

## WELCOME TO LITTLE RIVER STATE PARK

The Ricker basin was settled starting in 1790 with the arrival of George Kenyon. For approximately the next 130 years this area was a thriving community of farms, sawmills, churches, schools, creameries and taverns. Starting in the early 1920's, Green Mountain Power started buying up these properties with the intent of building a hydroelectric dam on the Little River. After the great flood of 1927, the US Army Corps of Engineers designed a flood control dam. Vermont purchased Green Mountain Powers' property and in 1934 the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) began construction of the dam. The reservoir that was created flooded much of the area and made access impossible, ending a long tenure of hillside farming. Many of the trails you are now walking on were once town roads. As you travel along, you will notice old stone walls, foundations and artifacts hidden in the woods. Just imagine the houses, farms and daily activities of the residents that once inhabited this hillside!

## HIKING TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS

Trail distances are one-way and noted on the map between "tick" marks.

### Woodward Hill Trail (2.12 miles)

Woodward Hill Trail is part of the VT Association of Snow Travelers (VAST) trail system and is not maintained as a hiking trail. Start at the Stevenson Brook Trail near the Last Block Sawmill (0.00 miles). Hike south to the intersection of the Compartment 1 Road (0.63 miles). Turn left to travel down the Compartment 1 Road back to Little River State Park (another 1.11 miles) or cross the Compartment 1 Road and continue another 1.49 miles. Woodward Hill Trail / Road intersects with the Little River Road. Turn left 2.5 miles to return to the Little River park office.

### Compartment 1 Road (1.97 miles)

Compartment 1 Road starts 0.25 miles north of the Little River park office on the park road towards campground Area B. This road is not maintained as a hiking trail. At 1.11 miles the road intersects with the Woodward Hill Trail. Turn right to reach the Stevenson Brook Trail in another 0.63 miles, or continue another 0.86 miles to the end of the road (Dead end). Please be aware of possible logging truck activity on this road.

### Cut-Off Trail (0.2 miles)

The Cut-Off Trail connects the Dalley Loop Trail and the Stevenson Brook Trail, crossing Stevenson Brook. This can be a dangerous stream crossing during times of high water.

### Stevenson Brook Trail (2.5 miles)

Stevenson Brook Trail starts near the intersection of the Compartment 1 Road and the Little River campground road 0.25 miles north of the park office. Travel north 0.63 miles to the junction of the Cut-Off Trail. Turn right along the Cut-Off Trail to meet up with the Dalley Loop Trail or continue past the junction another 1.06 miles to the intersection of the Woodward Hill Trail and the Saw Mill Trail. Bear right to continue another 0.55 miles along the Sawmill Trail to the Dalley Loop Trail, or bear left and continue 0.63 miles along the Woodward Hill Trail to the Compartment 1 Road. Continue on the Stevenson Brook Trail past the site of the Last Block Sawmill another 0.81 miles to the Dalley Loop Trail.

### Dalley Loop Trail (3.54 miles)

The Dalley Loop Trail starts 0.75 miles north of the Little River park office on the road towards campground Area B. Parking is on the right hand side of the road; the trailhead on your left. Stop at the kiosk and then hike up the road past the iron gate keeping to your left. The History Hike interpretive signs along this trail begin their story from here. This trail is an old town road that gradually climbs uphill. At 0.44 miles, having passed the David Hill and Bert Goodell farms, you will reach the junction of the Cut-Off Trail that will take you to the Stevenson Brook Trail. There is a dangerous stream crossing during times of high water on the Cut-Off Trail. Continuing straight up the road past the High Bridge, Almeron Goodell and Patsy Herbert farms, you will reach the intersection of the Sawmill Trail at 1.43 miles and the Stevenson Brook Trail at 1.59 miles. Travelling northeast past the Joseph Ricker farm and the Upper Cemetery you will reach the intersection of the Patterson Trail at 1.82 miles. The trail continues southerly and slopes downhill from here. At 2.15 miles you will be at the intersection of the Kelty Corners Trail. The Ricker School House was located at this corner. Continuing on past the Randall and Hurlburt farms, you will reach the intersection of the Ricker Farm Trail in 2.89 miles and the Hedgehog Hill Trail at 3.03 miles. In this location is the Ricker homestead. Another 0.51 miles down the steep hill will return you to the parking area.

### Sawmill Trail (0.55 miles)

The Sawmill Trail starts at the intersection along the Dalley Loop Trail and takes you over to the Waterbury Last Block Sawmill site. There is a difficult stream crossing just before reaching the junction of the Stevenson Brook Trail.

### Patterson Trail (0.79 miles)

The Patterson Trail starts near the Upper Cemetery off the Dalley Loop. This old farm road tops a ridge where the trail turns right and eventually intersects with the Kelty Corners Trail at 0.79 miles. Bear right along the Kelty Corners Trail and head downhill back to the Ricker School House on the Dalley Loop. If you bear left on the Kelty Corners Trail, you will reach Gove's Trail in 0.17 miles.

### Kelty Corners Trail (0.56 miles)

The Kelty Corners Trail starts at the site of the Ricker School House and travels steeply uphill 0.39 miles to the intersection of the Patterson Trail. From here go another 0.17 miles on the Kelty Corners Trail to the intersection of Gove's Trail. An additional 0.24 miles will take you to the Cotton Brook Road.

### Ricker Farm Trail (1.21 miles)

The Ricker Farm Trail starts near the Ricker Cemetery along the Dalley Loop Trail. After passing the Ricker Sugarhouse foundation, the trail intersects with the Hedgehog Hill Trail. Keep to your left and hike another 0.89 miles to the Cotton Brook Road.

### Gove's Trail (0.82 miles)

Gove's Trail starts along the Kelty Corners Trail and continues southeasterly 0.82 miles to the intersection of the Cotton Brook Road and Foster's Trail.

## GUIDELINES AND REGULATIONS

- Hiking trails are marked with blue blazes.
- Forest boundaries are marked with orange blazes.
- Overnight camping and campfires are allowed only in designated remote sites and in the developed campground. Inquire at the park office for more information.
- Stay on marked trails. Hiking or riding off trail causes erosion and destroys vegetation.
- Keep trails free of litter. Carry out what you carry in.
- Keep pets on a leash at all times in the campground.
- Hiking trails are for foot travel only. Multi-use trails are for foot travel, horses and bicycles.
- ATVs and other motorized vehicles are not permitted on the trail system.

Remember – when hiking, make sure to tell someone your plans and estimated return time. Don't hike alone. Check the weather before heading out, dress appropriately and wear sturdy shoes. Bring a first aid kit, flashlight, map, and plenty of water and snacks.

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### Foster's Trail (1.4 miles)

Foster's Trail starts at the intersection of Gove's Trail and the Cotton Brook Road. It heads easterly 1.40 miles and connects with the intersection of the Cotton Brook Road.

### Hedgehog Hill Trail (1.30 miles)

Hedgehog Hill Trail begins next to tent site #59 in campground Area B, travelling steeply uphill to the Ezra Fuller farm and intersecting with the Ricker Farm Trail at 1.03 miles. Hike another 0.27 miles to the Gideon Ricker Farm and the Dalley Loop Trail.

### Cotton Brook Road (6.47 miles)

Starting at the northern terminus of the Ricker Farm Trail, travel north 0.44 miles to the intersection of Gove's Trail and Foster's Trail. Continue northward 0.82 miles to the intersection of Kelty Corners Trail. Continue on, bearing right 4.99 miles along the Cotton Brook Road back to Foster's Trail. Continue on the Cotton Brook Road approximately 1.5 miles to the gate and the Moscow Canoe Access, or turn right onto Foster's Trail travelling 1.4 miles to return to the intersection of the Cotton Brook Road and Gove's Trail. A left on Cotton Brook Road for 0.44 miles will return you to the Ricker Farm Trail.

### Nature Trail (0.50 miles)

The Nature Trail is an easy self-guided interpretive trail describing history, geology and natural history of the area.

## LITTLE RIVER STATE PARK TRAILS GUIDE



Almeron Goodell House

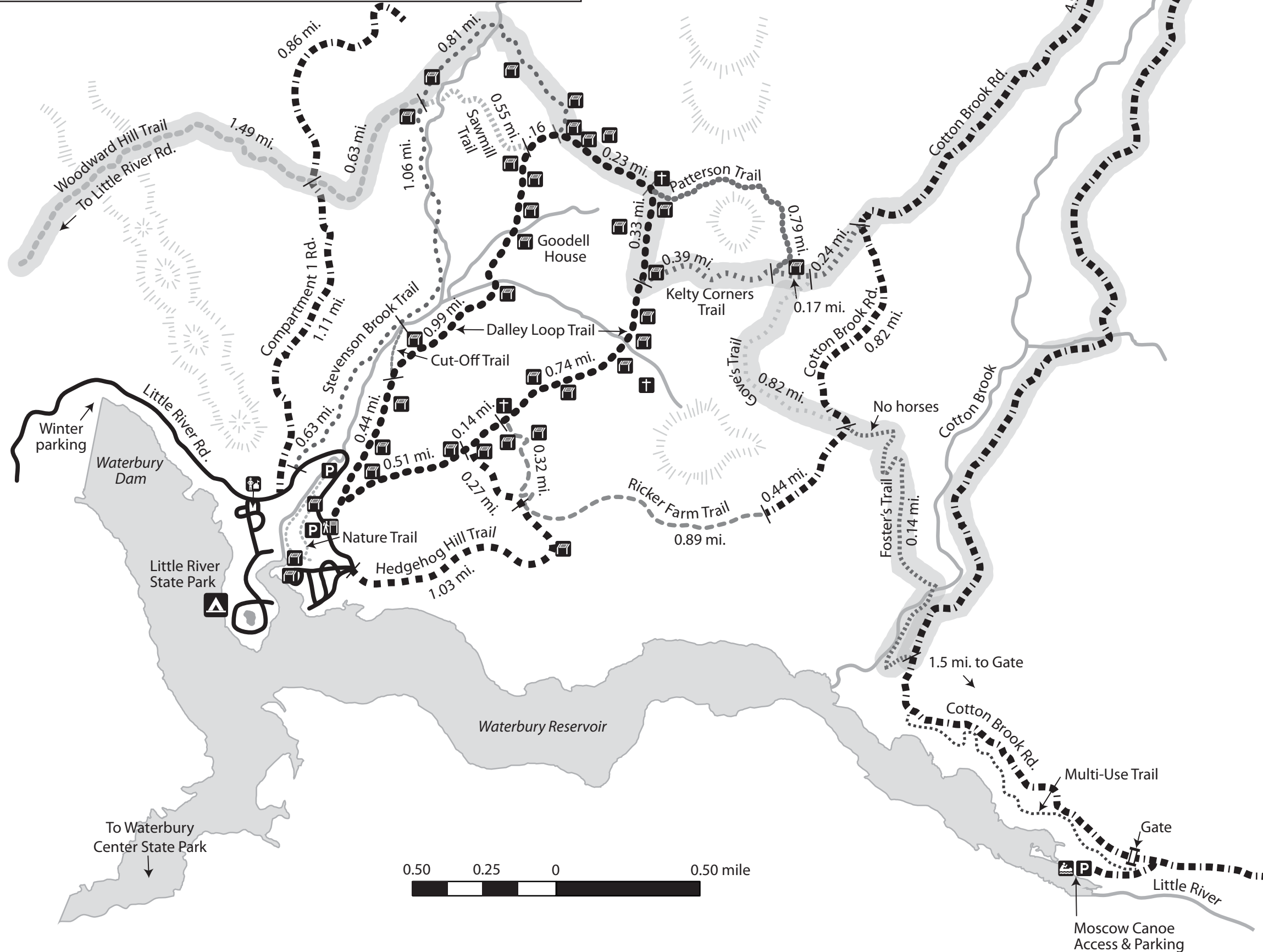


 VERMONT  
AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation

# TRAILS GUIDE

## LITTLE RIVER STATE PARK

### MT. MANSFIELD STATE FOREST



### LEGEND

- Dalley Loop Trail
- Foster's Trail
- Gove's Trail
- Hedgehog Hill Trail
- Kelty Corners Trail
- Multi-use Trail
- Nature Trail
- Patterson Trail
- Ricker Farm Trail
- Sawmill Trail
- Stevenson Brook Trail
- Woodward Hill Trail
- VAST Trails
- Roads
- Streams
- Interpretive Signs
- Park Office
- Cemetery
- Kiosk

### Approved Uses of the Trails

- Hiking - all trails
- X-C Skiing - all trails
- Snowshoeing - all trails
- Horseback Riding – allowed trails
  - Compartment 1 Road
  - Dalley Loop Trail starting at the kiosk heading towards the Sawmill Trail and around to the Ricker Farm Trail
  - The Ricker Farm Trail
  - Cotton Brook Road excluding Foster's Trail
- Mountain Biking – same trails as above along with Foster's Trail
- Snowmobiles are limited to designated VAST corridors
- ATVs are NOT allowed on state lands

**Primitive Camping** is allowed only in the Cotton Brook area. Please call Little River State Park (802-244-7103) or the Barre Regional Office (802-476-0170) or visit our website at [vtstateparks.com](http://vtstateparks.com) for more information.