

Welcome to UConn's Hillside Environmental Education Park

Quarry Swamp Trailhead

The Hillside Environmental Education Park (HEEP) is a 165-acre preservation area located on UConn's North Campus. The HEEP has three miles of hiking trails through a variety of habitats: uplands, meadows, woodlands, wetlands, and riparian zones. Trailhead entrances are located near C-Lot, off of Hunting Lodge Road, and from the parking lot for the Innovation Partnership Building.

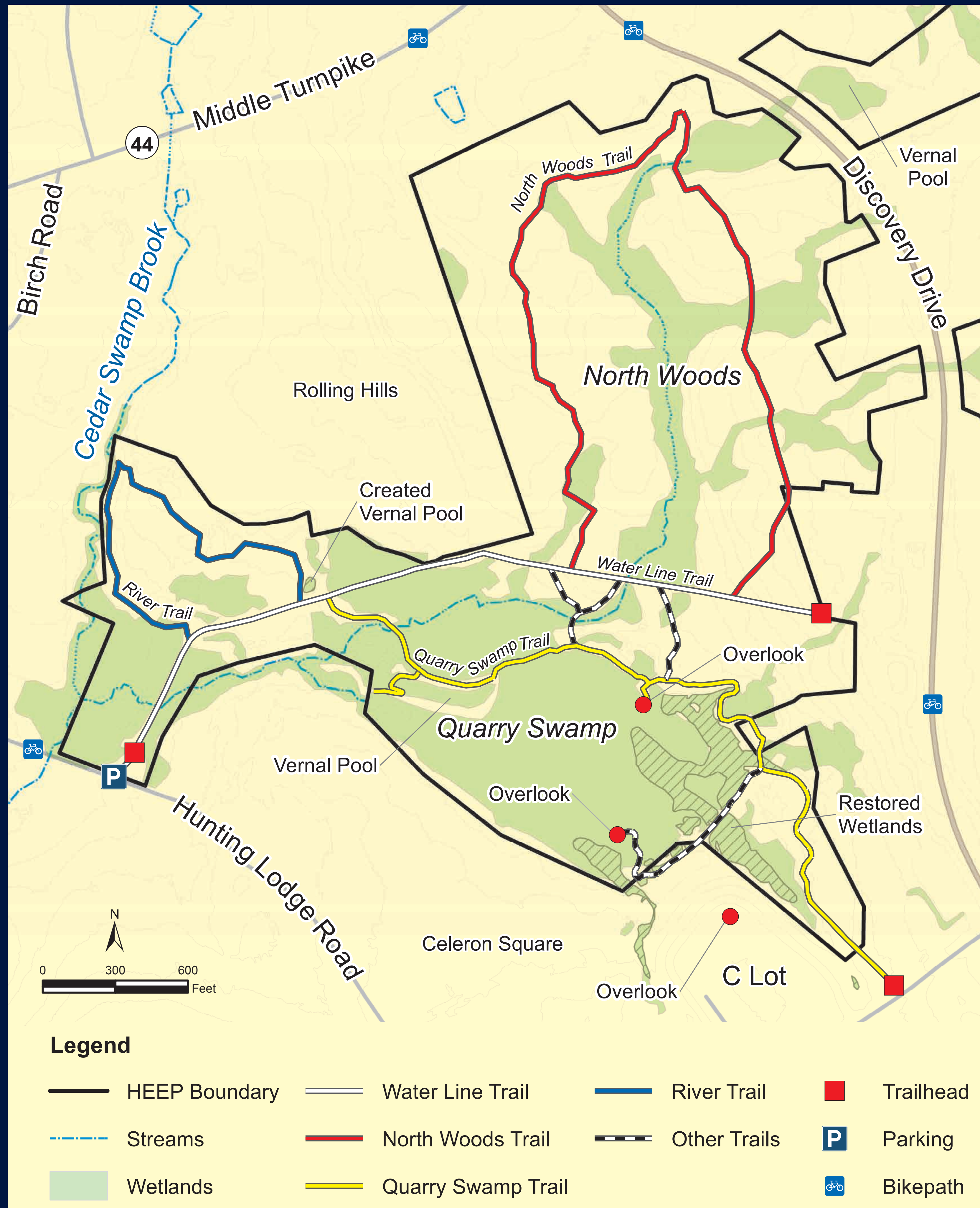
UConn maintains the entire parcel as a nature preserve pursuant to a conservation agreement with the Connecticut DEEP. Park features include interpretive signs, natural and man-made vernal pools, remnants of a turn-of-the-century agricultural stone wall, Cedar Swamp Brook, which runs through the HEEP toward Mansfield's Pink Ravine, and three wildlife viewing platforms.

Established in 2008, the HEEP is the result of UConn's habitat restoration and management efforts following the remediation and closure of the former UConn Landfill, which operated in the vicinity of C-Lot into the early-1980s. UConn added 101-acres to the HEEP in 2016, as a result of the permitting and construction of North Hillside Road Extension, later re-named Discovery Drive. Today, the HEEP functions as a recreation area, nature preserve, and outdoor classroom for UConn and the general public.

Nearby Horsebarn Hill offers additional trails and information about open space conservation in Storrs. Go to HBH.uconn.edu for events and seasonal information.



s.uconn.edu/heep



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Water Line West Trailhead

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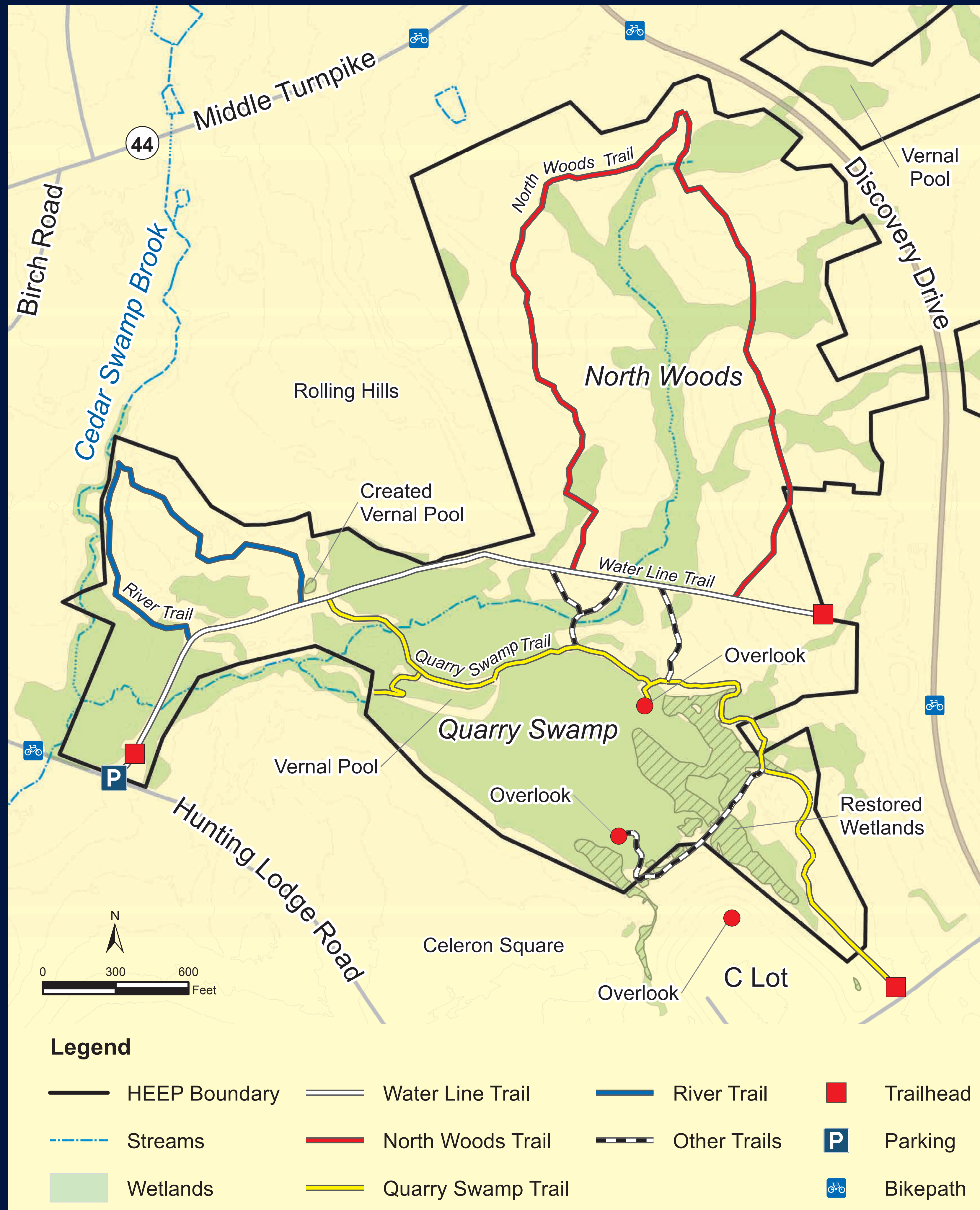
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Water Line East Trailhead

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