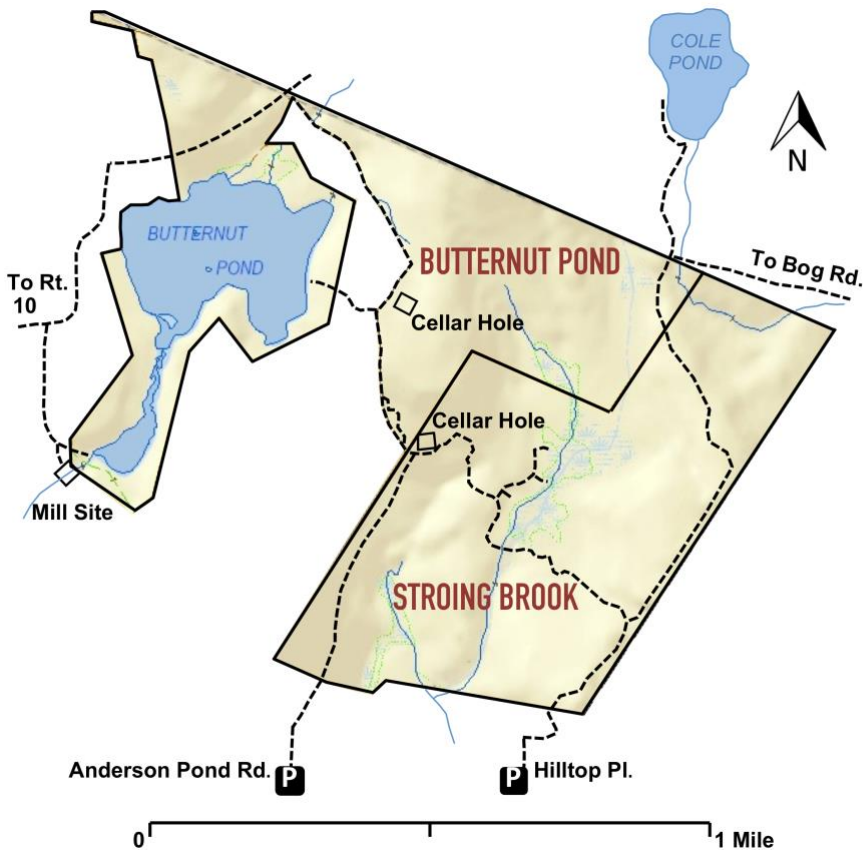


GRANTHAM NORTHEAST FORESTS



Grantham Northeast Forests

Butternut Pond Forest's 173 acres surround most of Butternut Pond and abut Enfield's Henry Laramie Wildlife Management Area to the north. The remote, 44-acre pond is the third largest in Grantham. From the west, it can be reached from Route 10 through an I-89 underpass south of Grass Pond near Exit 14. From the south, there is trailhead parking at the end of Anderson Pond Road in Eastman, with a free parking permit obtainable from the South Cove Activities Center off Road Round the Lake. The Butternut Trail is part of what was once known as the Enfield Center Highway. A short side-trail leads to an overlook from the east side of Butternut Pond. 150 yards north of that turn-off is a cellar hole of the James Smith farmstead. He represented the town of Grantham in the General Court of New Hampshire for ten terms. His final year in office, 1825, was the year he sold the farm to the Shakers from Enfield, who grazed their sheep in his pastures but never occupied the house. The pond was once dammed for the Cobb and Cheney Sawmill operation, and the mill ruins can be reached by a trail on the west side of the pond.

While the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department owns the Butternut Forest, it only holds the conservation easement on the adjacent, Eastman-owned, 200-acre **Stroing Brook Forest**, which is closed to motorized vehicles. In addition to the Anderson Pond Road cul-de-sac, there is parking at Hilltop Place with an Eastman permit. From there, one can take Eastman's Cole Pond trail to the border where it joins Enfield's trail coming up from Bog Road to the pond. The Stroing Brook Trail connects the Cole Pond Trail with the Butternut Trail, crossing the Stroing Brook in between. Nearby, a Wetland Spur provides views over the marsh. Where the Stroing Brook Trail intersects the Butternut Trail, are the foundation remains of a farmstead established by Robert Emerson in 1830. Although Eastman doesn't allow hunting within its borders, it's best to wear blaze orange when hiking in Stroing Brook Forest during season.



View from Overlook
in Butternut Pond Forest



Blue Flag Iris seen from Wetland Spur in
Stroing Brook Forest



Emerson Farm Cellar Holes
in Stroing Brook Forest