

Basin Pond

Basin Pond's trails lead visitors across streams and cascades through a boulder-strewn natural amphitheater to a beaver pond and the site of two long-gone man-made dams. Hikers today can enjoy Basin Pond's 296 acres by taking the loop trail or walking the more direct route to the pond via the lower trail.

Directions: Take Route 20 east from Lee. Left on Becket Road. Trailhead is approximately 0.25 miles ahead on left.

GPS: 42.2959, -73.1612 (Trailhead parking)



Photo: Gabrielle K. Murphy

WELCOME! WE INVITE YOU TO . . .

ENJOY this property on foot or snowshoes. Dogs are welcome. They must be under your immediate control and local leash laws apply. Hunting and fishing are permitted, subject to MA state regulations. No motorized vehicles are allowed.

PROTECT the trails, wildlife, and land. Carry out what you bring in, take only photos, and leave everything else just as you found it.

APPRECIATE that this land provides a home, food, and shelter to wildlife and protection for clean drinking water. Respect wildlife and keep your distance.

LEARN MORE Please visit BNRC.org or call 413-499-0596 for more information about this property, to learn about upcoming free guided walks and events here and around the Berkshires, and to support BNRC in preserving this beautiful landscape.

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FIND our app in the app stores by searching for "BNRC trails."



Berkshire Natural Resources Council

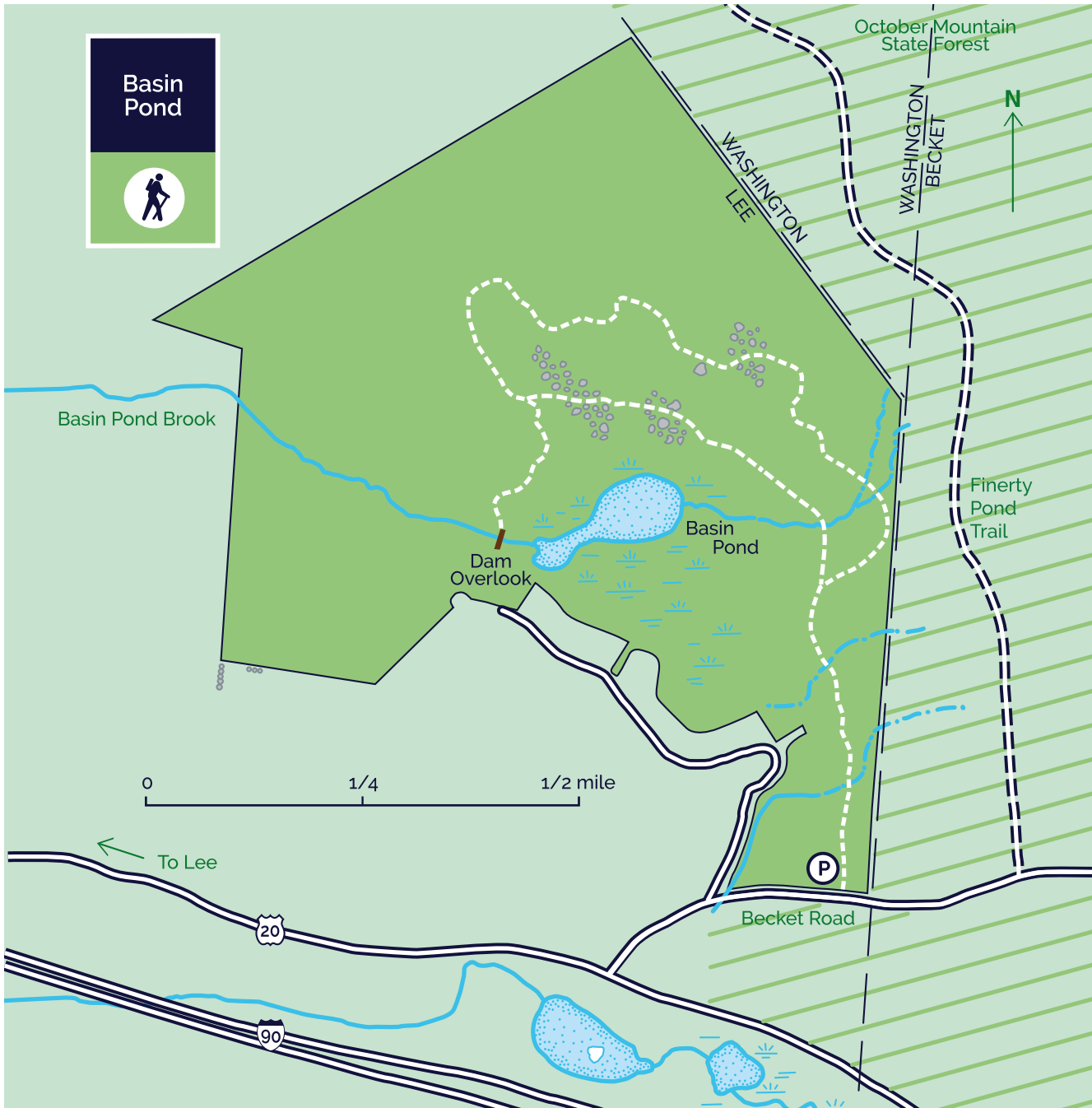
309 Pittsfield Road, Suite B | Lenox MA 01240 | 413-499-0596
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Basin Pond

Lee



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BASIN POND TRAIL MAP



TRAIL DESCRIPTION

Trail: 2.5 miles, round-trip

Difficulty: Moderate (uneven footing, elevation changes)

From the kiosk, the trail takes hikers on an easy ramble over rolling ground. Just after the stream, the trail splits. The right fork rises higher on the slope while the left fork takes a shorter route with less elevation gain. The two trails converge at a short spur leading to what remains of the 1965 dam. A viewing platform there offers a safe perspective on those ruins and the pond that beavers have created.

NATURAL HISTORY

Basin Pond's watery habitat attracts moose and beaver, in part because the property abuts the 16,500 acres of October Mountain State Forest, the largest state forest in MA. Much other wildlife can be seen, including hermit thrushes. Hemlocks, oaks and other hardwood trees provide abundant shade, while hobblebush is common in the undergrowth. A striking feature of the site is the lacework of streams, large and small, that course down the south-facing hillside.