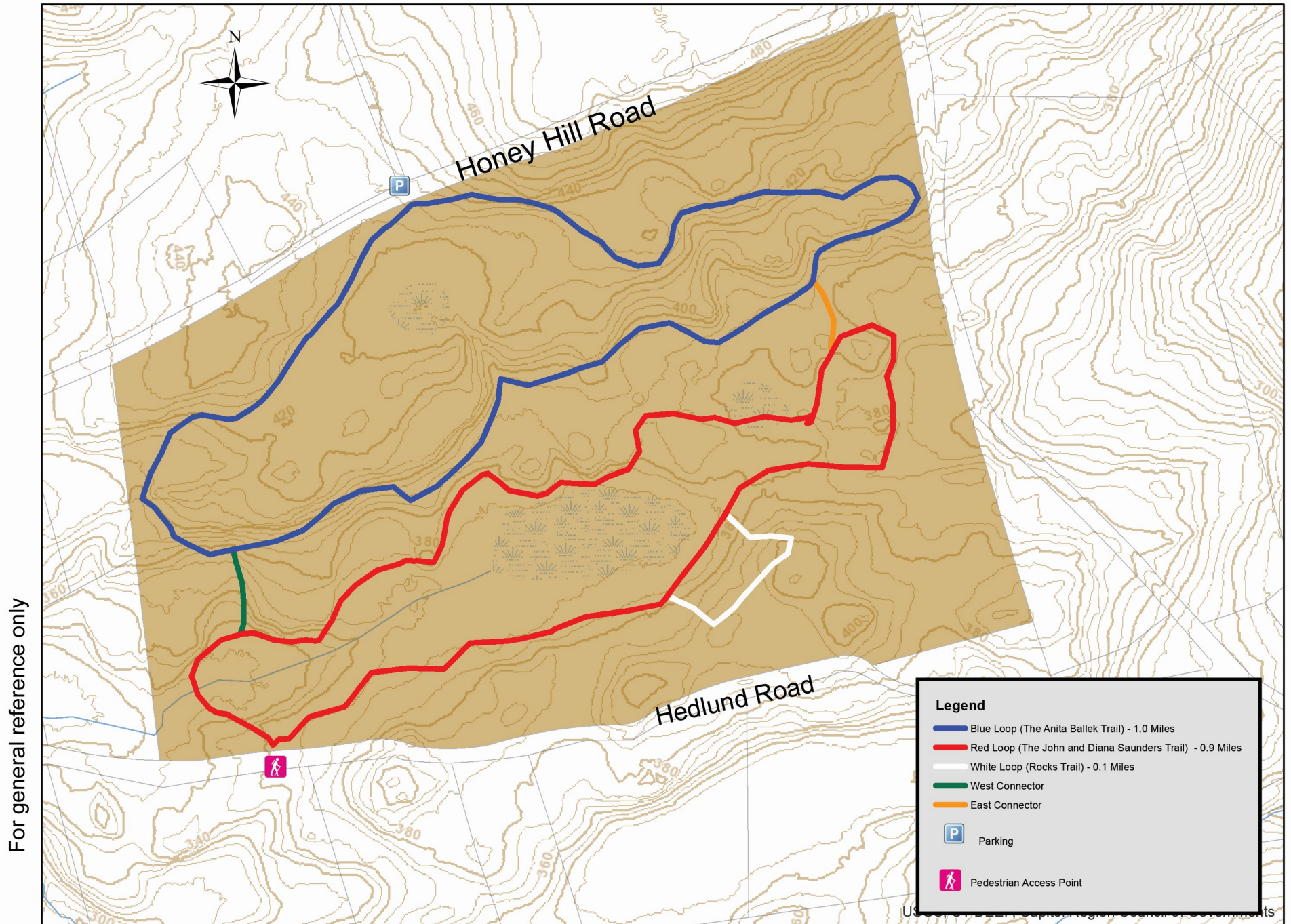
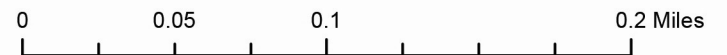


# SAUNDERS PRESERVE



For general reference only

Managed by EAST HADDAM LAND TRUST



## SAUNDERS PRESERVE

### Directions:

- \* From Hadlyme Four Corners, follow Route 82 east.
- \* After 0.6 miles turn left onto Honey Hill Road.
- \* Continue for 1.5 miles.
- \* The main parking lot is on the right hand side of Honey Hill Road.

**NOTE:** This preserve lies along two geologic fault lines. It can be rocky and in places steep. The trails' difficulty level is generally moderate, but some hikers may find certain sections challenging.

For more information or to report any problems during your visit, see:

[www.ehlt.org](http://www.ehlt.org)

### Trail Facts:

- The 1-mile blue trail is mostly on dry uplands and passes geologic formations from the Devonian and Silurian periods (414-420 million years old).
- The 0.9-mile red trail, at a lower elevation, passes a large vernal pool at its eastern end and follows a small brook at its western end. Rock formations along the southern edge of the property arrived on site some 300-400 million years ago, when the Avalonian subcontinent collided with the native bedrock.
- The west (green) and east (orange) connector trails allow for passage between the blue and red trails.
- The 0.1-mile white trail, in the southern portion of the preserve, leads past several large rocks and glacial boulders that are quite different from those found on the preserve's other trails.



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### SAUNDERS PRESERVE

The 69.5-acre Saunders Preserve was acquired by East Haddam Land Trust in 2023 from the family of John and Diana Saunders, longtime East Haddam residents who wished to see the land preserved in perpetuity.

The eastern end of the preserve feeds the Eightmile River Watershed, while the western end feeds the Roaring Brook Watershed.

Prominent geology professors have called the preserve a "geologic gem." It lies atop both the Pattaconk Brook Fault and the Honey Hill Fault, revealing geology in the northern half of the preserve that is fundamentally different from that in the preserve's southern half.

In addition to the many rocks of geologic interest are the impressive stone walls that crisscross the property, attesting to the land's agricultural past.

