

Steepletop

Steepletop's 1,230 acres make it the Berkshire Natural Resources Council's largest reserve. Its five miles of marked and maintained trails plus three miles of wood roads, all on easy grades, are ideal for hiking, bird-watching, hunting, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. The reserve's woods range from an unusual patch of seemingly old-growth forest to quite young forest, managed for wildlife that require that habitat.

Directions: Located off New Marlborough/Monterey Road. Turn into the steep, inclining driveway marked "648". Bear right into our gravel parking lot.

GPS: 42.1370, -73.2082 (trailhead parking)

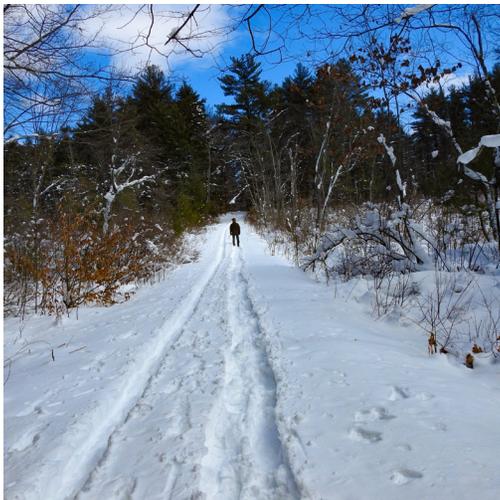


Photo: Gabrielle K. Murphy

WELCOME! WE INVITE YOU TO...

ENJOY this property on foot, bike, horseback (except when trails are muddy), 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.

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.

TAG US now on Instagram and Facebook with #landkeepers and #bnrc.

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Steepletop

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BERKSHIRE
Natural Resources Council

THE LANDKEEPERS

STEEPLETOP TRAIL MAP



Trail Description:

Louise Lane (North Loop): 2.2 miles, roundtrip

Edie's Way (South Loop): 2.2 miles, roundtrip
 Difficulty: Easy (gentle grades, smooth footing)

Louise Lane and **Edie's Way** are well-blazed trails that take visitors past extensive stonewalls, near foundations and over brook crossings. While the trails are not groomed for winter skiing, they and the wood roads are often wide enough for skating cross-country skiers as well as those using the classic technique. Winter visitors to the reserve can follow the tracks of many different species.

Natural History:

The varied habitats and sheer size of the reserve and contiguous protected areas attract a wide range of wildlife. Birders can look for, among others, American woodcocks. Otter, beaver, and coyotes also inhabit the preserve. Within the wooded area's mix of conifers and hardwoods, two queens of the New England forest—white pines and black cherries—often stand next to each other in full growth. Different varieties of birch and maple as well as oaks, beech and hemlock are also abundant. Look for cattails and wild cranberry in the wet areas.

