

In addition to being a valuable Town resource as an open space park, the Town Forest also preserves some important historic features. Located in the northwestern section of the park is a large overhanging rock that sheltered first the Indians and later Colonial settlers. During the American Revolution, this area was known as “Rock House Woods.”

**T**he Town Forest is Wilton’s largest open space park. It is also the most rugged. The Town acquired the bulk of the acreage in three separate transactions. Technically, “Town Forest” refers to the northernmost 43.6 acres, the first acquisition, which was purchased in February 1961. This was followed by the acquisition of the Town Forest Extension which comprised 123.3 acres and was purchased between April, 1967 and January, 1972. The two parcels were not contiguous, and between them lay a 20 acre tract belonging to the Mauwehu Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The acquisition of this parcel in July, 1977 and several dedications of land for access created the Town Forest as it is known today.

In the northeast corner of the Town Forest is a lovely waterfall known as Sheep Falls. Mr. Charles Morgan, a miller, owned property off Nod Hill and had a large herd of sheep. It is presumed that the falls were actually used as a place for washing sheep and that they were named to commemorate the activity once performed there.

Although most of the Town Forest supports deciduous hardwoods, there are two areas within the center of the park where small hemlock groves are present. These two areas provide a pleasing contrast to the deciduous woods.

A bubbling stream known as Barrett’s Brook flows in a southwesterly direction through the Town Forest from Sheep Falls to Branch Brook Road. The orange trail follows the stream corridor crossing Barrett’s Brook in several places. It is one of the most attractive of the Town’s trails in all seasons of the year.

There are three north-south trails within the Town Forest. The easternmost trail is a portion of the bridle trail, marked with blue blazes. Orange blazes mark the trail that follows Barrett’s Brook, also on the east side of the Forest. The west side of the bridle trail is again marked with blue. There is a loop trail located in the original Town Forest, north of Boas Lane. A spring walk along this loop will provide the visitor with an opportunity to see a variety of wildflowers.

Horseback riding is permitted in the Town Forest on the designated bridle trails. These trails are narrow and rocky in places. Riders are cautioned to proceed slowly. Camping is permitted at the Town Forest’s two camp sites. No facilities exist, and permits for camping use must be obtained from the Conservation Office.



**Directions:** From Wilton Center, go north on Rte. 33 for 2 miles. Turn right on Nod Hill Road and travel 2.7 miles to Partrick Lane. Follow Partrick Lane to Boas Lane and the Town Forest parking area.

**Acreage:** ±192

**Parking:** At Boas Lane and Branch Brook Road

**Access:** Boas Lane, Pin Oak Lane, Boulder Brook Road, Branch Brook Road

<b>Trails:</b>	East trail	0.75 miles	orange
	Bridle trail	2.3 miles	blue
	X-Over/ Access trails		yellow

**Ownership:** Town of Wilton

