

# **TOWPATH & HAMILTON TRAILS**

**The Towpath Trail**, when opened to the public, consisted of five miles along the Chenango Canal historic towpath. The Village of Hamilton maintained an additional mile of trail alongside Woodman Pond and in 2009 extended the trail to the Montgomery Street trailhead.

The length of the trail from Hamilton to the North end is about 8 miles. There is a Hamilton Police shooting range next to the trail near Woodman Pond. Watch for signs warning when the range is in use. Trespassing signs are for Woodman Pond and not for use of the trail.

There is an about 1.5 mile branch along the abandoned O&W railroad bed leading south from the [Hamilton Municipal Airport](#) to College Street. The RR trail also goes north from the airport to Woodman Road and a 1 K walk along the road to the west leads to the Towpath trail back to the airport. Park at the airport and one can circumnavigate the airport.

**Park** at the Chenango Canal Association Cottage Museum in Bouckville at the intersection of Canal Road and Route 20. Open for self-guiding 10 AM to 5 PM. There is a self-guided audio tour of the Trail in Bouckville for smart phones.

or park at

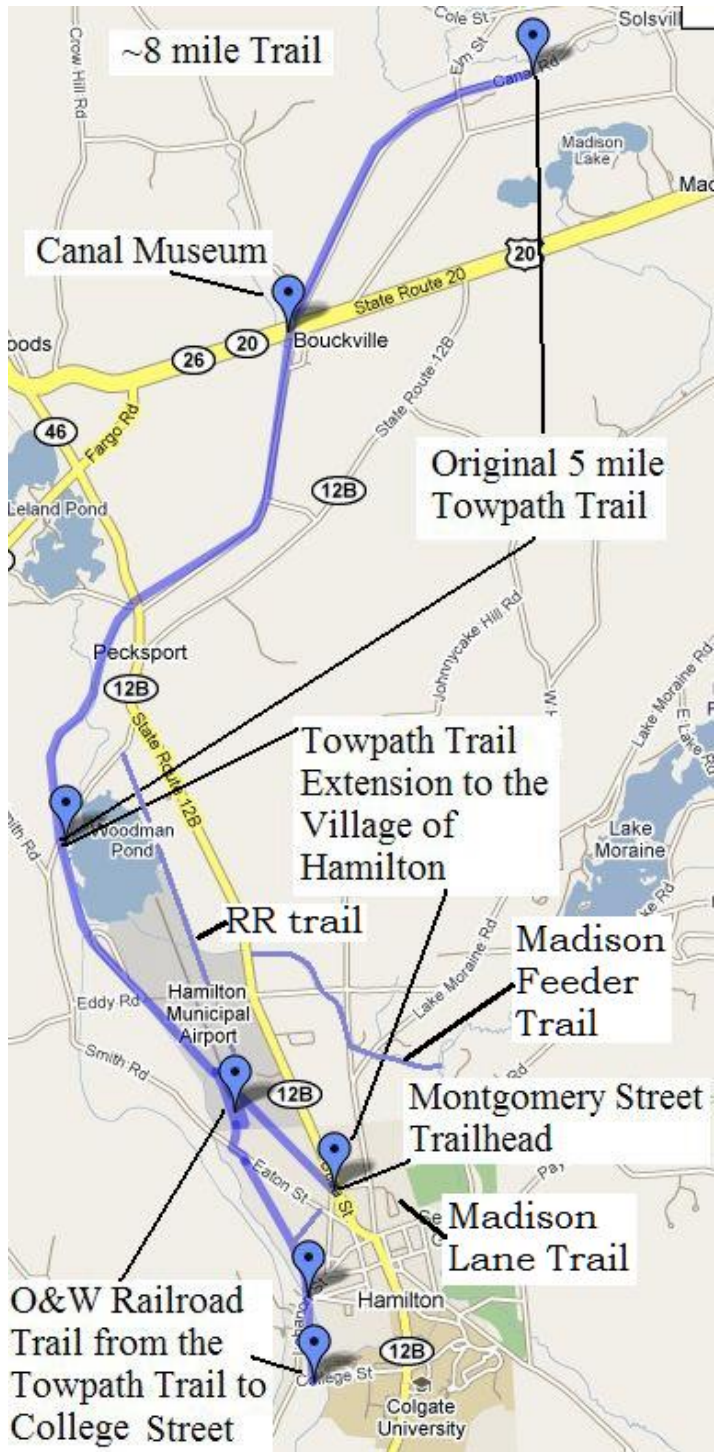
The North end of the trail on Canal Road past Elm Street

or park at

Woodman Pond Road at the canal

or park at the Montgomery Street Trailhead.

Birding along the trail is excellent at peak migration times and Woodman Pond often has a wide variety of waterfowl in the Fall. There are geocaching locations along the Trail. For more information see [www.chenangoCanal.org](http://www.chenangoCanal.org) and [www.Trails.ChenangoCanal.org](http://www.Trails.ChenangoCanal.org).



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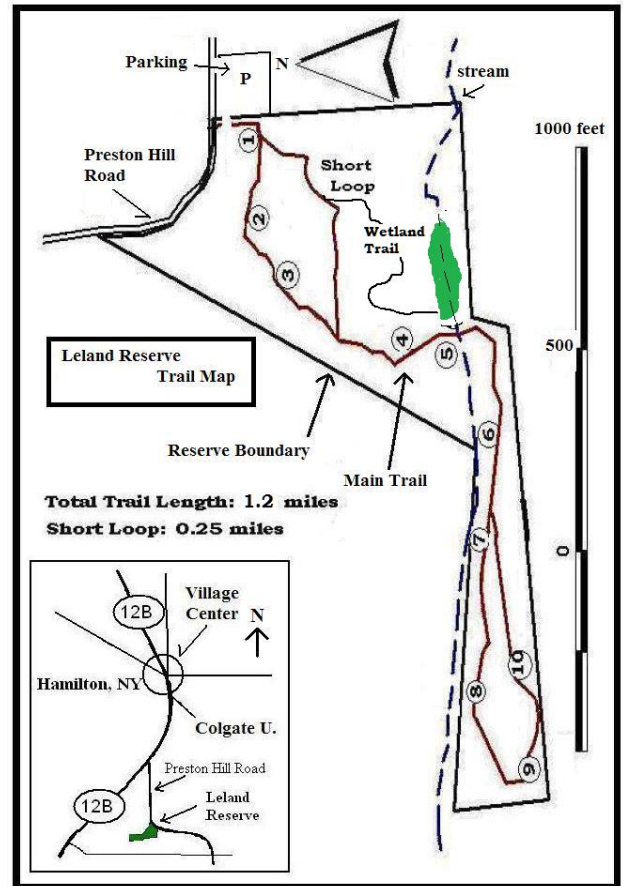
## **Leland Reserve (Hamilton)**

The Leland Reserve is an 18 acre property located at the crest of Preston Hill Road in Hamilton, just south of the Village. It was donated to the Southern Madison Heritage Trust (SMHT) the local land trust in 2003 by Ann Leland with the provision that the property be open to the public and used as an educational and recreational resource. The property has a wide variety of habitats ranging from meadow to forest to stream corridor and wetland

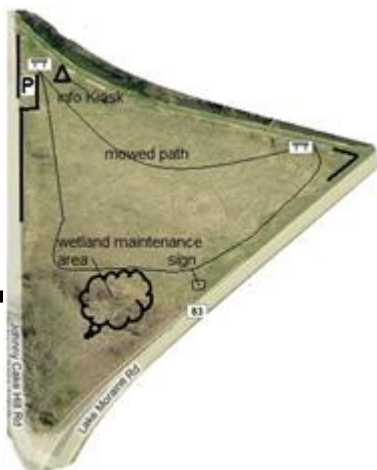
The trails are over 1.3 miles in length and free and open to the public from dawn to dusk except during the bow hunting season. The reserve will have a closed sign at that time. Parking is next to the reserve in a small lot.

There are geocaches on this site.

**Madison Lane Wetland Trail:** Reach the trail from a short (1/4 mile drive) north from the village on Madison Street to Madison Lane, or walk the drive behind the Colgate Inn to the trail. The 3/4 mile loop trail starts from the back of the parking lot at building 5, but can be accessed behind several of the apartment buildings closer to the Inn.



## **Gateway Reserve**



This 4 acre SMHT property, located just 1 mile north of the Village on Madison Street provides access to the ~1.5 mile trail along the historic Madison Feeder. See map on p2.

A kiosk provides information about the canal history and SMHT land trust. Parking is on Johnny Cake Hill Road.

For more information about SMHT properties see [www.SMHT.org](http://www.SMHT.org).

**Colgate University** has about 5 miles of trails at the top of the hill beyond most buildings. Drive past the Frank Dining Hall, and park opposite Chapel House. The trails start just up the hill past the cemetery. See [www.colgate.edu](http://www.colgate.edu) for a campus map.