



Hiking Trails

Tucker Mountain Town Forest

All mileages are one way

Tucker Mountain Road: East Side to Summit

1.5 miles, elevation gain: 500 ft. - easy to moderate

Of note: Stone walls, Vance Brook, interpretive signs, summit views. Half way up the road to the right, is a deteriorating house built around 1808.

Trailhead: East parking lot.

Route: From parking lot, walk right (west) on Tucker Mtn. Road 1.2 miles. The upper kiosk is on its highest point. Turn left (south) at the kiosk onto the High Meadows Trail, leading 0.3 miles to the summit with its spectacular 360 views.

Tucker Mountain Road: West Side to the Summit

1.5 miles, elevation gain 445 ft. - easy

Of note: A class-4 road though hardwoods and conifers passing two ponds and following Meadow Brook. Old homestead site.

Trailhead: West parking lot

Route: From parking lot, walk left 0.75 miles east to the high point of Tucker Mtn. Road. At the kiosk, turn right on the High Meadows Trail, 0.3 miles to the summit meadows and views.

Putnam Trail to Tucker Mtn. Summit

1.5 miles, elevation gain 500 ft. - moderate

Description: A wilderness trail through forests. Dramatic rock ledges, vernal pool, summit views. Parallels Tucker Mtn. Road.

Trailhead: East parking lot.

Route: Access Lower Putnam trail at the far (north) side of the parking area. In wet weather, the Lower Putnam may be muddy or wet. At 0.5 miles, the trail crosses Tucker Mtn. Road and becomes Upper

Putnam Trail. (You can avoid Lower Putnam by taking the road to this crossing and picking up the Upper Putnam Trail to the left.) Continue up an old road for 0.3 miles and turn west (right) into the woods. Follow the yellow blazes 0.7 mi. to the summit. A spur trail to a vernal pool (marked) near the summit.

Woodchuck Mountain Loop Trail

Access from Tucker Mountain Road, complete hike is 1.4 miles from west lot; 2.5 miles from east lot.

Elevation gain 262 ft.- moderate

Description: At 1742 ft., Woodchuck Mtn. is the highest point in Newbury. Beautiful trail through diverse forests with interesting bedrock exposures.

Trailheads: Two marked trailheads: one by the second pond west of the upper kiosk on Tucker Mtn. Road, the second another 0.2 miles further west.

Route: Start at either of the Woodchuck Loop trailheads and follow the yellow blazes. Near the top, there is a short spur trail to the summit sign. Follow the yellow blazes down to the other trailhead.

Three Ponds Trail, .5 mile, west of upper kiosk. - easy

Description: This lovely trail wanders through the forest on the west side of Tucker Mtn. and passes three ponds: two man-made ponds with beaver activity and one natural beaver pond. It offers an excellent view of Woodchuck Mtn.

Trailheads: From the west, start opposite the Woodchuck Loop Trailhead on Tucker Mtn. Road. From the east, the trail leads west off the High Meadows Trail.

Route: From either trailhead, follow the yellow blazes.

Beaver Pond and Wetlands View Trail, 0.7 mile from east lot, elevation gain 60 ft. - easy

Description: One branch leads to an abandoned beaver pond; another branch leads to our woven arch bridge and wetlands view. The Wetlands Trail, in progress, continues west the bridge. The Beaver Pond Trail was built by local students.

Trailhead: Far side of the East parking lot.

Route: From the far end (north) of the parking lot, follow the Lower Putnam Trail. The Beaver Pond and Wetlands Trail junction is near to where the Lower Putnam joins Tucker Mtn. Road. The trail heads north for 400 yards, then turns left into the woods at a second junction. To reach the wetland's view and bridge, return to the second junction and hike north toward the wetland, then follow the trail left into the woods. You will reach the bridge and view in less than two minutes. Continue beyond the bridge on the Wetlands Trail. The trail is primitive and unfinished.

Vance Brook Trail, 0.5 mile loop - easy

Description: Our StoryWalk™ trail. This trail was built along the route of our future all-persons (accessible) trail. We hope to make it suitable to wheelchairs in the next few years. For now, it is a lovely path that wanders through the forest and follows Vance Brook.

Trailhead: Just north of the East Parking Area, continue straight where the Lower Putnam Trail turns left.

Oliver Spring Trail, 0.5 mile loop - moderate

Description: A trail in progress that will lead to the Woodchuck Mtn. Summit. For now, it's a small loop trail from the west kiosk. When the trail meets an old logging road, turn left back to Tucker Mountain Rd. to complete the loop.