

## History & Ecology

Mud Pond Conservation Area consists of 141 acres of land that includes a peat bog pond and surrounding upland forests. The land was transferred to the Town from The Nature Conservancy and the Yandell family in 1990 and has become one of the most popular destinations for nature-loving Williston residents over the years.

Mud Pond, with an average depth of less than 10 feet, has characteristics of both a bog and a fen—acidic and neutral water chemistry, and is one of only two examples of this type of pond in the state of Vermont.

The pond is ringed with a floating mat of sphagnum moss and supports many species of sensitive bog plants. If you are lucky, you may see one of the many wild creatures that also use the pond area, from the rare four-toed salamander to red fox or the occasional moose.

There is a short hike along a marked primitive path which will take you from the parking area out to Mud Pond and the observation platform. The platform marks the end of the trail. Just recently, a trail connecting the Oak Hill Road side of Mud pond to Five Tree Hill was cut

Please stay on the platforms while enjoying the view of the pond - the bog plants are very sensitive to being crushed underfoot.

## Rules of the Trail

- Pack OUT what you packed IN
- No camping or fires
- No motorized vehicles
- Dogs must be on leash or under voice control
- No mountain biking
- Please park in designated parking area
- Hunting/ Trapping Prohibited



*Sphagnum Moss, a common bog species*

On your hike, you will observe a large number of downed trees throughout the park. High winds from a storm in December 2010 caused severe damage, uprooting many trees. They have been cut and removed from the trail for your safety.



Questions or Comments?

Town of Williston  
Conservation Commission  
7900 Williston Road  
Williston, VT 05495  
(802)878-6704

# Mud Pond Conservation Area



## Directions:

From the 4-way stop in Williston Village, go south on Oak Hill road for 0.3 miles and turn left onto South Road. Follow South Road for approximately 2 miles and take a right onto Mud Pond Road.

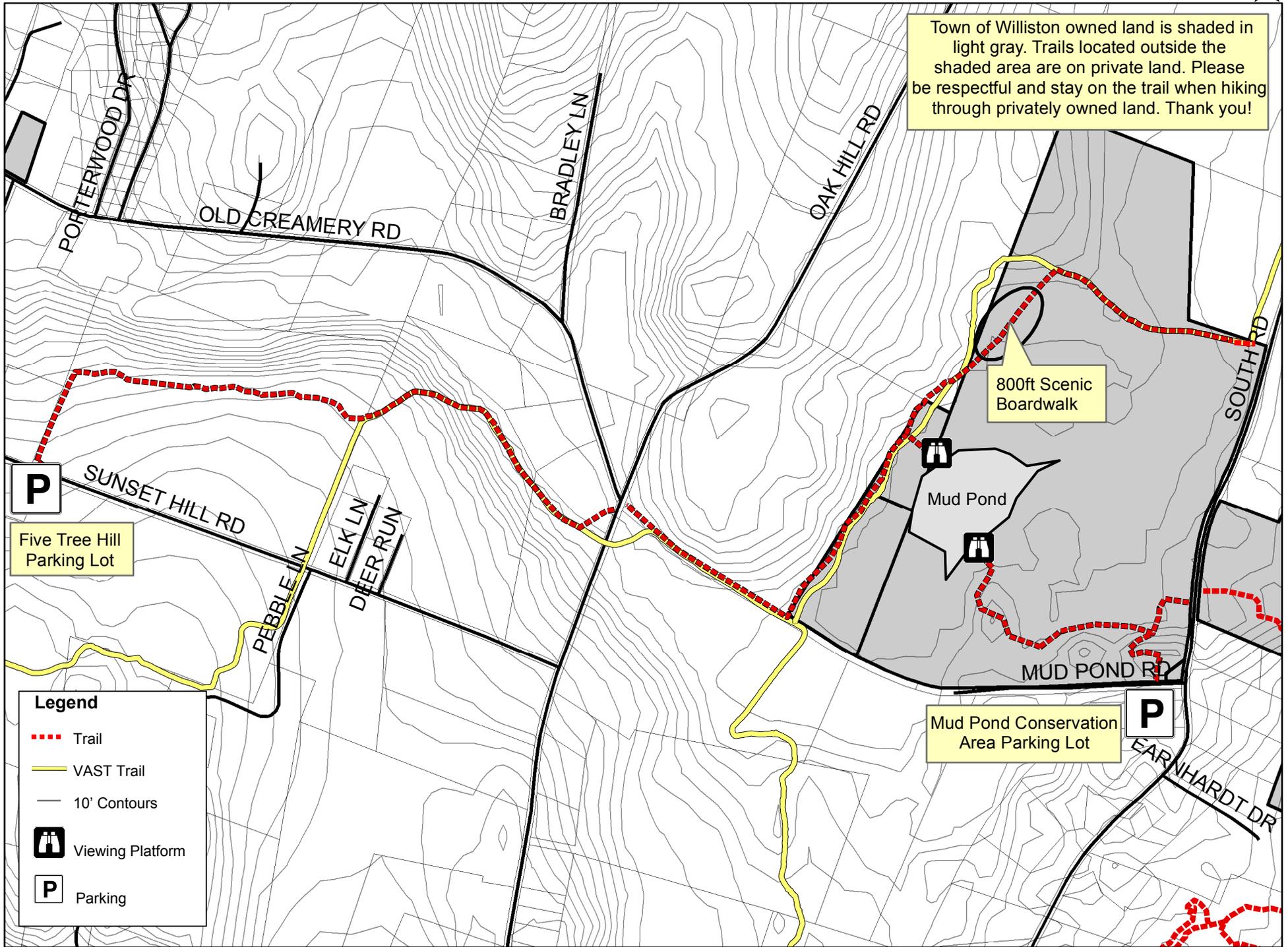
Immediately on your right will be a small parking area near the trailhead. Please observe the No Parking signs along the side of Mud Pond Road.

## Distance:

Mud Pond is approximately 0.5 miles from the parking area.

# Mud Pond Conservation Area

0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Miles



Town of Williston owned land is shaded in light gray. Trails located outside the shaded area are on private land. Please be respectful and stay on the trail when hiking through privately owned land. Thank you!

800ft Scenic Boardwalk

**P**  
Five Tree Hill  
Parking Lot

Mud Pond Conservation  
Area Parking Lot

**P**

**Legend**

- Trail
- VAST Trail
- 10' Contours
- Viewing Platform
- Parking