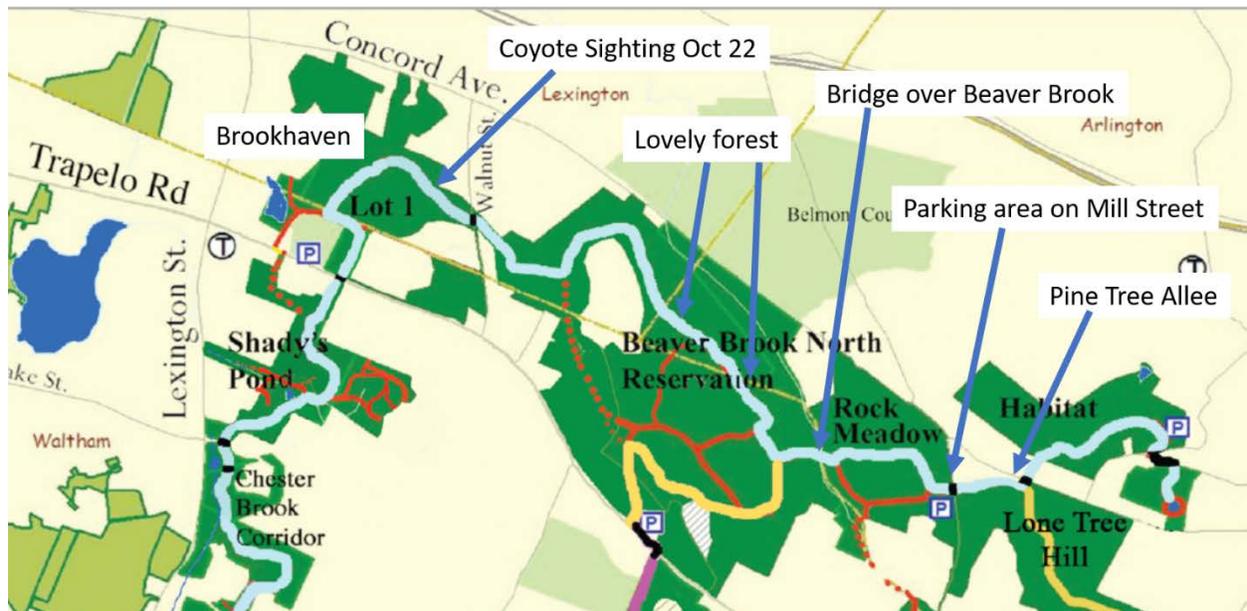


A WALK ON THE EASTERN PART OF THE GREENWAY

October 22, 2020

I took a longish Greenway walk on October 22, a beautiful fall day, one in which the woods were fragrant and moist, the weather pleasant, even balmy, and the overall effect, delightful. My goal, in response to questions from several residents about how best to access the eastern section of the Greenway, was to explore the segments that would be reachable from the parking area on Mill Street, shortly after the split off of Concord Avenue heading toward Belmont. I have annotated the relevant portion of the Greenway map.



On the way, shortly after leaving Brookhaven, I spotted a coyote right on the Greenway trail between the Water Tower Fork and Walnut Street. I saw it. It saw me. Before I could get my phone out to take a photo, it sped off in a northerly direction into the woods.

The next nice surprise was that there is now water in the big marsh (photo below)!

The loveliest forest, in my opinion, is further on, in the segment between Metropolitan Parkway and Rock Meadow. It is also the part with the no visible buildings and the least street noise. There are two relatively straight sections in open forest, crowned with oak trees. From the parking area on Mill Street, it's about a half-mile to the start of the nicest portion, pretty easy

walking. The only area that is rocky is around the bridge over Beaver Brook, which sits on the Belmont-Waltham line.

Rock Meadow is a large, open grassy area which, in the corner closest to the parking area, houses the Belmont Victory Gardens (community garden plots). If you cross Mill Street from the parking area and head toward Habitat, be prepared for, first, an uphill climb, second, a large granite glacial erratic boulder up against a tree, and, finally, the reward of an absolutely gorgeous pine tree allee. I ended my walk at the farther end of this allee, just across Concord Avenue from the Belmont Hill Club. Walking distance from Brookhaven was 3.3 miles, one way. But it's only a short (uphill) walk from the Mill Street parking area.

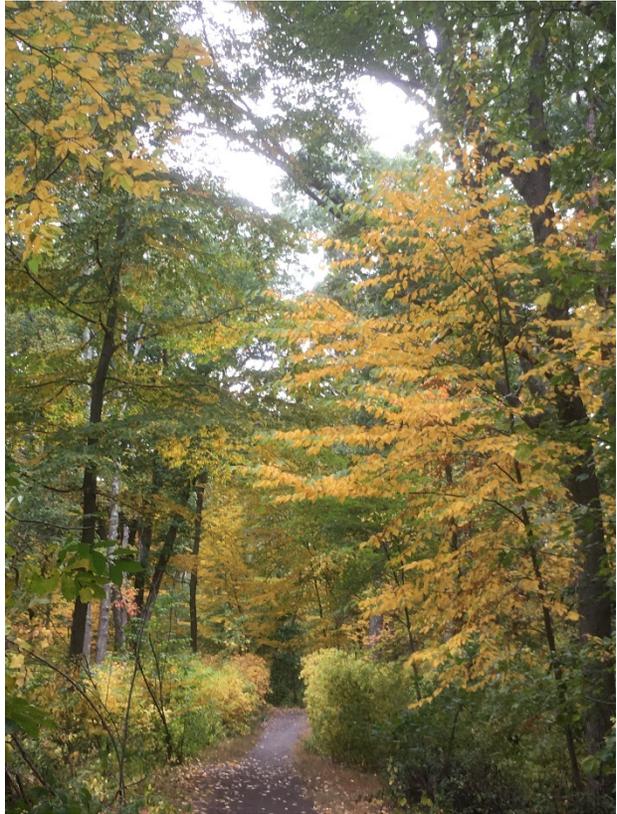
I've appended several photographs below. I hope this note will encourage residents to enjoy these sections of the Greenway.

/Steve Senturia

Water in the boardwalk marsh



The nicest part of the forest



The bridge over Beaver Brook has labels carved into the planks:



Glacial erratic:



The Pine Tree Allee



Finally, a little creature in the grass:

