



In Quest of a Connection from Colburn Park

Lebanon, New Hampshire

Physical Difficulty: Moderate
 Special Features: Natural
 Walking Conditions: Paved trail
 Duration: 2:00
 Season: May-Oct
 Bring: Compass

To get there: From Exit 18 off I-89 follow Rt. 120 South toward Lebanon. Take a left onto Hanover Street at the stop sign. Follow Hanover Street till you see Colburn Park on your left. Park anywhere around the green.

Overview:

This Quest takes you on the Mascoma River Greenway. You will discover hidden parts of Lebanon and lovely views of the river. The length of the greenway is 2.5 miles one way. This is a great Quest to do on a bike!

Clues:

You are invited to join us on a Greenway Quest; start at Colburn Park then you'll move west. Head to 1898 Bank Building, look to the right; make sure it's safe to cross, there's no stoplight.

If you're riding your bike, safely push it across; downhill toward Mascoma til you reach Goss-Logan, turn right through the lot, enter the trail. As you pass by their window give Flo a hail.

By the trail is Jake's Eagle Scout pocket ----, a place to meditate, enjoy, from dawn til dark. The tunnel neath the mall has work to be done to help link-up to a Northern Rail Trail run.

Go left onto the bridge over the Mascoma River
 watching water rush by, might make you shiver.
 Down river is what remains of a Lebanon mill,
 beyond it you'll find Leb skiers' ----- ----.

As you leave the bridge there's a post in recline
 which tells you the bridge is at mile ----- ----.
 continue to travel toward High Street junction;
 be wary of cars in this five/six way dysfunction.

After crossing the road you enter the Greenway
 where a kiosk stands, built by Lebanon -----.
 Moving ahead there are stonewalls of granite,
 backyards of homes on Mascoma & Mechanic.

Now, look on the left for a cement whistle post,
 an engineer as he approached was supposed
 to warn everyone, here comes the choo-choo,
 he'd pull on the whistle chord, a loud --- - ----.

You enter a railway cut as you bike or you walk
 where gandy-dancers sliced through this rock
 then laid rail on the bed, a less than a 2% grade.
 Look for signs etched in rock that they made?

On both sides of the trail are neighbors' homes;
 do you see any gardens, or porches, or gnomes?
 Imagine the train chuffing by as you sleep/eat.
 At least it's quiet now as you walk by on feet.

You round a corner, move toward Slayton Hill.
 On the left is a smoke stack of old River Mill.
 Not far from the turn a stone marker you'll find,
 the distance to Boston is a hundred thirty- ----

Now from the Greenway look on Route ----
 It's busy with cars, trucks, buses and more.
 Our Greenway is safe for your family to hike;
 You're also welcome to come ride your bike.

To the right are more homes, then Alice ---- ----.
 There's a path up hill with a back & forth sway.

Harvest Hill and ----- are up at the top.
Elderly can come down to walk and to shop.

Ahead is where Mascoma Street finds passage
under Scytheville Underpass, a concrete bridge.
At Mechanic corner there's a building collage,
years ago, it's a gas station called Peabody -----

As you cross the bridge look up Slayton Hill,
But ahead is a railtrail that is two percent still.
Ahead to the right is Scytheville parking lot,
by a farm house and barn that's pretty well shot

Head west, more homes you'll pass for a while;
52% of Leb residents live within half-a- ----
And businesses, too, line up on Mechanic St.,
and apartments, Terrace View in a heartbeat.
Soon houses near the trail will all but vanish
The trail corridor leaves earth to remain flattish.
Over a century ago dancer crews built a berm
that hasn't surrendered to a hungry earthworm.

100 feet down on the right is a lonesome pond;
you'll see/hear Interstate 89 rushing by beyond.
Down left on Route 4, is Gardener -----;
look in the greenhouse & yard, angel passerby.

Over the interstate bridge you now proceed;
Greenway provides safe passage unhurried.
Both sides of the trail are woodland barrows;
a dirt path to the right leads to Renihan -----.

You continue to walk to the left round a bend
to a special Mascoma Riv. bridge. I recommend
you stop a while and watch the river flow near.
Look in the field for, maybe, a bear, fox or ----.

The berm continues on to west of the bridge
til the earth builds to force a cut thru its ridge.
After you pass beneath the high electrical wire
on both sides the hill rises up higher and higher.

Soon on the left you'll hear an industrial sound,

it's ----- Aerospace, MRG sponsor renowned.
 The next short section is hill, woods, & -----,
 until the river returns. The path up left is harsh.

It leads to the parking of Miracle Mile Mall.
 Tired? Go catch Advance ----- to city hall.
 Of course, only week days, so continue a quest.
 Beyond's an ----- sculpture & a table to rest.

As you move on, on the trail behind the theater,
 keep an eye to the left for an old rail line spur;
 the rails are still there to unload an oil tanker;
 hoses & tower still stand there as an anchor.

Look just ahead, two bridges you'll walk under;
 the near one a before-Route-4 railroad crosser.
 Pretend you're a hobo riding atop a box car;
 Look for a bridge warning "tell tale" crossbar

The second bridge named to honor Terri -----,
 a Lebanon matriarch who served our city aptly.
 It carries Rte 4 into West Leb, covers our trail.
 Find another railtrail sculpture, a bicycle wheel.

Beyond the trail bridge there are railroad tracks.
 The pavement ends with a scenic sidetrack.
 A dirt road shadows rails the woods overgrew
 by the river to Glen Rd past mile marker ---.

You have completed your ----- of the -----;
 the only bike/ped trail to provide the safe way
 to walk from east to west through our fair city;
 the only such footpath route in our long history.

To attain recognition of your Quest completion look to the kiosk there's
 a Quest box hidden.

This Quest was created by Frank Gould in 2019

**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 100+ 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.

