



Balch Hill Quest

Hanover, NH

Physical Difficulty: Moderate

Special Features: Natural

Walking Conditions: Trail

Duration: 1:15

Bring: Field Guide; Boots

To get there: From Hanover, take Rte. 10 north. Turn right on Reservoir Rd. Go about ½ mile and park in the parking lot for the Ray School on the left.

Overview

The Hanover Conservation Council is a private, non-profit organization incorporated in 1963. The mission of the Council is to promote the appreciation and conservation of land and natural habitat in Hanover. Their mission is achieved with programs in land conservation, environmental education and support for conservation oriented public policies. Currently, over 450 households pay dues to the Council in support of its activities. One of the Council's holdings is the Balch Hill Natural Area.

Clues

Along Reservoir Road, east you will go

To a bike path that doesn't quite show...

Unless you look for mailbox #29:

Then to the left of the driveway, your path you will find.

Follow this path to the Maple Trail on the right.

Just be careful, and enjoy all the sights.

Up the hill, follow blazes of yellow

But be sure not to miss the arrows, good fellows.

Continue on to almost the top,
For it is there that you will need to stop.
So pause and look at the great-grandfather trees,
Because your treasure is hidden in one of these.

After finding the treasure, continue on to the top.
There's a beautiful view that will cause you to stop.
Nearby, too, is an amazing oak,
17 feet around—this isn't a joke!
See Mt. Ascutney from the top; and Baker Tower, too.
And on your way down just reverse all these clues.

Created by Cathy MacDonald and Pam Graham's Girl Scouts in 1998.

Please be a good steward of the land: leave it better than you found it and pack out any trash you find.



Valley Quest is a collection of 160+ treasure hunts that share and teach the natural gems and cultural heritage of the Upper Valley with children, families, adults, and visitors. It is a program of Vital Communities, a regional nonprofit working to engage citizens, organizations, and communities in creating solutions to our region's challenges. Learn more at vitalcommunities.org.

Have a suggestion, question, comment, or idea for us? We'd love to hear from you. Reach us at valleyquest@vitalcommunities.org or 802-291-9100.