

Fowl Meadow with Carpooling

Trail #: 6000-2

By Bob Vogel

Hike # and title - #6000-2: Fowl Meadow with Carpooling

Type and difficulty of trail: Easy, flat trails.

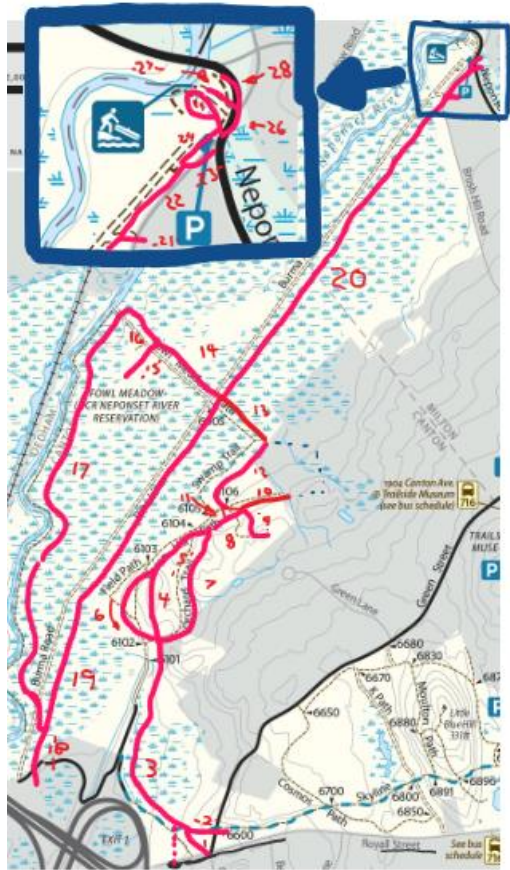
Distance: ~7 miles

Elevation: ~150 feet

Parking and starting point – Park at the cul-de-sac at the end of Royall St, Canton.

Description – To hike all the trails in Fowl Meadow without carpooling, you will have to double-back. To avoid retracing your steps, you can drop off a car at the Paul's Bridge lot at the corner of Neponset Valley Parkway and Brush Hill Road. You can start your hike at the cul-de-sac at the end of Royall St. You'll make your way through trails that few people travel, enjoying quiet forest paths and a section along wetlands. Birders love the wetland section, particularly during the spring and fall migration. In the late summer, you may find tall grasses growing into the path because trail maintenance is restricted in this area to protect the special endangered species habitat. See notes on the second page to help you plan out your route.

MAP



Tips and guidance to help you hike Fowl Meadow with a carpool

By Bob Vogel

There is a small lot at "Paul's Bridge," at the corner of Brush Hill Road and Neponset Valley Parkway at the northern end of this section. It is best to drop the minimum number of cars there for the return ride, and start the hike at the cul-de-sac at the end of Royall St, where there is plenty of parking around the cul-de-sac and along Royall St.

- 1) The official trail is NOT the trail right at the cul-de-sac, the real trail starts ½ way back to Green St.
- 2) If needed, do the 'out & back' to Green Street
- 3) Follow the Blue Skyline blazes to the pavement at the planned Rt 95 interchange to Boston. And continue straight north in the 'northbound' lanes of Rt 95.
- 4) At 6102, continue straight on Green Hill Trail, however note the trails on the right and left.
- 5) Do 6103 to 6104 as an 'out & back'.
- 6) Follow Field Path back to 6102. (Note: the new 2020 map shows a different route, The older 2016 map shows the actual route, and it brings you back to 6102.
- 7) Cross Green Hill Path and hike Orchard Path north.
- 8) From 6104 north a short distance to the Triangle, and then in a few feet a right.
- 9) Do this out 7 back up to the fence at a farm.
- 10) Do this out and back to the edge of the DCR property. (Marked by a couple stakes and signs on the trees. If you come to an intersection, no problem you've just gone a short distance too far.
- 11) Back to the triangle and do all three sides.
- 12) Follow Swamp Trail to it's end at Fowl Meadow Path.
- 13) Left on Fowl Meadow Path to the Pipeline.
Note: The 14-19 loop can be done either direction.)
- 14) Follow Fowl Meadow Path to a left.
- 15) Do the out & back. The map shows a short trail; however, this trail actually runs quite a distance. (I usually hike all the way to the end, because... well it IS there!)
- 16) Continue down Fowl Meadow Path to the Neponset River.
- 17) Follow the trail, which is an old native American trail along the river until it comes to a short left back to the pipeline.
- 18) Do the out & back to the gate. (And it's always interesting to then hike up the short hill, which gives you a view of the Rt 95/Rt 93 interchange, and let's you orient yourself to the outside world.)
- 19) Follow the Pipeline back to Fowl Meadow Path
- 20) Continue on the 'trail that never ends', err, I mean the pipeline
See insert map
- 21) At the northern end of the pipeline there is a short out and back to a gate
- 22) Continue on the pipeline and then there is
- 23) An out & back to the parking lot.
- 24) Finally, the pipeline brings you to the parking lot. But you aren't done yet!
- 25) There is a loop out to the river around a central bush area.
- 26) Follow the road to
- 27) The out & back down to the canoe/kayak launch
- 28) FINALLY hike along the sidewalk to Paul Bridge. Note the sign with the history of the bridge.
Congratulations you've finished Fowl Meadow! Now carpool back to Royall St.