About This Property

Known as the Desert due to the prevalence of well-drained sandy soils, this 900-acre conservation area (south of Hudson Road) provides an unusual diversity of habitats: oak-pine forest, pitch pine-scrub oak, red maple swamp, and wet meadows intersected by two streams.

Henry Ford purchased the land in the 1930s and sold it to the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts in 1950. The club wanted to establish a memorial forest and wildlife sanctuary as a tribute to those who served their country in World War II. In 1999, after SVT had managed the land for two years, the club gave the land to SVT in order to continue its protection.

Features of Note

- This conservation area protects habitat for several endangered species, including the box and wood turtle. It also contains several vernal pools, some of which support the endangered blue-spotted salamander.
- SVT and the City of Marlborough, with support from the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, are restoring the pitch pine-scrub oak barrens that were historically more widespread at this site. This will benefit declining populations of whip-poor-wills and wild lupine and will provide habitat for rare butterflies and moths, including the forested elfin, slender clearwing, and barrens buckmoth.
- Beavers are active in this area, damming up the brooks at different points. Beaver meadows, created by flooding from their dams, attract a diversity of plant, insect, and bird species.
- Many bird species are commonly sighted here, including great blue heron, red shouldered hawk, ovenbird, common yellow throat, song sparrow, pine warbler, and wood thrush.

Learn more:
www.svtweb.org/MemorialForest

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
- Fires
- Disposing of trash or yard waste
- Cutting or removing plants

Dog walkers:

- Dogs must be kept on leash.
- Keep dogs on trails.
- Keep dogs out of ponds/streams/vernal pools.
- Pick up and dispose of dog waste.

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

Directions

With mapping software, search for this address:
225 Dutton Road Sudbury, MA

From Sudbury Center, take Hudson Road west for 2.0 mi to Dutton Road on the left. Take Dutton Road 1.8 mi, staying on Dutton Road by bearing right at intersection with Garrison, to an unpaved access on the right into a parking area under pine trees. There is an SVT sign at the entrance to the parking area.

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

General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts
Memorial Forest
Trail Map

SUDBURY
MARLBOROUGH
HUDSON

This map includes trails that cross properties owned and maintained by the Town of Sudbury, City of Marlborough, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Department of Conservation and Recreation, and the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts.

Sudbury Valley Trustees

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www.svtweb.org
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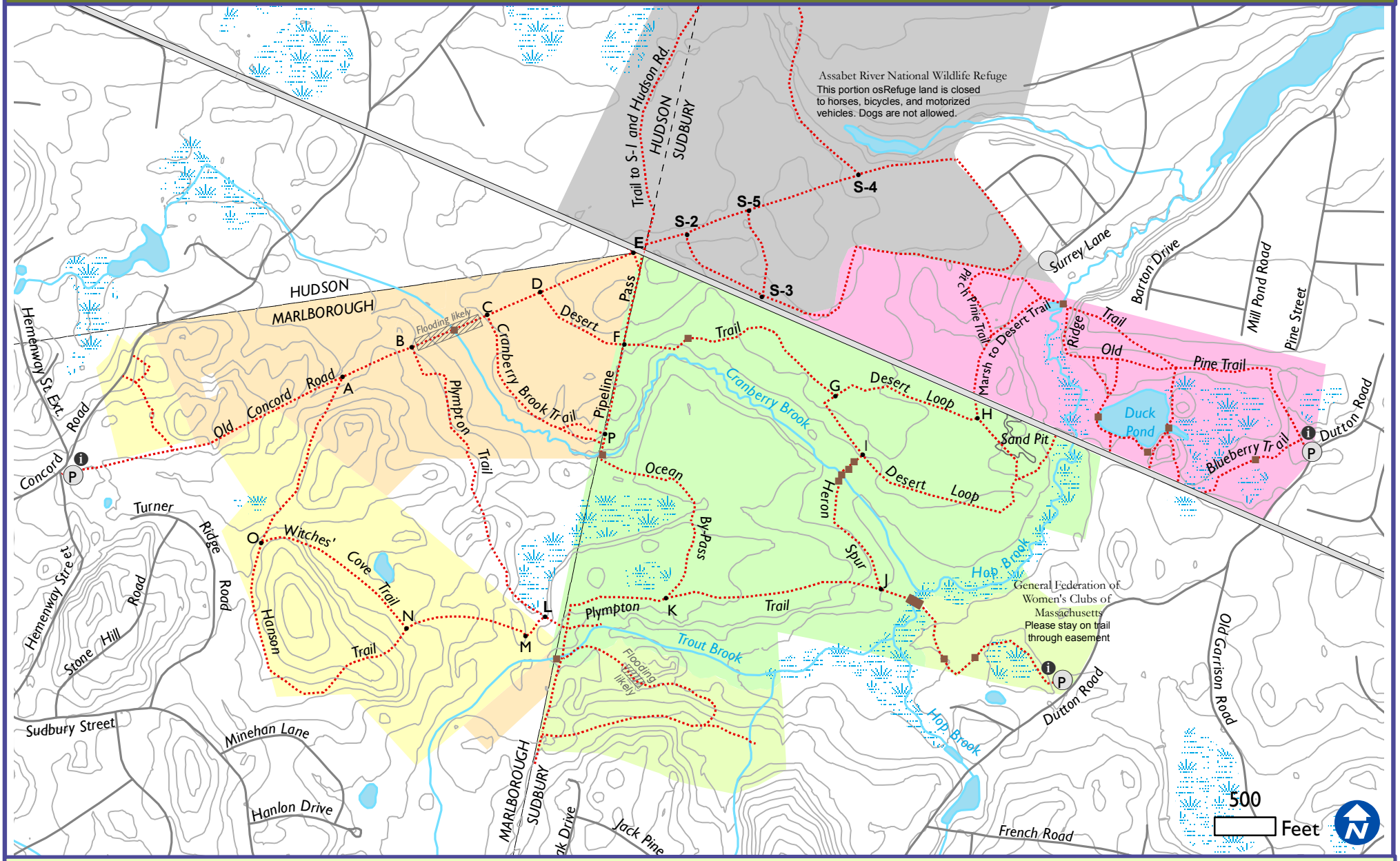
Memorial Forest, Sudbury



P Parking
Bridge
Trail
Road
Water Body
Wetland
SVT
Sudbury: Hop Brook Marsh
Marlborough: Desert Conservation Land
DCR: Marlboro-Sudbury State Forest
GFWCM
ARNWR

How to Get Here

Love open spaces? Support SVT!
Sudbury Valley Trustees is a nonprofit conservation organization that protects land for the benefit of people and wildlife. Help us keep these trails open for all to enjoy.
Join or Donate today! www.svtweb.org

Map produced by Sudbury Valley Trustees. Data Provided by Office of Geographic and Environmental Information (MassGIS), Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.This Map should be used for reference only. Boundary lines are approximate.