

HEBRON OPEN SPACE

Take a walk on the 'Way Property'

Have you ever visited Hebron's first property acquired through its Open Space Land Acquisition Fund in 2000? This beautiful 32-acre "Way Property", located along Jagger Lane, offers a tranquil setting to enjoy its many attractions!

Primarily a grassland field, this "L-shaped" property was formerly grazed for local farming operations. In fact, working farms abut this parcel to the northwest, south and southeast.

Although there is not a formal parking lot for this site, the shoulder of the dead-end side of Jagger Lane provides areas for off the road parking. The property can be accessed readily at two locations along the north side of Jagger Lane. The primary access point is directly across from the T-intersection of Hardy Road and Jagger Lane where there is a prominent sign. Another access point is west of the intersection of Jagger Lane and Hardy Road in between sections of stonewalls.

Upon an uphill entry into the property from the primary access point, one encounters a very picturesque shallow, small pond nestled in the hilly terrain. A nice place to reflect and observe wildlife that inhabits this water body.



Pathways around either side of the pond lead one toward Merrow Swamp in the distance. A short loop path brings one along the outer edge of this wetland (a Wetlands of Statewide Special Concern and headwater for Fawn Brook, a Class A watercourse) and wildlife refuge. At this location, seemingly distant from busy roads, the chirping frogs and migratory birds envelope the area with sonic pleasure. This area is also the wooded section of the parcel, with many large trees providing shade for a summer visit and colorful backdrop during the spring and fall.

The loop trail heads back toward Jagger Lane up to the steepest and most elevated section of the property. A scenic view of the Swamp awaits one at the top of this hill (a possible drumlin?). A great place for warm weather picnicking or wintertime sledding!

Continuing further towards Jagger Lane, a path leads one to the west through a small section of woods and then into a large grass field. A walk along the perimeter of the field will lead one to an exit point in between sections of stonewall along Jagger Lane.

Make sure to protect yourself and your pet friends against ticks, as they are particularly prominent this year. Enjoy your walk!

Frank Zitkus

Hebron Open Space Land Acquisition Committee Secretary

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