



## Greensboro Ridge Natural Area Trails Challenge Hike

*113 acres owned by the Hanover Conservancy,  
conservation easement held by the Town of Hanover*

Greensboro Ridge Natural Area is located a few miles east of downtown Hanover. Take Greensboro Road to Velvet Rocks Drive with trailhead parking available at the end of the road. Please respect the privacy and property of the Velvet Rocks and Silent Brook communities on your way to and from the Natural Area. This 1.6-mile loop hike begins at the kiosk on Oli's Eagle Trail (blue blazes) and returns on the Greensboro Highlands Trail (orange blazes) and Silent Brook Trail. This hike is moderately challenging and includes passing through and over some rocky terrain.

**Destination Marker:** Search for the marker where Oli's Eagle Trail intersects with the Greensboro Highlands Trail. Before resuming your hike on the Greensboro Highlands Trail, you may want to make the short hike uphill to see where the Appalachian Trail (white blazes) passes by.

**Features and History:** Large rocky ledges and glacial erratics make this a spectacular and fun hike. Greensboro Ridge is part of the Lebanon Dome with its volcanic origins some 460 million years ago. While the rocks are quite old, present topography is more recent and reflects the recurring ice sheets that covered the region during the last 2 million years. Conservation of this large tract of upland forest in 2008, was the result of a successful partnership with the Town of Hanover and Simpson Development providing clustered housing at Velvet Rocks and Silent Brook in order to protect the remaining 113 acres. This natural area provides diverse habitat for wildlife and contains several small intermittent streams, vernal pools, and ferny openings.

