

Clam River

Hikers can explore 1.5 miles along this wild river and see evidence of a time when the stream and its surrounding area were not so wild: traces of a dam, extensive stone walls, and an intact house foundation. The 550-acre property offers three connected trails of 4.3 miles with moderate change in elevation.

Directions: Trail begins at the east edge of the parking lot for the Sandisfield Town Hall Annex (66 Sandisfield Rd, Sandisfield)

GPS: 42.1081, -73.1080 (four-season trailhead parking)



Photo: Gabrielle K. Murphy

WELCOME! WE INVITE YOU TO...

ENJOY this property on foot 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.

BE A LANDKEEPER. 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.

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Sandisfield



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CLAM RIVER TRAIL MAP



Trail Description:

Clam River Loop: 1.5 miles, roundtrip
 Difficulty: Easy (gentle grades, smooth footing)

Clam River Trail: 1.2 miles, one-way

Hammertown Loop: 1.6 miles, roundtrip
 Difficulty: Moderate (uneven footing, elevation changes)

Much of the **Hammertown Loop** is on top of steep banks that hug the river under a thick canopy of hemlocks. Another section is along **Hammertown Road**.

The **Clam River Loop** winds under cathedral pines and abuts both the Clam and another nearby stream, the Buck River. The two loop trails are connected by the **Clam River Trail**, a portion of which also brings the hiker close to the river. A hiker in the reserve is never far from the sound of running water.

Natural History:

The diverse habitat along the river and away from its banks has supported a panoply of wildlife, from the Eastern Pearlshell mussels and brook trout of the river to moose, deer, and bear. The newly created young-forest area should bring even more species into the preserve, increasing its attraction to hunters. The mature forested areas include hemlocks, white pines, including a few of immense girth, and a wide range of hardwoods. Large grape vines have been found on the property.