

APRIL HIKES

DATE	TRAIL	DIFFICULTY LEVEL	LEADER
April 2	Full Moon Hike – At Havenwood 7:00	Sing-Along followed by Hike followed by Hot Chocolate and Cookies	Cyndy McLeod
April 4	Rolfe Park Trails - Map 6/Riley Trails - Map 8	Saturday – 2.25 Miles	Hal Carter & Cyndy McLeod
April 6	Forest Bathing	Easy	Kimberly Wooten
April 8	Weir Road-Boscawen Town Forest Trails – Map 4	Adventure – 3 Miles	Bob & Jane Heigis
April 15	Goffstown Rail Trail	Biking	Bob & Jane Heigis
April 18	Karen’s Woods	Saturday	Don Hayes & Joyce Pope
April 22	Earth Day		

DATES, DATES, DATES

Changed Date – The date of the **bus trip to the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller** mansion and ecological forest has been changed from Wednesday June 17 to **Thursday June 18**.

Merrimack Floodplain All Persons Trail – This ¼ mile trail is located just down the road from us and takes you to the banks of the Merrimack River. The trail has been upgraded to make the surface accessible to everyone, including those with walkers, wheelchairs and scooters. You are going to have two opportunities to experience this trail in May. On **May 2**, the Hiking Club will be walking the trail and encourages HHH residents who use walkers, have trouble on uneven ground, or like to walk more slowly to join us. Then on **May 15**, HHH will provide a bus to take residents to the official grand opening of the trail. More information about both of these events will be coming your way in the near future.

Waterville Valley Day - We are planning a special trip for **May 20, 2026**. In the morning, we will hike about 3.3 miles (450 feet of elevation gain) on the Smarts Brook Trail near Waterville Valley. That will be an Adventure Hike. Then we will eat lunch at Covered Bridge Farm Table Restaurant, which is located on the beautiful Pemigewasset River right next to the historic Blair Bridge. (Or you can bring your own lunch.) After lunch, we will take a shorter and easier hike (about 2 miles) in the West Branch Brook Forest in the Compton Conservation Commission property. You can come for some or all of the day’s adventures. We’

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Have you ever wondered what goes on at a Hiking Club Committee Meeting or what is coming up beyond the dates included in the Newsletter? Well, you can access all the Committee Meeting Minutes at: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1sgpeHwiiMB5KwKUNY6Q7QSfN3qQfprF?usp=share_link. Many thanks to

our Secretary, Cyndy McLeod, for preparing the minutes every month.

MARCH HIKE RECAPS

Mast Yard



On a relatively warm March 7, 2026, 16 of us enjoyed a hike on the flat, wide snowmobile trails in the eastern half of the Mast Yard State Park. During colonial times, the Mast Yard area was vital to the British Royal Navy for sourcing massive Eastern White Pine trees for ship masts. Marked with the King’s “broad arrow”



those pines were transported by oxen to the Contoocook River and floated to the coast. – Hal Carter

Jim Hill River Walk



Eleven HHH hikers, happy to have a day with no inclement weather, slogged through the wet, sometimes deep, slippery, warmed up snow for 3.3 miles on the Jim Hill River Walk in Lehtinen Park in Concord. The trail is labeled “easy”, but even though it was flat, it was a challenge to maintain balance in the uneven slippery snow. We stopped at the “Daisy Beach” with its convenient picnic bench and outhouse for our obligatory picture and enjoyed a bit of chocolate candy. No one ventured out on the rope swing over the ice-covered Contoocook River. We were curious about the metal bridge crossing the Contoocook to the Mast Yard area, but unfortunately the

explanation sign was destroyed. Upon internet research after the hike, the 25-year-old bridge had come from Idaho on 5 tractor trailers in 2008. It is called Hero’s Recreational Bridge made possible by the Town Line Trail Dusters Snowmobile Club. The River Walk is dedicated to Jim Hill in recognition of his passion for preserving scenic wild places for future generations. He was an avid hiker from Concord who died in 2002 at age 27. We all thank



him for a challenging morning hike with good friends. – Jane Heigis

Committee Members: Bud Berry, Hal Carter, Ginny Clifford, Diane Drescher, Don Hayes, Faith Goodwin, Bob & Jane Heigis, Jim Macnab, Val McLean, Cyndy McLeod, Joyce Pope

Morono Park

On a pleasant late winter day, 16 of us set off to walk 2 miles (round trip) in Morono Park. What a lovely forest that is, with large hemlock trees and the West



Concord River Oxbow Pond paralleling a portion of the trail! The footing alternated between mud and ice – not ideal but expected in late winter around

here. Bud started us off with a good summary of how Morono Park came to be. – Hal Carter

Sewall’s Falls



March 25, 2026: 16 residents hiked the Sewall’s Falls Trail. We did need our spikes as there was ice on the trail, but the temperature was mild and the trail mostly level. The river was fast-flowing and one was aware of the uncertain conditions in spite of the calm weather. The snow-covered ground along the river was scenic. We had planned to return along the rail trail, but our hiking pace, limited our time. This was one of our Adventure + hikes and it is important that on these hikes we all know who is doing what and when, during this more challenging type of hike, for safety reasons. - Valnere McLean and Cyndy McLeod.