

Chandler Brook Preserve

Formerly owned by farmer Karl Hawkes, this peaceful 60-acre preserve was co-purchased in 2004 by the town of North Yarmouth and the Royal River Conservation Trust. The Royal River Conservation Trust's contribution paid for the easement, which forever protects this parcel of land.

The easy trails in Chandler Brook Preserve lead through a variety of habitats: old growth hemlock stands, open fields, and deciduous woods bordering Chandler Brook. Walking, birding, horseback riding, hunting, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing are welcome activities here. Dogs are allowed to be off-leash if under the voice control of their owner. *Please pick up after your dog.*

The following trail description represents a full loop, walking in a clockwise direction. The distance is approximately two miles.

Cross the railroad tracks from the parking area, and enter the trail system at the kiosk. Bear left, following the old farm road through a hemlock stand. A linking trail will branch off on the right, leading to the South Field Loop. Continuing straight on the farm road, you will come to a pole barn on your right in an open grassy area. The trail passes the barn, and heads down a gentle hill into the North Field. Chandler Brook skirts the outside edge of this beautiful, wild field. Currently, only the Inner Trail is maintained. In the future, the Brook Trail will be mowed and accessible around the outer edge of this field.

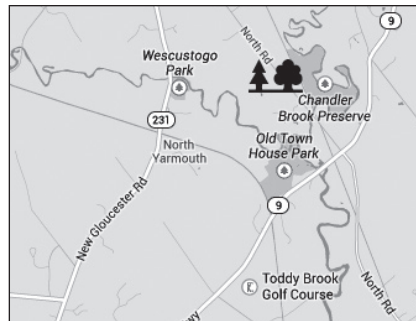
Follow the mowed Inner Trail as it bends to the right, and briefly borders the brook before re-entering the hemlock woods. Proceed up the hill. Again, there is a short linking trail leading to the South Field. Bear left; continue to walk along the wooded trail, high above Chandler Brook. Shortly, you will come to the South Field.

From this point, you can either bear right, which will lead you along the woods back to the parking area; or, if you wish to continue walking, bear left again. This will enable you to walk the entire perimeter of the Preserve.

The South Field Loop leads along a buffer zone planted by the Royal River Conservation Trust to protect the river bank from erosion. Staying to the left, you will enter a grove of mixed deciduous trees immediately along the river's edge. This is a section of the Brook Trail. Once through this wooded area, you will re-emerge into the field.

Turn left here, where the trail meets the South Field Loop. This mowed trail follows the edge of the field alongside mixed deciduous woods, laden with apple blossoms in the spring and colorful leaves in the fall. This trail eventually circles back to the farm road that leads to the parking area.

In the future, there will be an established, seasonal extension of the Brook Trail along the brook's edge, accessible from the South Field Loop. Currently, there is a narrow footpath, passable only in late fall through early spring when the vegetation is scarce and the brook level is low.

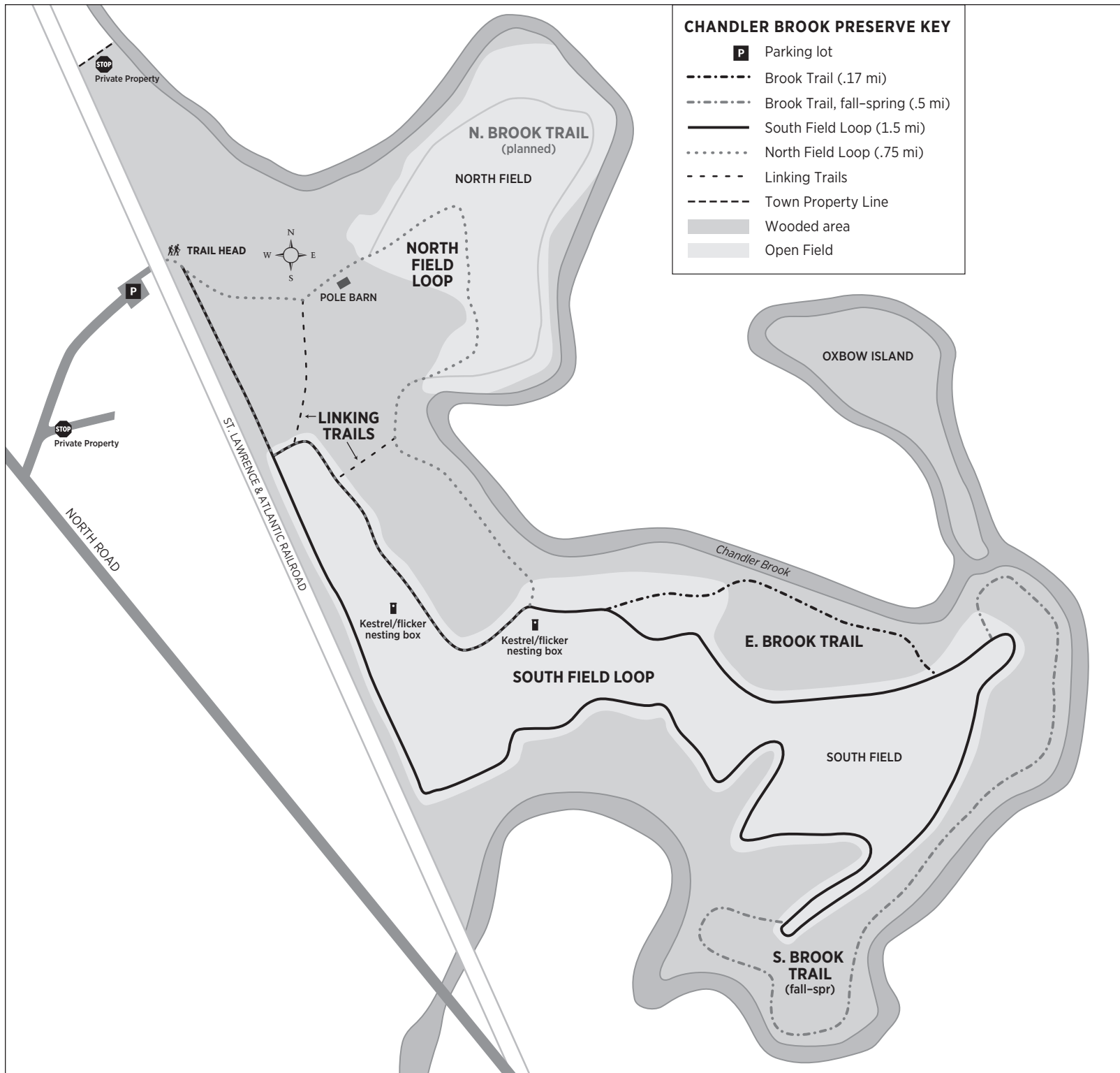


Chandler Brook Preserve is located on the east side of North Road between Routes 9 and 231. Look for the blue park sign mounted on granite posts.



TOWN OF NORTH YARMOUTH TRAIL GUIDE NO.3

Chandler Brook Preserve Trails



Features

- Kiosk with map located at trail head
- Port-a-potty
- River views
- Protected bobolink nesting area
- Kestrel/flicker nesting boxes
- Riparian plantings to conserve river banks
- Beaver slides
- Park is open 5 AM to 9 PM.

A note to dog owners

Please pick up your dog waste and dispose of it properly.