

## Directions

The southern end of the trail is on the property of Berkshire South Regional Community Center, 15 Crissey Road, off Route 7 (Stockbridge Road) in Great Barrington. Crissey Road is just north of the Price Chopper / K-Mart Shopping Center and just south of the Jenifer House Commons. Park at the far end of the Berkshire South parking lot. The trailhead is marked by a sign board at the edge of the woods near the Gazebo.

The northern end of the trail is at the parking area for Fountain Pond State Park, off Route 7 (Stockbridge Road), 0.8 miles north of Crissey Road.

## Trail Description

From Berkshire South, the 2 mile trail ascends moderately up the ridge for the first ¼ mile, then more or less follows the contours until the last ½ mile, when it drops down a moderate slope to Fountain Pond and the northern trailhead off Rt. 7. The trail is marked with blue rectangular blazes. It can be hiked from either end round-trip, or one way with a second vehicle pre-positioned at the other trailhead. The trail is entirely in woodland with an excellent view of Monument Mountain across Fountain Pond close to the northern end. Note: Hunting is permitted on BNRC and DCR property, but not on Berkshire South. Take appropriate precautions during hunting season.

Distance: Approximately 2 miles one way

Time: 1.5 hours one way, 3 hours round trip

Elevation change: +/- 350 feet



# Threemile Hill Trail at Fountain Pond

## Trail Use Guidelines

- Leave only footsteps, take only pictures.
- Stay on the marked trail.
- Dogs on leash are allowed; clean up pet waste.
- No fires, or camping (except with permission in designated area at Berkshire South).
- Hikers are advised to wear orange during hunting season.
- Take precautions to avoid poison ivy and ticks.
- Respect the privacy of adjacent land owners.

## Great Barrington Trails & Greenways

Great Barrington Trails and Greenways is a collaborative that supports the development of an interconnected, town-wide trail system to encourage walking, biking, and paddling. Existing trails provide safe opportunities to actively explore Great Barrington's rich historic and natural resources. GB Trails partners provide seasonal guided hikes throughout the Berkshires as we work to engage the community and visitors in the appreciation and stewardship of these special places.

## Get Involved

We need you! Help maintain this trail and support our efforts. To volunteer or donate:  
[www.gbtrails.org](http://www.gbtrails.org)

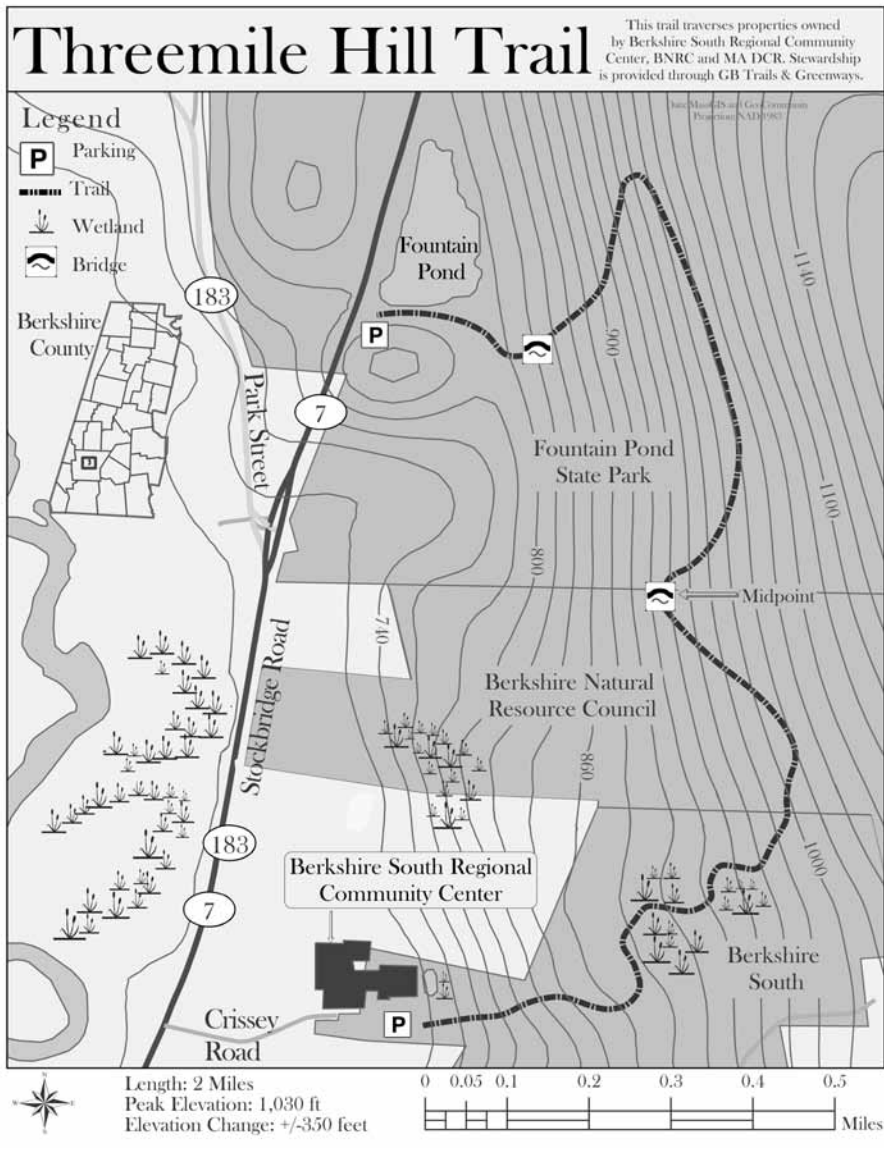
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# Great Barrington Trails & Greenways Threemile Hill Trail at Fountain Pond

design by BillAllenGraphics.com





## What to Look for

The trail passes through a mixed hardwood forest typical of the region. Maple, ash, oak, hickory, and tulip trees dominate the canopy. Scattered white pines and apple trees remind us of a time when the slopes were cleared for agricultural use and charcoal-making to feed the area's iron furnaces. Hemlock, beech, birch, and poplar occupy moist sites. The understory includes small trees such as box elder, hop hornbeam, and striped maple along with mountain laurel, viburnum, and lowbush blueberry.

Woodland wildflowers (mostly spring-blooming), ferns, and mosses abound on the forest floor, on and around the strikingly smooth and rounded quartzite boulders.

This extensive woodland is home to wildlife such as black bear, white-tailed deer, bobcat, weasel, porcupine, squirrels, and chipmunks, forest-dwelling hawks and owls, smaller woodland birds, and butterflies. Stick lodges, dammed culverts, and gnawed tree stumps are evidence that beaver have claimed Fountain Pond as their home, while numerous intermittent streams, seeps and wetlands provide habitat for a variety of reptiles, amphibians, and other small creatures.

Around the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Fountain Pond was the site of an unsuccessful attempt to create an entertainment venue complete with open-air theater, dance pavilion, and dining hall. The Berkshire Street Railway provided trolley service to Fountain Park, as it was then known, for a few years in the early 1900's. A white marble fountain was built at the entrance to the park and fed by water from a man-made lake. Poor weather and abundant mosquitoes put a damper on the enterprise, which was abandoned a few years later. Today only a few stone walls, foundation stones, and a lovely view of the pond and Monument Mountain remain.

## Property Stewardship

The Threemile Hill Trail passes through lands owned and managed by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Berkshire Natural Resources Council, and Berkshire South Regional Community Center. Please help keep the trail and adjoining lands in good condition for future hikers to enjoy by complying with the rules and regulations of the respective landowners

## To Report a Problem on This Trail

Call 413.528.2810 ext. 10  
 (Berkshire South Regional Community Center)

## For More Information Contact

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation 413.528.0904, [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr)  
 Berkshire Natural Resources Council 413.499.0596, [www.bnrc.net](http://www.bnrc.net)  
 Berkshire South Regional Community Center 413.528.2810, [www.berkshiresouth.org](http://www.berkshiresouth.org)



Historic information from *Great Barrington: Great Town, Great History*