

Storrs Pond Ring Trail

1.8 miles

Moderate

This walk is on wide, dirt trails with some short but fairly steep climbs. It starts on the dirt road across from the pool. A small footbridge near the pool's snack shop will allow you access from the parking lot. Follow the dirt road away from the pool, and eventually it forks, with the Southside Trail heading up a small, chained-off (to prevent motor vehicle traffic) hill to the left, and the War Zone trail going off to the right. Each is rolling and has some steep climbs. The trails come together again and descend toward Storrs Pond. After crossing the dam, the trail goes over two more rolling hills and turns left into the woods, just before a large clearing. Go through the gate and enter the clearing, and follow the tree line to your left. Ahead, at the other end of the meadow, a trail will lead back into the trees, and down into a picnic area. From here, you can continue forward on the asphalt road leading back to the parking lot, or make a right just before the asphalt, to take the Printing Press Loop. This winds up one last hill before leading back to the parking lot.

Directions: Leaving downtown Hanover, proceed north on Route 10. After passing Garipay Field, and just before the Hanover Police Station, turn right onto Reservoir Road. Follow Reservoir Road past the Ray School until it comes to a "T" intersection. Take a sharp left down the hill to the Storrs Pond Recreation Area entrance.

Parking: Parking is available at Storrs Pond Recreation Area for a fee, or for free in the Oak Hill parking lot (a sharp right before the information and payment booth in the road). You also can access the Ring Trail from the Ray School via the Ray School Loop Trail (see separate entry in the guide).

Uses: This loop is open to all foot travel as well as controlled mountain bike use. In the winter it is part of a network of excellent Nordic skiing trails. Pets are also allowed.

Extension Suggestions: Oak Hill has a number of trails that are well maintained but mostly strenuous due to lengthy climbs. If you want a longer and more vigorous walk, you can follow any of the trails leading up the hill from the Oak Hill parking lot.

Ownership/Maintenance: The land on this trail is part of the Storrs Pond Recreation Area and is owned and maintained by the Hanover Improvement Society for the benefit of the general public. The Oak Hill extension trails are owned and operated by Dartmouth College.



