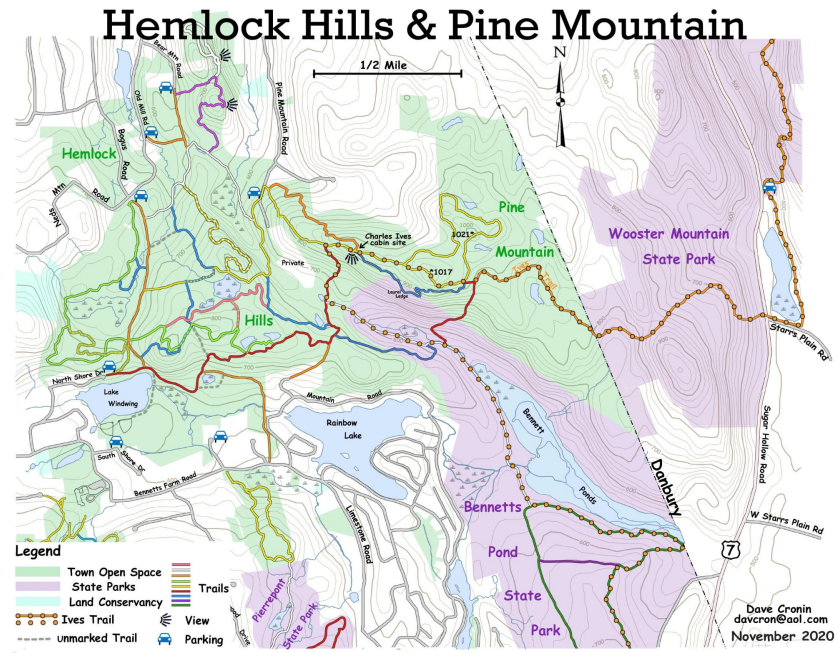
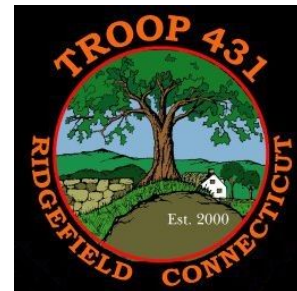




Pine Mountain Junction Points



Danny Butala
Troop 431
Eagle Scout Project
October 2023



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Improvements Overview

❖ Trail intersections/Junction markers

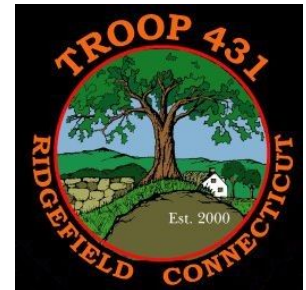
- Install markers where trails intersect
 - *Trail cleanup along the way*

❖ Install markers at 10 locations

- new markers needed in 10 locations to reduce confusion (avoid lost hikers)
 - *mounted on both sides of trees*
 - *include mini reflector for dark?*
 - *include directional markers?*
 - *GPS locations for First Responders*

❖ Ridgefield/Danbury marker

- install special marker at the Ridgefield/Danbury property line





Why needed?

❖ Lost Hikers

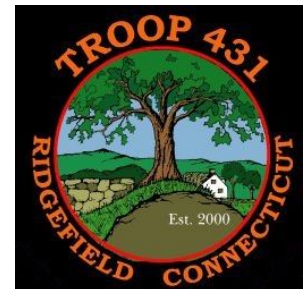
- Approximately a dozen call/year
 - *Ties up Fire/EMT workers*

❖ Unable to easily locate them

- not many recognizable landmarks

❖ Ridgefield or Danbury?

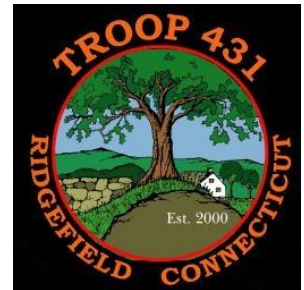
- sometimes the lost hikers are actually in Danbury
- can waste even more time for multiple departments.





Proposed Markers - Devil's Den

- ❖ **Devil's Den Preserve - Weston example**
 - Nature Conservancy property
 - *very popular trail areas in Fairfield County*
- ❖ **Trail Junction Markers**
 - numbered posts throughout trail system
 - yellow directional signs = quickest way to parking
 - reflective circles at junctions
 - named trails at each junction
- ❖ **Well blazed and signed**
 - Lost hikers practically non-existent





Devil's Den Example #1



**Junction #5 & 6 marking
Pent, Deer Knoll & Katherine Hill Trail intersections**



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Devil's Den Example #2



Junction #3 on Pent Trail



Quickest Return Direction Marker





Devil's Den Example #3



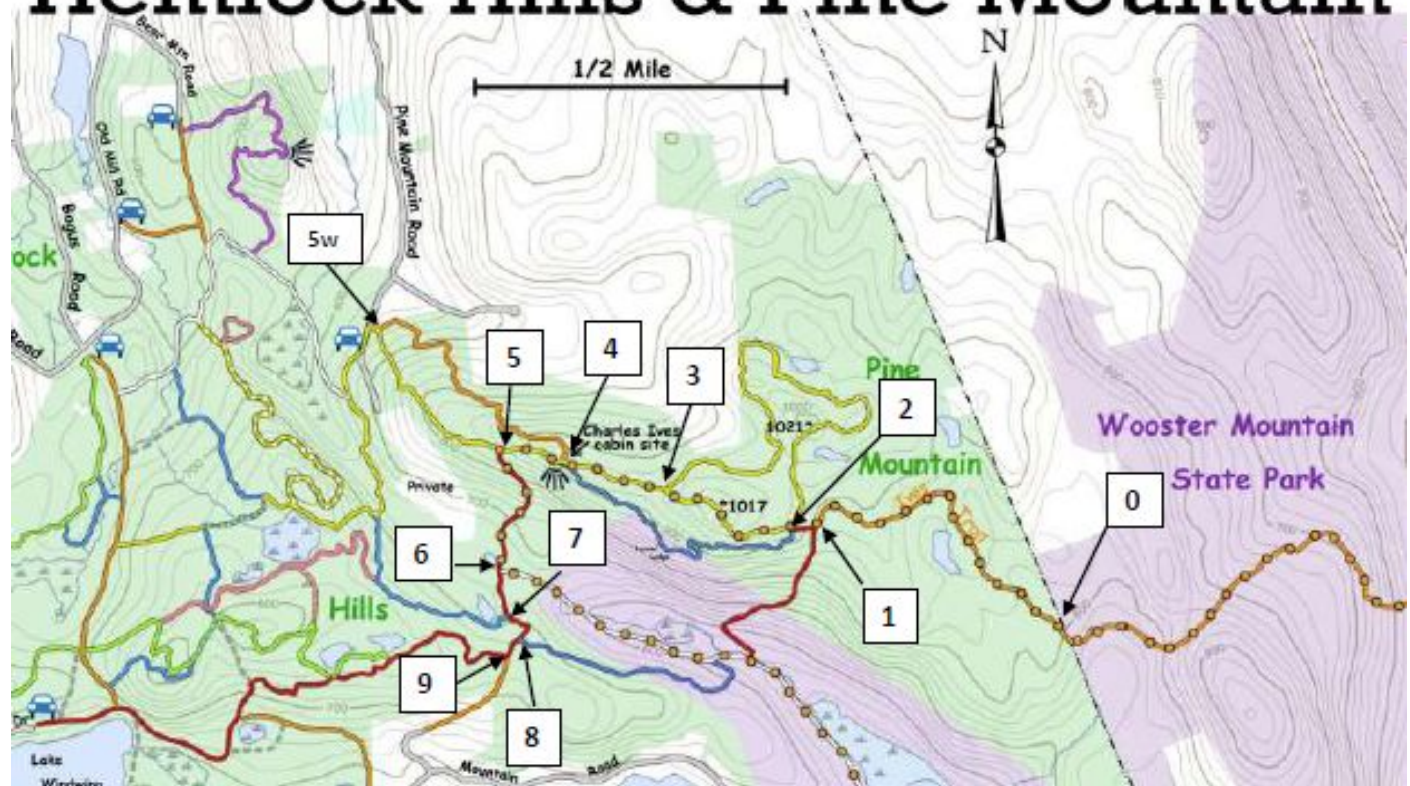
Sign Measurements (reflector on top)



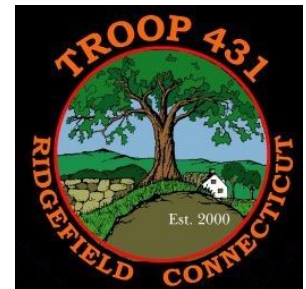


Trail Maps with intersections

Hemlock Hills & Pine Mountain



- ❖ Mark 0 Ridgefield/Danbury border
- ❖ 1-9 are trail intersections/junctions
- ❖ Trail Marking & Maintenance
 - make trail more passable





Example of existing intersections



**Red trail and Yellow trail
junction spot**



**Another example of trail
intersection (Danny to scale)**





Example of existing intersections



**Red trail and Yellow trail
junction spot**



**Another example of trail
intersection (Danny to scale)**





Proposed Junction 5



Red/Yellow/Ives Intersection



**Different
Blazes/signs/shapes/symbols**





Proposed Junction 4



**Orange
Trail hard to
see**

**Yellow Trail
w/separate
Ives mark
confusing**





Proposed Junction 6

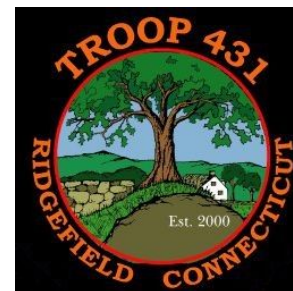


**Red trail Junction - Bennetts Farm/Ives Trail/Lake Wingwing
> Major junction - very difficult to decipher esp. northbound**





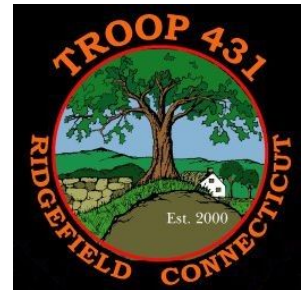
Examples of potential directional markers for this project.





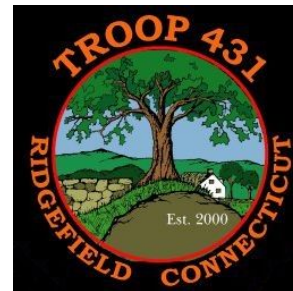
Benefits to new markers

- ❖ Easier to see markers day or night.
- ❖ Bright reflective aluminum markers.
- ❖ Long lasting, resist weathering.
- ❖ Keeps hikers going in the right direction.
- ❖ Easy to mount to trees - 3" diameter.
- ❖ multiple colors including, **Red**, **blue**, **yellow** and **orange** to match trail colors.





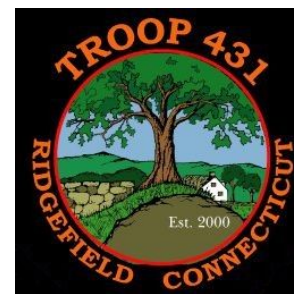
- ❖ **Used by first responders around world**
 - perfect or unnamed trails
 - easy, accurate way to describe any location
- ❖ **Provides precise location**
 - perfect or unnamed trails
 - improves ability to find people
 - *pinpoint accuracy*
 - *ability to quickly direct assistance*
 - *ability to guide lost hikers over phone*
- ❖ **Example - Pine Mountain Parking Area**
 - [///sport.volley/fixtures](http://sport.volley/fixtures)
- ❖ **Each Junction = what3words location**
 - provide to Ridgefield First Responders





List of trails with intersection markers

1. Orange trail with Red trail.
2. Yellow trail with Blue trail and Red trail.
3. Yellow trail with Orange trail.
4. Orange trail with Yellow trail and Blue trail
5. Yellow trail with Red trail.
6. Red trail with White trail.
7. Red trail with Blue trail.
8. Red trail with Blue trail.
9. Red trail with Orange trail.
0. Ridgefield and Danbury border.





Who will benefit from this Eagle project?

❖ All hikers

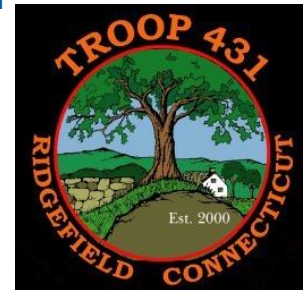
- Clearly marked trails will reduce 'lost' hikers and provide a most desirable hiking experience.

❖ Ridgefield Fire Department ("RFD")

- Chief Myers indicated that the RFD receives about 8 calls per year from 'lost' hikers on these trails.
 - These calls require RFD fire fighters and apparatus to deploy to northern Ridgefield away from the highest populated areas in town.
 - Occasionally, RFD has been sent to 'find' hikers in Danbury because hikers do not know where they are.

❖ Area around the trails

- clearly marked trails will keep hikers on the trails, protecting fauna and flora.





Estimated cost to complete this project

❖ Junction markers

- ❑ 20 5" X 7" metal reflective numbered markers \$207.00 plus \$13.15 = \$220.15

❖ Proposed Arrow Markers or Reflectors

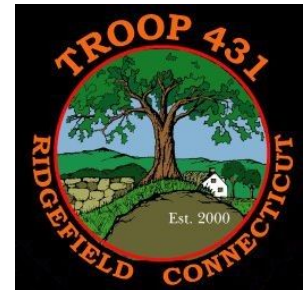
- ❑ 3" metal reflective markers.
- ❑ 20 RED, GREEN, BLUE & YELLOW cost \$22.99 plus 1.46 for tax - \$24.45.
- ❑ 24 ORANGE- \$15.99 plus \$1.06 for tax - \$17.01

❖ Town Signs

- RIDGEFIELD/DANBURY Town Line [cost TBD]

❖ Trail cleanup - Free (project volunteers)

Total Cost ~ \$300.00



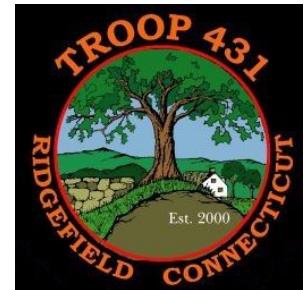


Estimated Cost for new markers and wood town signs

The new aluminum markers can be purchased on Amazon for about \$100 to purchase all of the trail markers which will be paid by my parents.

We are waiting for quotes to print “RIDGEFIELD/DANBURY” signs, my parents and I are also willing to donate these signs - wood?

Funding = family donations.





Timeline

- ❖ Oct 2023 > Present project
- ❖ November 2023 > Purchase Materials
- ❖ Early Winter > Begin work
- ❖ Mid-winter 2024 > Finalize project

QUESTIONS?

