



Why This Place Matters: From glacial ice to flowing water, from towering boulders to busy beavers, the Calitri, Spring Street, and Moose Pond Conservation Areas tell a story of natural forces working together over time. Every visit offers a chance to experience Pelham's natural history—and help protect it for the future.



Trails & Topography: The trail system winds through rolling hills, rocky outcrops, wetlands, and quiet forest interior. Trails are natural-surface and uneven in places, with roots, rocks, and seasonal wet areas.

Named Trails:

Yellow Trail – approx. 1.8 miles (loop sections & connectors) *Difficulty: Moderate*
The primary route through all three conservation areas, connecting Moose Pond, Dyno Rock, and interior forest.

Orange Trail – approx. 0.3 miles *Difficulty: Easy to Moderate*
A short connector within the Calitri area, ideal for shorter outings or loop options.

Blue Trail – approx. 0.2 miles *Difficulty: Easy*
A short loop near Dyno Rock, well suited for families and casual walks.

Choose Your Route

- **Short Walk (0.2–0.5 mi):** Explore the Blue Trail and nearby Yellow Trail sections
- **Moderate Loop (1.0–1.5 mi):** Combine Yellow and Orange Trails around Calitri and Moose Pond
- **Extended Hike (1.8+ mi):** Follow longer stretches of the Yellow Trail through all three areas

Distances are approximate.

Sponsored by: Pelham Pathways Inc.

Have an idea we should consider?

Want to join our active team? Reach out to us

Email: Pelhampathways@gmail.com

Web: Pelhampathways.com

Community Trail Coalition Presents Calitri Family Conservation Area Moose Pond Conservation Area Spring Street Town Forest



Located off **Spring Street, Pelham NH**: Look for parking areas directly on Spring Street

Conservation Area open dawn to dusk

Permitted: Walking, Bicycling - including e-bikes, XC Skiing and Snowshoeing, Pets (leashed), Geocaching, Hunting (in-season and according to NH law) -On Spring St Town Forest ONLY Snowmobiling (only on designated trails)

A Landscape Shaped by Ice, Water, and Time

The Calitri, Moose Pond, and Spring Street Conservation Areas form a connected landscape of forests, wetlands, and rolling terrain along Pelham's eastern edge. Together, these protected parcels preserve a natural corridor shaped by ice, water, and time.

Thousands of years ago, glaciers sculpted this land, leaving behind rocky soils, wetlands, gentle hills, and scattered boulders as the ice melted. Water collected in low areas, forming Moose Pond and surrounding wetlands that continue to support diverse wildlife. Later, portions of the land were used for farming and timber harvest—common practices in Pelham's early history—before forests gradually regenerated.

Today, these conservation areas are carefully managed to protect natural habitats while offering quiet, low-impact recreational opportunities. Winding trails lead visitors through a landscape where geology, ecology, and history are closely connected.



Dyno Rock: A Giant from the Ice Age: One of the most striking features of the Calitri Conservation Area is **Dyno Rock**, a massive boulder known as a *glacial erratic*. Unlike the bedrock beneath it, Dyno Rock was carried here by a glacier and deposited when the ice melted. Its size and isolated location make it a vivid reminder of the immense forces that once shaped Pelham's landscape—and a favorite spot to pause and imagine the land buried beneath ice.

Did You Know? Glaciers acted like slow-moving conveyor belts. Some rocks found here traveled miles before being dropped in their present locations when the ice retreated.

Can You Spot...?

- Large boulders sitting alone that seem “out of place”
- Rocky soil mixed with sand and small stones (called *glacial till*)
- Low, wet areas where meltwater once pooled and still shapes the land today

Observe Wildlife Respectfully

- Enjoy bobcats from a distance—never approach or attempt to feed wildlife.
- Do not follow or corner an animal for photos.
- If you see a bobcat, remain calm, give it space, and allow it a clear escape route.

If You See a Bobcat in Your Yard

- A bobcat passing through is normal and usually temporary.
- Never try to haze or trap a bobcat yourself.
- Report injured or concerning wildlife behavior to **New Hampshire Fish & Game**.

Invasive Species: A Growing Challenge in New England Forests

Invasive species are **non-native plants and pests** that spread quickly and harm the ecosystems they invade. Under New Hampshire law, they are defined as non-native organisms that cause—or are likely to cause—environmental, economic, or public-health harm. Once established, invasive plants can overtake forests, wetlands, and meadows, **crowding out native wildflowers, shrubs, and young trees**, reducing habitat for wildlife, and diminishing the natural beauty of conservation lands. New England forests are especially vulnerable because many invasive species grow faster and reproduce more aggressively than native plants. Some even alter soil chemistry or disrupt beneficial soil fungi, making it harder for native species to survive.

How Invasives Harm Forests : Invasive species:

- Outcompete native plants for light, water, and nutrients
- Alter soil conditions and forest structure
- Reduce food and shelter for wildlife
- Spread rapidly along disturbed areas such as trail edges



Glossy Buckthorn

Managing Invasives in Pelham: Pelham Pathways promotes **science-based, wildlife-friendly management**, including:

- **Hand-pulling** small plants when soil is moist
- **Cut-and-cover or smothering** methods for woody invasives
- **Targeted herbicide use** by trained volunteers when necessary



Bittersweet

These practices are guided by state conservation partners and shared through volunteer training and community education.

Bobcat Babies (Kittens!)

- **Breeding season:** late winter
- **Kittens born:** April–May
- **Litter size:** usually 2–4 kittens
- Mothers raise kittens alone, teaching them to hunt and survive through the summer and fall.

If you ever see a kitten alone, the mother is often nearby hunting. It's best to observe from a distance and leave wildlife undisturbed.



Looking Ahead: The Future of Bobcats: Bobcats have shown they can rebound when given space and protection. Their future depends on:

- Preserving forests and wildlife corridors
- Reducing road impacts
- Learning to coexist with wildlife

Healthy bobcat populations help maintain balance in the forest—benefiting many other plants and animals that share these habitats.

DID YOU KNOW? Bobcats get their name from their short “bobbed” tail—perfect for balance and quick turns while hunting.

CAN YOU SPOT...?

- Cat-like tracks in mud or snow (round prints, usually no claw marks)
- Scratch marks on logs or tree trunks
- A nighttime visitor on a trail camera

Living with Bobcats in Pelham—Simple ways to coexist

Bobcats are naturally shy and avoid people. Conflicts are rare, and a few simple precautions help keep both wildlife and residents safe.

Protect Pets

- Keep cats indoors, especially at dusk and dawn when bobcats are most active.
- Walk dogs on a leash and avoid letting small dogs roam unattended.
- Bring pet food inside—food left outdoors can attract wildlife.

Safeguard Chickens & Small Livestock

- Use sturdy, fully enclosed coops with secure latches.
- Cover runs with wire or netting to prevent access from above.
- Close chickens in at night, when predators are most active.

Forests, Water & Wildlife

Pelham's conservation lands protect a living system where forests, water, and wildlife are closely connected. From towering trees to quiet wetlands, every part of the landscape plays a role in keeping the ecosystem healthy and resilient.

Mixed Woodlands: The forests here are a blend of hardwoods and evergreens, creating year-round habitat for wildlife. Maples and oaks provide shade, fall color, and vital food sources such as acorns and seeds. Tall pines and hemlocks offer shelter during winter months, protecting birds and mammals from wind and snow. Closer to the ground, layers of ferns, mosses, shrubs, and wildflowers thrive where sunlight filters through the canopy. This layered forest structure supports a wide variety of species and helps stabilize soil, retain moisture, and slow erosion.

Did You Know? Fallen leaves are not litter—they are food. As leaves break down, they return nutrients to the soil, feeding insects, fungi, and microorganisms that help new plants grow.

Wetlands & Moose Pond: Low-lying areas within the Calitri Conservation Area collect water from rain and melting snow, forming wetlands and Moose Pond. These wetlands act like natural sponges—slowing water flow, reducing flooding, filtering runoff, and improving water quality before it moves downstream. Wetlands are among the most productive habitats in Pelham. They provide breeding grounds for amphibians, shelter for insects and small mammals, and feeding areas for birds. Even during dry periods, wetlands help store moisture and support surrounding forests.



Did You Know? Wetlands help protect nearby communities by absorbing excess water during heavy rains and slowly releasing it back into the environment.

Wildlife You May Encounter: These conservation lands provide habitat for many species common to southern New Hampshire. Songbirds fill the woods with calls in spring and summer, while owls and woodpeckers are often heard before they are seen. White-tailed deer, small mammals, frogs, turtles, and countless insects all depend on the forests and wetlands for food and shelter. Wildlife sightings may be brief, but signs of animals are often everywhere—tracks, feathers, chewed branches, nests, and scat tell the story of who lives here.

Did You Know? Most wildlife is more active at dawn and dusk. Moving quietly and pausing often increases your chances of seeing or hearing animals.

Beavers of Moose Pond: Nature's Engineers

Moose Pond provides ideal habitat for beavers. Though they are mostly active at night, their work is easy to spot. By cutting small trees and building dams and lodges, beavers slow moving water and expand wetland areas.

Why Beaver Activity Matters

- Creates habitat for frogs, birds, fish, and insects
- Improves water quality by filtering sediment
- Helps reduce flooding by slowing water flow

Signs of Beavers

- Chewed tree stumps with angled cuts
- Fallen branches near the water
- Flooded or pooled areas
- Muddy banks or smooth entry paths
- Dams or lodges made of sticks and mud

DID YOU KNOW? Beaver teeth never stop growing! Chewing wood keeps their teeth the right length.

CAN YOU SPOT...?

- Pencil-sharpened tree stumps
- Smooth muddy slides where beavers enter the water
- Still water backed up behind a small dam

Please observe from a distance. Beavers are wild animals—stay on trails and do not disturb dams or lodges.



Pelham Bobcats -*Quiet neighbors of our forests*

Bobcats are elusive, mostly nocturnal wildcats that live throughout New Hampshire—including the woodlands and wetlands around Pelham. Rarely seen but very much present, bobcats are a sign of a healthy, balanced ecosystem.

A Look Back: From “Dangerous” to Protected:

In the 1800s and much of the 1900s, bobcats were widely considered dangerous predators and a threat to livestock and game animals. As a result, they were hunted and trapped heavily, and their numbers declined. A major shift occurred in **1989**, when **New Hampshire Fish & Game** ended bobcat hunting and trapping and classified bobcats as a **protected species**. This decision allowed bobcat populations to slowly recover across the state.



Bobcats Today in New Hampshire: Thanks to protection and improved wildlife management, bobcats are making a comeback. Biologists estimate **up to about 1,400 bobcats statewide**, though exact numbers are difficult to measure because bobcats are solitary, secretive, and wide-ranging. You may never see one—but that doesn't mean they aren't nearby.

What Do Bobcats Eat? Bobcats are carnivores and skilled hunters. Their diet helps keep other wildlife populations in balance and includes:

- Rabbits and hares
- Mice, voles, and squirrels
- Birds
- Frogs, reptiles, and insects
- Occasionally young deer (fawns)

Where Bobcats Live: Bobcats thrive in areas that provide **cover, prey, and quiet space**, such as:

- Mixed hardwood and pine forests
- Wetland edges and wooded swamps
- Rocky ledges and stone outcrops



They do not build dens. Instead, they use natural shelter such as brush piles, hollow logs, and fallen trees—especially when raising young.

How Long Do Bobcats Live?

- **In the wild:** typically up to **12 years**
- **In captivity:** can live **20–30+ years**

CALITRI
CONSERVATION AREA

A wooden signpost stands in a forest. The top sign is green with white text that reads "SPRING STREET" and "TOWN FOREST". The bottom sign is white with black text that reads "OPEN DAWN TO DUSK". A large rock is in the foreground.



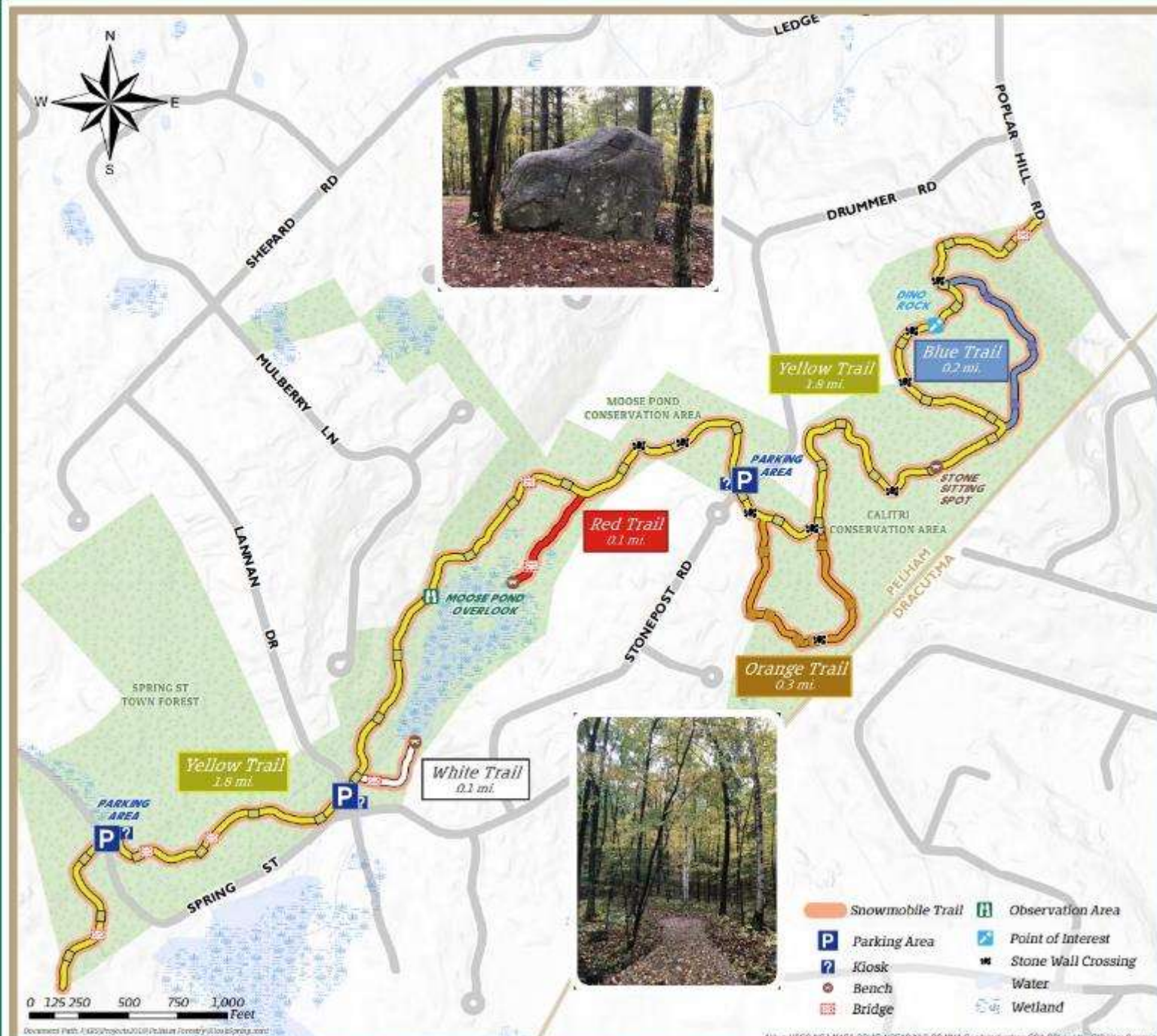
- Walking
- Bicycling – including e-bikes
- XC Skiing and Snowshoeing
- Pets (leashed)
- Hunting (in-season and according to NH law)
- Snowmobiling (only on designated trails)

OHRV
Camping
Fires



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For mobile navigation, download the ESRI Field Maps app to your device and search for PELHAM TRAILS

Map by NERPC

¹ Abbreviations: NGA: NAGA, CGAG, NCCAG, NAG, CG, NMA, Genoblastentum, CGA, CGG and the CGG sites. Correlation