

CUFFEE HILL CONSERVATION AREA

Cuffee Hill, off Mount Blue Street is associated with the larger 350 acre Cuffee Conservation Area. It includes Black Bog Pond and Black Bog Swamp. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) also owns several of the parcels.

DIRECTIONS and PARKING:

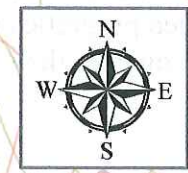
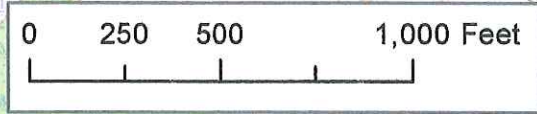
There are 3 entrances to the Cuffee Hill trails located between Lincoln St and Old Oaken Bucket Road along Mount Blue St. Coming from the intersection of Lincoln St. and Mount Blue St. the first entrance is 0.3 miles on the left. There is off-street parking at all 3 entrances. The TNC parking area is the largest of the 3 and is on the south side of Mt. Blue Street.

TRAIL DESCRIPTION:

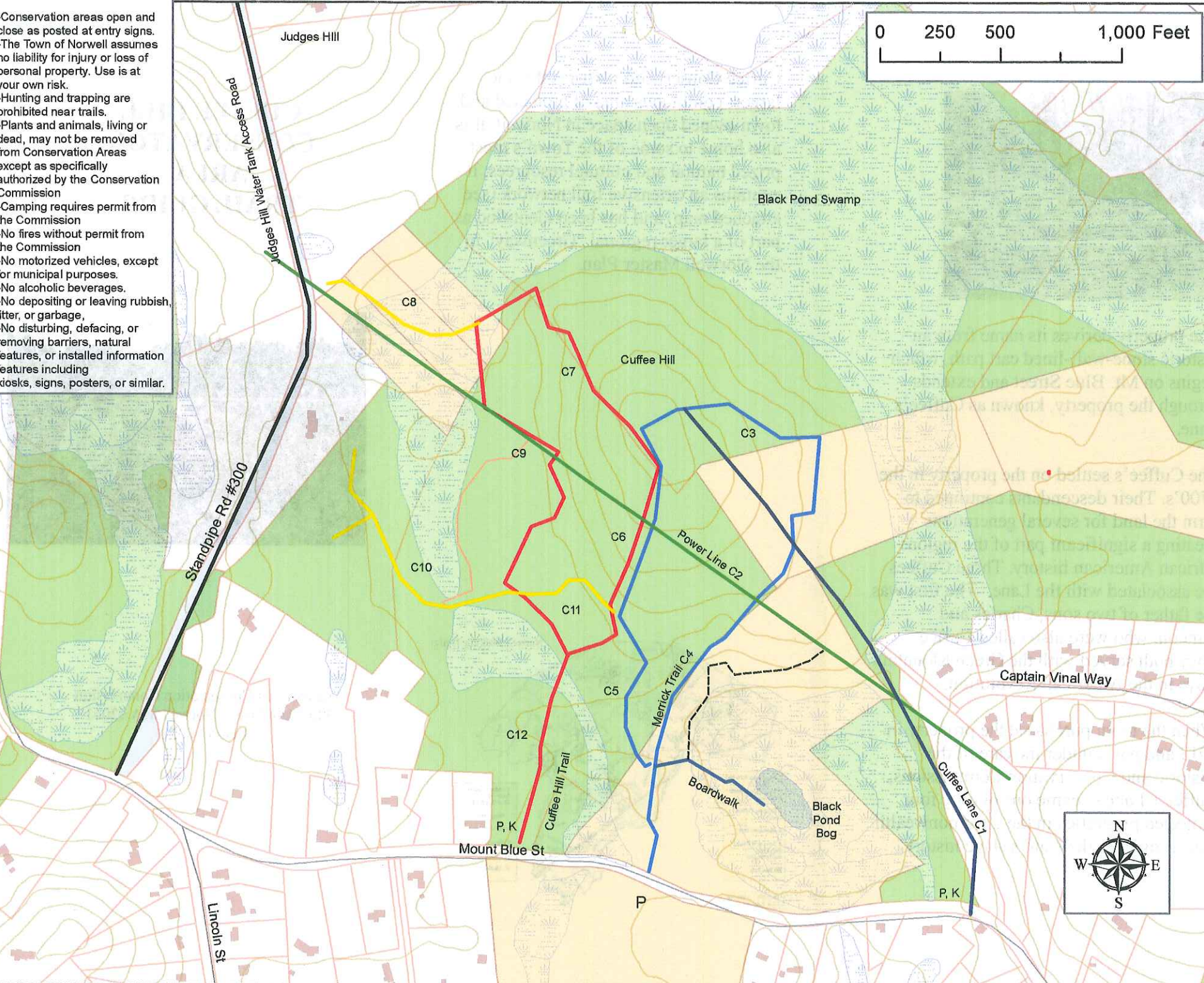
The Cuffee Hill Trail begins at Mt. Blue Street and passes through an eastern hemlock grove before ascending up Cuffee Hill. It continues under power lines through a large beech forest and then loops back under the power. The trail leads back to Mt. Blue St. through the TNC Preserve a few hundred yards from the beginning of the trail. The trail is rocky and uneven in many places.

Legend

- Cuffee Lane
- Cuffee power line
- 10ft contours
- Nature Conservancy
- WETLANDS
- Conservation Managed Land
- Black Bog Pond
- Loop 1
- Loop 2



- Conservation areas open and close as posted at entry signs.
- The Town of Norwell assumes no liability for injury or loss of personal property. Use is at your own risk.
- Hunting and trapping are prohibited near trails.
- Plants and animals, living or dead, may not be removed from Conservation Areas except as specifically authorized by the Conservation Commission
- Camping requires permit from the Commission
- No fires without permit from the Commission
- No motorized vehicles, except for municipal purposes.
- No alcoholic beverages.
- No depositing or leaving rubbish, litter, or garbage,
- No disturbing, defacing, or removing barriers, natural features, or installed information features including kiosks, signs, posters, or similar.



The Cuffee Conservation Area is part of a unique sensitive ecosystem that includes core habitat and a rare quaking bog. Black Pond Bog, an 83-acre preserve owned by The Nature Conservancy is a significant feature. The Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program classifies Black Pond Bog as a 'Quaking' or "Level Bog", The extreme acidity of the bog water limits nutrient availability and thus the types of plants that can grow there.



The property derives its name from an historic stone-wall-lined cart path, which begins on Mt. Blue Street and extends through the property, known as Cuffee's Lane.

The Cuffee's settled on the property in the 1700's. Their descendants continued to farm the land for several generations creating a significant part of the regions African American history. Three Cuffees are associated with the Lane. The first was the father of two sons, Charles and Simeon, who were also called Cuffee. They both served with the Green Mountain Boys in the American Revolution.

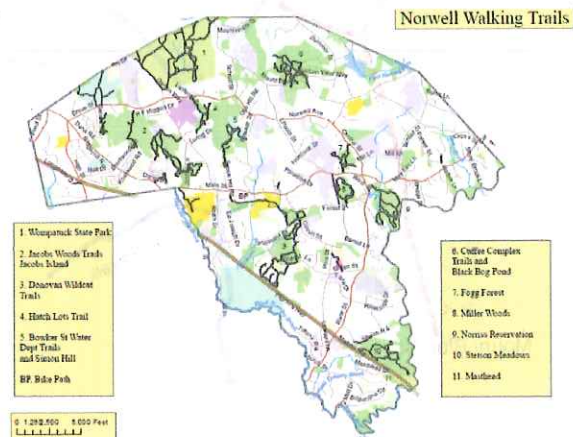
When the town purchased the property in 2013 and put it under the care of the Historic and Conservation Commissions, Cuffee's Lane became one of only four protected properties in the Commonwealth that recognizes the state's slave history.



There are pockets of white cedar swamp growing out of the thick sphagnum moss mat that encircles the pond. Preserving this area protects the biodiversity and ecological integrity of this special Black Bog environment.

Cuffee Conservation Area is this the largest continuous area of protected and town-owned open space in Norwell, it is also home to some of the Town's most prized natural and cultural resources. It contains an extensive trail network (see attached map) and has been identified as part of a larger regional "Greenway" in the Norwell Master Plan.

CUFFEE HILL CONSERVATION AREA TRAIL GUIDE



The Norwell Conservation Commission
345 Main Street, Norwell MA 02061
781-659-8022