

Branford Walkers January 2025 Schedule

All Branford Trail hikes meet at 8:45 am at the starting point, where we will start hiking at 9 am. Questions about individual hikes should be addressed to the leader.
 Sorry, no dogs are allowed.

<p>Jan 3</p>	<p>The Preserve, Westbrook . Going north on I95 from Branford, take exit 65, Rt 153 Westbrook. At traffic light, go left on Rt 153 toward Essex. (Going south on I95, take exit 65, Rt 153 Westbrook, turn right on Rt 153 toward Essex.) Drive 2.01 miles. Parking lot for The Preserve is on the right. There's a dark brown wooden sign for The Preserve and the parking lot is fairly large. GPS: 1278 Essex Road, Westbrook. Sue Frechette 860-227-6520</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Local hike in Branford, starting at Pat Johnson's house, 106 Sunset Hill, Branford. Meet at 9 am to walk starting around 9:30, followed by picnic at Pat Johnson's. You can choose not to hike but instead you can help Pat prepare the food. You can also choose to hike only and leave before the picnic starts, in which case there is, of course, no charge. You are welcome to bring any food to share or for yourself. Beer also available for an extra \$1/bottle. There will be a food charge of \$9, payable in cash at the picnic. No IOUs, checks, credit cards, debit cards, Venmo or other modern means of payment. Please do not come unless you have been fully vaccinated and boosted. Geoffrey Smith 203-488-3352</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>Rocky Neck, Niantic. I95 exit 72. Turn right at end of ramp. Go to end (0.7 miles). Turn left onto Rt 156/ North Main St. Go 500 feet and turn right into park. Go around the traffic circle to the last right and follow road to beach parking. We'll meet at the far end of the parking lot. GPS: 244 West Main St, Niantic. Sylvia Lack 203-624-1126</p>
<p>24</p>	<p>West Rock Ridge, New Haven. Park at the back of the lot of Elm City Montessori School, 495 Blake St. New Haven. Hike the east side of West Rock Ridge (Wintergreen Creek drainage) - a one way hike from Lake Wintergreen to Westville. We will shuttle from Westville to Lake Wintergreen and walk back down to Westville, 4 miles, about 2.5 hrs. We will NOT be walking the cliffside blue trail but a mixture of lesser known trails allowing us to climb about 220 ft up to Judges Cave and walk back down from the ridge to return to Westville There are a few smaller climbs along the route with some road walking. Most of the trail is in the woods. If the trails are icy we will do an alternate walk along the West River starting from Westville. Lynne Bonnett, text 203 376-5714 with any questions</p>
<p>31</p>	<p>Lake Hammonasset, Killingworth. From the traffic circle at Rt 80 and Rt 81, go west for 2.4 miles, or about 1.25 miles past Chatfield Hollow State Park, on the right. From traffic circle at Rt 80 and Rt 79, go east for 1.5 miles. The entrance to Lake Hammonasset is 0.25 miles past the Killingworth town line, on the left. For GPS, use 551 Rte 80, Killingworth, CT. There is a gate at the entrance which may be locked if you get there early. Joint hike with New Haven Hiking Club. Geoffrey Smith 203-488-3352</p>