

## Pleasant Hill Preserve

### Letterbox Location #7

Difficulty: Medium

Walking distance total: 2.5 miles

Pleasant Hill Preserve was once a working farm, owned by Herred Benjamin from the 1960s onward. After Benjamin's death, SLT purchased the land from his children. These 135 acres used to be home to cattle, pigs, sheep, geese, and chickens. Now, the fields are full of wildflowers and barn swallows have made a home in the barn.

Directions & Clues: Follow Eleanor's Trail (ADA compatible) until you see the barn. Across from the barn, to the right, begins a small woods trail which immediately goes uphill. This is the beginning of Monty's Trail, which makes a large loop around the property.



Boardwalk and Barn

This meandering trail cuts through a mixed forest, meaning that there are both coniferous and deciduous trees growing here. Notice the small white pines and the large red oaks. You will see one of these huge red oaks after about one minute of walking.

Soon, you will pass a tree growing on top of a rock.

Keep going. The trail will make a dramatic left turn. Stop. If you've passed a large rock wall on your left, you've gone too far!

Off to the left side of the trail, about 15 feet to your right, you will see a 3-stemmed oak tree. Walk to the base of that tree and find the letterbox hiding inside a hollow!

*Feel free to collect a Junior Steward sticker, but please remember to return all items to the container: stamp, ink pad, pencils, and journal. Please be sure to place the bin inside the bag and hide it safely where you found it.*



Elm Tree Over 200 Years old!

Continue your hike: Keep walking on Monty's trail through forest and fields. Once you reach the fork, you may continue even further on Monty's Trail and complete the loop, or you can cut back towards the barn using the Swallow's Field trail.

Thank you for visiting Pleasant Hill Preserve!