

south shore hiking trails

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hiking trails of pembroke

Misty Meadows Conservation Area



Misty Meadows Conservation Area and it's hiking trails are a bit hidden, mostly due to it's entrance being obscured by storm damage.

The granite sign that once announced the entrance to the conservation area lays face up.

The main trail is obscured as well, with the entrance hidden by vegetation and access is by way of an easement along private property.

It is a small plot of town owned property with several access points, one being the North River, if you arrive by canoe or kayak!



damaged granite sign at entrance to misty meadows conservation area

Another good feature is that the hiking trails here back up and link to those of the Willow

*Tick season
is back!*

*News reports
claim their
numbers are
bigger than ever!*

*Learn how you can
protect yourself
and [how to remove
a tick](#)*



Though many feel the fall is hunting season,

**All Seasons are
Hunting Season**

learn how to keep safe when
[hunting season hiking!](#)

Trail Quick Facts

Directions:

To Trail Head: route 3
south exit 12, follow route
139 west til it's

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The Indian Head Trail in Hanover with it's connector hiking trails is a hiking trail that runs along the scenic Indian Head River and connects to Luddam Ford Park.

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Tucker Preserve in Pembroke and it's hiking trails are part of Hanover's Luddams Ford Park. The two form a varied recreational experience!

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Nov 22, 15 11:23 PM



The hiking trails at charles ed white recreation area are

Brook Farm Preserve.

A larger property owned by the Wildlands Trust and lie in Pembroke as well.



If entering at Ingham Way off Misty Meadow Lane in Pembroke, look for two rock pillars to the right of #34.

Park along the street. At these two pillars there looks to be a start to a driveway.

The fallen granite sign marking the entrance seems to have been pushed over in one of the hard winter storms of the last few years.

To the side of the private property, along the fence you will find the gate to the conservation property.

The path in runs along the neighbors fence where wild strawberries and raspberries grow.



At the entrance of the forest, the trail runs through a rock wall and then you will find a kiosk with a map and info about the property.

Across from the kiosk and leading left from the main trail is the trail leading to Willow Brook and the Kings Terrace Entrance.

intersection with route 53. At the lights with route 53 go left. Take the 2nd right onto Misty Meadow Rd and a left on Ingham Way. Find # 34, the trail is on the right side of their property.

To the boat launch:

Follow the same directions as above, but at the lights with route 53 take a right. At the next set of lights at Broadway st go left. Shortly down the street W.Elm will intersect to the left, take that. Take the 2nd left onto Indian Head Dr. At the end of the street will be the boat launch AND Iron Mine Brook Trail.

Parking:

Ingham Way:

a few cars curbside

Chapman Landing:

up to 20 vehicles

Trail Time:

Light to Moderate depending what you add on.

Difficulty:

Mostly Easy:

Water sources:

Herring Brook

Other activities:

Kayaking, birdwatching

hidden away in the
midst of the
neighborhoods of
norwell.

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The main trail continues
straight as a wide grassy path
with a mix of pine needles
and leaf carpet.

*Though a short hike,
it is a mildly winding,
pleasant journey!*



At just over 1/4 mile there is a marker claiming the
North River Trail.



The trail leads through another rock wall, this one lower. The hiking trail becomes narrow and starts a downhill jog.

The trail goes through a bit of wet area and then at .42 comes to the side of the North River with a bench.



The bench helps mark the Misty Meadows from the river side



Some very nice views of the Herring Brook, which lead out to the North River at the end of the North River Trail.

For a longer hike accessing Willow Brook, follow the main trail back to the kiosk and go right at the marker across from the kiosk.

Follow til the next marker that points right for Willow Brook. The trail straight leads out to Kings Terrace though becomes a bit faint.

Continuing on the access path to Willow Brook Farm, the path starts as a narrow well laid out route but becomes less maintained looking.

At .90 of the total journey the trail turns right. Then becomes well maintained once again.

At .95 the trail runs through a rock wall. At 1.05 there are no markers but a tree wrapped with orange and green ribbons. Here the access trail to Willow Brook will take a right.

At 1.15 you will notice the trail running parallel to another rock wall.

At 1.28 the trail leads away from the rock wall on the left but another appears to the right of the hiking trail.



At 1.32 you will come upon a Holly tree. Always a welcome sight in winter!

At 1.42 you will come across some large pines that have been cut into logs.

At 1.46 you will enter Willow Brook at an intersection.

Going right will bring you toward the main part of that property and a Wildlands Trust blaze on a tree lets you know you have arrived at your destination.

nearing the end of the hiking trail
connecting misty meadow to
willow brook

Going to the left will bring you through one of the many [meadow](#) portions of this property.

Always a nice hike in any weather and a good addition to this initial hike.

It will loop back to this same intersection but not before reaching a boardwalk and bridge section that you will arrive at quicker if taking the right when you first enter Willow Brook.

Some Hiking Trails mileage

Wandering the Misty Meadow main trail and back

to the Willow Brook Access Trail = .80 miles

Willow Brook Farm Access Trail = .66 miles

total 1.46

Misty meadow by water access

The way into Misty Meadows Conservation does have a feel like you are trespassing, so if you have a canoe, kayak or other means of water transportation, or just want a good rounded out work out the water access route may be for you.



Best entry point is at Chapmans Landing
in Hanover or as some just call it the Hanover Launch.

Located on Indian Head Dr. off W.Elm St, the sign calls it a
car top boat access, but other signage suggests that
small motored boats can launch here as well, usually
dependent on the tide.

*There are two granite slabs at the end of the paved ramp. At high tide time
these are completely submerged.*

Once in,
you will be heading left,
the first part of the journey is shady
and resembles the water version of a rustic
country lane.



After a few twists
and turns
and heading past trees that have
fallen in the water, the river widens
out and a grassy meadow forms on the right.



The distance was surprisingly longer than I thought. It always looks so much shorter on a map to me!



Yet my interest was kept by all the vegetation and wildflowers that were in bloom along the way.

Another factor was the multitude of bird and wildlife found. Many flew over marsh meadowlands to the right. I saw at least two Herons, one found it's lunch on the river!

I picked a day that seemed to be a constant switch between sun and clouds.

On my map (google) it shows what looks to be an island in the water but when the water is high it is just a large clump of the meadow in the river. It may be an island at low tide.

Soon after the "island" the water junction of the Indian Head River and Herring Brook appears. Heading to the left is the start of the North River. Our journey goes to the right on the Herring Brook.

For more info on paddling the North River, [the wild turkey paddlers](#) have a nice guide.



*The Herring Brook starts wide,
but soon gets narrower and winding.
This portion of the paddle took longer
than expected, but was very pleasant.*

The tall grasses that line the North River continue on the brook and soon line both sides of this interesting little river.



*Soon we arrive at our destination,
marked by the bench at the end
of the North River Trail!*



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