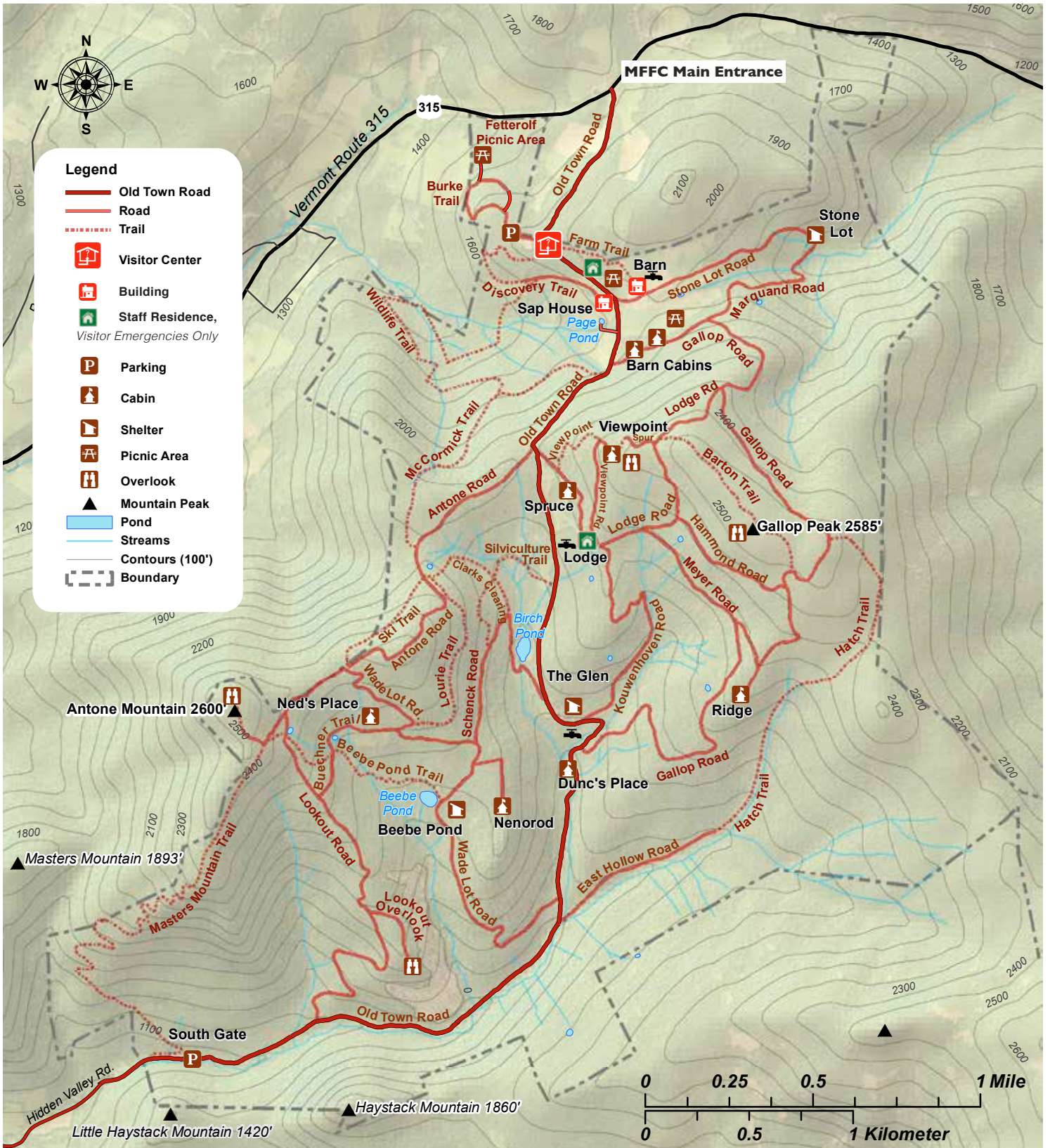




Welcome to Merck Forest and Farmland Center. MFFC offers 36 miles of trails and roads for hikers, horseback riders, snowshoers, and cross-country skiers to explore. Please take precautions against potential inclement weather and uneven terrain, and note that cell phone and GPS services may be limited around the property. We appreciate your feedback about the trails. Enjoy! (Emergency information is located on back of map).



Welcome to Merck Forest & Farmland Center

We are a tax-exempt (501(c)(3)) nonprofit educational organization with a mission to teach and to demonstrate the benefits of innovative, sustainable management of forest and farmland.

OUR WORKING LANDSCAPE

Merck Forest and Farmland Center (MFFC) comprises 3,162 acres and includes a managed forest, a Certified-Organic sugaring operation and a 60-acre organic farm. We specialize in producing maple syrup, wool and grass-fed meat, all of which are for sale in the Visitor Center. Our educational offerings include onsite demonstrations, workshops, research opportunities, internships, and inquiry-based classes for students.

We also offer more than 30 miles of recreational trails and roads for hiking, horseback riding, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing, and we have rustic backcountry cabins for camping.

HOURS OF OPERATION

MFFC is open free of charge to the public year round. The Visitor Center is open from 9 am to 4 pm daily, with the exception of New Year's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

VEHICLES AND PARKING

In order to minimize impact on the land and to heighten the visitor experience, only MFFC-authorized vehicles are allowed beyond the Visitor Center. Visitors must park in designated parking areas. Use of mountain bikes, ATVs and snowmobiles by visitors is prohibited.

PETS

Please keep your pet(s) leashed near the Visitor Center and on the farm grounds: farm animals can be frightened, injured or killed by even the friendliest pets.

HUNTING

Hunting at MFFC must be conducted in accordance with Vermont law. Hunter sign-in boxes and SAFETY ZONE maps are located at both entrances. All posted safety zones must be adhered to.

CAMPING

Camping is permitted in designated cabin & tent sites only. Reservations are required and may be made through our website or by giving us a call.

SOUTH GATE ACCESS

Turn left on Route 315 for 5 miles. Turn left onto Kent Hollow Road for 1 mile. Stay left at the Sandgate Road fork. Turn left onto Hidden Valley Road for 1.2 miles to the South Gate. Park on right.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

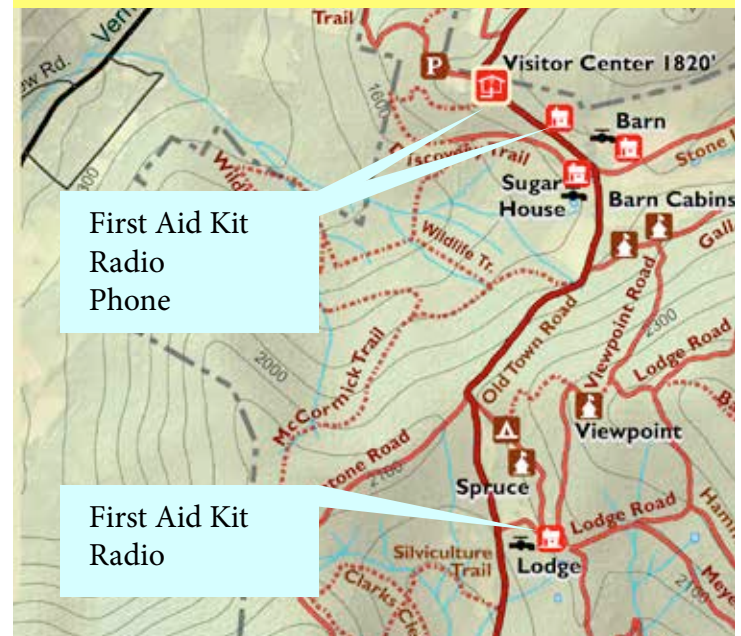
As you head out to explore, please remember that we are a working landscape. For your own safety:

- Most of our fences are electrified; please don't touch.
- Do not climb on farm or forestry equipment.
- Do not enter fields where animals are grazing.
- Use outhouses when available. If one is not available, dispose of human and pet waste in cat holes dug 6 inches deep, at least 200 feet from water, campsites and trails.
- Ponds are not maintained for public swimming. Swim at your own risk.
- Water sources should be treated prior to human consumption.
- Unruly or hazardous behavior, possession of illegal drugs and excessive use of alcohol are not permitted.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

In the event of an after-hours emergency, visitors should use the radios/phones/first aid kits located in the Caretaker's Cabin, the Lodge or the side porch of the Visitor's Center.

Emergency Information



If you would like to support our work, please consider making a donation or becoming a member today.

*Merck Forest & Farmland Center * PO Box 86 * 3270 Route 315 * Rupert, Vermont 05768 *
p. 802-394-7836 * f. 802-394-2519 * www.merckforest.org*