

## The Open Space Committee

The Open Space Committee, appointed by the Shelburne Town Selectboard, works to ensure that Shelburne:

- Sustains its small town environment and rural character.
- Maintains or improves the quality of its air and water, farm and forestlands, scenic views, and wildlife habitat through conservation of natural and open space resources.
- Maintains and improves the quality and accessibility of all its recreational facilities and programming.

[www.townofshelburne.com](http://www.townofshelburne.com)



## Crossing Private Land

Many of these trails cross private land with the permission of the landowners. Here are a few things to keep in mind when crossing private land.

- Stay on trails. Do not wander.
- Trails are open from dawn to dusk.
- No camping permitted.
- No fires of any kind are permitted.
- Dogs must be kept on a leash.
- Gates found closed should be closed after passing through.
- Open gates should be left open.
- Conditions change; respect No Trespassing and Trail Closed signs.

## Walkers Etiquette

### **Do Not Litter**

Pack it in and pack it out. It can take years for "biodegradable" litter to decompose. Take along a litter bag to carry out refuse. And take out trash found along the way as well.

### **Stay On the Trail**

Don't take shortcuts or cut switchbacks. This causes erosion and damages the trails.

### **Keep Dogs under Control**

Many visitors come to view birds and other wildlife. It is natural for dogs to chase wildlife. Keep dogs on a leash. Scoop and bury poop.

### **Keep Human Waste Away from Streams and Rivers**

Bury human waste 4-6 inches deep and 300 feet from water. Pack out toilet paper (bring along zip lock bags).

### **Do Not Pick Flowers or Collect Plants**

Leave plants and flowers for others to enjoy.

### **Don't Feed the Wildlife**

Human food is rarely healthy for wild animals. Animals who are accustomed to finding food among humans can become pests and have to be destroyed.

### **Leave Gates, Cabins, and Other Structures as you found them**

### **Park Your Car Well Off Roads**

### **Don't Block Driveways or Gates**

# WALKING AND HIKING IN SHELBURNE



## The Town of Shelburne

Graced by the beautiful Deerfield River, the Town of Shelburne is located just off Route 2, the Mohawk Trail, and 8 miles west of Interstate 91.

Visiting Shelburne is like stepping back in time to a nineteenth century New England village. Its 2,000 residents are proud of its old homes, restored village buildings, and the beautiful New England hills surrounding the river valley.

Shelburne has active farms, productive forests, protected natural areas, and a thriving village business community.



## The High Ledges

Massachusetts Audubon Society

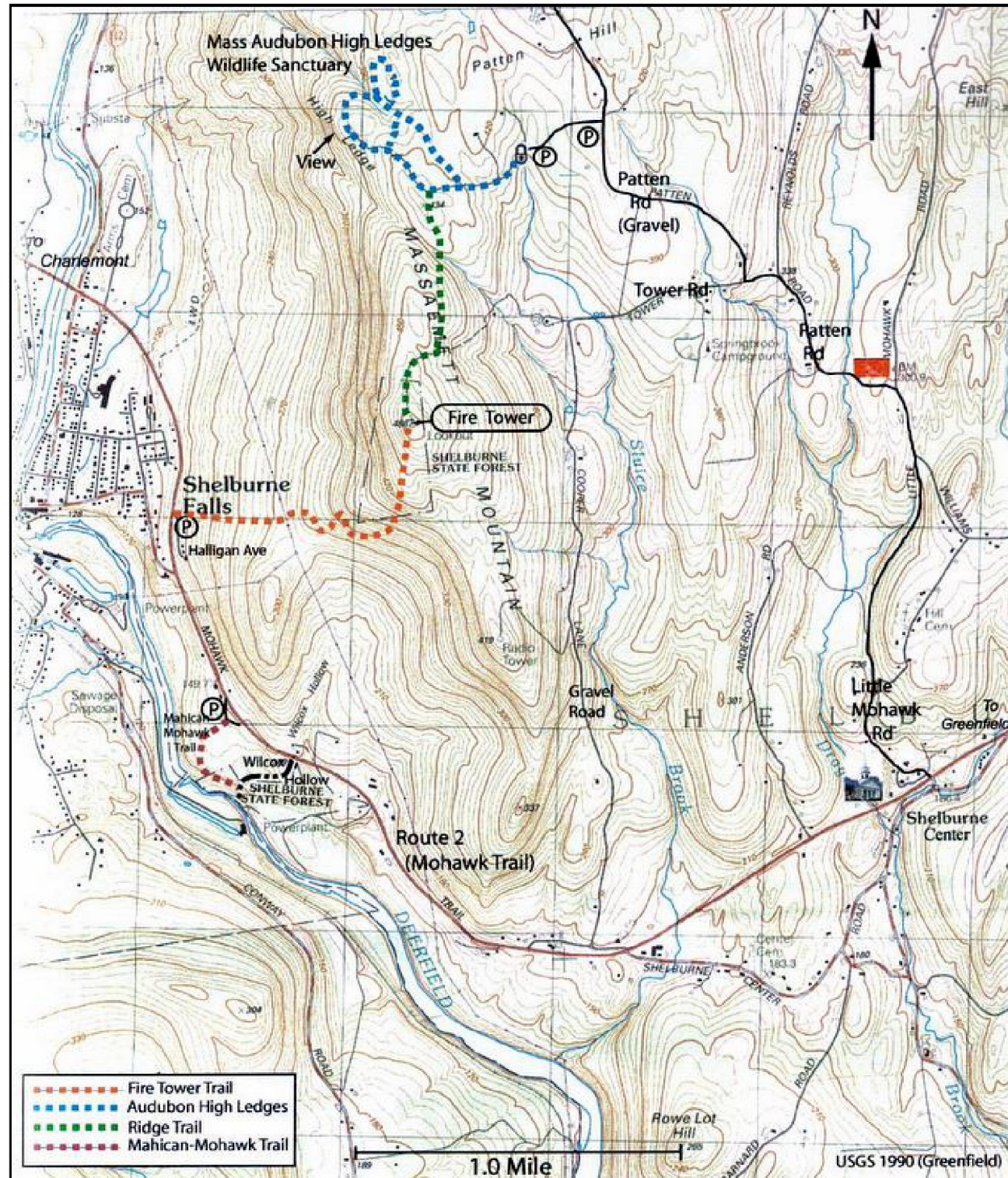
The High Ledges has an extensive trail system. Trails are rated moderate. The Ledges, for which the site is named, offer a panoramic view of the Deerfield River Valley to Mt. Greylock, the highest peak in the state. Trails are open every day, dawn to dusk. There is no smoking on Audubon land. Pets are not allowed.

Take Rt. 2 to Little Mohawk Road in Shelburne Center. Turn onto Little Mohawk Road. Bear left at the junction onto Patten Road and bear left again at the next junction (staying on Patten Road). Take the next right, (still staying on Patten Road). The sanctuary is .5 miles on the left. Parking is in a small area about 800 feet west of Patten Road. The ledges are located about one mile from the parking area.



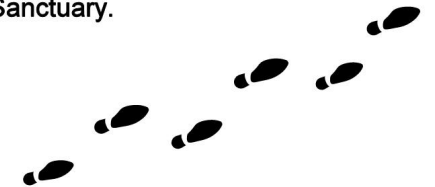
## The Mahican Mohawk Trail

This trail is part of a foot path through the woods along the Deerfield River. It is rated rough but moderate. It is a small part of an extensive Native American trail system dating back thousands of years that extended from the Atlantic to the Hudson River and beyond. Parts of this trail cross private land. Please respect private property and No Trespassing signs. The trail is open every day, dawn to dusk. Pets must be kept on a leash. Take Rt. 2 to the trailhead parking just east of the MA State Police barracks. At Wilcox Hollow you can exit by walking up the gravel road to Rt. 2. Return along the trail to the parking area for a 3 mile round trip.



## The Fire Tower Trail

This trail climbs to the stone fire tower at the top of Mt. Massaemett. It is a strenuous uphill walk of approximately 1.25 miles one way. It begins at Route 2 and Halligan Avenue, just west of the South Maple Street entrance to Shelburne Falls. Park on the uphill side of Halligan Avenue. The trail begins at the culvert at the base of Halligan Avenue and Rt. 2. The trees on the first part of the trail are blazed with white paint. The trail will continue directly across a power line until it comes to a junction with a wide trail (at orange blaze). Turn right onto this wider trail and follow it continuously bearing left uphill to the tower. You can climb the tower for a three state view. Return the way you came or continue down the road to the cell tower (3rd structure). Turn left and follow the fence on the left side to link up with the Ridge Trail to the High Ledges Sanctuary.



## The Ridge Trail

The Ridge Trail is located on a privately owned working farm. Please be alert to wood cutting and other work which may be encountered. Exercise courtesy and caution and stay on the trail. This trail can be accessed on one end from the High Ledges Sanctuary or on the other from the Fire Tower Trail. The trail crosses a wooded ridge and is rated moderate.