

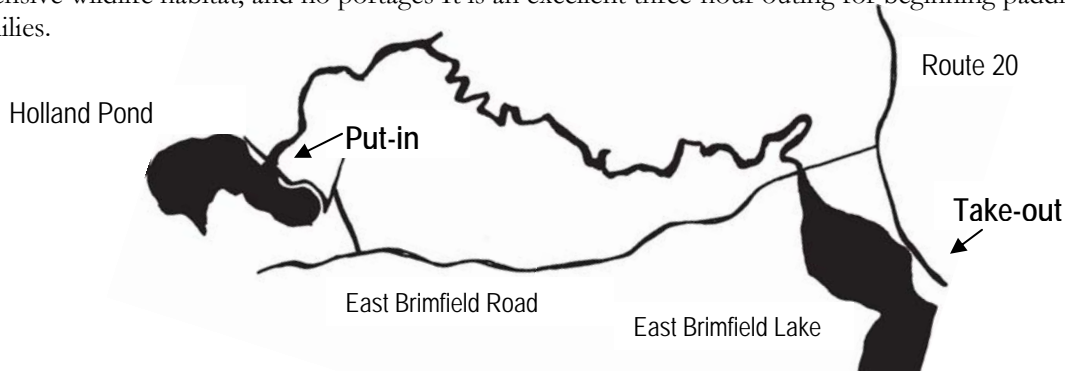
Quinebaug River Water Trail PADDLER'S GUIDE

Provisional Edition April 22, 2009



Holland Pond (Lake Siog) to East Brimfield Lake Holland MA to Brimfield MA

This segment is within the East Brimfield Lake Project of the US Army Corps of Engineers. The Corps calls it the Quinebaug River Canoe Trail; several years ago it was designated a *National Recreation Trail* and *Watchable Wildlife Area*. The Corps distributes an excellent two-page guide and map at www.nae.usace.army.mil/recreati/ebl/eblhome.htm. This segment is 5.5 miles long with no current, extensive wildlife habitat, and no portages. It is an excellent three-hour outing for beginning paddlers and families.



Put-in: Holland Pond Access

Lat/Long: N42.082 W-72.1643

Insert photo

Free parking is available at the launch on Pond Bridge Road in Holland. To reach the launch from Route 20, turn onto East Brimfield Road just west of the Brimfield/Sturbridge town line. Continue three miles, turn right onto Morse Road and follow signs to boat launch. There are a dozen parking spaces in the unpaved parking lot at the put-in and dozens more in an adjacent lot. The carry to the water's edge is less than 50 feet and flat. The put-in is a low bank, grassy shoreline with some rocks..

Paddling Conditions & Rest Stops

There are three designated rest stops along the route for picnicking and relaxation. Fires and camping are prohibited. Fishing is permitted throughout with a Massachusetts fishing license. For most of this trip, the river is very slowly moving and meandering, surrounded by extensive marshes. At the end, East Brimfield Lake widens and wind can be a factor.

Take-out: East Brimfield Boat Ramp

Lat/Long: N42.1101 W-72.1394

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Free parking is available at the East Brimfield Boat Ramp off Route 20 on the Brimfield/Sturbridge town line. There are about 12 spaces in the paved lot and the carry to the water's edge is less than 20 feet. The take-outs include a paved launch ramp and a low grassy slope into the water. There are no public restrooms.

Things to Watch For

Insert
wildlife
photo

Wildlife and beautiful scenery are plentiful. Watch for turtles, Great Blue Herons, Canada Geese, various ducks, red fox, hawks, turkeys, and many songbirds. Bald eagles may be spotted in the late winter and early spring.

Have Fun Safely

Water levels vary not only with precipitation and snowmelt, but with dam releases. Please pay attention to changing conditions **before and during every trip**. Enjoy this beautiful river, but remember it can present hazards and challenges. Appalachian Mountain Club volunteers offer excellent paddling workshops; for information see www.outdoors.org.

Help to Complete the Trail

Volunteers are preparing improved Paddler's Guides, signs and additional water trail segments. You can help by submitting photos, by paddling and by helping to create new public launches.

**A Steering Committee will convene for the first time on June 24, 2009
at 7pm in Danielson at the Last Green Valley office: 111 Main Street.
Call 860 774 3300 for more information.**