



Map compiled for the Hanover Conservancy by Stonehouse Mtn Mapping.
 Map Data Sources: Roads, streams, AT Tracts: NH GRANIT; edited: 2014 orthophoto: USDA NAIP.
 Trails: GPS data collected 8/2015; Mayor-Niles Forest bdy: Hanover tax map, deeds, GPS.



Legend

- Mayor-Niles Forest
- Parking
- Mayor-Niles Forest Trails:**
- Tote Road - 0.4 mi.
- White Ledge Trail - 0.2 mi.
- Two Brooks Trail - 0.6 mi.
- Trail Features
- Other Trails
- Class V Road
- Class VI Road
- Appalachian Trail Lands



Mayor-Niles Forest Guidelines

- **Foot travel only**
- **No ATVs or other motorized vehicles**
- **Dogs are welcome- please pick up after your pet**
- **Licensed hunters welcome in season**
- **Leave no trace — please carry out your own trash**
- **Leave wildflowers, mushrooms, and wildlife undisturbed**
- **No camping or fires**

Tote Road (0.43 mi.): This woods road dates from the days when International Paper Company owned the summit of Moose Mountain and used the road to pull timber down the mountainside. The unblazed trail leaves Plummer Hill Road and passes through a gate to a footbridge. Beyond the bridge, the Tote Road begins to climb steadily. After 0.29 miles the White Ledge Trail branches off to the right. Continuing uphill, the Tote Road passes through a wet area until it reaches a woods road on the right at 0.38 miles. After this, the grade increases again and the trail ends at the AT corridor boundary, marked with yellow blazes.

White Ledge Trail (0.24 mi.): After leaving the Tote Road, this orange-blazed trail crosses several gullies and a brook before arriving at the Four Corners, where it meets up with the Two Brooks Trail. Turn left (east) to continue on the out-and-back White Ledge Trail, which now strikes sharply uphill. After 0.17 miles, stop to enjoy a view of the confluence of two brooks. The trail then meanders until it reaches the White Ledges at the AT corridor boundary. Return the way you came.

Two Brooks Trail (0.65 mi.): This yellow-blazed loop trail begins and ends at the Four Corners and visits two of the tiny headwater streams that tumble off the mountainside to feed Hewes Brook. The loop takes about 30 minutes and varies in steepness, but is generally moderate. If you follow the trail clockwise, leave the Four Corners and proceed straight ahead (south) as you join an old woods road leading downhill. This connects with a second woods road bearing uphill, until you re-enter the woods at a small cairn. After a half mile, you will reach a brook near the southern boundary with a beautiful viewpoint. Returning to the trail via stone steps laid out by volunteers, swing right as you head back towards the woods and cross an intermittent stream. The trail rejoins a woods road leading uphill before reaching a viewpoint of the brook at 0.87 miles, just before the trail's end at the Four Corners.

Natural Features

Wildlife: The Forest provides important high-elevation habitat, and is part of a block of permanently conserved lands. This makes it valuable for mammals such as moose, bear, snowshoe hare, red fox, coyote, deer, fisher and bobcat. Birdwatchers can spot pileated woodpeckers, various owls, grouse, warblers and many more.



Geology: Near the eastern boundary, dramatic slabs of white stone gave name to the White Ledge Trail. This outcropping of erosion-resistant quartzite forms the spine of Moose Mountain. In spring or rainy periods, water runs over the ledges, creating small but beautiful waterfalls.

Streams: The entire property is within the Hewes Brook watershed. Keeping its three headwater streams covered by forest contributes to flood protection for downstream neighbors, and keeps their waters cool and clean for trout.

Historic features: This land was settled by B. Smith before 1855 and by 1892 was part of the Barnes Farm. The homestead stood near the current trailhead. Historic stone walls indicate the land was once used for sheep pastures.

Flora: This forest is relatively young, and is largely composed of deciduous northern hardwoods, such as red and sugar maple, red oak, beech, poplar, white ash and white and yellow birch. Star flower, Canada mayflower, trillium, wood sorrel and Indian pipe can be found on the forest floor.

About the Mayor-Niles Forest

Michael and Elizabeth Mayor and John Niles owned the land from 1978 to 2015, before donating it to be permanently protected by the Hanover Conservancy. Set on Moose Mountain, this 92-acre property is an important link in a large block of connected, protected lands.

The Forest is managed by volunteers with a deep appreciation of the area and its benefit to the community. All trails were laid out and built by neighbor and dedicated Hanover Conservancy volunteer Joe Danna, with guidance from the Upper Valley Trails Alliance. We welcome volunteers to help care for the trails and monitor wildlife use.

The Hanover Conservancy is a private, non-profit membership organization dedicated to the conservation of land and water in our community. Your support keeps our natural areas open for all to enjoy and allows us to offer guided trips here and elsewhere in Hanover. Please consider becoming a member and making a gift to Hanover Conservancy's Land Stewardship Fund.



Hanover Conservancy

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Photo credits: Cover, Joe Danna. Signs of bear activity on a beech tree, Linde McNamara.

Mayor-Niles Forest Trail Map & Guide

