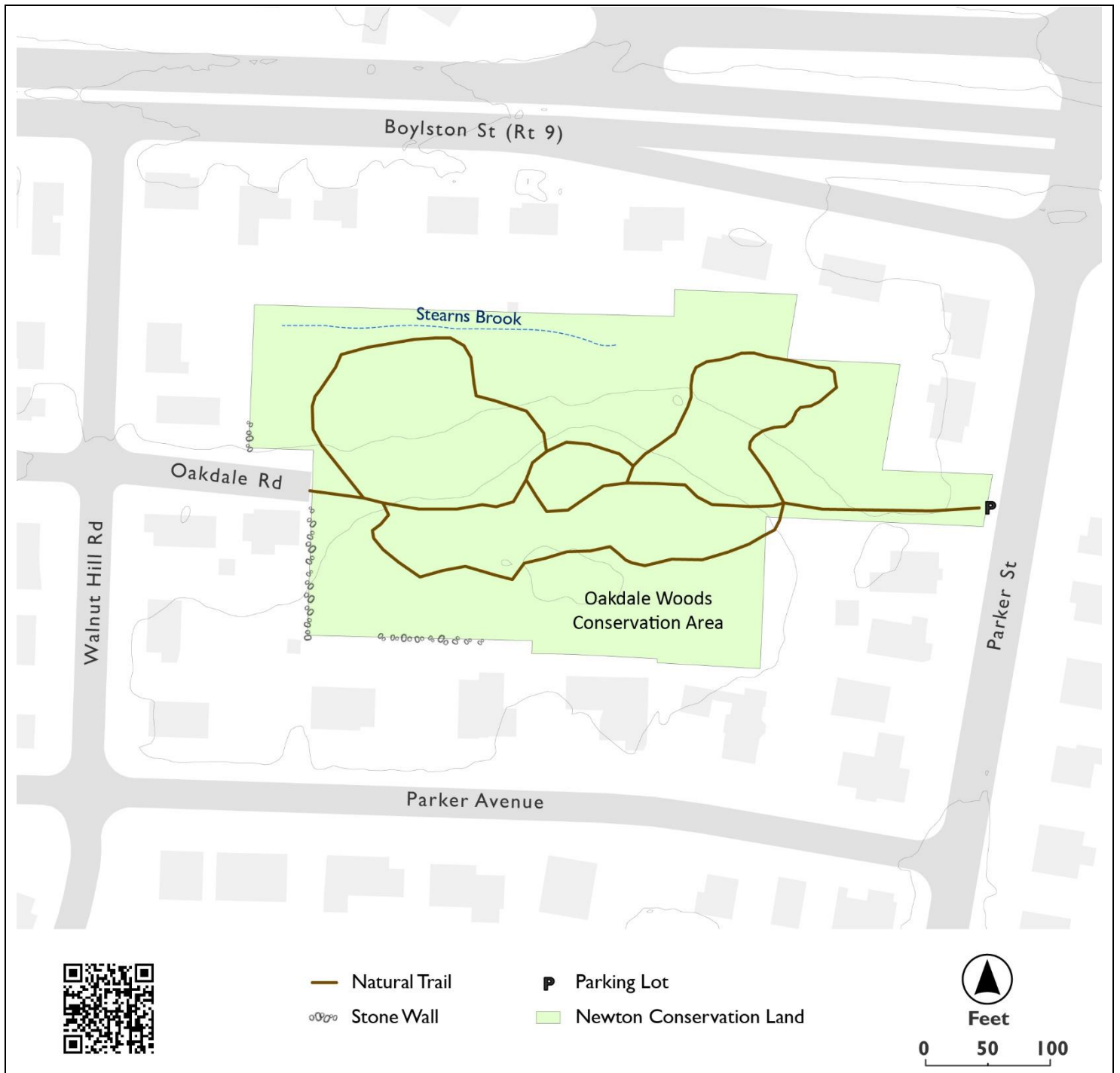


Oakdale Woods Conservation Area

City of Newton Conservation Area



To accommodate other users and to protect wildlife, vegetation, and trails:



Report an incident: Newton Police 617-796-2100

Report a trail problem: call 311 or conservation@newtonma.gov

Oakdale Woods Conservation Area

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Oakdale Woods Access

Located in Newton Highlands just south of Route 9, Oakdale Woods is readily accessed from a small parking lot on Parker Street and the cul-de-sac of Oakdale Road.

Oakdale Woods History and Features

Oakdale Woods, like all of Newton, was once occupied and cared for by the Massachusetts tribe, descendants of whom still live and make new history in the area.

In the late 1910s, the area that is now known as Oakdale Woods Conservation Area was planned to be cleared and developed as a continuation of Oakdale Road. The cleared area was due to have been subdivided into 10 house lots, but the development was never undertaken. This two-and-a-half acre plot of land remained untouched until it was acquired by the City of Newton in 1979.

The web of footpaths that wind through and around the parcel (over 2000 feet of natural trails*) allows hikers to explore the upland forest, the lowlands along Stearns Brook, rocky outcroppings and a few marvelous large old trees.

Stearns Brook is often just a trickle as it flows through Oakdale Woods, but after traveling three-quarters of a mile in culverts, it flows into South Meadow Brook which flows to the Charles River.

This small parcel supports a diversity of native plants and animals and is a gem, much appreciated by local residents.

Oakdale Woods Trail Characteristics

Because of the parcel's varied topography, and rocky outcroppings, Oakdale Woods trails are a bit challenging in places; all are **Natural Trails***.



Trail Surface: Mostly firm soil. In places: rocky and a bit steep



Trail width: Generally 3 feet



Trail length: 2,110 feet or 0.4 miles



Cross slope: Generally level. In places: >5%



Obstructions: In places: rocks and roots.

***Newton's Generally Accessible Trails** are relatively flat, they have a firm, level footbed, and are mostly free of tripping hazards. They are wide enough to accommodate many mobility devices.

Newton's Natural Trails are unimproved and may have steep, uneven, or rocky/rooty footbeds; elevated plank "bog bridges", or other obstacles that make the trails challenging to negotiate.