







TRAIL MAP
PROSPECT MOUNTAIN PRESERVE
CATHOLE RD & PROSPECT MOUNTAIN RD
LITCHFIELD, CT
LITCHFIELD LAND TRUST
MAY 2015

LEGEND

-  PRESERVE BOUNDARIES
-  MATTATUCK TRAIL: 1.9 MI
-  YELLOW TRAIL: 0.7 MI
-  GRANNISS POND TRAIL: 0.7 MI
-  GRAHAM THOMPSON TRAIL: 1.2 MI
-  10 FOOT CONTOURS



Prospect Mountain Preserve

Trails Map

To the west of us rose a smooth-bosomed hill, called Prospect Hill; and many a pensive, wondering hour have I sat at our playroom window, watching the glory of the wonderful sunsets that used to burn themselves out amid voluminous wreathings, or castellated turrets of clouds – vaporous pageantry proper to a mountainous region.

Harriet Beecher Stowe, describing the view from her Litchfield home

Litchfield Land Trust



P.O. Box 712

Litchfield, CT 06759

www.litchfieldlandtrust.org

Founded 1968

This 333-acre preserve, located west of the Borough of Litchfield, includes most of a locally prominent hill featuring a spectacular viewpoint near its 1350-foot summit, as well as a large pond to the west. It is mostly forested, with several meadows indicating past agricultural uses. The area was subject to significant nickel mining explorations in the 19th century.

The BLUE trail transecting the property is a portion of the Mattatuck Trail, part of the Connecticut Forest and Park Association's Blue Trail System. Proceeding from the eastern trailhead on Cathole Road, it crosses a stream, a series of irregular ascents and descents through sometimes rocky terrain, and up to a viewpoint at the subsidiary south summit. The major north peak and its long views is 0.2 mi. further on. Finally, the trail descends through irregular terrain and eventually along the edge of a meadow to the western trailhead at Prospect Mountain Road.

The YELLOW trail diverges from the Blue trail at 0.1 mi from its eastern trailhead and winds up and down through predominantly birch forest and across seasonal wetlands, finally ascending sometimes steeply to meet the Blue trail near the 1350 ft. summit.

The RED trail, traversed clockwise from Prospect Mountain Road, passes along the south shore of Granniss Pond, crosses a small footbridge then on a boardwalk along the western shoreline, through a pine plantation, along and through old stone walls, up an old farm road, through an abandoned meadow, and finally descends across a wooded slope back to Granniss Pond's eastern side, past a horizontal mine shaft opening and back up to Prospect Mountain Road

The WHITE Graham Thompson trail, named in recognition of one of LLT's founders, begins moderately at the Prospect Mountain trailhead, passing wetlands, an old pine plantation and open forest, before becoming gradually steeper and more irregular until it meets the Blue trail near the south summit.

A number of historical mine shafts are indicated on the map; many are filled with water. Visitors are cautioned to approach them with care. You are hiking at your own risk. Hike safely.

LLT Preserve Policies:

- Stay on designated trails
- No motorized vehicles
- No fires, swimming, hunting or trapping
- Wear orange during hunting season
- Help keep the preserve clean – no littering or dumping

The Litchfield Land Trust is a non-profit, member-supported organization whose mission is to preserve and protect the natural resources in the Litchfield, CT area, including water resources, marsh land, swamps, woodland, agricultural land and open spaces and the plant and animal life therein, and the preservation of unique, historical and scenic sites.

If you value these goals and wish to support the LLT, please join us.

- \$20 Sr Cit/Student \$25 Friend \$50 Family
 \$100 Donor \$250 Supporter
 \$500 Benefactor \$1000 Patron
 \$2,500 Bench w/plaque \$5,000 Grand Patron

Enter information as you would like it to appear in our membership records:

Name _____

Street Address _____

Town _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Telephone _____