

# ALP SPRING 2025 HIKING COURSE

**Presenters:** Kevin Gough & Paula Jones of the Traprock Ridge Land Conservancy (TRLC).

This course will explore interesting natural sites in our area. Hikes will be “easy” to “easy/moderate.” Participants should be able to walk two to three miles over level or slightly uneven terrain; we will try to keep steep hills to a minimum. Two or three hikes will be held, depending on the weather. Details as to directions, meeting places, dog rules, etc. will be provided by e-mail before the hike. All hikes begin at 9:30 am on Fridays.

## **Friday, April 11: Stony Brooke Park, Suffield**

This 70-acre park was donated to Suffield by Charles S. Bissell in 1968 for conservation. We will do an easy 1.5 mile loop along Muddy Brook and Stony Brook to get acclimated for spring hiking.

## **Friday, April 25: McLean Game Refuge, Granby**

McLean Game Refuge is a sprawling 4,400-acre tract located mostly in Granby. Established by former Connecticut U.S. Senator and Governor George McLean and expanded over the years, the refuge has over 20 miles of trails covering diverse habitats and geological features. This hike will explore some trails accessed from the Barn Door Hills parking area (rather than the more popular Rte. 10/202 entrance).

## **Friday, May 16: Valley Falls Park, Vernon (3-week gap.)**

Valley Falls is a Vernon town park with several miles of trails as well as ruins of textile mills and an early trout hatchery. We likely will do a 2-mile or slightly longer loop on the Railroad Brook Trail.

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We are always interested in your suggestions for hikes or walks of interest and will consider all suggestions for coming semesters, so let us know.

Thanks,

Kevin & Paula

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