

**Map 13 – East Bridgewater, Hanson, Pembroke**  
**BAY CIRCUIT TRAIL route** (map dated May 2008)  
*North to South (here, actually west to east)*

**East Bridgewater:**

*Trail is marked with occasional white dollar bill-sized blazes oriented vertically, high on trees or utility poles. Double blazes offset indicate a turn in the direction of the upper blaze.*

**A** 42°01'40" 70°57'54"

0.0 P=3 or 4 cars. Go northeast on Spring St toward jct with Rte 18

0.6 At traffic light bear left slightly to safe crossing of Rte 18. Use pedestrian walk button. Cross to island and small park with bench and sundial. (Or from traffic light go right onto Rte 18, past Cumberland Farms store, to a cross walk. Cross Rte 18, then left along Rte 18 to the same traffic light)

Go southeast on Central St sidewalk

1.0 At **town common** bear right onto Plymouth St

**B** 42°01'16" 70°57'02"

1.5 Immediately after Plymouth St crosses the Satucket River turn left onto Bennett Lane (P=4)

1.6 Tr enters **Satucket River Conservation Area** beside the parking area. BCT more or less follows the river for 0.5 mile. Benches at intervals offer views of the river. There are many other trails in this area, including the "express route" (an old cart path, an extension of Bennett Lane, probably the original Plymouth St, which leaves Bennett Lane parking area right of the BCT).

2.2 BCT goes left to brook crossing. Tr to right shortly before brook crossing is the other end of the "express."

Immediately after brook crossing see granite marker for **Phillips Wildlife Area** (oldest town conservation property acquired as a gift). Go straight about 1/8 mile.

Bear left in pine grove (towards the river for good view of an active cranberry bog).

Shortly bear right onto a smaller tr (look for blaze).

Go thru opening in a chain link fence to a right turn toward Susan Place. Go uphill to exit east, at the guard rail.

2.7 Exit **Satucket River Conservation Area** onto Susan Place. There are no blazes, but a kiosk is planned.

Walk along Susan Place to jct with Rolling Hills Dr.

2.8 Right onto Rolling Hills Dr. This road is a loop. Where Rolling Hills Dr goes left, continue straight to Bridge St.

**C** 42°01'10" 70°55'55"

3.1 Left onto Bridge St (Frank Johnson Memorial Park is east of the bridge, with a large parking area)

3.7 Right onto Crescent St.

**D** 41°01'38" 70°55'55"

3.7 Bridge St. and Crescent St. Walk east along Crescent St., cross Washington St (use caution, busy road), and continue to the access road for Water Supply Station #2. Access road is on the right, one house after Deer Run Dr.

**E** 41°01'47" 70°54'37"

5.2 Turn right onto Water Supply Station #2 access road (P=6 on left). A water filtration plant is being constructed halfway along on the right. Watch for blazes through shrubs straight ahead. At a deep cut sandy road under the major pole line go right (less than 1/8 mile) and look for white blazes on the left and a shady trail to the footbridge crossing **Poor Meadow Brook**. Bridge ends prematurely after crossing brook, and trail may be blocked by standing water during wet conditions. *If impassable, return to Crescent St and turn right. Making right turns at each intersection, follow Crescent to Cedar St (becomes Franklin St), to Main St (Rte 27), to Elm St, to the parking area at entrance to **Burrage Pond WMA** (this is about a 3 mile detour) A planned Eagle Scout project in 2008-09 is to build a bridge to the Hanson town line.*

**F** 42°01'40" 70°54'01"

5.8 Trail crosses East Bridgewater/Hanson town line

**Hanson**

*BCT through Hanson is marked with standard white dollar bill-sized blazes oriented vertically on trees and poles. The BCT logo is used where the trail crosses a road and as a confidence marker.*

**F** 42°01'40"N 70°54' 01" W

0.0 Trail begins at Hanson and East Bridgewater town line alongside the **Poor Meadow Brook**. Trail goes in a north/northeastern direction with Poor Meadow Brook to the left side. Once at the power transmission line (wooden poles) the trail runs uphill parallel to the transmission line to Elm St. Parking (P=5) is allowed on **the Smith Nawazelski** property along the cart path. Do not block this road, which would prevent emergency access. Also avoid any planted farm crops on either side of cart path.

**G** 42°01'46"N 70°53'23"W

0.6 The trail enters the **Burrage Pond WMA** managed by the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. The entrance to this section of the trail is directly opposite the entrance of the Smith Nawazelski property across Elm St.

Parking (P=3) on the asphalt apron before the locked gate. Do not block vehicle access through the gate for emergency and agricultural vehicles. Park on the shoulder of the apron. The BCT runs parallel to the power transmission lines through the preserve property. It skirts working cranberry bogs and passes over the **Indian Crossway** to the proposed Light Control section of the trail. *Here there is a gap in the dedicated trail at this time.* A map of Hanson dated 1870 indicated the "Indian Crossway," which was higher ground through the swamplands. It was reportedly a place of passage for Native Americans. Today it exists as a remnant of the dike system to control water levels in the growing of cranberries.

**H** 42°02'14"N 70°52'13" W

2.0 The trail picks up at the Crooker Place Hanson town property, abutting the Light Control Property. This town property had been a tire and auto parts dump, cleaned up by the town in early 2007. There are a few parking spots (P=3) at the gate which must not be blocked to allow emergency vehicles to pass. The BCT continues up Crooker Place, turns left onto Main St (route 27) then almost immediately right onto Robinson St, which becomes Pierce Ave as it turns left at the end.

**J** 42°02'41"N 70°52'30" W

2.9 At the intersection of Pierce Ave and High St, go right on High St heading uphill. You will be passing the Hanson owned **Plymouth County Hospital** property on your right. Plymouth County Extension Service office is at the entrance of this property. At a future date the extensive fields on this property will host the BCT. Follow the blazes on the utility poles along High St and right onto Liberty St (route 58), passing to the rear of the Hanson Town Hall overlooking **Wamputuck Pond**. Note the BCT kiosk by the boat ramp. Parking (P=10+) for BCT hikers is available at the Town Hall. The BCT turns right onto Liberty St (route 58) and crosses to the sidewalk on the far side, then passes the Nathaniel Thomas Mill, heading up the hill and bearing to the right onto Indian Head St (route 58).

**K** 42°03'44" N 70°51'36"W

5.2 Entrance to **Hanson Town Forest** on Indian Head St, on the right. The BCT loops through this property. The exit is a short distance from the entrance.

**L** 42°03'40"N 70°51'34"W

5.8 Limited parking (P=4). Parking (P=10+) is also available across the road at the Indian Head School during weekends and after school hours only. Exit from **Hanson Town Forest** and take a right onto Indian Head St (route 58), cross to the sidewalk and follow the blazes on the utility poles. The entrance to **Camp Kiwanee** is on the left.

**M** 42°03'16"N 70°51'27"W

6.3 Enter **Camp Kiwanee**. Follow the trail down the tree lined drive past the gate house and access parking at the Cranberry Cove Beach parking area (P=10+). Please park away from the beach fence and closer to the drive as a courtesy to beachgoers.

**N** 42°03'23"N 70°51'06"W

6.7 BCT kiosk across from Cranberry Cove parking area at **Camp Kiwanee**. The BCT passes behind the gate house and through the woods of Camp Kiwanee following old cart paths out onto Maquan St (Rte 14)

7.4 Turn right onto Maquan St and go southeast toward Pembroke. *Walkers may wish to cross the road for a wider shoulder along the street.*

7.8 Hanson/Pembroke town line.

**Pembroke:**

*Trail is blazed with occasional white rectangular markers placed high on trees, utility poles, or stakes. Offset double blazes indicate a turn in the direction of the upper blaze. The BCT logo is used where the trail crosses a road and as a confidence marker.*

**P** 42°03'37" 70°50'26"

0.0 From the Town Line of Hanson/Pembroke follow Maquan St southeast.

There is a large cranberry bog on the right side of the road. Cross Mattakesett St. *Pizza shop and convenience store about 100 yards to the left if food or drink are needed.* Turn right on Mattakesett St and proceed to Phillips Rd, about 100 yds.

42°03'30" 70°50'07"

0.38 Turn left onto Phillips Rd (E/SE). **Great Sandy Bottom Pond**, on the right, is a reservoir for Rockland/Abington waterworks. On the left is **Furnace Pond**, used for swimming, boating, fishing and ice skating. Bear right onto Ridge Ave, which becomes a dirt road bordered by woods. The pavement starts again as the road crosses a small stream.

**R** 42°02'55" 70°49'52"

1.46 Bear left at the intersection with Glenwood Rd and proceed S/SE where there are nice views of old cranberry buildings and bogs. **Little Sandy Bottom Pond** can be seen in the distance. Take the left fork and continue as the road becomes bordered by woods.

42°02'40" 70°49'45"

1.77 At the top of the hill turn left onto a rutted dirt road. Cross the paved road (Sandy Ln) and continue on the old logging road. When you can see the brick school, look for the path to the left and follow it. Turn right at the

intersection and follow the wooden electric poles behind Bryantville Elementary School. At the bottom of the steep hill, turn right and follow the bog road around a left curve and out to Center St (Rte 36).

42°02'38" 70°49'12"

2.44 Walk to the far left side of the opening onto the street by the mail box. Cross Center St and enter the paved driveway briefly. In about 20 feet, step off onto the dirt path on the right. *Please stay within the narrow corridor of marked path until you climb the hill as the public way closely skirts private property between two houses in this area.* The path passes between some rock outcrops and makes a couple of sharp turns as it goes over the hill and down to **Tubb's Meadow**, an area of old cranberry bogs and ponds.

42°02'39" 70°48'59"

2.69 Turn left on the bog road and follow it to the cut-through on the left, which leads out to a large sandy area. A stone ring, of unknown origin, is located here. Its spokes accurately point north, south, east and west. The BCT follows the bog road to the left and continues around the perimeter of the open area. Many species of birds live here. Watch for ducks, swans, Canadian Geese and Great Blue Herons.

When the path crosses a cement culvert, turn left and shortly thereafter, continue on the main trail as it bears right (south). Continue on main trail past the pump house on the right.

At the next intersection, bear left, keeping the water on the right. Continue straight to the large Y fork and bear left away from the water.

At the next intersection turn left. After a very short distance follow the primary trail as it bears right. Continue to the fork and follow the path on the right down the hill, past the red pump house and around to the left where it enters the main parking area for **Tubb's Meadow Preserve** (P=10).

S 42°02'32" 70°48'34"

3.72 Exit the parking area, turn right onto Monroe St (S) and proceed to School St (Rte 27) and turn left. Before the top of the hill, look on the right for two white posts with a low connecting chain, entrance to **Veterans Commemorative Town Forest**.

42°02'10" 70°48'17"

4.27 Enter the **Veterans Commemorative Town Forest** at the white posts. Follow the trail to a T junction and turn right. The trail follows the top of a glacial esker until the first very obvious side trail. Take this trail, which cuts back sharply to the right, down to the bottom of the esker and then parallel to it.

At the T intersection turn right. At the next T turn left.

When the trail offers a Y junction, follow the main trail to the left. *(Detour onto the right trail for a beautiful overlook of Silver Lake just a short walk up and to the left of the trail. Silver Lake is a reservoir for Brockton and is a*

*beautiful, peaceful body of water with no boating or swimming allowed. Bald eagles have been seen in the area).*

Continuing on the main trail, at the T intersection the BCT (main trail) goes left. *(A short detour right goes to another view of the lake and offers a bench.)*

Continuing on the main trail, bear right at the Y and go down the hill.

Very quickly come upon the next intersection and bear left. Follow the trail up the hill.

Near the top, take the right fork and proceed on the wider path. Proceed straight past intersecting trails on the right and left.

At the Y take the left leg and follow it for a distance out to the main entrance and parking (P=10+) where you will exit the **Veterans Commemorative Memorial Forest**.

T 42°02'00" 70°48'04"

*A temporary trail from this point to the Kingston town line has been blazed along School Street (Rte 27). The Pembroke BCT Committee is working to establish an off-road route.*

5.25 Turn right onto School St. (Rte 27) and head south. *Caution:* There are fairly wide shoulders on both sides of the street, but traffic can be heavy and fast.

U 42°01'16" 70°47'36"

6.2 The Town line of Pembroke/Kingston is the end of the BCT in Pembroke. The Kingston trail starts just ahead on the right. Barse's Lane is the access road to the **Silver Lake Sanctuary**.

## Map 13 – The JEWELS

### *East Bridgewater:*

**Satucket River Conservation Area** (52 acres) – Riverside woodlands, including the town's first wildlife management area gifts, the **Phillips Wildlife Area**. "Express" trail and a meandering riverside trail that the BCT follows. Access from Bennett Lane off Plymouth St and from Susan Dr off Rolling Hills Dr

### **Poor Meadow**

**Robbins Pond** State-owned landing area on Pond St

### *Hanson:*

**Smith-Nawazelski Conservation Area** (Town of Hanson, 101 acres) - This property, named for two local conservationists, abuts the town of East Bridgewater. Diverse habitats include upland forest and fields

that continue in active agriculture, and Poor Meadow Brook running along the western edge. Plans for improved trailhead parking are underway.

**Burrage Pond Wildlife Management Area** (Massachusetts Div of Fisheries and Wildlife; 1,695 acres) - Divided equally between Hanson and Halifax, this property has it all. Wooded uplands, Atlantic White Cedar swamps, open water, and miles of gravel roads and paths invite hikers, bicyclists and equestrians. Acres of cranberry bogs are being returned to more natural wetlands, and the remaining working bogs near Elm Street are traversed by the Bay Circuit Trail. Many waterfowl species and an active osprey nest provide wildlife watching opportunities. The BCT travels over the historic **Indian Crossway**, or “Tunk”, which runs west to east through wetlands that give the hiker unexpected vistas across the landscape of the Great Cedar Swamp. A map of Hanson dated 1870 indicated the “Indian Crossway,” which was higher ground through the swamplands, reportedly a place of passage for Native Americans. Today it exists as a remnant of the dike system to control water levels in the growing of cranberries.

**Plymouth County Hospital** (Town of Hanson, 58 acres) - Northernmost 25 acres of this former tuberculosis hospital are intended to be preserved as the "Bonney Hill Meadows" open space area. Large open meadows are a remnant of the region's agricultural past, surrounded by woods, with **Wampatuck Pond**, cranberry bogs and wetlands off to the east. In the summer months myriads of butterflies can be found in these meadows. Resident and migratory birds abound - watch for hawks hunting over the fields, and glimpse an occasional meadowlark.

**Town Hall Park** (Town of Hanson, 1 acre) - On the northern shore of Wampatuck Pond (site of a 17th-century millpond), probably the most scenic back-drop for any municipal office on the South Shore of Massachusetts. The reproduction of the historic “Thomas Mill” is located just to the east and across from the parking area.

**Hanson Town Forest** (Town of Hanson, 35 acres) - Hanson's first conservation area, set aside in the 1930s for forestry, recreation and wildlife. Wampatuck Pond forms its western boundary and provides water views from trails that wind through tall pines, oaks, beeches, maples, yellow birch and tupelo. Two primitive campsites are managed by the Town Forest Committee.

**Camp Kiwanee** (Town of Hanson, 64 acres) - Rustic cabin/camping facilities, lodge for functions, Cranberry Cove beach, administered by the Hanson Recreation Committee. Originally built as a summer residence for a wealthy industrialist in 1905, Camp Kiwanee was used by the Camp Fire Girls and the American Red Cross from 1923 to the 1970s. Purchased by the town in 1979, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2005. Property is mostly

wooded, with scenic overlooks of pristine Maquan Pond and working cranberry bogs near Indian Head Pond. Property is the link between the BCT in Hanson and Pembroke.

## **Wampatuck Pond**

### ***Pembroke:***

**Willow Brook Farm Preserve** (Wildlands Trust) - trails thru varied habitats including old cranberry bog and a red cedar grove. Observation tower for views of swamp and Herring Brook. Parking on Barker St (Rte 14) southwest of Rte 53.

**Hobomock School area** - Wide paths running through a densely wooded area, including a historic cart path marked on early maps. Old fieldstone walls criss-cross the property. Best hiked as a linear path, starting at the parking lot at the very end of Learning Lane (off Hobomock St). Main trail marked with painted white blazes; many unmarked and unmapped side trails.

**Veteran's Commemorative Town Forest** - This beautiful pine forest nestles on the shores of Silver Lake. Many trails crisscross this hilly preserve and occasionally offer lovely views of the peaceful reservoir. Parking at the main entrance on Rte. 27 near the Pembroke Community Middle School.

**Tubb's Meadow Preserve** - 125 acres of diverse habitat including old cranberry bogs, dirt roads, a large reservoir, unaltered wetlands and acres of oak and pine uplands. It is home to many animals and birds. Two parking areas are located off Mill St. near Center St. and off Monroe St.

## **Map 13 – FOR MORE INFORMATION**

### ***maps and trail guides:***

Relevant USGS topo maps are 7.5 x 7.5 Whitman, Bridgewater, Hanover, and Plimpton

**Burrage Pond WMA map** at South Eastern District office of Mass Dept. of Fish and Game (195 Bournedale Rd, Buzzards Bay) and online [www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/habitat/maps/wma/southeast\\_maps.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/habitat/maps/wma/southeast_maps.htm)

### ***land and water protection organizations:***

**East Bridgewater Conservation Commission** - 175 Central St.

**Hanson Conservation Commission** – 542 Liberty St, Hanson 02341 781-294-4119

**Pembroke Conservation Commission** – 100 Center St, Pembroke 02359 781-293-3844

**Hanson Town Forest Committee**

**Wildlands Trust of Southeastern Massachusetts** - A non-profit land conservation organization founded in Plymouth in 1973. Works with private landowners on gifts of beloved land, conservation restrictions, and (rarely) purchases land. The Trust now owns or holds conservation restrictions on more than 140 properties, protecting over 4,500 acres of land in 26 communities and growing. Membership applications on line at [www.wildlandstrust.org](http://www.wildlandstrust.org) POBox 2282, Duxbury MA 02331 781-934-9018

**Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife** – manages Burrage Pond WMA  
[www.mass.gov/dfwele/](http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/)

**Pembroke Watershed Association** – Mission is to educate the public and to restore and preserve the ponds of Pembroke for clean and safe recreational use. Events and photos on website. [www.pembrokeponds.org](http://www.pembrokeponds.org) P.O. Box 368 Pembroke, MA 02359-0368

**North and South Rivers Watershed Assn** – river and stream protection and activities. Events and membership info on-line [www.nsrwa.org](http://www.nsrwa.org)  
POBox 43 Norwell 02061 781-659-8168

**Taunton River Watershed Alliance** – river and stream protection and activities. Membership info on-line. [www.savethetaunton.org](http://www.savethetaunton.org) POBox 146, Bridgewater 02342

**Green Hanson** – a citizens' group whose mission is to foster a culture of environmental awareness and to support stewardship of community and natural resources.  
[www.greenhanson.org](http://www.greenhanson.org)

**Charles River Wheelmen** - very active group of bicyclists that lead rides of varying lengths throughout BC area. Excellent website lists rides, membership & other info  
[www.crw.org](http://www.crw.org)

The **Bay Circuit Alliance** headquarters is located in the Moor and Mountain store at 3 Railroad St., Andover, across the tracks from the converted old RR station. 978-470-1982  
<[baycircuit@juno.com](mailto:baycircuit@juno.com)> [www.baycircuit.org](http://www.baycircuit.org)