

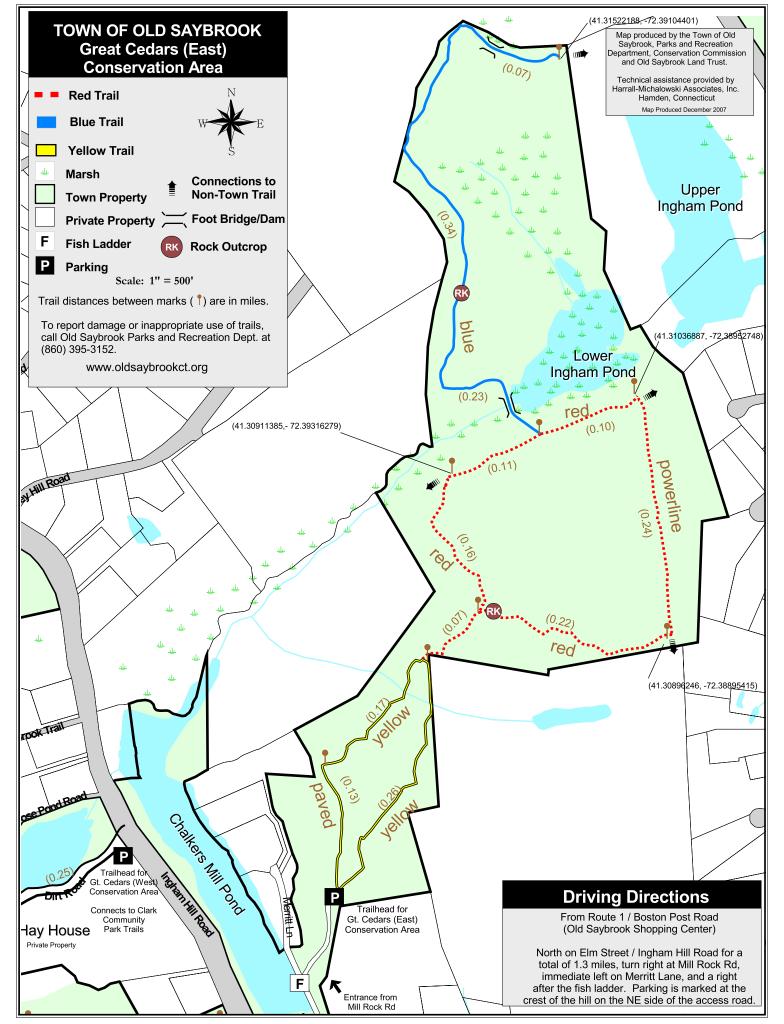
The Preserve

Please: Pack out all trash. Stay on trails. No unauthorized motorized vehicles. No camping. No fires. Take only pictures, leave only footprints. http://www.oldsaybrookct.org/Pages/OldSaybrookCT CC/CC trail maps











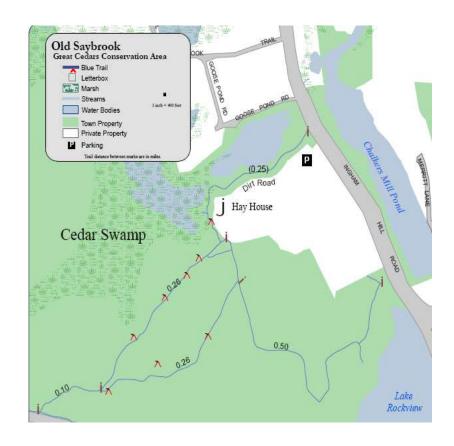
Essex Land Trust Turtle Creek Preserve

Parking Trails Trail access

Points of Interest:

- A Beach on the Connecticut River
- **B** Deitsch's Pond Dam







Letterboxing, like any outdoor activity carries the risk of unforeseen hazards. The Old Saybrook Land Trust has not knowingly placed letterboxes in areas that will create undue risk and will assume no liability for events which may occur related directly or indirectly to one's searching for a letterbox. By accepting and utilizing the letterbox clues, you acknowledge responsibility for your own actions, and agree to hold non-liable the Old Saybrook Land Trust.

Do not let children hunt for letterboxes unsupervised



The Old Saybrook Land Trust

presents

at Great Cedars West Conservation Area

A place for families to play together in the woods

GREAT CEDARS WEST CONSERVATION AREA LETTERBOXING CLUES

Enjoy the contents of our letterboxes - remember to reseal tightly and replace where found, hidden from view!

From the parking lot of Great Cedars Conservation Area West on Ingham Hill Road follow the gravel road (yellow trail) keeping the bog to your right. After passing an outhouse, leave the road going straight to enter a footpath.

Counting the 1st yellow blaze at the entrance of the path, continue to 2nd yellow blaze from which you take 5 paces, turn right and look behind a 1 ft decaying stump and under a rock for **Letterbox#1**.

Keep going on the yellow blazed path until it intersects the blue trail where you take a right turn to continue.

After reaching a large fern patch (seasonal – appears as a clearing in winter) on your left, search carefully on the right for a 8 ft long dead tree stump lying on the ground. What a great place for small critters to hide and **Letterbox #2**, too!

Continue on the blue trail passing through the first mountain laurel grove (State Flower of Connecticut) to reach a small clearing on the left where you will find **Letterbox #3** behind the lone beech tree (smooth silvery-gray bark).

Back on the trail stop at the 2nd blue blaze on another beech, face the tree and look for twin trees immediately to the left where **Letterbox #4** is hidden.

Walking along the trail, look ahead for a dead tree whose 3 trunks reach out, pointing across the path - look on the right side of the path under the largest log to find **Letterbox #5**.

After walking up a gentle grade (hill) you will reach a red blaze and sign which marks a trail to Town Park - turn left to continue on the blue blazed trail where you will find **Letterbox #6** hidden behind two large boulders immediately on your right.

The trail will meander down 2 hills where you will be looking for a Y-like sapling - from here count 15 paces, stop at the rock in the middle of the path and turn left - count 20 paces into the woods to a rock beneath a tall, twisted mountain laurel behind a small boulder to find **Letterbox #7**.

Further along the trail you will see a cluster of large boulders upland to your left – proceed on the trail through a patch of raspberry and barberry briars. (Note: Barberry is an invasive plant which is alien to the ecosystem and can out-compete and displace native species.) When the trail opens up you will sight a large rock in the distance, sit awhile and take a break after you find letter **Letterbox #8** behind the rock.

After the next blue trail blaze, you will see a little clearing. Turn to your left and walk 25 paces. Look in between 2 rocks where you will find **Letterbox #9.**

Where the blue trail meets the yellow trail, turn left on to the yellow trail. On your left you will see a cluster of rocks. Turn right and walk to the dead tree on the ground. Inside the log you will find **Letterbox #10.**

Enjoy your walk back continuing on the blue trail, which meets once again the yellow trail, to gravel road and parking lot.

HAPPY TRAILS!