



Town
of Lyme



- PRESERVE BOUNDARY
- TOWN BOUNDARY
- DRIVEWAY/ WOODS ROAD
- INFO/MAP
- BENCH
- ENTRANCE
- PARKING

River to Ridgetop North Preserves

Trails are marked with solid color blazes. Mileage is for segment length of trail of that color. Distances are estimates.

Johnston Preserve

- WHITE TRAIL 0.6 miles
- FUCHSIA TRAIL LOOP 2.6 miles
- YELLOW TRAIL 0.6 miles

Jewett Preserve

- WHITE TRAIL 1.8 miles
- RED TRAIL 2.3 miles
- PURPLE TRAIL 0.5 miles
- YELLOW TRAIL 0.7 miles

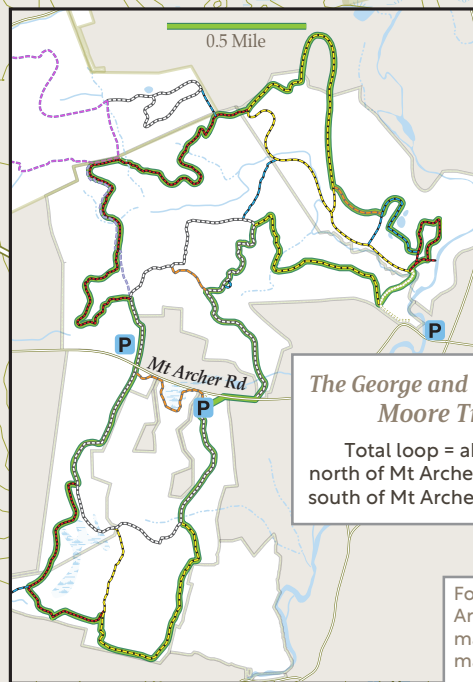
Pleasant Valley Preserve

- BLUE TRAIL 0.5 mile
- RED TRAIL 0.4 mile
- YELLOW TRAIL 2.7 miles (about 3 mi. loop from kiosk)

ORANGE connector or spur trails

MOORE TRAIL multicolor trail network

Multiuse allowed on white, purple, fuchsia, and yellow trails except in Pleasant Valley Preserve.



The George and Rosemary Moore Trail

Total loop = about 9.3 miles
north of Mt Archer Road = 6.5 miles
south of Mt Archer Road = 2.8 miles

For map of trails to the south of Mt Archer Rd, see River to Ridgetop South map brochure or see the entire R2R map at lymelandtrust.org.

0 0.5 Kilometer 0.5 Mile

Topo contour 20'
For general reference only 01/08/24

The Trails

- The preserves are open sunrise to dusk.
- Be considerate of other hikers and wildlife in the preserve. Leave it as you found it.
- Keep dogs leashed or under close control at all time.
- Do not disturb native vegetation or stone structures.
- No motorized vehicles or fires allowed.

ACCESS: The properties, part of a larger system of trails known as the River to Ridgetop Preserves, are on the north side of Mt Archer Road.

• **Pleasant Valley and Jewett Preserves** may be accessed from a parking lot on MacIntosh Road, about ¼ mile east of the intersection with Rte. 156 and Beaver Brook Rd.

• **Jewett Preserve** can also be accessed from the cemetery parking lot on the north side of Mt Archer Road, about 1.25 miles from the intersection of Mt Archer Road and Rte. 156. In addition, you may park in the Mount Archer Woods parking lot on the south side of Mt Archer Road or pull-in on the side of the road.

• **Johnston Preserve** parking lot is on the south side of Rte 82, about 2 miles from the intersection of Rte 82 and Rte 156, and 1.5 miles from Hadlyme Four Corners.

TRAILS: The trails provide moderate to moderately easy hiking. The white, yellow, purple and fuchsia trails are multi-use for local equestrian (no trailer parking) and non-motorized bicycle access, except in Pleasant Valley which has no multi-use trails. Hikers may take the orange trail to the south of Mt Archer Road to bypass using the road. In Pleasant Valley, the Eightmile River is featured on a spur of the red trail. The red and blue trails travel through fields with red cedar trees, through a white pine tree grove, and along a kettle hole rim. The yellow trail rewards hikers with a bench and spectacular view after a moderate incline. Jewett Preserve red trail and Johnston Preserve white trail travel along ridges with gentle climbs to beautiful overlooks. The yellow trail in Johnston Preserve passes the highest point in Lyme.

The **George and Rosemary Moore Trail**, named to honor the Moores' years of service towards land preservation, uses existing trails to provide a 9.3-mile scenic loop in the contiguous preserves of the River to Ridgetop complex. The portion north of Mt. Archer Road is about 6.5 miles long.

FEATURES: The preserves protect the Wild and Scenic Eightmile River Watershed. From the wetland headwaters on the highest ridgetop in Lyme in Johnston Preserve, water flows down to join the Eightmile River on the east edge of Pleasant Valley Preserve. Along the way, the water nourishes life, and is filtered and kept pure by the pristine preserved lands it passes through. With a variety of habitats, the preserves are part of a valuable wildlife corridor of about 1,700 acres in combination with surrounding properties. There are fascinating geologic features formed thousands of years ago by the glaciers, from deep hollows to dramatic outcroppings of rock and ledge.

HUNTING is allowed on the Jewett and Johnston Preserves with a written permit signed by the Open Space Coordinator of the Town of Lyme. During deer firearm season, mid-November through most of December, these preserves are closed Monday through Friday for hunting. The northern section of the Pleasant Valley yellow trail is on a private easement and closed during November and December.

To support land conservation, donate to the Lyme Land Trust. Visit lymelandtrust.org.

To donate to Town of Lyme preserves, send a check to Town of Lyme with notation for allocation to the Open Space Maintenance Fund.

For Trail maps or info about how you can help maintain the trails, visit lymelandtrust.org. Report any problems during your visit by using the Trail Condition Form.

01/08/24

TRAILS OF LYME RIVER TO RIDGETOP NORTH

Jewett Preserve
Johnston Preserve
Pleasant Valley Preserve



Photo by Wendolyn Hill, Overlook at Johnston Preserve

In 1992, Catherine and Elizabeth Fehrer, daughters of painter Oscar Fehrer, donated 235 acres to The Nature Conservancy (TNC) for the Pleasant Valley Preserve. It was named after the area made famous by Lyme impressionist painters. The Preserve is managed by the Lyme Land Trust. It is bordered by a 105-acre conservation easement donated to TNC on private property. A portion of the Pleasant Valley yellow trail is on this land. The adjacent Jewett Preserve was created in October 2004 when the Town of Lyme and TNC acquired 434 acres from the Jewett family with financial assistance provided by private donors and the State of Connecticut Open Space and Watershed Protection Program. In 2018, the 250-acre Johnston Preserve was bought from the Johnston family by the Town of Lyme with funding from the Town's open space fund, the CT DEEP Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program, and TNC.