond inlet where beaver activity expanded the pond. From there you can stop at the Native Names Poetry box, then continue to the Lower Meadow. Follow the mowed path along the pond edge to reach the Gazebo to enjoy a close-up view of the pond. To complete the loop, follow the mowed path back up the hill toward Kestrel's parking area and follow the driveway down to return to the stairway bringing you back to the public parking area.

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

