

Deerfield Road Town Forest

Deerfield Road • Candia, NH

HISTORY AND USE

The Town of Candia purchased this 82-acre property from the Girard family in 2005 using its Conservation Fund. It was permanently protected by a conservation easement with Bear-Paw in 2008. The parcel is part of the wildlife corridor between Bear Brook and Pawtuckaway State Parks, making it an important piece of the “greenway” of protected land between the two parks.

Locals may remember the Maloney poultry farm on the property before the Girard family ownership. A good portion of the property had been logged about 15 years before the Town purchased it, and the main trails are the remains of skid trails from the operation. Conservation of this parcel will help provide a buffer to part of the North Branch of the Lamprey River and to the wetland complex south of the parcel known to be a significant aquifer.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The Deerfield Road Town Forest is a mosaic of several ecosystems, with the change in elevation on the property having a major impact on the forest communities found there. A walk along the loop trail will lead you through a number of habitat types. Near the parking area you'll find an area of new growth. Further into the property, at the trail split, a deciduous forest system can be found on the higher ground along the northern property boundary. The southern portion of the property is covered by a variety of wetlands associated with the North Branch River and smaller streams draining into it. The streams

help create a series of forested wetlands through the property's mid-section with speckled alder, royal ferns, and sphagnum moss.

Susan Wilderman, a member of the Candia Conservation Commission and high school teacher had this to say, “I've been blessed to teach a winter ecology course using the property as an outdoor classroom. The variety of habitat types offered a plethora of opportunities for observing, exploring and learning about the species on the property.”

CONSERVATION VALUES

The property includes:

- Wildlife habitat for species of concern and was identified as a conservation priority in the *NH Wildlife Action Plan (2010)* and the Bear-Paw Conservation Plan
- Over 300 feet of undeveloped frontage on the North Branch River; serving as a “buffer” to the river – providing riparian habitat as well as protecting the river's water quality
- Wetlands and other riparian habitat
- Productive forestland
- 522 feet of undeveloped frontage on Deerfield Road (NH Route 43)
- Outdoor educational and recreational use by the public

DATE PROTECTED

November 18, 2008

PUBLIC ACCESS

The property is open to the public for low-impact, non-commercial, outdoor educational or recreational activities such as hiking, wildlife observation, cross-country skiing, hunting, and fishing.

TRAILS AND ACCESSIBILITY

There are designated trails on the property (*see map*). The walk to the North Branch River is well worth the effort; both in the summer and winter!

LOCATION

The property is located on Deerfield Road (NH Route 43) in Candia, NH.

GPS COORDINATES

43° 05'00.31"N, 71° 16'37.18"W

DIRECTIONS

From Route 101 in Candia, take Exit 3 and go 0.6 miles to Route 43, then north 3.5 miles to the Deerfield Road Town Forest (on your left).

From Route 4 at the intersection of Route 43 in Northwood, take Route 43 south 5.8 miles to Route 107. Continue to follow Route 43 for 6.9 miles to the Deerfield Road Town Forest (on your right).

PARKING

There is a parking area and kiosk, both constructed as an Eagle Project by a local Boy Scout.

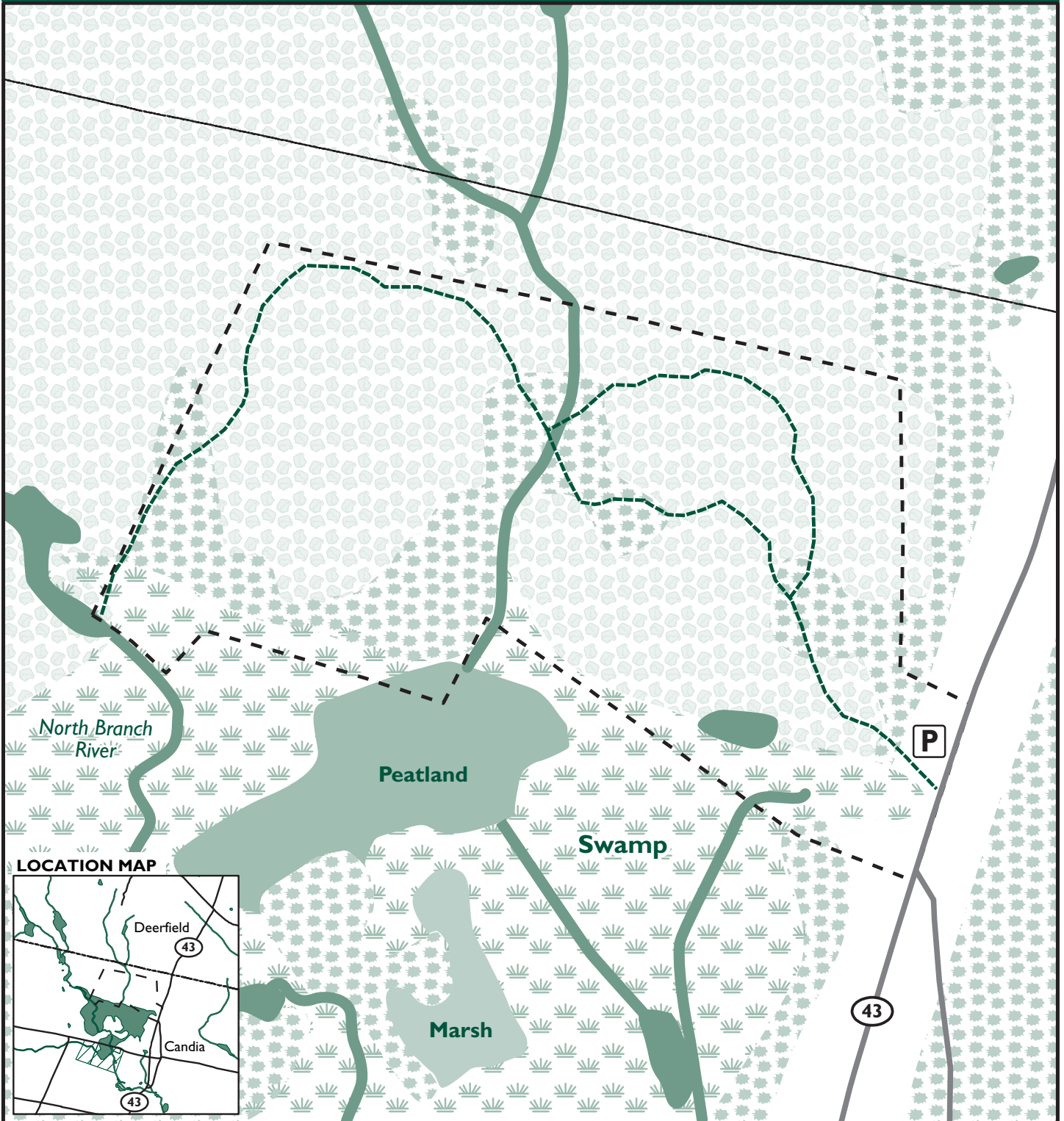


A land trust conserving ribbons of green in southeastern New Hampshire

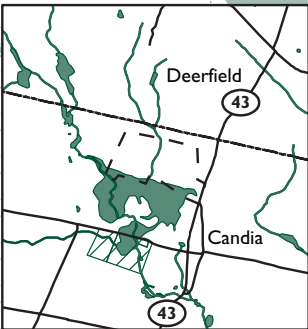
WWW.BEAR-PAW.ORG

Deerfield Road Town Forest Map

Deerfield Road • Candia, NH



LOCATION MAP



- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| Property | Water Body | Appalachian oak-pine forest |
| Conservation Land | River/Stream | Hemlock-hardwood-pine forest |
| Roads | Marsh | Other Wetlands |
| Trails | Peatlands | |

