


Honey Hill Preserve



Lyme Land Trust

 Red Trail (0.9 mile)

 Stone wall

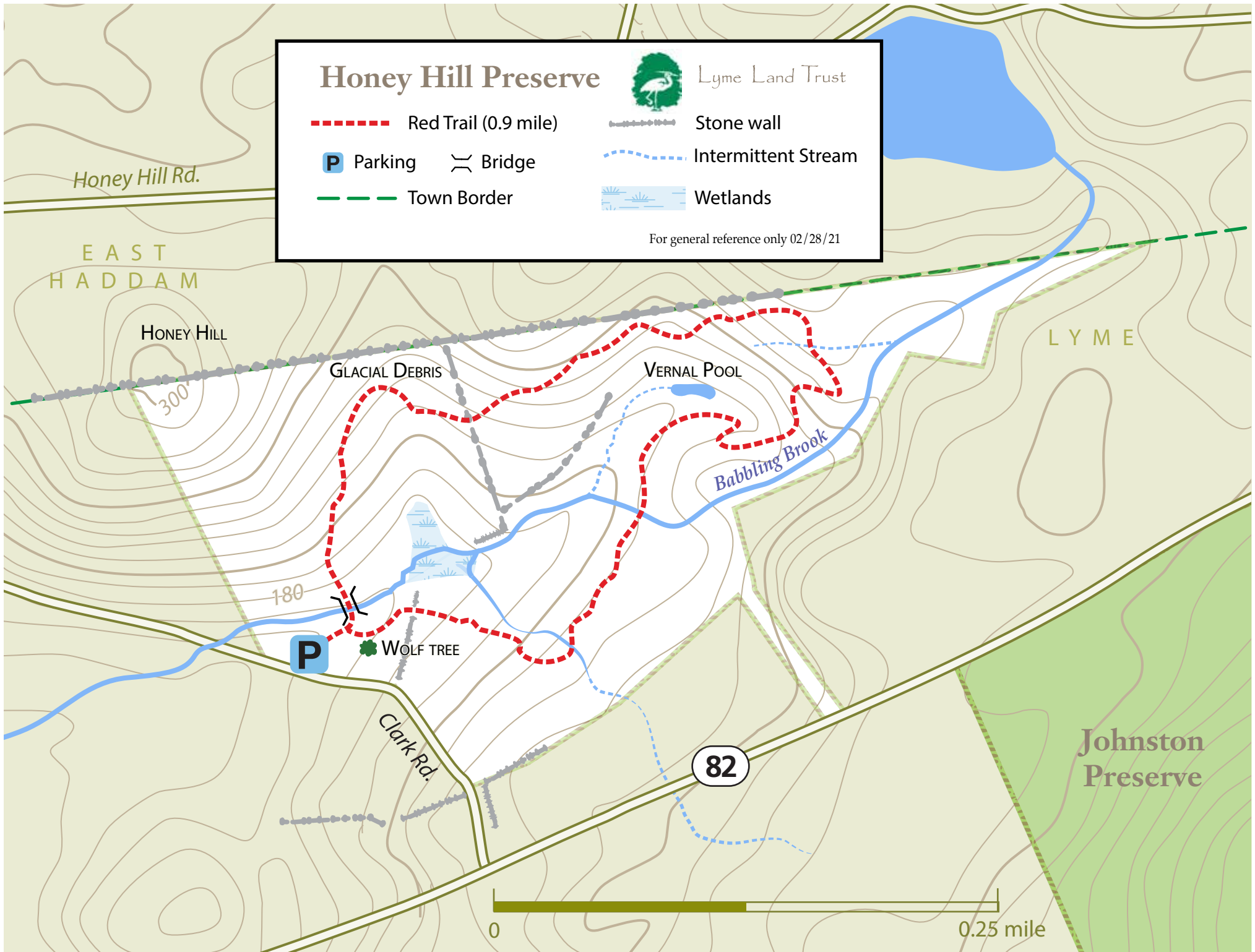
 Parking  Bridge

 Intermittent Stream

 Town Border

 Wetlands

For general reference only 02/28/21



The Preserve

ACCESS:

Pull-in parking for Honey Hill Preserve is on the east side of Clark Road, 1/8 mile north of the intersection of Rte. 82 and Clark Road.

TRAIL: The red trail loop covers close to one mile, with many experiences to delight a visitor. It is moderately easy with a bit of an incline on Honey Hill. There are several brook crossings, an amazing variety of large trees, a vernal pool, and fascinating rock features.

FEATURES:

This preserve contains typical Connecticut woodlands with a large variety of trees, plants, and animals. Here's a partial list of species seen on the property: **Trees:** dogwood, maple, oak, yellow birch, beech, tulip, sassafras, beech, white ash, hemlock; **Shrubs:** witch hazel, viburnum, blueberry, spice bush and winterberry. **Wildflowers and other plants:** canada mayflower, lady slipper, marsh marigold, jack-in-the-pulpit; yellow starflower, violets, Indian cucumber, moccasin flower, grape, false lily-of-the-valley, trillium, rattlesnake plantain, spotted wintergreen, ground cedar, skunk cabbage, cardinal flower; **Ferns:** New York fern, Christmas fern, ostrich fern, hay scented fern, cinnamon fern; and **Animals:** deer, raccoon, fox, possum, squirrel, chipmunk, wild turkey, warblers, woodpeckers, vireos, chickadee, snakes, beetles, frogs, and an occasional bobcat or coyote.

STONE WALLS: You will see a number of stone walls crossing this area, indicating that the land was once used for grazing and farming. Parts of the stone walls may have originated as ceremonial stonework created

by the indigenous people who occupied these lands for thousands of years before European contact.

GLACIAL ERRATICS AND DEBRIS: Ten thousand years ago when a mile high mass of ice finally left Connecticut, it left behind huge amounts of sand, gravel, rocks and boulders. The large boulders that were deposited are called glacial erratics, because they are different from surrounding rocks. The "erratics" and debris were collected as it advanced like a mammoth bulldozer across North America. The glacier's terminal moraines—now known as Long Island and Cape Cod—remain as permanent reminders of this last great ice age.

WOLF TREES: These large ancient trees are much older than their neighbors and are another clue that this land was once open.

PLEASE HELP US MAINTAIN THE TRAIL:

Carry clippers and a small bag for trash.

Do: Cut back plants that are encroaching on the path.

Do: Cut saplings (baby trees) low to the ground or leave waist high. (Don't create trip hazards.)

Do: Remove branches and sticks that have fallen on the path.

Do: Remove invasives that are growing along the paths.

To make a donation or to become a member of the Lyme Land Trust, please visit lymelandtrust.org.

For additional maps, visit lymelandtrust.org. Report any problems during your visit by using the Trail Condition Form: lymelandtrust.org/trail-condition-form.

TRAILS OF LYME Honey Hill Preserve



Thomas W. Nason, *The Brook*, Florence Griswold Museum; Lyme Historical Society

Honey Hill Preserve is one of the first properties that the Lyme Land Trust acquired. It was created in 1978 by two gifts of land. The first gift of land was a tract of 28.74 acres donated by the Nature Conservancy. The second was a gift of 9.32 acres from Robert Klimek and includes a right-of-way to Rte. 82.

Honey Hill Preserve protects the pristine waters of the Whalebone Cove Watershed. The soil in the wetlands acts like a sponge to control flooding, recharge ground water and filter pollutants. The waters in the preserve eventually drain into Whalebone Cove and then into the Connecticut River.

ACTIVITIES:

- The Honey Hill Preserve is open from sunrise to sunset.
- Keep dogs under close control at all times. Do not allow them to approach strangers or disturb sensitive areas. Clean up after your dog.
- Respect the environment. Do not disturb stone structures.
- There is no hunting allowed.
- No motorized vehicles or fires are allowed.