

## **About This Property**

SVT's Frances Hill Reservation is a good representation of the forests and wetlands of eastern Massachusetts, and it provides territory for resident wildlife and migrating birds.

The 8-acre property is a gradually sloping woodland located on the north side of Frances Hill. Owned by SVT since 2009, the reservation is part of a larger conservation area that includes land owned by the Westford Conservation Trust.

This area was referred to as "Swedes Hill" around 1900 because of the families of Swedish heritage who had small houses and farms here.

#### **Features of Note**

- Starting up the hill from the trail head on Lowell Road, you will quickly leave wetland vegetation behind. Red maple swamp gives way to black and red oak on the lower slope.
- A vernal pool sits in a clearing midway up the hill. Higher up, the canopy becomes dominated by white pine and oaks, but has a varied understory.
- Frances Hill Brook flows north, down from the high ground of Frances Hill, to join Stony Brook.
- Wildflowers such as the round-leaved pyrola, false Solomon's seal, Canada mayflower, and polygala bloom along the trails.
- Bird populations here often include nesting red-tailed hawks and generations of red-bellied woodpeckers that have used an old ash tree for a nest.

#### Learn more:

www.svtweb.org/FrancesHill



## **Trail Policies and Regulations**

These policies apply to SVT properties on the map. Properties owned by other entities have their own posted policies.

The following are prohibited:

- Motorized vehicles
- · Hunting or trapping
- Camping
- Bicycling
- Fires
- Disposing of trash or yard waste
- Cutting or removing plants

#### Dog walkers:

- Pick up and dispose of dog waste.
- Keep dogs on trails.
- Keep dogs out of ponds/streams/vernal pools.
- Put dogs on a leash when other hikers approach.

See our full dog-walking policy on the trail head kiosk.

#### **Directions**

With mapping software, search for this address: 117 Lowell Road, Westford, MA

From Route I-495, take Exit 32. Follow Boston Post Road north toward Westford for approximately 1.0 mile. At Westford Town Common, turn right onto Lincoln Street. Go 500 feet. Bear right onto Main Street. Go 0.2 mile. Bear left onto Depot Street. Go 0.9 mile. Bear right onto Lowell Road. Go 1.9 miles. Parking and trail access are on the right.

### **Support SVT**

SVT protects open spaces and natural areas in 36 communities around the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers. We care for thousands of acres of land that provide habitat for native wildlife, and we maintain more than 60 miles of trails for public enjoyment.

SVT relies upon the support of our members to be successful.

Join Us! Help protect these lands forever. www.svtweb.org

# Frances Hill Trail Map



## WESTFORD AND CHELMSFORD

This map includes trails that cross properties owned and maintained by the Westford Conservation Trust.



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