

15. Grafton Ponds Quest  
Grafton, VT

To get there: Take route 121 west to Saxons River. Past the post office there will be a fork in the road. Take a left and keep on going until you get to a little town with a general store. Cross the bridge, turn right after the bridge, and follow the signs to Grafton. In the heart of Grafton, turn left just before the Tavern, and proceed until you see a sign that says Grafton Ponds.

Welcome to Grafton Ponds! This area was created around fifteen years ago because The Old Tavern at Grafton wanted their guests to have something recreational to do.

Start in the parking lot. Go up the steep slope,  
This trail was a logging road a long time ago.  
Around 1860, Grafton had three lumber mills  
So lots of timber was cut down from these hills.

At the top of the little hill, take a right  
And go until the tubing hill is in sight.  
The pond below was made by men not long ago  
It is used for wildlife, skating, and making snow.

Look for the small building down by the pond. It was originally set up as a warming hut and picnic site. Now it is also used to rent skis and sell food. What type of building is this?

It is a \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Hint: This type of building *ends* with an “N”,  
but you need to remember the letter, which it begins!

When you're done at the first stop  
Turn around and go straight up the hill  
No humans have lived here and this we know  
Because there is no evidence of old cellar holes

There are a lot of animals that live in these woods  
There are woodchuck, deer, bear, and raccoons.  
As you move down the trail, look for a trail sign.  
The sign will be on your right.  
Don't go down that trail, but read the sign for your next clue.  
The sign says that this trail is used for something specific to do.  
It is a \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ trail.  
The third and seventh letters are the same and you need to remember this letter.  
Continue past the leaning tree  
Who's two trunks come together in the shape of a V.

Keep moving north.  
You will see two trees in the middle of a three-pointed fork.  
As you move down the trail, note the blackberry bushes everywhere.  
They are a sign that this place was cleared  
For sheep farming at one time.  
Some of the trees that you see  
Are used to make a famous Vermont product.  
Remember the first letter of this sweet treat?

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Keep moving north.  
There are trails that branch out leading east and west.  
Don't take them.

Notice that the trail is wider than it used to be.  
This is because of the invention of a new style of ski.  
You'll know you are on the right trail if you see an uprooted tree.  
(Tree is on the right)

Make sure you stay to the right of the big oak tree.  
The bark has many deep ridges with flat areas in between.  
Take the NEXT left and move towards the village over look.  
This property used to be owned by a man named Ed McWilliams.  
This spot may be where he used to see his sheep grazing peacefully.  
Look in the distance for the two pointy towers.  
You will need the fifth letter of the official name of these architectural features.

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HINT: The word begins with an "S"  
The name of the town that you see is important too. Use the third letter in the name of the town.  
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Off to the field and look for a few birdhouses as you go.  
To get to the field, go down the trail and take a right.  
There are stonewalls that surround this field.  
The stones are big and that's how we know  
The field was used for grazing animals, instead of to grow  
Vegetables. If the stones were small then we would have found  
That they were probably dug out of the ground.  
Use the first letter of the animal that used to be  
Raised here. -----

Look at the beautiful field and take a rest  
Head down the hill, there is not much left.  
Follow the River to the covered bridge.  
You need to find out the name of the river below.  
The first letter of the name of this river is the last clue that you need!  
----- River

In 1892 the building in front of you was called  
The Grafton Cooperative Cheese Factory.  
Dairy farmers brought their milk here and got cheese in return.  
In 1912, The Cooperative burned down.  
And for a while there was no cheese in this town.  
In 1967, this place was rebuilt  
With the friendly help of Ed McWilliams.  
Now, this world-renowned factory of cheese  
Holds your treasure, so go in and buy yourself a Gold treat!

Congratulations! You've finished our quest!  
Write all of the letters below in the order that you found them.  
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If you go into the cheese factory and ask for your treasure box,  
They will ask you for a password. The letters that you have written above  
Will spell your password.