



TRAIL GUIDE

GET
OUTSIDE!

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hiking playlist
here:



ANDOVER VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY

AVIS invites use of this property from sunrise to sunset for passive recreation including hiking, skiing, and nature walks. AVIS assumes no responsibility for any injuries to persons or property to anyone using this area.

Dogs

AVIS follows the town's leash bylaw — All dogs must be on a leash at all times on AVIS land.

PROHIBITED Items or uses include any activity which diminishes or harms the natural resources or tranquility of the reservation including –

- Weapons of any type including bows and arrows – see online at avisandover.org for exceptions during deer hunting season.
- Bicycles & Motorized vehicles
- Access from Routes 93, 495, and 125
- Fires & Camping
- Alcohol
- Paintball and Airsoft
- Tree cutting, including gathering and piling of branches, brush, & logs
- Plant collecting
- Littering
- Dumping of any kind, including leaves, grass clippings, and brush
- Repeated violations of the Rules may result in prohibition to use AVIS properties.

For further information, look online at avisandover.org

About Us:

Founded in 1894 as The Andover Village Improvement Society, AVIS is one of the oldest land conservation organizations in the country.

AVIS manages more than 30 reservations comprising more than 1,200 acres in the Town of Andover. It relies on a corps of volunteers to lead the organization and to provide maintenance of its recreational trails and stewardship for the land and its wildlife habitat. Donations from community members and grant sources provide the funds to acquire, protect and manage its reservations.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that AVIS reservations are located on the ancestral land of the Pennacook, Pawtucket, and other Indigenous people, which was their home for more than 10,000 years. We honor the land we manage and all the Indigenous people who were here before, are here now, and will be here in the future. We recognize that we are all guests on this land and are mindful of our impact. With this acknowledgement, we commit to continuously care for this land, using sustainable practices to protect the environment and provide stewardship for the ecology and habitat of AVIS reservations.

Contact :

The Andover Village Improvement Society

P.O. Box 5097, Andover, MA 01810

members@avisandover.org

avisandover.org



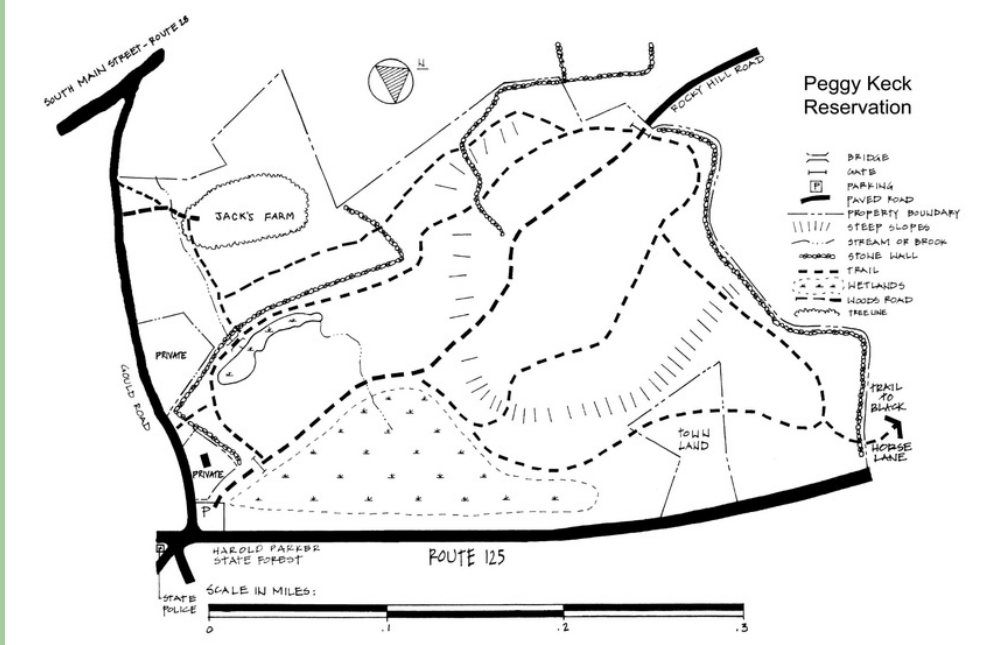


THE IMPORTANCE OF THE OUTDOORS

"I felt my lungs inflate with the onrush of scenery- air, mountains, trees, people. I thought, 'this is what it is to be happy'"
 - Sylvia Plath

Nature is a healthy way to cope with the stress of real life. In a society where the majority of the population work indoors, exposure to the benefits of nature are limited. Getting outdoors can contribute to physical wellness, mental wellness, and wellness in communities. According to Michelle Kondo, a research social scientist with the USDA Forest Service's Northern Research Station, "Wellness is wholistic in that it is comprised of physical and mental health as well as the health of our communities...All of these benefits add up and reduce adverse impacts on our bodies, and have restorative characteristics. So get outdoors and enjoy nature's gift of wellness".

KECK RESERVATION MAP



Features:

A geological gem, the rocks here are among the oldest in the world; they are all that remain of mountains that have been eroded down through countless ages of exposure. The two major rock types found here are the light colored, coarse grained Andover granite and the darker, fine grained Salem diorite.

History:

Ten to twelve thousand years ago, the Wisconsin Glacier covered the Peggy Keck Reservation. The rocks and landforms here provide evidence of this glaciation. The moving glacier, carrying stones and debris, polished underlying rock, leaving behind striations that are still visible in some places. On the east side of the reservation, a path circles the steep, granite cliff. Suddenly the hiker is standing on the edge, looking down on the lush vegetation, oblivious of a state highway nearby. The donation to AVIS of eight acres of ecologically important swampland and high quality bird habitat by Phillips Academy in 1963 marked the beginning of this reservation. AVIS acquired the rest of the property between 1963 and 2008, through the purchase of separate parcels. This reservation was renamed to the Peggy Keck Reservation in 2005 in honor of Peggy, an AVIS vice-president and Chairman of Land Acquisition for 20 years.

Keck Reservation

"AVIS manages its reservations to protect native habitat and provide opportunities for the public to experience, enjoy and learn about nature through passive recreation."



ARTWORK BY AHS STUDENT, BORI KIM



Scan this QR code created by Walter Kittredge, a botanist from Harvard, to see a full list of plant species at the Keck reservation!

