Hogback Mountain Conservation Area

Preserving a Mountain Treasure

Hogback was a common name used by early settlers for a cluster of connected peaks. The Hogback cluster in the Conservation Area stretches from Hogback Mountain in the northeast corner to Mount Olga near the southwestern boundary. Route 9 crosses this ridge at its lowest point, bisecting the Conservation Area.

The Hogback Mountain Ski Area, which operated from 1946-1984, was actually on Mount Olga, not Hogback Mountain. Mount Olga was named for Olga Haslund, who donated much of the land that now makes up Molly Stark State Park.

Trails in the Conservation Area are designed with hiking, XC skiing and snowshoeing in mind. Mountain bikes are allowed on the trails, but please note that they are NOT allowed in the State Park. (The fire tower is in the State Park.)

Motorized vehicles are not allowed in the conservation area. However, snowmobiles that have a Trail Pass from the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST) are allowed on VAST trails within the conservation area boundaries.

From the Management Plan

The goals and objectives of the Hogback Mountain Conservation Area include:

a) conservation of wildlife, aquatic and plant habitat, and scenic resources
b) maintenance of forest resources through long-term professional management, and
c) provision of public recreational access and educational opportunities through activities that are low-impact, low-density, non-motorized, and dispersed.

If you would like to hold a public or private event in the conservation area, contact the Hogback Preservation Commission through the Marlboro Town Clerk at marlborotownclerk@gmail.com. Applications for a use permit must be made at least 30 days in advance of the activity.