The Combined "Rotate in Motion" ride starts by parking at Charter Oak Park and following the Charter Oak Greenway to Wickham Park, then returning to Charter Oak Park. This loop ride uses the Hop River State Park Trail, Charter Oak Greenway and the Bolton Land Trust's Club Trail loop in Forest Hill East. This out-and-back ride travels west along the Charter Oak Greenway to Wickham Park, then returns to Charter Oak Park. The Combined "Rotate in Motion" ride is approximately 18 miles, featuring woods, gardens, and an aviary, and takes a picnic lunch.

"Rotate in Motion" rides - Three options

1. **Vernon to Bolton Notch**
   - Park at Charter Oak Park in Vernon, following Charter Oak Greenway to Bolton Notch. This loop ride uses the Hop River State Park Trail and goes through a former train section of trail.
   - Park at Bolton Notch Commuter Lot | 13 miles, round trip (opposite the Rose Farm Trail).
   - 1781 Troop Encampment and the Bolton Land Trust's Clark Trail loop on the greystone Hop River State Park Trail and go through a former train section of trail.
   - Travel east to Bolton Notch tunnel and return to Church Street. This wooded Park at Church St in Vernon | 10 miles, round-trip | Stone-dust, off-road
   - Select paths for Hiking (major), Multi-use (future) and Bike shop.

2. **Bolton to Andover**
   - Park at Bolton Notch Commuter Lot | 6 miles, round trip
   - This ride travels west along the Charter Oak Greenway to Wickham Park, then returns to Charter Oak Park. This ride starts by parking at Charter Oak Park and following the Charter Oak Greenway to Wickham Park, then returning to Charter Oak Park. The Combined "Rotate in Motion" ride is approximately 18 miles, featuring woods, gardens, and an aviary, and takes a picnic lunch.
   - Ride A
   - Park at Charter Oak Park in Vernon, following Charter Oak Greenway to Bolton Notch. This loop ride uses the Hop River State Park Trail and goes through a former train section of trail.
   - Park at Bolton Notch Commuter Lot | 13 miles, round trip (opposite the Rose Farm Trail).
   - 1781 Troop Encampment and the Bolton Land Trust's Clark Trail loop on the greystone Hop River State Park Trail and go through a former train section of trail.
   - Travel east to Bolton Notch tunnel and return to Church Street. This wooded Park at Church St in Vernon | 10 miles, round-trip | Stone-dust, off-road
   - Select paths for Hiking (major), Multi-use (future) and Bike shop.

3. **Porto-o-pot**
   - Bike shop
   - Porto-o-pot
   - Seasonal port-o-pot
   - Bike rack

4. **Other trails**
   - Multi-use
   - Future
   - Select paths
   - On-road route

5. **Amenities**
   - Trail parking
   - Pedestrian Access
   - Water
   - Food

6. **Trail**
   - East Coast Greenway Alliance
   - greenway.org
   - Become a member of the East Coast Greenway Alliance

7. **Legend & trip ideas**
   - Hartford • East Hartford • Manchester • Bolton
   - Andover • Coventry • Columbia • Willimantic • Vernon
   - Connecticut River
   - East Coast Greenway

8. **2020**

9. **A 34 mile segment of the EAST COAST GREENWAY**
The Charter Oak Greenway and the Hop River State Park Trail

Prior to the 1600s when European colonists arrived, the area that includes the Charter Oak Greenway and the Hop River State Park Trail was inhabited for 3000s of years by Native Americans that included the Mohogin, Nipmuck, Podunk, Tunxis, and Wampanoag tribes.

Show your support with a license plate!

www.ct- Greene.org, or call 1-800-269-5700

Charter Oak Greenway and Hop River State Park Trail

This map was made possible through the generosity of these organizations.

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Map by Steve Sylwester, SteveSylwester.com Route data provided by the 8SSCA Committee of Open Street Maps/Contributors CC BY-SA

The Charter Oak Greenway

The 17 mile Charter Oak Greenway connects Hartford to the Hop River State Park Trail in Bolton.

The greenway is named after Connecticut’s state tree—a strong and colossally symbol of Colonial resistance to English rule. In 1667 Sir Edmund Andrew, a prince of King James II, came to Hartford with an armed force to seize Connecticut’s Charter. After hours of debate, with the charter on the table between opposing parties, the castle’s fort unusually was not fired, and the Charter was preserved. Captain Joseph Wadsworth is credited with having it in a majestic oak. The Charter is now on permanent exhibition at the Museum of Connecticut History in Hartford.

The section of the greenway passing through Manchester was part of an interstate highway planned in the 1950s. Local involvement, creative thinking, and Connecticut Department of Transportation cooperation, led to the preservation of recreational areas, trails and woodlands within the highway cloverleaf and right of way.

It took about a quarter of a century to move from concept to construction of the Manchester East Hartford sections of the Charter Oak Greenway. The connection to the Hop River State Park Trail was completed in 2018 making most of the 17 mile greenway off-road. Sections in East Hartford and Manchester will complete the off-road goal.

The Hop River State Park Trail

The 20 mile Hop River State Park Trail connects Manchester to the Airline Trail in Windham through the towns of Manchester, Vernon, Bolton, Coventry, Andover and Columbia.

All but the 8 mile Manchester Version of the Hop River State Park Trail is part of the East Coast Greenway.

In 1983, during the Revolutionary War part of what is now known as the Hop River State Park Trail were used as the March route of Rochambeau army on its way to the Shadow River and ultimately to Yorktown. The Shaw Farm/Boulton Heritage Farm was used on four successive nights, the 22nd through the 26th of June 1783, by the four divisions of Rochambeau’s army. About 1 mile before the Bolton encampment is the March Route of Boulton’s Army, Bailey Road, and about a mile before that is March Route of Rochambeau’s Army—Manchetsw Road, both on the way from Andover.

In 1849, promoters obtained a charter for The Hartford & Providence Railroad to build a track from the river docks in Hartford, through Manchester, Bolton, Andover, Willimantic, East Windham and Monticello to the Rhode Island Border. The Hartford, Providence & Fishkill completed the Hartford to Willimantic track in 1849. Irish laborers using pick, shovel, hand drill, oxen drawn dump carts, large amounts of black powder created the track bed and laid the first rails. Stone for the bridges and culverts was cut from the many granite boulders and bridge cuttings (referred to as the right-of-way). You can still see the drill holes in the rock travel through the rock cuts. The last train ran on September 24, 1890.

A long distance urban trail

greenways.org/map-greenway

The East Coast Greenway, conceived in 1991, is the nation’s most ambitious long distance urban trail. By connecting existing and planned shared-use trails, a continuous, traffic-free route is being formed, serving self-powered users of all abilities and ages. At 1500 miles long, the Greenway links Calais, Maine, at the Canadian border, with Key West, Florida. Complimentary routes add another 300 miles to the ECG trail system.

A linear park, the East Coast Greenway is almost entirely on public rights-of-way, incorporating waterfront esplanades, park paths, abandoned railroad corridors, canal towpaths, and pathways along highway corridors. Designed to accommodate trail users, locals, and seminars all abilities, the East Coast Greenway has universal appeal. The East Coast Greenway can be used today.

By connecting existing trails with carefully selected on-road routes, a complete route is in place from Calais, Maine Canadian border to Key West, Florida. As of 2020 nearly 30% of the route in tract.