

The Boulders

Located close to Berkshire County's population center, the 645 acres of The Boulders provide more than six miles of trails plus the dramatic boulders that give the area its name and offer a vista to the south. The trails lend themselves to hiking, biking, hunting, jogging, dog walking and cross-country skiing.

Directions: Access the reserve from the east side of Gulf Road in Dalton, opposite the parking for the Appalachian Trail.

To the trailhead on Dalton Avenue, enter directly across from the intersection with Hubbard Avenue.

GPS: 42.4701, -73.1961 (Dalton Avenue trailhead parking)

GPS: 42.4816, -73.1783 (Gulf Road trailhead parking)

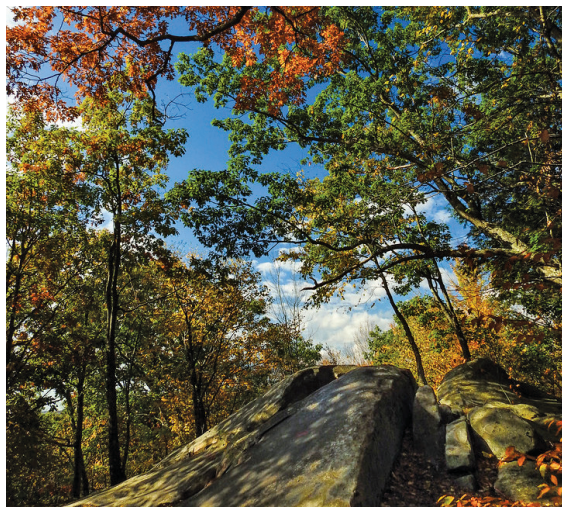


Photo: Gabrielle K. Murphy

WELCOME! WE INVITE YOU TO . . .

ENJOY this property on foot, bike, skis, or snowshoes. Dogs are welcome. They must be under your immediate control and local leash laws apply. Hunting and fishing are permitted, subject to MA state regulations. No motorized vehicles are allowed.

PROTECT the trails, wildlife, and land. Carry out what you bring in, take only photos, and leave everything else just as you found it.

APPRECIATE that this land provides a home, food, and shelter to wildlife and protection for clean drinking water. Respect wildlife and keep your distance.

LEARN MORE Please visit BNRC.org or call 413-499-0596 for more information about this property, to learn about upcoming free guided walks and events here and around the Berkshires, and to support BNRC in preserving this beautiful landscape.

TAG US now on Instagram and Facebook with [#bnrc](https://www.instagram.com/bnrc).

SUPPORT this work at bnrc.org/donate.

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FIND our app in the app stores by searching for "BNRC trails."



Berkshire Natural Resources Council

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bnrc.org

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Pittsfield | Dalton | Lanesborough

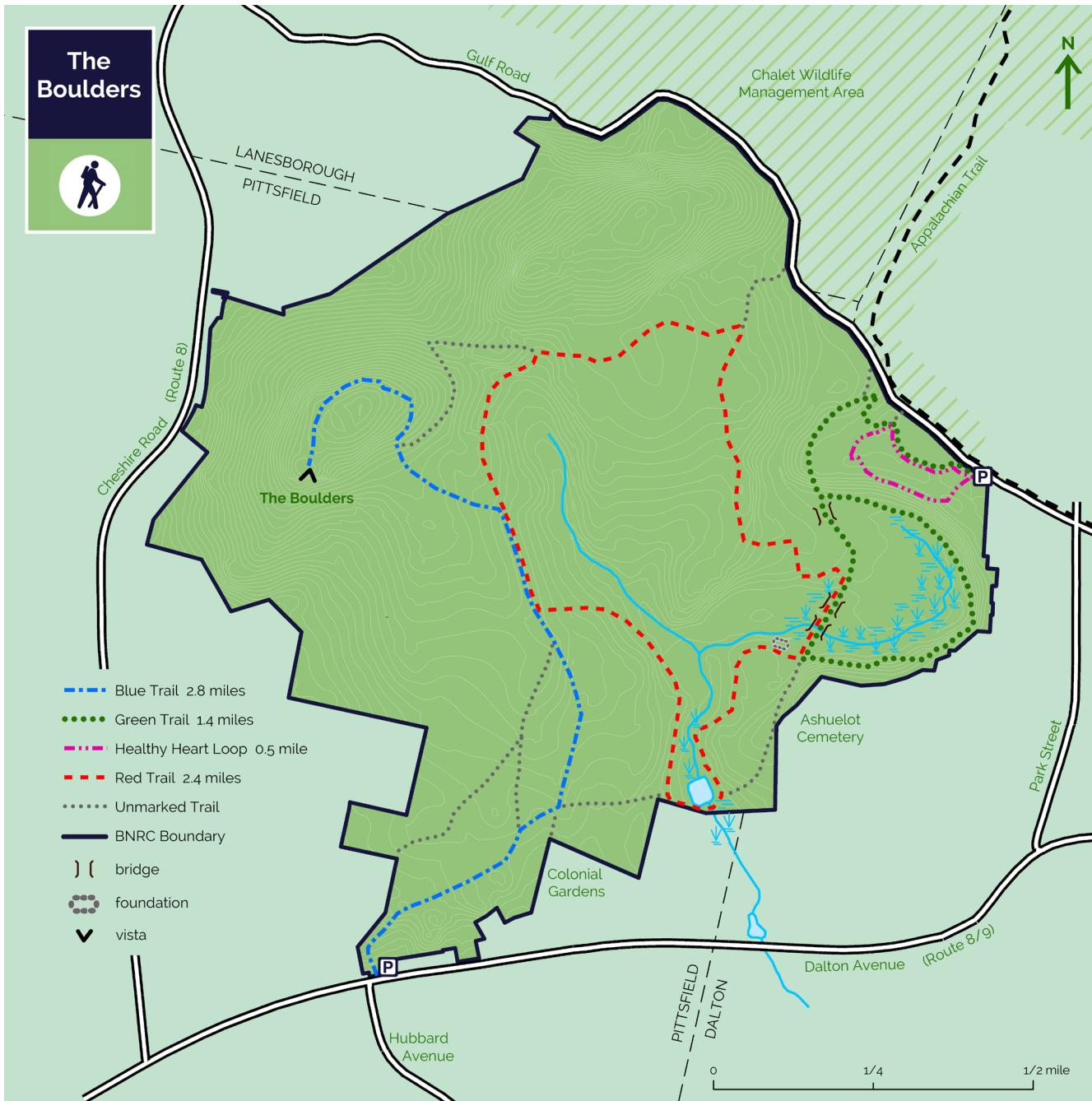


Trail Map



Berkshire Natural Resources Council

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THE BOULDERS TRAIL MAP



TRAIL DESCRIPTION

Healthy Heart Loop: 0.5 miles, round-trip
Difficulty: Easy (gentle grades, smooth footing)

Green Trail: 1.4 miles, round-trip (Easy)

Blue Trail: 2.8 miles, round-trip
Difficulty: Moderate (uneven footing, elevation changes)

Red Trail: 2.4 miles, round-trip (Moderate)

From the southern trailhead on Routes 8/9, the **Blue Trail** to the boulder ridge is a hike of about 45 minutes. That trail provides a gradual ascent to the 1,395-foot high ridge. From that point visitors, after the leaf-fall, can make out the Taconic Range to the west. The northern trailhead on Gulf Road gives access to an easy walk on the **Healthy Heart Loop** or an extended hike on the **Green** and **Red Trails**.

NATURAL HISTORY

The Boulders' weathered chunks of gray rock are a handy rest stop after a moderate climb. The bedrock of this property is primarily pelitic rock, a metamorphosed fine-grained sedimentary rock. The large outcrops on the boulders ridge show part of a concentric arcing called a "lunate fracture." These form from an interaction between ice, pressure, and a very hard rock like the quartzite found here. Deer and barred owls are among many animal species here; red trillium and pink lady-slippers show up in spring among many other ephemeral wildflowers.