



About This Property

The Tippling Rock Trail (Weisblatt) property was acquired in 1998. This property features hilly topography marked by numerous rock outcroppings, rich woodlands, and prolific vernal pools. The property has trails which lead to the Tippling Rock, a popular destination. This elevated rock formation rewards hikers with a scenic view looking east toward Boston, and Mount Wachusett to the northwest. At over 600 feet above sea level, Tippling Rock is the highest point within the Nobscoot conservation lands lying within Sudbury. Although the Tippling Rock itself does not lie within the Tippling Rock Trail property, it can be accessed via the trailhead off of Boston Post Road.

Tippling Rock is steeped in folklore. Some commentators have proposed that Native Americans move a large boulder back and forth on top of the outcropping, an action referred to as "tippling". The noise thus generated could be used to communicate over long distances. Tippling Rock also offered Native Americans an advantageous view of the countryside.

The rock shows evidence of wedge or drill holes. Historians have proposed that the rock was blasted by the late John Bartlett and his brothers. Others have speculated that a farmer leasing the field may have blasted the rock to prevent his cows being injured by its movement. Another theory is that the rock was split to make a mill stone. There were further attempts to destroy parts of the rock in the 1930s.

The trunk trail is a small segment of the much larger Bay Circuit Trail. When completed, it will connect a 200-mile greenway corridor connecting 50 cities and towns in a broad arc around the Metro Boston area. Generally wide and well-used, it is moderately sloped for much of the distance to Tippling Rock. There are some bends and steeper parts of the trail, which can make it moderately challenging at times. Some of the trail that is flat and wide, but the approach to the top is very steep, with wooden logs and rock steps set the ground to aid your ascent. **Climbers should remain vigilant, as there are some steep drops.**

Land Use Regulations

- Conservation Land is open to the public ½ hour before sunrise until ½ hour after sunset.
- No trails shall be cut or marked, nor dams built, nor any structure such as lean-tos, bridges, towers or handrails constructed.
- No person shall cut, break, remove, deface, defile, or ill-use any rock, building, fence, bench, bog bridge, sign or other structure or property, or have possession of any part thereof.
- Depositing or leaving rubbish, litter, demolition or yard debris, garbage, excavated fill or any hazardous waste is prohibited.
- No person shall engage in business, sell, or expose for sale, post, place, or give away any goods, wares or circulars.
- Fishing, trapping, catching, injuring, destroying or interfering in any way with birds, reptiles, amphibians, mammals or any other wild animals is prohibited.
- Hunting prohibited except as permitted by the Conservation Commission.
- Horse riding is allowed on designated trails. The Conservation Commission reserves the right to close any trails to horses at any time should trail conditions warrant closure. Riders are expected to remove any horse waste from the trails and not dispose of it in any wetland area. Groups of more than five riders or organized horseback activities require a permit from the Commission.
- Dogs shall be restrained in accordance with the General Bylaws (Chapter 117 – Article II). More than 4 dogs per person shall require written permission from the Conservation Commission. Dog owners/walkers are expected to remove any dog waste from the property. Dog owners/walkers shall yield to horse riders and other trail users. All dog waste must be removed from the property and properly disposed of.
- Possessing or consuming any alcoholic beverage is prohibited.
- Possession of weapons or the discharge of firearms, firecrackers, rockets, sparklers, or fireworks is prohibited, except as permitted by the Conservation Commission.
- No motorized vehicles of any kind are allowed except for government emergency vehicles or vehicles authorized, in writing, by the Conservation Commission.
- Bicycles are permitted on designated trails only. The Conservation Commission reserves the right to close any trails to bicycles at any time should trail conditions warrant closure.
- Public nudity is prohibited.
- Swimming and wading is prohibited.
- All trash, litter, cans, refuse, bottles etc. shall be removed from the land by the user and disposed of or recycled properly.
- No glass bottles or containers or any kind are permitted on conservation land.
- Please park to maximize the space available. Please do not block the emergency entrance gate.
- Camping permitted by permit. Open fires are prohibited.

A fine of not more than \$100.00 per day shall be imposed for any violation of these regulations, or of a permit issued under these regulations, according to the following schedule: \$150 for a second offense, and \$200.00 for a third or subsequent offense. These fines may be imposed, under the provisions of MGL Chapter 40 Section 21D, by the Police or by Commission members or staff. Each day shall constitute a new offense.

Tippling Rock Trail

Trail Guide



Town of Sudbury Conservation Commission



275 Old Lancaster Road
Sudbury, MA 01776
978-440-5471

<https://sudbury.ma.us/conservationcommission/>

