

List of MM Trail changes and closings from 10th edition

Updated to August 16th, 2011

ATTENTION HIKER: Portions of the M-M Trail in sections No. 10, 12, 13, & 14 have been Partially discontinued at the request of the landowner, and are not fully blazed. Please respect the property owners rights and refer to the link for the web page below for further updates and re-route information: <http://amcberkshire.org/mm-trail/guide>.

Section 2 At the end of this section and the start of section 3 the guide book mentions that the trail ends and starts at the Big Y parking lot. The big Y has been closed for several years now and a more accurate description is The FL Roberts gas station and car wash on Rt. 20.

Section 3 (relocation) Where the trail turns left off Sykes road and up hill at the junction there is now a new dirt service road that roughly parallels the trail back to the crossing of the sportsman's access road.

Section 6 (relocation) At mile 4.7 the trail description describes descending on old carriage road under a continuous arch of majestic Hemlocks. The Hemlocks are mostly dying and should in the near future be replaced by the next generation of trees. At the mile 5.5 trail description it reads that the trail reaches an opening to a power line and makes a right. Now after about 1000 yards just before reaching the power line you make a right and stay in the woods to the right of the power line almost all the way to Underwood Rd.

Section 10-Holland Glen (Rt. 9) to Gulf Road. (Partially Discontinued/Blazed)
Blazes continue northward from Holland Glen for .7 miles before ending at the discontinued section. Blazes continue southward from Gulf Road for .5 mile before ending at the discontinued section.

Section 11-Between Packardville road and Pelham road Just after Mt. Lincoln tower.
The trail here can be moved to the east about 25 ft in the future, but as you descend the access road for the tower look for right turn after about 200 yards. You will follow a red blazed boundary downhill for about 1/2mile and intersect a wood road where you will take a right and then almost immediately take a left. The camping area here is just beyond this and there should be a fire ring and a brook with good water beyond. This camping area is not mention in the guide book but is approved.

Section 12-North Valley Road to Pratt Corner Road. (Partially Blazed)
Blazes continue north from North Valley Road for 1.3 miles before ending at the discontinued section. Blazes continue south from Pratt Corner Road for .9 miles before ending at the discontinued section.

Section 13- Pratt Corner Road to Shutesbury Road. (Partially Blazed)
Blazes continue north from Market Hill Road for .6 miles before ending at the discontinued section. Blazes continue south from Shutesbury Road for 1 mile before ending at the discontinued section.

Section 14-Shutesbury Road to Leverett Co-op. (Partially Blazed)
Blazes continue north from Shutesbury Road for .6 miles before ending at the discontinued section. Blazes continue west from the Leverett Co-op for .6 miles before ending at the discontinued section.

Section 15-(Relocation to road) North Leverett Rd. to Rt.2 , This section should be all blazed and easy to follow, but there is a posted section at the start of Mormon Hollow brook and the trail follows Farley road down to the Bridge across the Millers River.

Section 17-(2 mile relocation) After descending Brush Mt., cross Gulf road (at start of Sec.17). Go through the parking area, heading initially eastward, then turn southward. After about a .25 miles, the trail turns eastward again . After about .5 miles, the trail descends downhill via a series of switchbacks, ending as the trail crosses a woods road. The trail then bends northward, passes a beaver pond and after another .5 miles begins climbing Stratton Mt. via a large switchback. (The trail winds more or less northeastward

passing 2 viewpoints, the later giving a view of Mt. Monadnock. and ending on Turnpike road which heads eastward crossing Bass Road.) The trail now stays to the right of the power line as it crosses the Bald hills and is mostly on DCR land. It is marked and well blazed and should be easy to follow. Please do not use the old sections of the trail for the first 2 miles here because the property owner has requested the change and posted his land.

Section 18-(Relocation) At 3.3 miles in this section a second stage of the trail relocation was completed in 2007. When you reach Richardson Rd. continue straight across and to the east of the old trail location. There are signs here explaining the change and the fact that there is now an additional 1.3 miles of trail until you regain the old trail near a scenic over look of White hill.

Section 20-On page 78 of the guide, change the next to the last paragraph as follows:

“Take the road left here and continue up the east slope of Grassy Hill to 1.2 mi. Watch carefully for where the trail turns right from the road down an old woods road to descend steadily through hardwood forest. Cross two stone walls. At 1.5 miles the Dry-shod Bypass Trail (blue blazed) leaves to the left. (see below). If continuing on the main M/M Trail follow the white blazes straight ahead through a swampy area to a faint wood road entering right at 1.7 mi. Turn left through hemlock/spruce/fir forest bearing left again to bypass a beaver pond overflow. Continue north to reach a boulder crossing of Tully Brook where the Dryshod Bypass Trail joins the M/M Trail (from the left). Cross Tully Brook then follow a tote road going up along and down the side of a hill always curving left. (remainder of this paragraph is unchanged)”

The Dry-shod Bypass Trail was constructed to provide an alternate route to avoid swampy areas and broad stream crossings on the main M/M Trail. It begins at mile 1.5 and is generally level as it follows the contour of the hillside passing through mixed hardwood and conifer forest, crossing 3 streams to rejoin the M/M Trail at the Tully Brook crossing. It is blazed in blue. Southbound hikers should look for this trail immediately after crossing Tully Brook. The Bypass is .5 miles in length. (.1 mile shorter than the original M/M Trail route.)

Section 21-(Relocation) *Revision of M/M Trail Guide for relocation of trail on south side of Gap Mt.*

Change the sentence at the bottom of the italics section (not in italics) to read:

“Cross the swampy brook and at about 1.85 miles then cross a wide stone wall.

On page 81 note changes the paragraph following the italics.

Bear left beyond the stone wall. The trail continues steadily upward to cross an old woods road at 2.0 miles. The trail now slabs the side of the mountain bearing right to cross a stone wall at 2.2 miles then climbing through mixed forest to emerge at an open field with nice views back to the west at 2.4 miles.

The remainder of this paragraph beginning “From here to the Summit of Gap Mt.” is the same as in the original guidebook, but note that we have added .1 mile to the trail distances as the new trail is about that much longer than the old route.