Since the 2001 open space study, Berlin added over 1000 acres of open lands to our town’s heritage...

From vernal pools holding the tiniest salamanders to traprock ridges where hawks soar, our community is steeped in bountiful natural settings.

Farms and orchards typical of New England’s agricultural legacy dot the town; lush trees shelter century-old stone walls.

Hikers traverse the town on the Mattabesett and Metacomet Trails, now designated as part of the New England National Scenic Trail. Mature forests and microclimates on the glacial outcroppings of Ragged and Lamentation Mountains foster habitat diversity. Aquifers underneath, with reservoirs and streams above feed a vast watershed where all waters drain to the great Connecticut River.

For more information, please contact:

**Town of Berlin**
Conservation Commission
240 Kensington Road
Berlin, CT 06037
860.828.7000
Web: www.townofberlin.us

You may also contact:

**Berlin Land Trust, Inc.**
PO Box 8278
Berlin, CT 06037
860.828.4393
Web: www.berlinlandtrust.org

This brochure was prepared for the Conservation Commission by Karen M. Pierson, Writer and Consultant on Planning & Public Policy. Photographs by Karen M. Pierson except the Hawk by Dick Schmidt, and Winter Hike by Ruth Penfield. Maps by David Vaught of NECEO.
Go to www.town.berlin.ct.us and click on Community Services near the top right, THEN Click Conservation Commission and Open Space on the left. This site is being updated regularly so keep checking for:

- Maps of many conservation areas and trails, hiking information, encroachment rules
- Conservation Commission newsletters and brochures on green practices, as well as DEP/UConn resource sites on ‘greenscaping,’ invasive species, etc.
- A 4-part Virtual Photo Tour of Berlin’s Open Space
- HBCA Community Garden information

**Where can you find trails in Berlin?**

**Ragged Mountain** (589 acres) - New England Trail (NET) and other trails maintained with cooperation of CFPA within lands owned by state, land trust and two towns; park as shown off West Lane

**Blue Hills Conservation Area** (452 acres) - Home to Metacomet/NET; with parking off Chamberlain Hwy. and before cul-de-sac at end of Summit Wood

**Bicentennial Park** (189 acres) - New trails and bridges added last year by CFPA; trail will soon link to HBCA via Cross Creek; for now, park in marked section on Winesap Rd. or Cross Creek

**Hatchery Brook Conservation Area** (175 acres) - New trails and links marked, note gardens & bluebird boxes; park in gravel lot off Orchard Road

**Former Pistol Creek Golf Club** (77 acres) - Many cart paths marked; park off Spruce Brook Road by clubhouse, but paths are across the street to the north

**Timberlin Park** [contains Short Mountain, Amelia Green Trail & future link to Metacomet Trail from Bicentennial] - Park at Timberlin

**Beckley Quarry** (47.3 acres) - Level walking along Mattabesset River, park legally by industrial park and very carefully cross Wethersfield Rd.

**Lamentation Mountain North & South** (45 and 25 acres) - Mattabesset/NET Trail wends its way via Meriden and Berlin and Middletown

See town website for usage rules and more details on properties.

Open Space Preservation for Future Generations

The Town and its people shall take responsibility for stewardship of the exceptional physical and cultural landscape that characterizes Berlin and gives it its sense of place. Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD), July 2003

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**No Child [or Adult] Left Inside!**

Explore Berlin’s diversity of open space. From the urban park of Railroad Pond to the walking paths on Short Mountain west of Timberlin Park to the steep trails etching the traprock ridges on our east and west borders, we offer outdoor experiences for all levels.

Hike our newly expanded Hatchery Brook Conservation Area’s trails. Watch migratory birds and listen to the burble of our streams. Spot the many mammals and aquatic critters that call our town home.

Future plans for the HBCA and its growing land area (like the recently acquired Girl Scout property) will include more and more marked trails and opportunities for environmental education. Already the community gardens offer a new benefit. See for yourself how these conservation lands preserve our communal heritage.

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**What you can do ...**

Enjoy the open space, trails, and parks in our town. Tell others about these wonderful assets and help them to explore these gems.

Encourage the preservation of open space within our town.

Attend our meetings [second Tuesday of each month] or ask to join the Berlin Conservation Commission.

Become a Land Steward — volunteer to maintain trails and/or Donate Land or Conservation Easements to the Town of Berlin or the Berlin Land Trust.

Join the Berlin Land Trust, our partner in preservation.

Buy from all our local farms and orchards, and support our town’s agricultural heritage.

The Conservation Commission also has an educational presentation [in Microsoft PowerPoint® format] about Berlin Open Space. View it on the town website’s Conservation Commission section which is under Community Services.

Please contact the Commission if you would like to borrow it or ask a member.