

The Preserve

December 2018 interim trails

ESSEX, OLD SAYBROOK, & WESTBROOK, CONNECTICUT

PLEASE:

- Pack out all trash
- Stay on marked trails
- No unauthorized motor vehicles
- Dogs on leash
- No camping or fires
- Cyclists: Use marked trails only; pedestrians have right of way



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TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK

Clark Community Park Trails

Red Trail

Blue Trail

Yellow Trail

Not Blazed

Marsh

Bridge

Town Property

Private Property

Connections to Non-Town Trail

P **Parking**

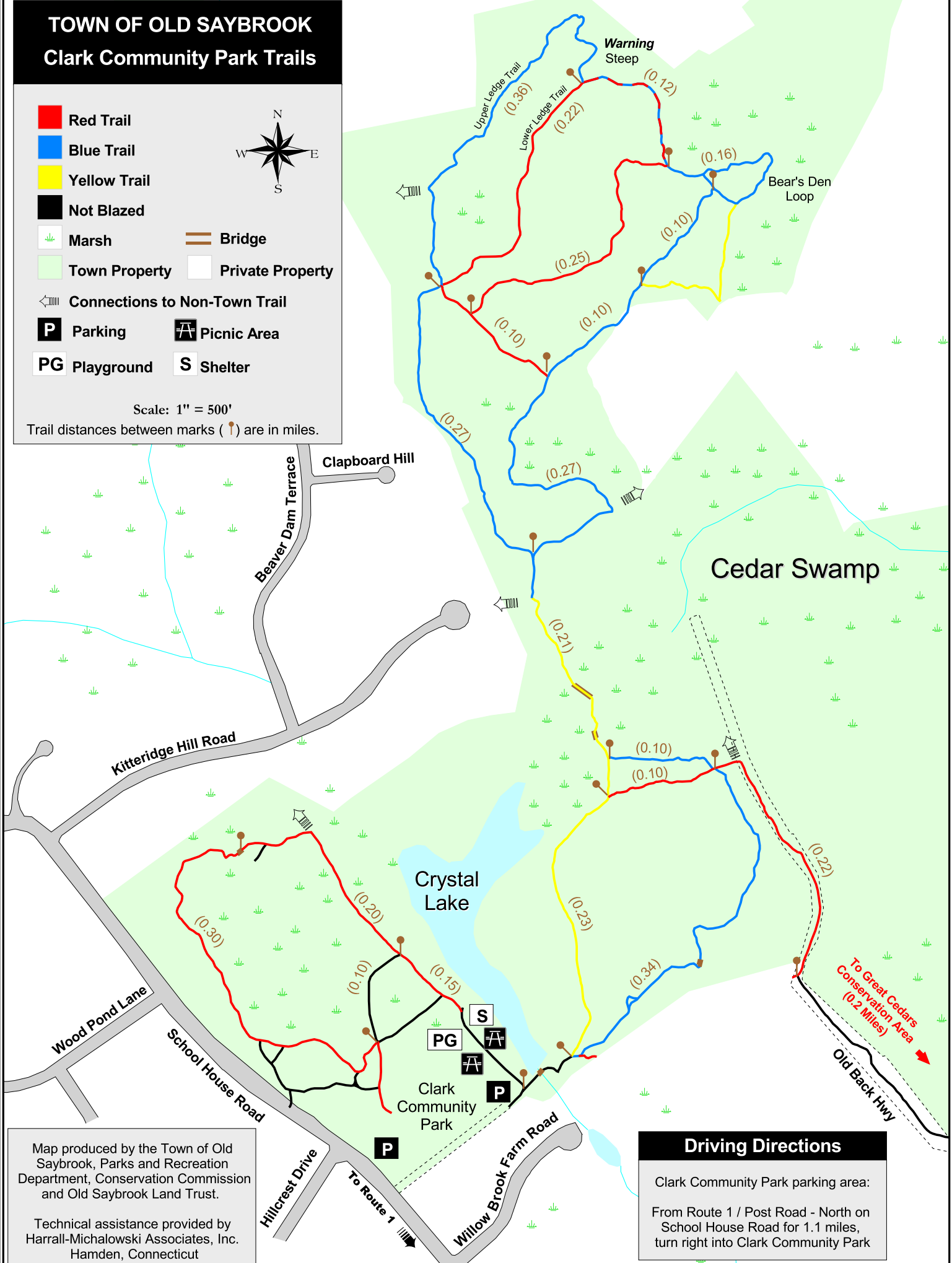
PA **Picnic Area**

PG **Playground**

S **Shelter**

Scale: 1" = 500'

Trail distances between marks (↑) are in miles.



Map produced by the Town of Old Saybrook, Parks and Recreation Department, Conservation Commission and Old Saybrook Land Trust.

Technical assistance provided by Harrall-Michalowski Associates, Inc. Hamden, Connecticut

Driving Directions

Clark Community Park parking area:
From Route 1 / Post Road - North on School House Road for 1.1 miles, turn right into Clark Community Park

TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK Great Cedars (East) Conservation Area

- Red Trail
- Blue Trail
- Yellow Trail
- Marsh
- Town Property
- Private Property
- F** Fish Ladder
- P** Parking
- N
W E
S
- Connections to Non-Town Trail
- Foot Bridge/Dam
- RK** Rock Outcrop

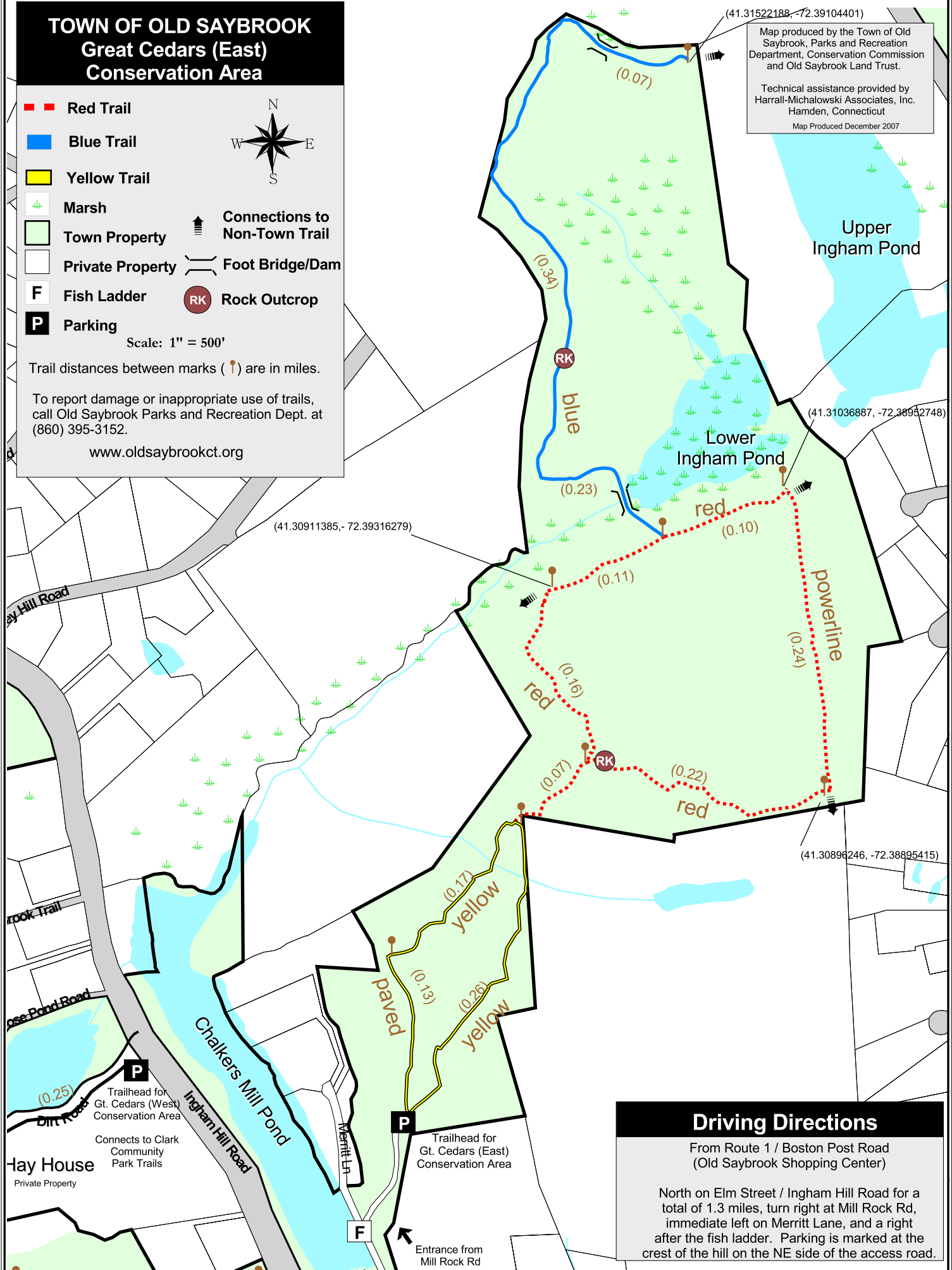
Scale: 1" = 500'

Trail distances between marks () are in miles.

To report damage or inappropriate use of trails,
call Old Saybrook Parks and Recreation Dept. at
(860) 395-3152.

www.oldsaybrookct.org

(41.31522188, -72.39104401)
Map produced by the Town of Old Saybrook, Parks and Recreation Department, Conservation Commission and Old Saybrook Land Trust.
Technical assistance provided by Harrall-Michalowski Associates, Inc. Hamden, Connecticut
Map Produced December 2007








Driving Directions

From Route 1 / Boston Post Road (Old Saybrook Shopping Center)
North on Elm Street / Ingham Hill Road for a total of 1.3 miles, turn right at Mill Rock Rd, immediate left on Merritt Lane, and a right after the fish ladder. Parking is marked at the crest of the hill on the NE side of the access road.

TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK

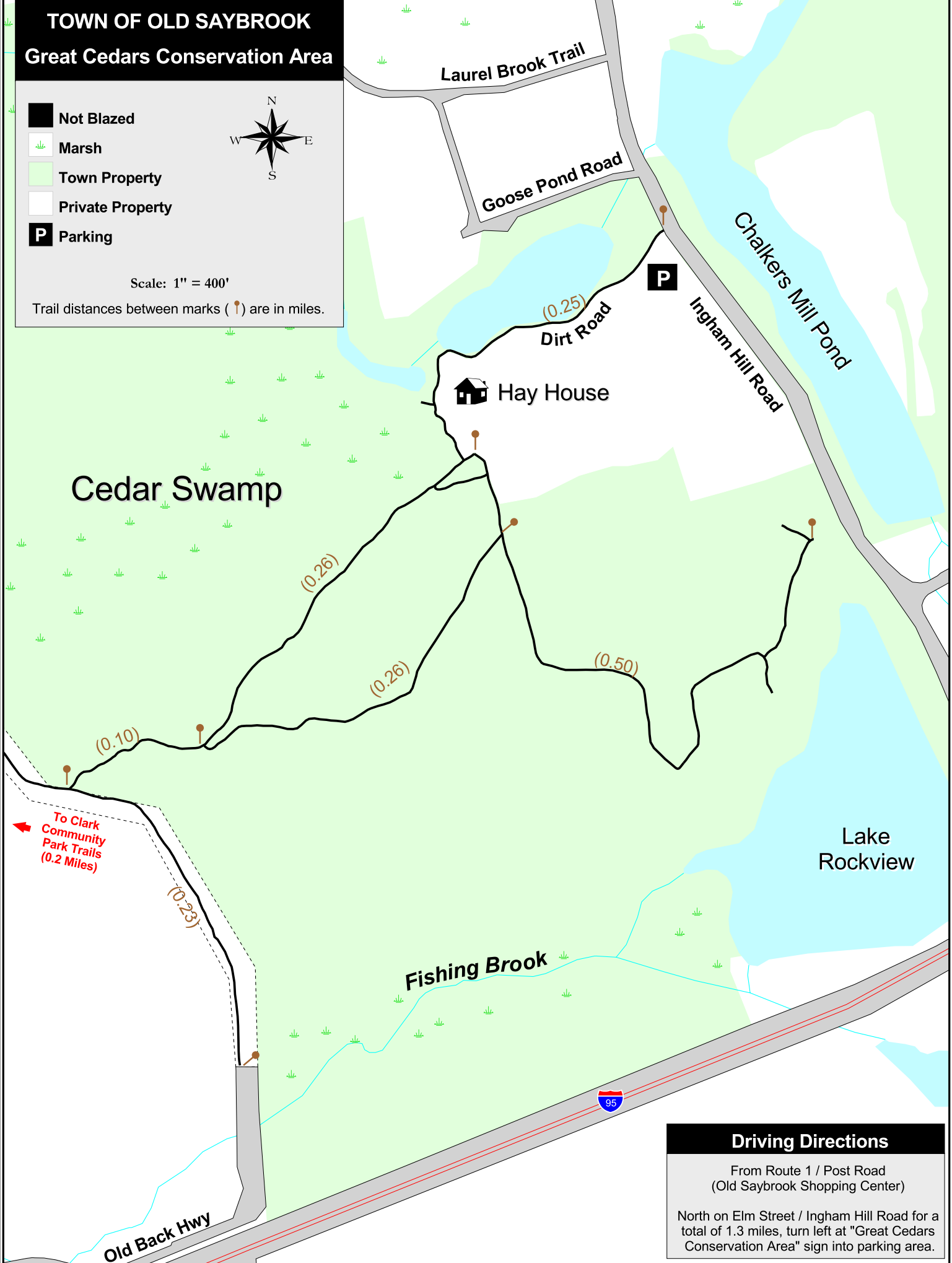
Great Cedars Conservation Area

-  Not Blazed
-  Marsh
-  Town Property
-  Private Property
-  Parking



Scale: 1" = 400'

Trail distances between marks (P) are in miles.



Driving Directions

From Route 1 / Post Road
(Old Saybrook Shopping Center)

North on Elm Street / Ingham Hill Road for a total of 1.3 miles, turn left at "Great Cedars Conservation Area" sign into parking area.



Parking



Trails



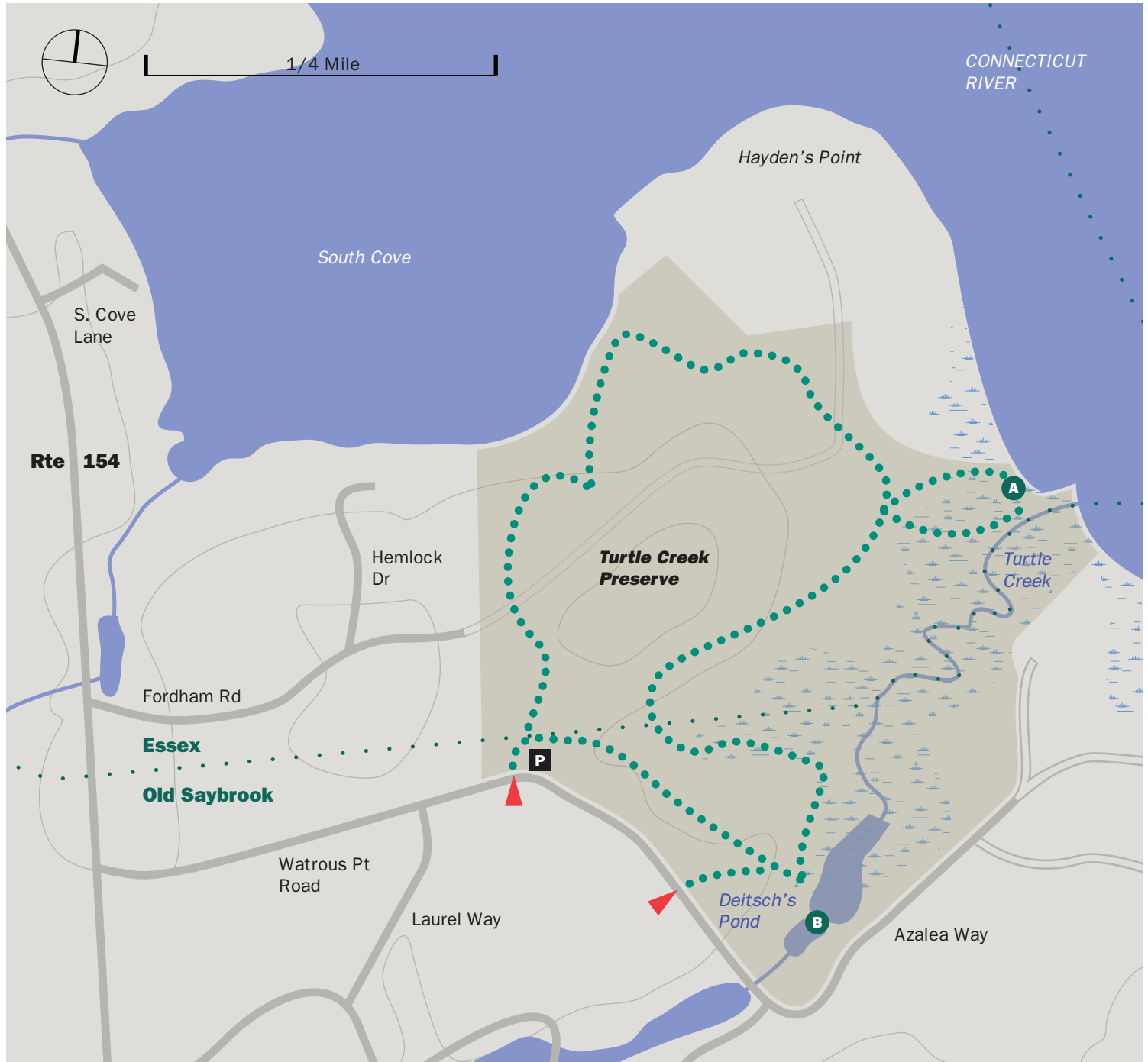
Trail access



Points of Interest:

A Beach on the Connecticut River

B Deitsch's Pond Dam

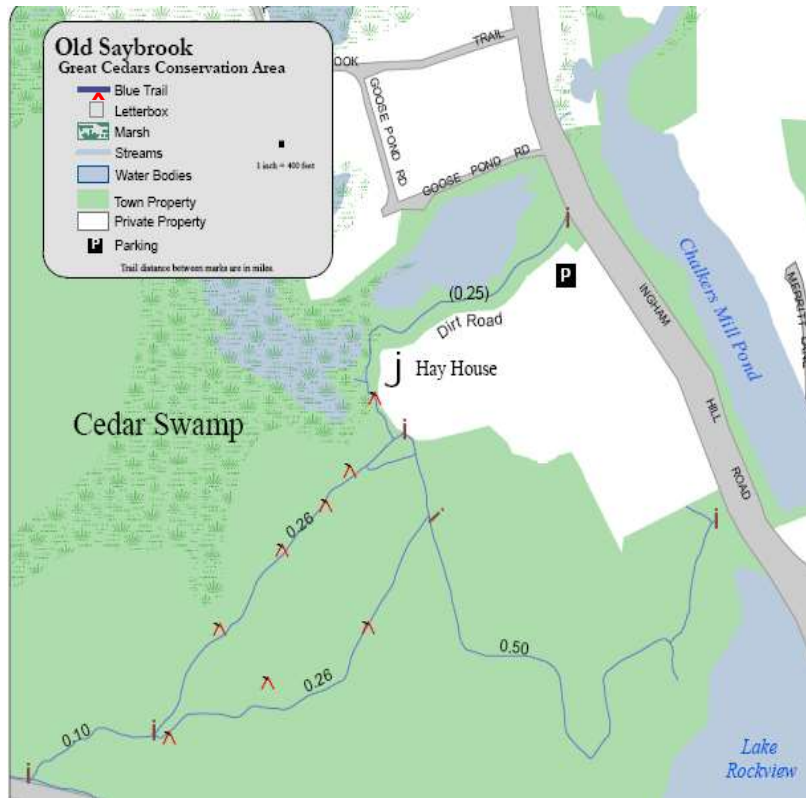




The Old Saybrook Land Trust

presents

LETTERBOXING at Great Cedars West Conservation Area



WAIVER OF RESPONSIBILITY AND DISCLAIMER

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

***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!