

Fitchburg Trail Guide

Detailed Trail Descriptions, June 2018

Prepared by the Fitchburg Trails Vision Committee, a volunteer group working with the City of Fitchburg

Rollstone Hill

(Please note: As of June 2018, the trail described below and shown on the accompanying trail map has not yet been fully constructed or marked.)

NAME OF TRAIL: **The Rock Walk Trail**

OWNER: City of Fitchburg

TRAILHEAD LOCATION: At Rollstone Boulder on the Upper Common, Downtown Fitchburg

PARKING: Along streets around the Upper Common, and at the end of Shattuck Street

DISTANCE: 1.46 Miles to complete the loop up to the summit and back

DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: Moderate

HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY: Not accessible

SURFACE: Man-made pavement and concrete, and natural stone, gravel and soil.

TRAIL BLAZING: Red Circles

TRAIL DESCRIPTION: The Rock Walk Trail is a 1.46-mile trail loop that begins and ends at the Rollstone Boulder on the Upper Common in downtown Fitchburg. It follows city sidewalks over to the trailhead entrances, one of which is on Bruce Street (under construction) and the other at the end of Shattuck St. From there, the trail travels through interesting woodland habitats as it proceeds up the hill on natural surface trails or old cart/service roads. At the top of the hill, the trail surface consists primarily of granite and the trail provides stunning scenic vistas into the city and the countryside beyond. It travels past the numerous rock debris piles (large and small) from decades of granite quarrying on the summit of the hill. Much of the exposed rock surfaces at the summit have been "tagged" with spray-painted art work and graffiti even as nature continues to revegetate the area with mixed hardwood and stands of Pitch Pine and White Pine.

Note: Please exercise **caution** when walking on irregular or sloping rock surfaces, near drop-offs or on debris piles. **Supervise young children closely!** Recognize that you are using this trail at your own risk.