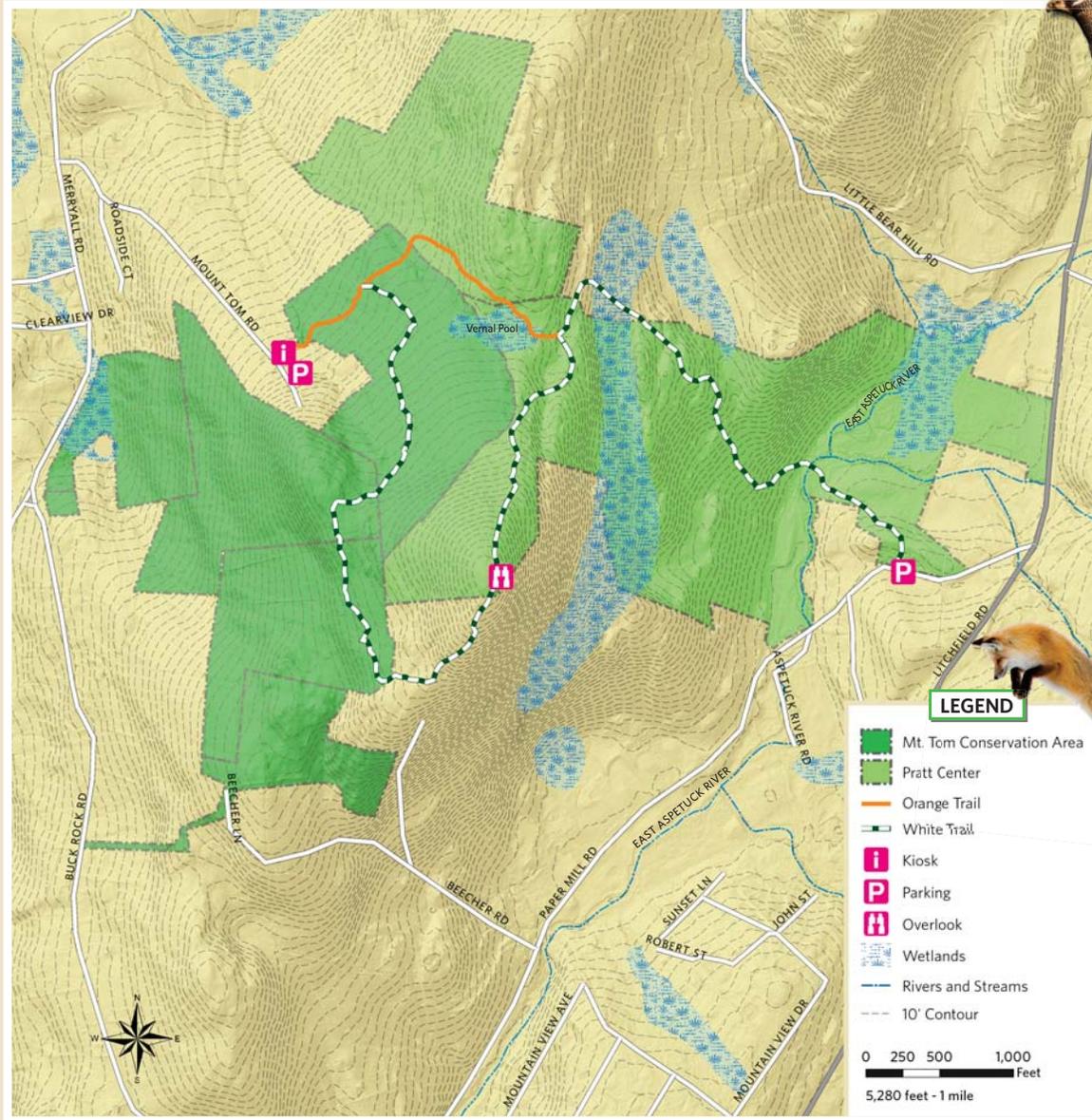


WELCOME TO MOUNT TOM PRESERVE

The Mount Tom trail system is a 1.9-mile loop, which includes the Orange and White trails. The hike is moderately difficult with a steep climb to the Mount Tom summit. The summit can be reached from either direction and you will enjoy views to the east from 1,040 feet. Alternatively, follow the Orange trail to the trail connection to Pratt Nature Center, a 1.25-mile hike one-way.

Mount Tom is a prominent topographic landmark that extends from Northville to Merryall in New Milford. The New Milford Youth Agency was instrumental in creating this trail system in the 1980s and still works with us today. In 2018, with funding from the Connecticut Community Foundation, the parking area was expanded, and the Youth Agency built this kiosk and bridges near the trailhead.



Over the years, Weantinoge has acquired several major tracts of land and conservation easements adjacent to Mount Tom Preserve, such that over 135 acres are permanently protected. Along with the 205-acre Pratt Nature Center, which connects to Weantinoge's 311-acre Smyrski Farm Preserve, this conservation area provides a beautiful, rugged, forested haven for animals to roam just 10 minutes from downtown New Milford. These large, protected, wild swaths help our streams run clean, provide habitat for wildlife, and are wonderful areas for people to enjoy recreation and peaceful reflection.

ENJOY AND PROTECT

No Littering, Camping, Hunting, Fishing, or Motorized Vehicles

WILDLIFE

Along the trail, you will encounter intermittent streams, mixed hardwoods, and a large vernal pool which is a seasonal woodland pond that collects water in winter and spring. Vernal pools are home to a variety of amphibians and invertebrates. In the spring, look and listen closely for peeper frogs, toads, tadpoles, salamanders, and damselflies.



ABOUT WEANTINOGE

Founded in 1965, Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust, Inc. benefits the public through the conservation of natural areas, fish and wildlife, and working farmland throughout Northwest Connecticut. Weantinoge is the largest land trust in the State of Connecticut. Protected lands include wilderness areas, working farms, critical watershed lands, streams and ponds, and public preserves with hiking trails. Weantinoge is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization supported entirely through donors like you, grants, volunteers, and corporate sponsors.

Learn more at weantinoge.org.

