

**Disclaimer and Cautions:** The Bay Circuit Alliance, as the advocate and promoter of the Bay Circuit Trail, expressly disclaims responsibility for injuries or damages that may arise from using the trail. We cannot guarantee the accuracy of maps or completeness of warnings about hazards that may exist. Portions of the trail are along roads or train tracks and involve crossing them. Users should pay attention to traffic and walk on the shoulder of roads facing traffic, not on the pavement, cross only at designated locations and use extreme care. Children and pets need to be closely monitored and under control.



**Map 2 - Rowley, Ipswich, Hamilton, Topsfield, Georgetown, Boxford - BAY CIRCUIT TRAIL route**

*(as shown on map 2 dated April 2015)  
(text updated April 2015)*

The BCT often follows pre-existing local trails; BCT-specific blazing is a work in progress and may be sparse in segments. We encourage you to review and carry corresponding local maps on your BCT walk.

**Trail Notices** regarding trail problems and closures are posted on the website at [www.baycircuit.org](http://www.baycircuit.org) under the Explore tab. Please review them for updates to the trail guide and maps.

***(North to South) PROSPECT HILL in ROWLEY to MIDDLETON RD in BOXFORD***

**A** N42 42.544 W70 53.478

0.0 **Prospect Hill** trailhead is on south side of Rte 133, 0.5 m west of jct Rte 1A (P=5). Proceed on dirt rd thru gate, past rd on right that ascends to summit. Follow white blazes.

0.2 Right at field, ascend to Prospect Hill summit.

0.3 Follow blazes to summit area (limited view down service road clearing); start descent to the south.

0.8 At bottom of hill, left on woods rd. Right; then quick left (rutted wet areas due to ATV use in this area).

1.0 Cross Dow Brook, then cross under power line; turn right. Continue on trail to Ipswich Club Homes Assoc land (conservation restriction), then into Linebrook Woods Conservation Area. Cross 3 new equestrian/foot bridges built by the Ipswich Bay Circuit Trail Committee and follow trail thru fields and past a kiosk to Linebrook Rd.

**B** N42 41.110 W70 53.816

2.5 **Willowdale State Forest** parking area (P=8). Tr jcts in this eastern part of **Willowdale State Forest** are numbered. BCT mainly follows wide woods roads, easy walking.

Enter **Willowdale State Forest** thru forest gate, parallel field to woods. Turn right after passing field and at #24 turn left. Straight at #4. Bear right at #5 and continue to junction at #6.

**C** N42 40.007 W70 54.318

4.4 Jct #6. Right at this major intersection. (See map point N for description of the alternative east/west route to this major intersection) Note: white blazed connector

trail from Bradley Palmer SP and the Discover Hamilton Trail comes in from left (this connector trail leads 0.5 mi to Topsfield Rd; parking available on Topsfield Rd at trail crossing) Many side trails enter the next stretch; from #6 follow blazes and go straight at #48, #47, #7, #8, and #9. Left at jct #10. Right at jct #11 off woods rd and proceed across swampy area, trail changes from woods road to single track.

5.8 Jct #12. Right to boardwalk across Howlett Brook. At East Street, turn right and follow for 100 ft to Rte 1, Newburyport Turnpike.

**D** N42 40.146 W70 55.576

6.2 East St at Rte 1 crossing (P=4) (**CAUTION: heavy traffic; although trail continues directly across the highway it is safer to proceed left to top of hill and cross there, then return along other side of Rte 1**) Enter the **Hood Pond section of Willowdale State Forest**.

**E** N42 40.117 W70 56.065

6.8 Cross Old Right Rd, right at #64, straight at #65, then right at #66 onto side tr and down steep hill. Cross footbridge.

7.6 Right onto Linebrook Rd for 200 ft, then before reaching Boxford Rd (Ipswich) turn left into woods. Cross second footbridge, and 0.2 mi to Boxford Rd.

F N42 40.316 W70 57.033

8.0 Boxford Rd in Ipswich. (Just before crossing Boxford Rd, left on side trail 0.12 mi to a scenic panoramic view of Hood Pond) Follow esker, right onto another esker, then down toward Boxford Rd in Rowley. Now in **Georgetown-Rowley State Forest**. \* Note part of the trail in Georgetown-Rowley State Forest is intermittently flooded and may be challenging to traverse.

9.5 Right onto Boxford Rd briefly; cross (Caution: blind curve) and go left uphill into woods. Go right, descend esker to cross foot/horse bridge at Mill River.

*CAUTION: as of fall 2013, the Mill River foot/horse bridge is in hazardous condition because of beaver activity and subsequent flooding. It is possible to cross in times of low water using caution and at your own risk, but should not be attempted when flooded. For temporary alternate route bypassing this crossing and most of Georgetown-Rowley SF:*

*At trail intersection #84 (at 9.5 miles) turn left on Boxford Rd. Proceed south into Boxford, taking a left back into the woods across from 62 Rowley Rd. Right at the next trail intersection, passing through open area on a woods road. Left on woods road near the main Cleaveland Farm gate. After a short distance, right on a trail which parallels Rowley Rd. and leads to the intersection of Rowley Rd and Camelot Rd. Turn left on Rowley Rd, right onto Rte 97,*

*cross I-95 bridge, continue 0.5 miles to Kelsey Rd, and turn left to resume following BCT. Temporary route is 2.1 miles.*

If able to cross the Mill River bridge go right, descend esker to cross foot/horse bridge and follow trail to intersections #28, #26, #27 and #22. (Note: west of #28, several wet depressions along this segment). At #22, turn left and follow the woods road to bridge crossing Rte. 95.

G N42 42.171 W70 57.992

11.1 Cross bridge over I-95 (Pingree Farm service road). Bear left at fork in woods rd.

11.8 Entrance to **Georgetown-Rowley State Forest** (P=10) at end of Pingree Farm Rd from Rte 97. Immediate sharp left after passing metal gate, continue on woods rd, then right at T jct.

13.2 Leave **Georgetown-Rowley State Forest**, go right on King Edwards Ct, and left on King George Dr.

H N42 41.218 W70 58.965

13.7 Cross Rte 97 onto Kelsey Rd. (Temporary route joins here)

13.9 200 ft past intersection with Trask Rd, turn left under power line (this is also the Border to Boston rail trail.) Turn right at post thru wooded lot, left onto Hemlock Rd and follow curve right; after 0.3 mi turn right onto Ipswich Rd, turn left onto Round Top Rd, at sign for Round Top, turn right, follow path around small hill with

Memorial to Salem Cadets, turn left onto second Round Top Rd, continue to Campground Rd, turn right to Chapman Way, to Lowe Pond (notice beaver lodge on right), cross boardwalk, continuing to Boren Lane at 15.1.

If the Lowe Pond boardwalk is flooded, by a beaver dam, retrace steps to BtoB rail-trail. Turn right onto BtoB rail-trail, continuing to Pond Street .3 mi, turn right. At intersection with Ipswich Rd follow Pond St to Depot Rd .4 mi, bearing right around sweeping turn, follow Depot Rd to Boren Lane .2 mi, turn right to connection with BC Trail from Chapman Ln .2 mi, continuing at 15.1

15.1 Right on Boren Lane and in 150 ft, turn left across the grass (between # 41 and 45 Boren Lane) and enter Chapman Woods. Follow antique woods rd (Chapman Way) to emerge at cemetery on left, down gravel driveway to the end where it meets Georgetown Rd.

15.8 Left onto Georgetown Rd (becomes Elm St); at intersection of Depot Rd (east) and Middleton Rd (west) to Boxford Center.

K N42 39.754 W70 59.864

16.0 **Boxford Center**. Boxford Bay Circuit Trail map & Boxford Community Store on right (food, restroom, parking (P=25+) available)

16.1 Left onto Topsfield Rd. In 0.4 mi turn right onto Cahoon Rd for 0.15 mi; then right into **Boy Scout Park** (P=25+). Cross both sections of the parking area, turn left just before the playground area into the

parking area and after passing the playground area, turn right and follow a gravel path to re-enter the woods. The playground area will be on your right as you enter the woods. Turn sharp left at field with pavilion and pass through campfire circle. Follow blazes to exit between 2 houses onto Dana Rd. (Note: if Boy Scouts are using park, bypass the park via Dana Rd)

- L** N42 38.712 W70 59.337
- 17.1 Right onto Dana Rd, then go thru the cul-de-sac and bear left onto the Dana Rd extension
- 17.2 At break in stone wall, right onto path to enter **Lockwood Forest**, proceed to Fish Brook, then bear left. With Fish Brook on right, in 0.2 mi enter field, proceed along right edge; re-enter woods directly across field from where you entered the field. Shortly, cross a stone retaining wall, bear right, pass old mill site on the right (note: horses not allowed along Fish Brook dam site trail)
- 17.8 Right onto Lockwood Lane for 400 ft crossing 2 bridges. Resume tr on left (south) side of the street. Walk around the gate and follow the tr along the west bank of Fish Brook. Continue straight at 4 way woods rd jct, bear right at fork, to stay on marked main trail up a hill, thru a wet spot, up a small hill past a kiosk (with BCT map) to Middleton Rd.

- M** N42 38.408 W70 59.447
- 18.5 Cross Middleton Rd. Enter **Bald Hill**

**Reservation** at steel gate (P=8), where map of reservation is posted.

*(Continued on Map 3)*

***(East to West) APPLETON FARMS and APPLETON FARMS GRASS RIDES, HAMILTON; to WILLOWDALE STATE FOREST TRAIL JUNCTION, IPSWICH***

*Currently this section of the trail starts at Appleton Farms and travels towards Willowdale State Forest. Nearest parking for beginning of current trail is located 0.3 mi north of the Rte 1A trailhead off Waldingfield Rd. Coming north on Rte 1A, left on Waldingfield Rd, and first left to enter the driveway for the parking area (P=20). From the parking lot, you can either follow Rte 1A south to the Rte 1A trailhead or follow the Appleton Farms trail south from the parking lot, intersect with the Bay Circuit Trail, and turn right. This trail section is marked with white blazes.*

*Alternate parking at New England Bio Labs 240 County Road Rte 1A across from Appleton Farms entrance (nearest Rte 1A mile marker is 74.6). Enter Bio Labs driveway, parking area is on the left. Walk back across Rte 1A and enter Appleton Farms driveway between stone pillars.*

- N** N42 39.123 W70 50.627
- 0.0 Enter **Appleton Farms** (dogs and bikes prohibited) on private driveway off Rte.1A.

Follow dirt road at 0.15 miles bear right following signs for Visitor Center and Farm Offices and proceed around Patch Field. At 0.25 mi bear left (right takes you to the Waldingfield) road parking location. If you are coming from this parking area you will join BCT here). Continue 0.35mi and take a right over the railroad track just shy of the Visitor Center. Cross RR Bridge and follow horse and walking trails, in 0.2mi take a left and proceed through The Great Pasture. In 0.5mi take sharp left and 0.2mi bear left again. Shortly you will exit at cut thru of stone wall. Leaving, **Appleton Farms** and enter **Grass Rides**. Distance from Rte. 1A to Grass Rides is 1.5mi.

- 1.5 **Appleton Farms Grass Rides** (horses prohibited, dogs and bikes allowed). Continue straight to offset trail junction at 0.1mi, (right 0.2mi to parking on Highland St) trail bears left then right pass two more trail junctions. The next junction in 0.2mi (The BCT now joins with the *Discover Hamilton Trail*, which enters in from the right) then in 0.25mi bear down and to the right crossing over a small stone bridge. Follow trail to Round Point granite monument another 0.2mi.
- 2.2 Six trails converge at the monument. Leave by the trail opposite from where you entered. Go 0.5 mi., to Cutler Rd. Leaving **Appleton Farms Grass Rides**. Distance from Appleton Farms to Cutler Road is 1.25mi.

**P** N42 38.005 W70 51.920

2.7 Cross Cutler Road, a left, then right into entrance for **Pingree Reservation / Harvard Forest** (Horses, dogs and bikes allowed). BCT and *Discover Hamilton Trail* continue together. In 0.25 mi trail bears left over Black Brook and left again up onto esker then down to 4-way trail junction 0.2mi then right again at next jct. Follow trail parallel to horse jumps for 1mi keeping left at double horse jump. Bear left around fence then right on dirt driveway, following driveway out to Highland Road. Leaving, **Pingree Reservation**. Distance from Cutler Road to Highland Road is 1.6mi.

**R** N42 38.206 W70 53.135

4.3 Cross Highland Road and right on bridle path paralleling Highland Rd. (Horses, dogs and bikes allowed). Cross dirt driveway at 0.15mi and continue on bridle path for 0.95mi paralleling Highland Rd over a bridge and bearing left into **Bradley Palmer State Park** continue straight to paved service road.

5.4 Straight across service road to junction of six trails with town stone boundary marker 0.15 mi, go right then straight through for another 0.25mi then left at junction for 0.1mi (soon passing a horse jump) then left on trail going uphill before entering an open field. Continue left up hill and straight down the other side to the base of Moon Hill field for 0.4mi. (shortcut straight up open field to top of hill marker then right)

for marked trail bear left at field and follow edge of field at tree line to next junction 0.1mi then right 0.15mi to summit of Moon Hill, then down to marker 27 at tree line and left along edge of field right at marker 26 into the wood. (There is also a shortcut from summit straight to marker 26) At bottom of hill 0.35mi from summit go straight across open area back into the woods and continue straight down to the Ipswich River. In 0.1mi *The Discover Hamilton Trail* exits right before reaching the footbridge. To continue on BCT cross, footbridge over Ipswich river to Topsfield Rd another 0.1mi. Leaving, **Bradley Palmer State Park**. Distance from Highland Road to Topsfield Road is 2.7mi.

**S** N42 39.629 W70 54.169

7.0 Topsfield Rd. Parking is available at trail crossing on shoulders and to west, an open area along the north side of road, (but do not block service road gate). At the crosswalk crosses Topsfield Road into **Willowdale State Forest** and go 0.5 mi. straight on past several trails to major junction #6.

**C** N42 40.007 W70 54.318

7.5 Bay Circuit 3-way jct in **Willowdale State Forest** eastern section (*see map 2 point C on this section of trail*). *Turn right to head to Plum Island, and left to head to Kingston Bay.*)

**Map 2 - Rowley, Ipswich, Hamilton, Topsfield, Georgetown, Boxford -**

## THE JEWELS

**Prospect Hill** (DCR; 90 acres) - This parcel, including the summit of Prospect Hill, was acquired by the state in 1995 with the help of the BCA and others. It is a glacial drumlin rising 267' above sea level, providing a limited view from Cape Ann to the Isles of Shoals in NH and Mt. Agamenticus in Maine. BCT passes over the summit. In 2014 a portion of this trail was improved with the help of the Essex County Trail Assoc. and the Appalachian Mountain Club.

**Ipswich Town and Water Dept. Lands** - Forested lands behind Dow Brook and Bull Brook Reservoirs make a very pleasant area for walking. Good view down Bull Brook Reservoir where the BCT crosses one end of it.

**Willowdale State Forest--Pine Swamp Section** (DCR; 2400 acres) - beautiful forest, eskers and wetlands, criss-crossed by numerous old carriage roads and trails. Getting lost is easy, but tr jcts have recently been marked with numbers. Map in 1999 edition of *BC Guide to Walks in and around Ipswich* shows numbers. Map:[www.nscyc.org/files/WillwdalePineSwamp.pdf](http://www.nscyc.org/files/WillwdalePineSwamp.pdf). BCT thru Willow-dale is described in BTA/BOLT and in Ipswich guides. The BCT 3-way junction where the Hamilton branch and the Rowley/Newburyport branch meet is in the center of the Pine Swamp section and is labeled with trail signs. A favorite area of equestrians. Bicyclists should use caution.

**Willowdale State Forest--Hood Pond Section**

(DCR; 2400 acres) - Some of the most spectacular glacial eskers on the BCT, as well as numerous kettle holes and vernal pools. From Linebrook Rd at Hood Pond to Rowley Rd the BCT runs mostly on top of an esker, very steep at points. Map: [www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/parks/trails/willowdale-hood-pond-cleaveland-farm.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/parks/trails/willowdale-hood-pond-cleaveland-farm.pdf)

**Cleaveland Farm State Forest** (DCR) - Acquired in 1997 with help from the former owners (the Haynes family), BTA/BOLT, Boxford Conservation Fund, and Essex Country Greenbelt. Contains many eskers and wetlands and helps protect a fragile environment. BCT runs along the northern edge for a short distance. Trail map is included in the new edition of the Boxford Bay Circuit guidebook. Also on DCR Willowdale map.

**Georgetown-Rowley State Forest** (DCR; 1,112 acres) - Split by I-95, but a footbridge connects the two sides and carries the BCT over the highway. Certain trails are open to ORV's and snowmobiles, including part of the BCT. Impressive eskers near the eastern edge. Map: [www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/parks/trails/georgetown-rowley.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/parks/trails/georgetown-rowley.pdf) and in BTA/BOLT guidebook to Boxford trails

**Harlan P. Kelsey Arboretum** (Horticultural Society of Boxford; 4.2 acres) - protected remnant of a 500 acre nursery with many plants brought from No. Carolina. Paths thru former show garden. Visitor center and parking to be developed. P along Hemlock Rd (on BCT)

**Chapman Lane** - Beautiful views; enjoy this

old cart lane to the center of Boxford. Part of the Lane has been permanently protected by a BTA/BOLT land purchase

**Boxford Historic District** - BCT passes thru; many fine old buildings, described in BTA/BOLT guidebook to Boxford trails

**Lockwood Forest** - BCT goes thru the Lockwood/Moore estate conservation land and over private land protected by a conservation restriction. Views of the pond on Fish Brook, rhododendrons and azaleas. Respect owners' privacy by keeping to south side of field near pond. Historic forge and mill sites

**Appleton Farms Grass Rides and Appleton Farms**, Ipswich (TTOR; 917 acres) - wide vistas and many broad formal trails, originally intended for equestrians and horse-drawn carriages (horses and dogs banned from various areas. Check TTOR website for rules and more info). Detour off the BCT up the hill to the north edge of the property and an extensive view over Appleton Farms, in continuous cultivation since the 1600's. It will be continued as a working farm. A master use plan is being drawn. It is easy to get lost in the Grass Rides. Follow the red TTOR disks that mark the BCT/Discover Hamilton Trail here, or obtain the detailed map for sale by TTOR. When you get to the monument (the setting will surprise you), note on which trail you entered the clearing. The BCT continues on the trail directly opposite. Popular for cross-country skiing, but the small parking area is often full on weekends; cars parked along Cutler Rd will be towed. Try parking at Bradley Palmer S.F.

and skiing or walking BCT to Grass Rides and back

**Harvard Forest** in Hamilton - Harvard University owns a tract on both sides of the MBTA rail line; contains some unusual tree species. For more details see the *Discover Hamilton* trail guide available from the Hamilton Conservation Commission. The BCT passes through a small corner of this forest

**Pingree Reservation** (Essex County Greenbelt) - acquired recently as a gift from the Pingree family. It is an important part of the protection of Black Brook and provides a trail link to Bradley Palmer State Forest. Several trails, some on eskers, but no complete trail map yet

**Bradley Palmer State Park** (DCR; 721 acres)- high hills, a wading pool, a steeplechase course and the Ipswich River flowing along one side. BCT/Discover Hamilton Trail winds through it. Map available free at park hq and online: [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr) Click on "trails". Trails are also shown on *Discover Hamilton* trail map and *BC Guide to Walks in Ipswich*. 978-887-5931

**Ipswich River** - wonderful flat-water canoeing. The IRWA publishes an excellent canoeing map and occasionally leads canoe trips. Canoes can be rented at Audubon's Ipswich Sanctuary and from Foote Brothers on Topsfield Rd

**Willowdale Mill** (Essex County Greenbelt) - at the north-east corner of Bradley Palmer on Winthrop St; can be reached from BCT by a lovely trail along the Ipswich River downstream from the footbridge where the BCT crosses

### **Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary**

(Massachusetts Audubon; 2,267 acres) - 10 miles of trails, including esker trail overlooking Wenham Swamp and an incredible rock garden. Canoes for rent in summer; limited camping on islands by prior arrangement. Courses and birding walks offered for adults and children. Trail map available for loan or purchase. Small admission fee for non-members. Closed Mondays. Horses, dogs, bicycling prohibited. Access from Perkins Row, off Rte 97 south of Rte 1 jct 978-887-9264 <[www.massaudubon.org](http://www.massaudubon.org)>

**Julia Bird Reservation** (Essex County Greenbelt) - A little-known but beautiful reservation on the Ipswich River downstream from Bradley Palmer. Steep banks overlook the river. Limited parking off Waldingfield Rd west of the RR bridge

### **Map 2 - Rowley, Ipswich, Hamilton, Topsfield, Georgetown and Boxford - FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Trail marking:** BCT is marked with dollar-bill sized white blazes everywhere except in Appleton Farm Grass Rides.

**Trail uses:** BCT and other trails are generally open to all non-motorized uses and closed to all motorized uses with a few exceptions. Horses are not permitted in Appleton Farms Grass Rides nor on some trails in Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary at certain times. Dogs prohibited in Ipswich River Sanctuary. A

recent change in DCR policy has prohibited ATV use in Georgetown-Rowley SF. Snowmobiles permitted on certain trails in Bradley Palmer SP and Georgetown-Rowley SF. See DCR maps for details. Most trails are suitable for cross-country skiing. Most are open to mountain bikes, but the glacial eskers are fragile. Bike with care with the land in mind. Equestrians are frequent on most, and mountain bikers in particular need to be careful not to frighten the horses.

#### **Maps and trail guides:**

- Relevant *USGS topo map* is 7.5 x 15 Ipswich
- **BTA/BOLT Guide to the Bay Circuit and to other Walks in Boxford** (BTA/BOLT-2014) includes an excellent detailed guide to the BCT from Willowdale S.F. to North Andover. Map also available of the trails in Boxford, Georgetown/Rowley and North Andover. See [www.btabolt.org](http://www.btabolt.org) for current sources and prices. 978-887-7031
- **The Bay Circuit Guide to Walks in and around Ipswich**, (Ipswich BCT Committee) includes a detailed guide to the BCT from Prospect Hill, Rowley to Rowley Rd in Boxford between Willowdale S.F. and Georgetown-Rowley S.F. Available at many locations including town clerk's office, library, stores
- **Discover Hamilton Trail** map and trail description (Ham.Cons.Com). Free at Hamilton Town Hall on Rt. 1A (577 Bay Rd)
- Essex Country Greenbelt sells a guidebook of their properties online: [www.ecga.org](http://www.ecga.org)
- Bradley Palmer, Willowdale, Georgetown-

Rowley, Cleaveland Farm, Boxford SF, Prospect Hill (DCR) **Maps** available at headquarters; some also online [www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/trails.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/trails.htm).

- Ipswich River **canoeing map** sold online: [ipswichriver.org](http://ipswichriver.org)
- Maps online at Essex County Trails Assn [www.ectaonline.org](http://www.ectaonline.org)
- **Massachusetts Audubon** maps online [www.massaudubon.org](http://www.massaudubon.org). Maps online.
- **Pingree Reservation**. Map online at Essex County Greenbelt Association: <http://www.ectaonline.org/wp-content/uploads/PingreeReservation.pdf>
- **Appleton Farms**. Map online at: [www.thetrustees.org/assets/documents/places-to-visit/trailmaps/Appleton-Farms-Trail-Map.pdf](http://www.thetrustees.org/assets/documents/places-to-visit/trailmaps/Appleton-Farms-Trail-Map.pdf)

#### **Local trail and land/water protection organizations**

**Mass. Dept. of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)** administers Bradley Palmer SP, Willowdale, Georgetown-Rowley, Cleaveland Farm and Boxford SF, and Prospect Hill. Headquarters are in the northern part of Bradley Palmer SP, off Asbury St, 978-887-5931 [www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/trails.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/trails.htm)

**The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR)**, the country's oldest land trust with 111 outstanding reservations and conserve 45,000 acres in Massachusetts, including 6 thru which BCT passes; own Appleton Farms Grass Rides and the Crane properties in Ipswich. Quarterly newsletter to members. [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org)

**Essex County Greenbelt Assn** own or hold conservation restrictions on many properties, particularly wetlands. BCT passes through Pingree Reservation. Monthly hikes. [www.ecga.org](http://www.ecga.org) Quarterly newsletter. 978-768-7241

**Boxford Trails Assn/Boxford Open Land Trust (BTA/BOLT)** has been a prime mover and steward of the BCT and other trails in Boxford and surrounding towns. The group owns or holds conservation restrictions on several open spaces. Weekly hikes, 9:15 Tuesdays, annual equestrian events, quarterly newsletter. Office on second floor above Boxford Community Store (978-887-7031). Website at [www.btabolt.org](http://www.btabolt.org).

**Ipswich Bay Circuit Trail Committee** has been instrumental in establishing BCT from Rowley thru Willowdale SF, now working to extend Appleton Branch of BCT to Crane Beach. New members welcome. Meet 2nd Tuesday at Town Hall in Historical Commission office at 7:30

**Hamilton Conservation Commission** developed "Discover Hamilton Trail," part of which coincides with BCT

**Horticultural Society of Boxford**, working to protect and improve the Harlan P. Kelsey Arboretum. POBox 142, Boxford 01921

**Massachusetts Audubon** protects the Ipswich River Sanctuary and 44 other properties. They

offer classes and walks for adults and children. Beautiful bi-monthly magazine and reduced admission fees for members 1-800-AUDUBON [www.massaudubon.org](http://www.massaudubon.org) Maps online.

**Ipswich River Watershed Assn (IRWA)** works to protect water quality and enhance recreational use of the Ipswich River and tributaries. Organize occasional canoe trips and events. Quarterly newsletter. 978-356-8939, [ipswichriver.org](http://ipswichriver.org)

**Essex County Trail Assn (ECTA)** - mostly equestrians, but also hikers and mountain bikers. Maintain trails including Bradley Palmer SP and Pingree Reservation. Conduct rides and occasional hikes. Quarterly newsletter 978-526-4849

**New England Mountain Bike Assn(NEMBA)** sponsors many rides, including some in this area; help maintain trails in Boxford SF Monthly newsletter 800-576-3622

**Charles River Wheelmen** - very active group of bicyclists that lead rides of varying lengths throughout Bay Circuit area. Excellent website lists rides, other information, and membership info. [www.crw.org](http://www.crw.org)

**North Shore Bikeways Coalition** promotes road and mountain biking, as well as development of bikeways, including proposed Border to Boston Bikeway, which might follow the abandoned rail line in Boxford and

Topsfield.  
[www.masspaths.org/bikeways/facguide/mapnprio.htm](http://www.masspaths.org/bikeways/facguide/mapnprio.htm)

Greater Newbury's **Friends Of Our Trails (FOOT)** merged with the Coastal Trails Coalition. Info on the website: [www.coastaltrails.org/j1/](http://www.coastaltrails.org/j1/)

Informal **hiking group** meets Wed. 9:30 am fall to spring, weather permitting, at Ipswich Town Wharf. For info phone 978-356-5823

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