

Town of Hooksett Town-owned recreation-related assets revised 06/2019

This list is updated as needed.

Some locations are not accessible for recreation, but due to their familiarity are listed here with comments.

Please note that most locations are carry-in/out.

Please note that dogs must be kept on leash on town property and owners should clean up after their dogs.

Name of asset/Location/Directions/Markers

History/Amenities/Other Information

Boat launch (public) located near 101 Merrimack Street along Merrimack River

Located near District Courthouse, turn into parking lot at 101 Merrimack St. Courthouse on right, Dog Park on left. Parking lots on near and far sides of dog park. Boat launch to your left, Amoskeag Rowing Club to your right, kiosk and trailhead to Riverwalk Trail in front of you.

Clay Pond (a conservation property)

Access Clay Pond conservation area from Chester Turnpike; 0.4 miles moderately trafficked out and back. BearPaw Conservation holds the easement. Clay Pond is very rough. At the end of Chester Turnpike there is a gate; continue straight and stay on the road that bends and you will see the pond (can't see it right away). If you turn right at the gate, you access Clay Pond's 800 acres of conservation land. If you turn left at the gate, you access BearPaw conservation land including Hinman Pond. All this land is open to the public, but it is very rough. On the left at the gate is a kiosk managed by BearPaw. Activities include: wildlife viewing (birdwatching, Blanding's turtles, other), hunting, bushwhacking, geocaching, map and compass. Dogs are allowed and should be on-leash. The area is also known for the black gum tree. There are also plenty of ticks and mosquitoes, so plan accordingly. Eventually, this conservation area will run into Bear Brook in Allenstown, but the trails are not well-developed so be mindful of where you are. Future trailbuilding is anticipated.

Community Gardens at Donati Park (behind Town Hall) and Fraser Memorial Park (on K Ave near Alice Ave)

The Town of Hooksett's DPW/Parks & Recreation Division welcomes residents to participate in the Community Garden Project. The goal is to provide a resource for residents to enjoy fresh produce and the joys of gardening. The gardens are located at Donati & Fraser Parks. Residents of Hooksett who wish to have a garden space may complete the application process through DPW.

Dalton Brook (a conservation property)

Located behind Walgreen's/1292 Hooksett Road. Currently not accessible for recreation.

Arthur **Donati** Memorial Fields/Park, Main Street

Usually referred to as Donati. Located next to and behind Town Hall. Some of the land is state-owned but leased to Town of Hooksett (99-year lease, certain restrictions on usage). Specific amenities are separated out below for detail. Park includes picnic tables, restrooms, porta-potties, shade and sun areas throughout.

Arthur **Donati** Memorial Fields/Park, Main Street - Kids Kaboose

Completed in 1993 with community support. Open playground with many structures for children of all ages.

Arthur **Donati** Memorial Fields/Park, Main Street - Tennis Courts

2 tennis courts (one lined for pickleball); fenced in all around, one gated entrance, lighted from dusk to park curfew (9pm); courts generally open mid-April weather-dependent (no reservations - play first-come, first-served),

Arthur **Donati** Memorial Fields/Park, Main Street - Track

Paved track (1/6 mile) next to lower softball field, surrounds a soccer field.

Arthur **Donati** Memorial Fields/Park, Main Street - Sports fields

Softball fields (2), baseball fields(2), soccer field (surrounded by track), large open field for football/lacrosse/soccer, t-ball field, Challenger baseball field; behind Town Hall down a small hill is an open field used for soccer, lacrosse, as well as events such as Old Home Day. Next to Town Hall (south side abutting rear corner) is an open field also used for open activity and events such as Old Home Day. There are several clubhouse structures located at various ballfields.

Dubes Pond, off NH-27E/Whitehall Road; continue past Farrwood Dr until you see pond on your left	Dubes Pond 2.7 mile (68 ft incline) moderately trafficked out and back trail. Often muddy and overgrown in spring (very buggy and lots of ticks as a result). Dirt area for informal parking in a residential neighborhood. Walking, trail running, nature trips, birding, views. Dogs must be kept on leash. If you look up Dubes Pond on the AllTrails app or website, it comes up as Ambassador Pond - this is the correct location and even says Dubes Pond.
Fraser Memorial Park, 14 K Ave (off Alice Ave)	Park is located in the Lincoln Park neighborhood. Dedicated as Fraser Memorial Field in November, 1968. Dedicated to CPL William G. Fraser, USMC (1947-1967) who gave his life while serving in Vietnam. Amenities: entry portico, open grass area (field), 2 bucket swings, 4 kiddie spring riders (fun bounce), playground set with 2 slides/pole, 2 tennis courts (one lined for pickleball) completely fenced in with 2 gated entrances/green tarp on one section courts generally open mid-April weather-dependent (no lights, no reservations - play first-come, first-served), 1 basketball court with 2 backboards/nets on poles/fenced on sides but not behind backboards, fire hydrant, community garden (6 plots, by application only).
Hannah-Ho-Hee Pond, Rt3/Hooksett Road at the intersection of Memorial Drive.	Property is not monitored by Parks & Recreation for public use, but residents sometimes skate or play hockey in winter at their own risk. Fishing, turtle watching. A nature trail on the grounds of adjacent Hooksett Memorial School abuts and leads to the pond.
Heads Pond Trail (a conservation property) (includes... Heads Pond, Brown Brook, Lakin Pond) / Heads Pond at US3 and Post Road	Amenities: dirt parking lot (unpaved) at corner of Post Rd and Rt3. Heads Pond Trail is 2.9 miles out and back, moderately trafficked, fairly open dirt trail, kiosk at trailhead near top of stone ramp down to actual trail (may be challenging for strollers and wheelchairs), benches along trail, wildlife and historical markers along trail. Trail can also be accessed from Pleasant Street where entrance is flat and you travel under Rt3, however there is a gate which may make wheelchair access challenging at this spot. The expectation is that at some point Hooksett will connect to Manchester and Concord (going through Pembroke). Heading right (south), the trail travels past a marsh on your left with Browns Brook traveling through it. Spot an information sign board located here and elsewhere along the trail. You'll soon leave the few houses on your right behind and travel into the deep woods. You come alongside scenic Lakin Pond at a 1/4 mile. The trail opens up and turns to hard packed dirt after 1.1 miles. After 1.4 miles you come to a bench overlooking a stunning vista of Heads Pond. The trail ends here, however, dirt and sand roads continue around this pond and out to places unknown.
Heritage Landing, Veterans Drive along Merrimack River (across from Veterans' Park and the Congregational Church)	With Church behind you, park is directly in front of you to the right of the bridge. Moving left down the road, stop in between the trees and sewer building. Follow steep path between trees and building to pretty area - Heritage Landing. A historical plaque on rock reads: "This park was created as a public recreation area during the Summer of 2003 by Torin Volk, as an Eagle Scout Project, in remembrance of the families who lost their homes and businesses at this site during the Flood of 1936".
Hinman Pond	Part of BearPaw conservation land. Accessible from trail by Clay Pond (see Clay Pond).
Hooksett Dog Park located near 101 Merrimack Street along Merrimack River	Located near District Courthouse, turn into parking lot at 101 Merrimack St. Courthouse on right, Dog Park on left. Parking lots on near and far sides of dog park. Boat launch to your left, Amoskeag Rowing Club to your right, kiosk and trailhead to Riverwalk Trail in front of you. Fenced in park with large open section and smaller section for smaller dogs. Dog House (small shed), water, chairs, waste bags provided. Carry out your waste. Dog Park Rules and Regulations document can be found on the Parks & Recreation page on the Town website.
Hooksett Public Library, 31 Mt St Mary's Way	<i>Hooksett's Public Library offers programming and meeting space. Visit their website for details of events and activities. https://www.hooksettlibrary.org/ (Not part of the Parks & Recreation division)</i>
Lambert Park, 65 Merrimack Street along Merrimack River	May have formerly been called "A.J. Lambert Riverside Park". Amenities: official sign, gazebo, open field, flagpole, NO swimming, ample parking (paved) public access boat launch (ramp) at Merrimack River.
Merrimount Ski Area	<i>Historical asset; no longer in existence. 1940s-1950s per Hooksett Historical Society (most recent reference is from a program 3/28/19, guest speaker John Allen Prof Emeritus of History at Plymouth State)</i>
Peters Brook Park, Rt3/Hooksett Rd to Industrial Drive, left on Peters Brook Drive	Paved road ends in cul-de-sac with stone drive down to parking lots/fields; lighted soccer and lacrosse fields, porta-potties.
Pinnacle Park (a conservation property)	Pinnacle Park is the overall property but it is sometimes referred to as The Pinnacle. A trail leads to Pinnacle Park Summit, sometimes referred to as Pinnacle Peak at the top. Kiosk with history of the area and a picnic table. Small parking area as well as on-street parking. A 1.1 mile lightly trafficked loop trail with 157' elevation gain that features a great forest setting and is good for all skill levels. The trail offers a number of activity options and is accessible year-round. Kid- and dog-friendly. Pinnacle Pond is further into the forested area.

Quimby Mountain (a conservation property)	Access from Quimby Mountain Rd. Park along residential street near/at the circle (cul-de-sac), continue walking past cul-de-sac on paved road which ends and unpaved trail becomes clear. Directions: Hackett Hill Road-> L@Bow Rd -> L@ Roy Rd -> Bear R onto Quimby Rd -> L@ Pearl Dr -> L@Quimby Mountain Rd -> ends at circle.
Riverwalk Trail located near 101 Merrimack Street along Merrimack River (a conservation property)	Sometimes referred to as "The Merrimack", this is all part of the Merrimack Riverfront Project. Located near District Courthouse, turn into parking lot at 101 Merrimack St. Courthouse on right, Dog Park on left. Parking lots on near and far sides of dog park. Boat launch to your left, Amoskeag Rowing Club to your right, kiosk and trailhead to Riverwalk Trail in front of you. The current trail (Phase I) was unveiled in September, 2016. It is a 15-20 minute in and out walk, open, level ground, crosses a wooden bridge. The trail is a pollinator's paradise and you will likely see many about. You will see small placards on stakes with QR codes and information; these were created and placed along the path as part of a science project completed by Hooksett Memorial students. Phase I was supported by \$100k approved by voters. Phase II begins just after the wood bridge; turn RIGHT (instead of left). This phase is called the Brick Kiln Historic Loop. It is just beginning to be cleared and developed. There will be a footbridge. Phase II is supported by funds designated from the Parks & Recreation Impact Fund and grant money. Phase III will be built in the future; it starts at the dirt circle where Phase I ends. It currently abuts private land but there is no clear indication such as a "private property" sign. While the owner does not mind people waling there, it is important to note that it is private property and there are cows further down that sometimes find their way up to the Riverwalk (as cows generally do not acknowledge property lines). The Riverwalk Trail is not a "rail to trail" property.
Hooksett Skate Park, Legends Drive	Across from Hooksett Safety Center (15 Legends Drive) US3/Hooksett Rd to Legends Drive (lighted intersection), turn right at stop sign at T. Skateboard park on the right. Adjacent parking (unpaved).
Town Hall Gym, 35 Main Street	The Town Hall gym can be rented; information can be found on Town Website on Parks & Recreation page.
<i>Tri-Town Field, Rt3A next to Tri-Town ice arena</i>	<i>This land was previously donated for limited use/limited time to HYAA for soccer. The time lapsed and the land is now in disuse.</i>
Veterans' Park at Jacob Square, Veterans Drive	Monuments to Hooksett residents lost in wars. Park was dedicated on Sunday, October 6, 2013 at 2:00 pm. A program from the dedication ceremony can be found on the Town website. Park name plural possessive, street name plural.