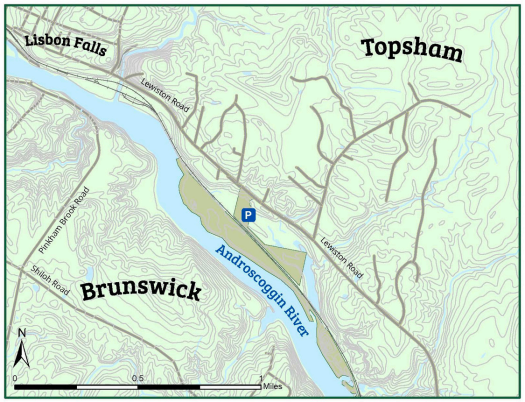
ANDROSCOGGIN WOODS

Androscoggin Woods is a 53-acre property conserved by the Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust in 2019. The property includes a long stretch along the Androscoggin River as well as 14 acres of wetlands which provide important habitat for many plant and animal species. The Androscoggin River begins at lake Umbagog in Errol, New Hampshire, and flows into Merrymeeting Bay — a unique inland, freshwater, tidal delta where six rivers join.

The indigenous people who farmed, hunted, and fished along the river were called the Arasagunticook and were part of the wider Wabanaki community that inhabited the region for thousands of years before colonization. They depended heavily on the resources of the river – from the fertile floodplains for growing corn to the abundant fish. It was these same resources that brought early colonial settlers, who also soon dammed the river for its power, which, by the early 1800's had all but destroyed the once abundant fisheries. Later, pulp and paper mills released toxic waste into the river, and it became one of the most polluted waterways in the nation. It was this river that inspired Senator Ed Muskie, of Rumford, Maine, to press the US Congress to adopt the Clean Water Act of 1972 — which resulted in the much cleaner river you can visit today.

With a mile of trails both inland and along the riverfront, this preserve provides excellent access for hiking, fishing, and nature observation. Brown ash can be found within the first 500 feet from the parking and this area is often inundated with water during the spring after heavy rain, so plan accordingly and stay on the trail. Boat access from the nearby boat launch is welcome, as is swimming at your own risk. We hope you enjoy your visit!



DIRECTIONS TO PROPERTY

From the Topsham Fair Mall, head west on Route 196 towards Lisbon. After passing the I-295 overpass, continue west on Route 196/Lewiston Road for 4.5 miles. When you see W. Merrill Road on your right, slow down and look for the Androscoggin Woods property sign on the left side of the road just past the driveway for 1074 Lewiston Road. If you've hit Dewey Drive, you've gone too far!

TRAIL USE RESTRICTIONS

- Open dawn to dusk.
- On-leash dogs permitted (waste removal required).
- No off-road vehicles, bicycles, snowmobiles, or horses.
- No fires or camping.
- Stay on marked trails.
- Deer hunting not allowed, waterfowl blinds only by permission.
- Seasonally wet sections of trail — plan ahead accordingly.

BRUNSWICK-TOPSHAM LAND TRUST

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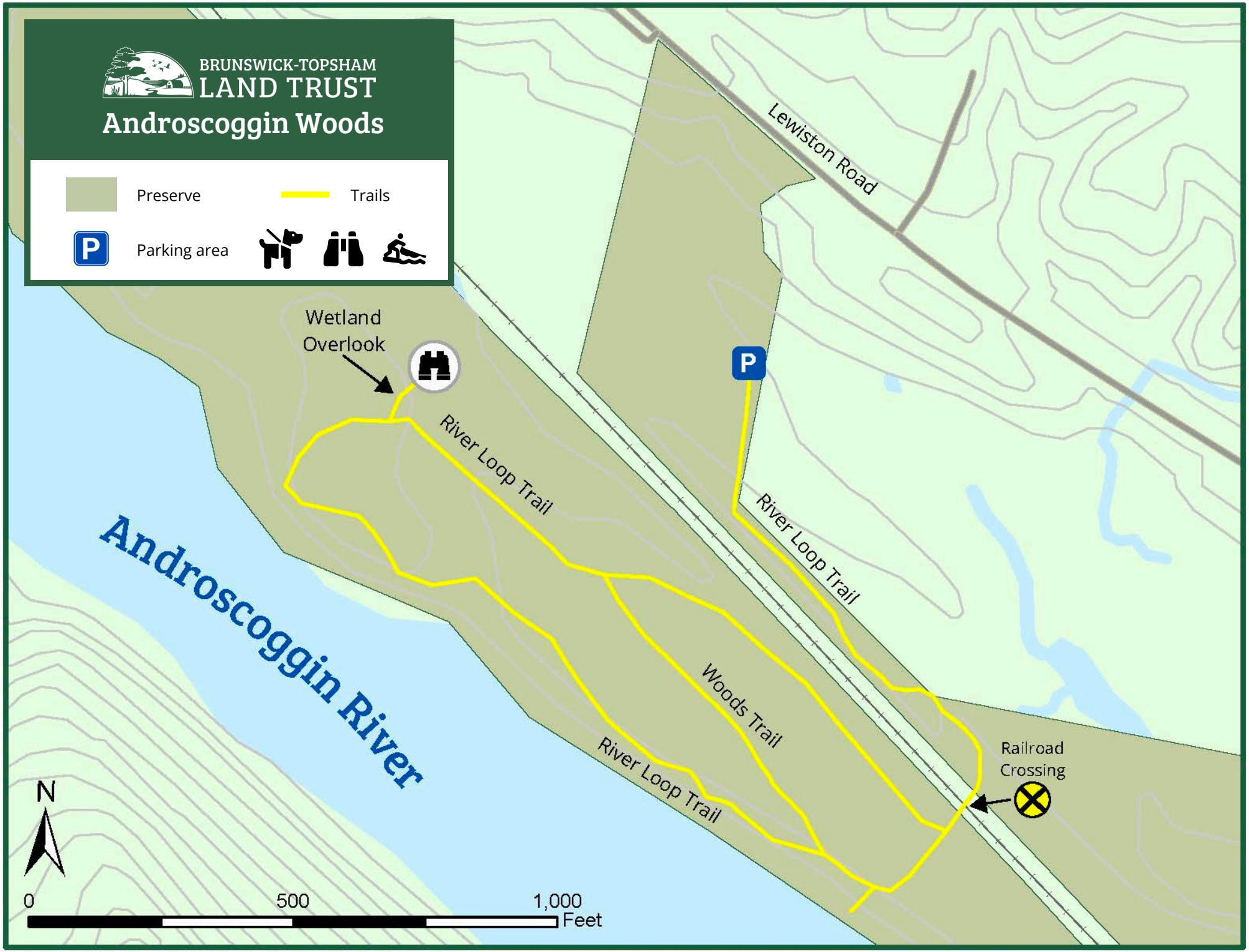
Androscoggin Woods TRAILS

Online maps available at www.BTLT.org/trailmap

Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust's mission is to conserve and steward vital natural areas, support a vibrant local food system, and connect people with the natural world through inclusive education and recreation programs.


BRUNSWICK-TOPSHAM
LAND TRUST
Androscoggin Woods
Preserve
Trails
Parking area
Lewiston Road
Wetland
Overlook
River Loop Trail
River Loop Trail
River Loop Trail
Woods Trail
Androscoggin River
Railroad
Crossing
N
0
500
1,000
Feet