

General Public Access Policy

Purpose and Scope:

To provide a written set of public use guidelines for Wyndham Land Trust (WLT) owned properties. These policies do not apply to properties to which WLT holds a conservation easement and are owned by others.

Background:

WLT owns upwards of 70 preserves, often made up of numerous contiguous individual properties, scattered throughout Windham County Connecticut. Some of these properties are quite easy to access and contain numerous hiking trails. Others are land-locked parcels or wetlands that cannot support any trails. WLT firmly believes in encouraging public access of our properties that can support that type of use. At the same time, WLT discourages the public from attempting to access a few of our most remote, and environmentally sensitive properties. This delineation is managed through our public website where we explicitly direct visitors to our most public friendly properties (labelling them "walkable") while not mentioning the others. WLT walkable properties are open to the public year-round.

Permitted Activities (dawn to dusk) On WLT Walkable Properties:

Hiking, trail running, biking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, fishing, photography, dog walking (on leash), horseback riding.

Activities Not Permitted on ANY WLT Properties:

Visiting after dusk or before dawn, Motorized vehicles (including motorcycles, ATV's, snowmobiles, etc), fires, digging and/or removing anything from the property including firewood, plants, etc. No metal detecting. **Hunting is generally not allowed.** Camping, flying objects such as drones, remote control airplanes, etc. Geocaching or other exploration activities that would require visitors to leave existing trails.

Other Rules:

STAY ON EXISTING TRAILS AND DO NOT MAKE NEW ONES. No dumping of any sort. Carry out anything brought in (trash). Share the trails - all visitors respect and be courteous to others' activities.

Special Use Requests:

For gatherings such as brief ceremonies, large group visits or to visit a WLT property not on the "walkable" listing, please contact WLT at 860-963-2090 or <u>info@wyndhamlandtrust.org</u> at least 24 hours before visiting.