

WALKING TIPS

- Stay on the marked trail and follow the signs.
- Don't walk, jog or hike alone.
- Bring plenty of water.
- Please leave the woods as you find them, bring out what you take in.
- Use crosswalks and sidewalks when available, and watch for traffic.
- Trails have varying degrees of difficulty, please use caution.
- Bug repellent is recommended.
- Dial 911 in case of emergency and be sure to state which trail you are on.



Lantern Hill Pond

LANTERN HILL

Lantern Hill stands 491 feet tall and is comprised of granite-gneiss bedrock with quartz deposits. It is part of one of the ancient continental plates known as Avalonia. Sister formations can be found in New Foundland and Africa. Its extreme hardness and weather resistance has left it standing high above the area's post-glacial landscape.

Historically, Lantern Hill provided a vantage point for the Pequot's from which they could see approaching foes and take action or seek cover in the Cedar Swamp. Sassacus, a Pequot sachem, was said to have stood on the summit, watching for the approach of other hostile tribes. In fact his favorite resting spot can still be found and is known as "Sachem's Seat."

Locally the hill is also known as "Tarbarrel Hill". During the War of 1812 barrels of tar were hauled to the summit. If a lookout spotted an enemy sail, the watch lit the tar barrels as a warning. On the night of August 11, 1814, the tar barrel lanterns on top of the hill were lighted, giving the Stonington militia time to prepare for a large British fleet. After two days of pounding the village with cannon balls, the British broke off their attack.

Since the 1830's portions of Lantern Hill were mined for its pure silica deposits. In 1996 the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe purchased the entire property, reclaimed the open pit of the mine and now allows the site to be used for many recreational purposes.

This brochure was created by MPTN Planning Department.

Enjoy the Peace and Beauty of
the Connecticut Woods on Our

Pequot Trails



From the **Great Cedar Casino Lobby**, follow the fox paw prints to a recycled pavement trail of your choosing. Take a stroll through the woods and visit the outside exhibits of the **Pequot Museum**, or walk the trail loop behind the **Two Trees Inn**, through the woods and over a brook.

For those looking for a challenge, follow the **Lantern Hill Trail** and be rewarded with one of the finest vistas in Connecticut. At 491 feet above sea level you will be able to see the waters of Block Island Sound on a clear day.

Whatever your choice, the woods provide a haven for walkers or runners.



Woods Trail



Woods Trail



Lantern Hill Trail





CEDAR SWAMP

Rhododendron flowers bloom in July. Local tradition states that the red hearts of these flowers symbolize Pequot blood shed during the Pequot Massacre of 1637.

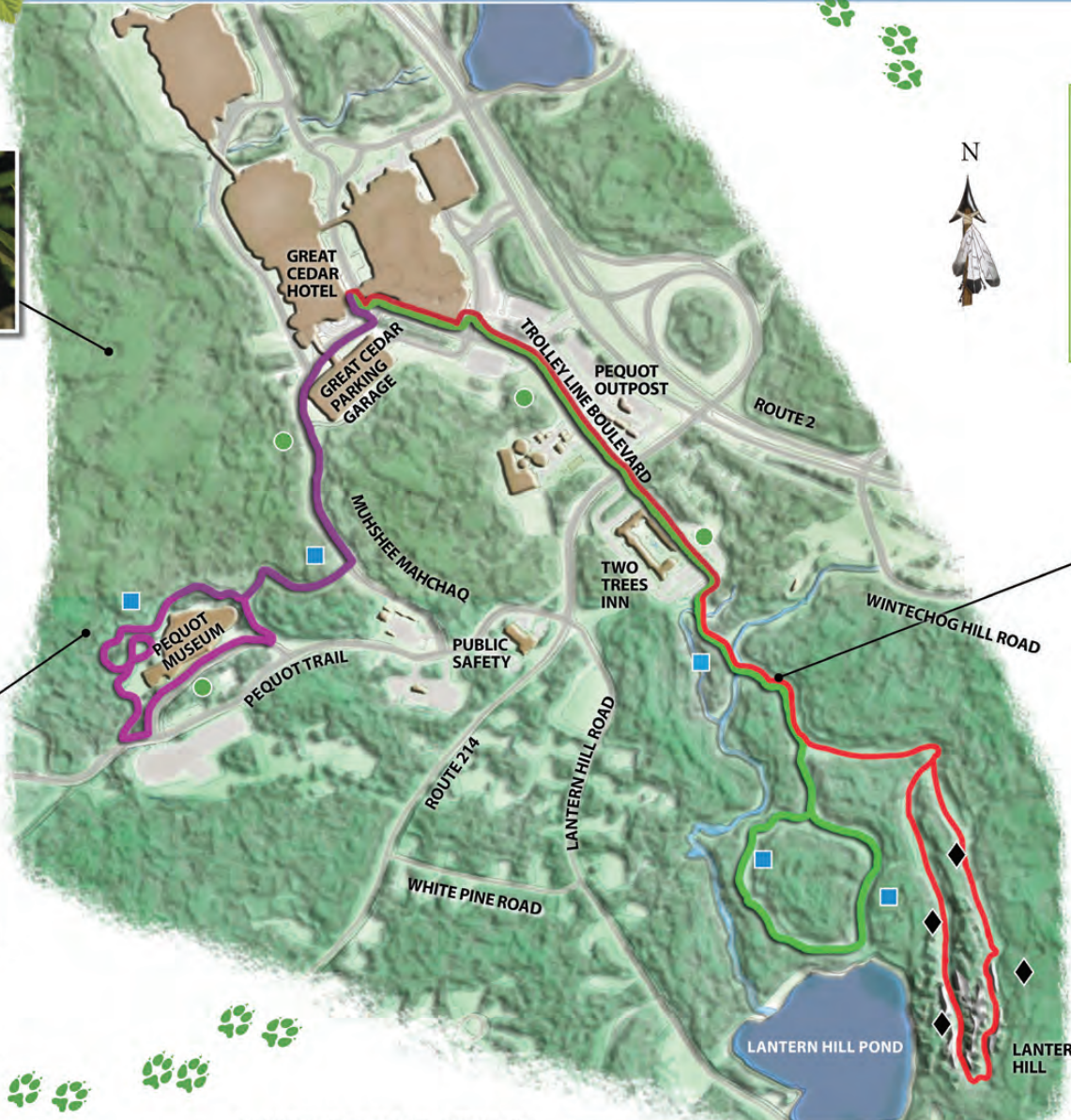


MUSEUM TRAIL MARKER



PEQUOT MUSEUM

Check out Mashantucket history along the path at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center. There is an admission fee for entry to the museum.



LEGEND

- LANTERN HILL TRAIL - 3.0 miles
- WOODS TRAIL - 2.5 miles
- MUSEUM TRAIL - 1.9 miles

Distances are from Great Cedar Casino lobby and back.

TRAIL DIFFICULTY

- Easy
- Moderate
- ◆ Difficult/Extreme



STONE FOUNDATION
Foundation remains of a 1800s sawmill



LANTERN HILL POND

ENJOY THE VIEW FROM LANTERN HILL
Follow a steep climbing trail and be rewarded with a beautiful view. Lantern Hill has been referenced back to 1653, suggesting its importance as a signaling or gathering place first to Native People, later to the English. There is also archaeological evidence indicating the presence of Native People as far back as 10,000 years ago. Elevation: 491' above sea level.

