

COVID 19 and Andover Open Space

If you have been out on Andover Open Space in the past month, whether it is AVIS reservations or Town conservation land, you already know that our woodlands provide a welcome activity and healthy distraction from our COVID quarantine. You also know that there are a lot of us in the woods.

Several organizations, including the Trustees, have closed their reservations to the public because visitors were overwhelming the available parking, as well as the trails. Almost every home in Andover is less than a ten minute walk from open space. AVIS and the Town do not want to close their trails.

Please walk on less visited reservations, from your home, if possible!

Those of us who have been out walking have noticed two additional issues. People are walking dogs unleashed and not cleaning up after them, especially in Goldsmith, West Parish Meadow, Baker's Meadow and the rail trail by Haggetts Pond. Runners are not social distancing when they pass others on the trail. Please step aside, especially for our senior citizens and children.

Social distancing:

Please leash your dog. People do not want to touch or approach other humans and they do not want to touch your dog.

Please clean up after your dog. Dog poop is nasty any time of year, but now with more dogs on our trail, this is even more important.

Runners: Please step off the trail when you pass someone (or wait for them to pass you). You are the youngest and healthiest, we all need to maintain our 6 foot protective social distance.

**Thank you,
AVIS Trustees**