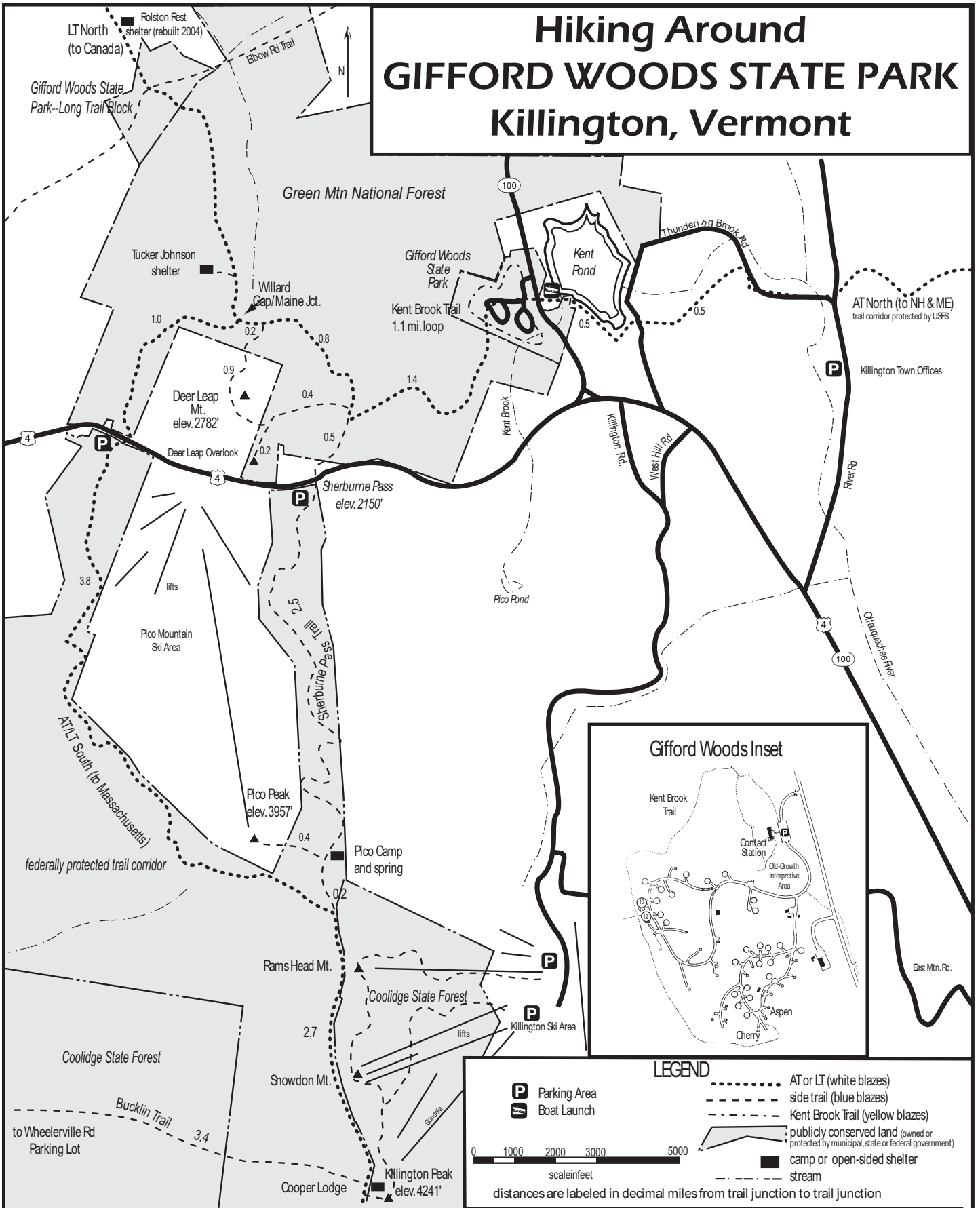


Hiking Around GIFFORD WOODS STATE PARK Killington, Vermont



LT North
(to Canada)

Gifford Woods State
Park-Long Trail Block

Green Mtn National Forest

Tucker Johnson
shelter

Willard
Cap/Maine Jct.

Gifford Woods
State Park

Kent Brook Trail
1.1 mi. loop

Kent Pond

Thundering Brook Rd

AT North (to NH & ME)
trail corridor protected by USFS

Killington Town Offices

Deer Leap Mt.
elev. 2782'

Deer Leap Overlook

Sherburne Pass
elev. 2150'

Pico Mountain
Ski Area

AT/LT South (to Massachusetts)
federally protected trail corridor

Pico Peak
elev. 3957'

Pico Camp
and spring

Rams Head Mt.

Coolidge State Forest

Coolidge State Forest

to Wheelerville Rd
Parking Lot

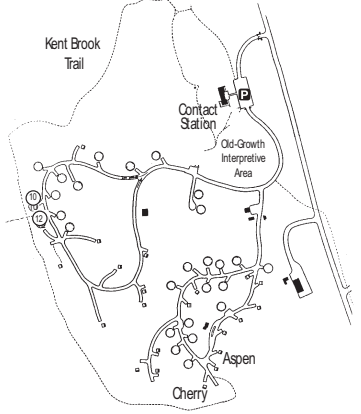
Bucklin Trail

Snowdon Mt.

Cooper Lodge

Killington Peak
elev. 4241'

Gifford Woods Inset



LEGEND

- Parking Area
- Boat Launch
- AT or LT (white blazes)
- side trail (blue blazes)
- Kent Brook Trail (yellow blazes)
- publicly conserved land (owned or protected by municipal, state or federal government)
- camp or open-sided shelter
- stream



distances are labeled in decimal miles from trail junction to trail junction

Some Hiking Suggestions

Gifford Woods State Park is a major starting point for many popular hikes. Trails accessed from here range from the 0.1 mile Old-Growth Interpretive Trail to the Appalachian Trail, which extends 1681.5 miles south to Springer Mountain, Georgia and 487.3 miles north to Mt. Katahdin, Maine.

Hikers starting at Gifford Woods must pay the day use fee when park facilities are open mid-May through mid-October. Hikers leaving vehicles overnight pay a per-day storage fee. Through hikers are not charged a fee unless they utilize park facilities (showers, picnic area or campsites).

Trails

The **Old Growth Interpretive Trail** was developed in 2002 to highlight the magnificent old trees in the Gifford Woods National Natural Landmark. The 0.1 mile long easy walking trail takes 10-15 minutes to walk and has an interpretive brochure.

The **Kent Brook Trail** is an easy-to-moderate hike within the park boundary. Hiking the 1.1 mile long trail takes about 45 minutes. The trail passes through a beautiful mixed age northern hardwood forest. It starts by the "STOP" sign near the contact station, circles the campground, crosses the Appalachian Trail and ends in the lower campground loop between Cherry and Aspen lean-tos. The trail has yellow blazes.

The **Appalachian Trail** (AT), the 2168.8-mile hiking trail running from Georgia to Maine, passes through Gifford Woods State Park. The AT is a pathway to an extensive trail system that includes Vermont's famed Long Trail (see map).

The **Pond and Waterfall Loop** takes you across Rt. 100 and along the southern half of Kent Pond. Follow this 3.5 mile easy hike through the Kent Pond Access, over Kent Brook's cascading pools, to Thundering Brook Road. Turn left onto the road and walk along the road over the dam, up a hill, then down a steep graveled hill with a sharp right turn. Cross a wooden highway bridge to a turnout on the left. Below lies the brook and a series of stunning pools and waterfalls. Back on the road, look for white blazes on the opposite side, about 50 feet down the road. Follow uphill back to Thundering Brook Road, and return by the southern end of the pond.

The **Deer Leap Overlook Trail** takes visitors to a dramatic rock outcrop high above Sherburne Pass. From the campground, it is 4.0 miles round trip, taking about two hours over moderate terrain. The Overlook affords stunning views of Pico Peak, Killington Mountain, and the surrounding area. Follow the AT south, pass the Sherburne Pass Trail, turn left onto the blue blazed Deer Leap Overlook Trail. Return the same route. Alternately, continue the loop over the summit of Deer Leap Mountain to the AT, returning to the junction of the AT and Sherburne Pass Trail. Plan 3-4 hours for the 5.9 mile round trip hike (from park headquarters) over moderate terrain with several steep sections.

HIKING DISTANCES

<u>Gifford Woods Park Headquarters to:</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Kent Pond Access	0.2
Kent Pond Dam	0.5
Junction of AT and Sherburne Pass Trails	1.4
Deer Leap Overlook	2.0
Maine Jct. & Willard Gap	2.4
Tucker Johnson shelter	3.2
Pico Peak via Sherburne Pass Trail	4.6
Killington Peak via Sherburne Pass Trail	7.1

About Gifford Woods State Park

Gifford Woods State Park was established in 1931 with an original purchase of 13 acres of land. In 1933-34, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) built the Ranger's quarters and picnic area. In 1939 the CCC constructed the upper camping area. Additional land acquisitions and development brought the park to its present 285 acre size with 48 campsites. For more information on Gifford Woods State Park, call the park directly mid-May to mid-October at (802)775-5354 or visit the website on the front panel of this brochure.

This brochure is available upon request in large print,

Braille and audio cassette.

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HIKING FROM GIFFORD WOODS STATE PARK



Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
Department of Forests, Parks
and Recreation
www.vtstateparks.com

