

## Sheep Hill Property Guide

The renovated Greek Revival farmhouse is known as the **Lewis Center** for WRLF benefactors Mary Mink and R. Cragin Lewis. It houses the WRLF offices, a lending library, conference room, classroom, kitchen, and accessible bathroom facilities. The Lewis Center is available to rent for meetings and other private functions.

The **barns and outbuildings** are typical of a small New England farm. The two largest barns at Sheep Hill date from the early 1800s, and the wooden, barrel-stave silo, relocated to Sheep Hill in 2007, from about 1935. The **Milk House** and **Tool Shed** contain agricultural artifacts from the late 18th to the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Josiah's Pond** attracts many birds, animals and insects, and is filled with frogs! Borrow nature discovery backpacks and nets, binoculars, and creature keepers from the **Nature Cabin** for closer examination of the pond and meadow. The Nature Cabin is a kid-friendly space for nature study and activities around Sheep Hill. Write or draw in the nature journals and, don't forget to measure your wingspan!

The **farmhouse garden** is planted with shrubs and perennials which were popular in early 20<sup>th</sup> century gardens. Native plants and shrubs are planted around Sheep Hill to attract birds, butterflies and other wildlife. Please ask if you have questions about any of the flora at Sheep Hill.

## Hiking and Trails

There are mowed trails through the meadow; take the longer Rosenberg Ramble to the top of Sheep Hill for a stunning panorama with a view of Mt. Greylock, Massachusetts highest point, or a leisurely stroll along the Meadow Walk for a more intimate view of the farmscape. From Sheep Hill one can reach several trail systems. The trail kiosk has maps and information about area trails.

## Programs and Events

The WRLF offers fun family nature and history programs, local foods events, and lectures and workshops throughout the year. See our Website for a current calendar of events such as firefly and full moon hikes, animal tracking, nature art and writing, and seasonal food celebrations.

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*The WRLF is a member-supported nonprofit land trust. All donations are welcome and tax deductible.*  
**Are you a WRLF Member?**

Williamstown  Rural Lands Foundation  
Protecting the Rural New England Character of Williamstown Since 1986

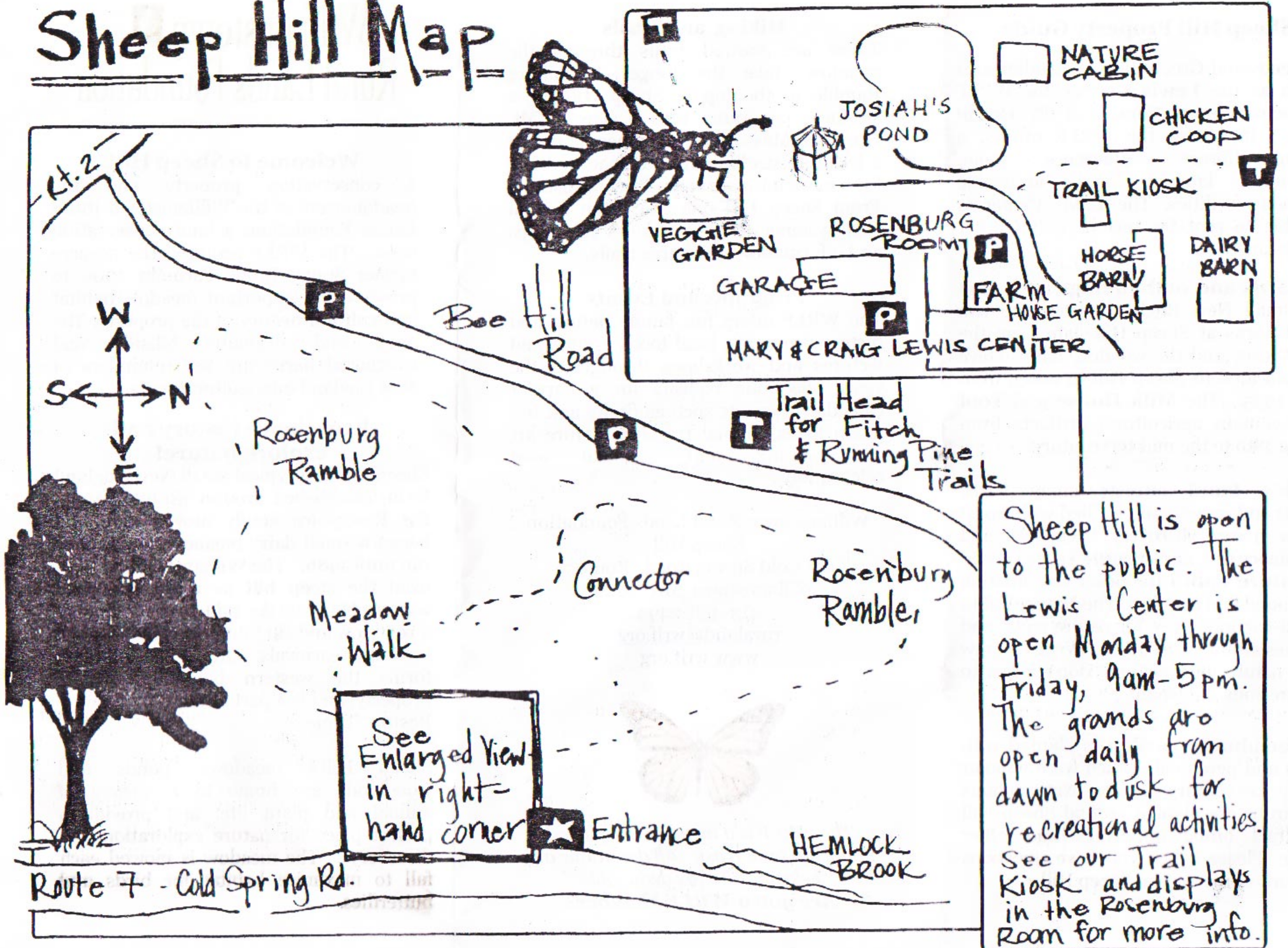
**Welcome to Sheep Hill,** a conservation property and the headquarters of the Williamstown Rural Lands Foundation, a land conservation trust. The WRLF acquired the 50-acre former Sunny Brook Farm in 2000 to preserve the important meadow habitat and cultural history of the property. The open and dramatic hillside and weathered barns are key reminders of New England's agricultural roots.

## Experience history and explore nature!

Sheep Hill is a typical small New England farm, established around 1800. In 1933, the Rosenberg family moved here and began a small dairy business, which they ran until 1986. The Williams Outing Club used the steep hill as a ski area and winters between the mid-1930s and 1953 a rope tow and ski jump provided a venue for winter carnivals. Gravel Bee Hill Road forms the western boundary of the property, and is a part of the 1797 Albany-Boston Turnpike.

Sheep Hill's meadows, ponds and woodlands are home to a variety of animal and plant life, and provide a perfect place for nature exploration and discovery. The meadow is mowed each fall to maximize habitat for birds and butterflies.

# Sheep Hill Map



Sheep Hill is open to the public. The Lewis Center is open Monday through Friday, 9am-5pm. The grounds are open daily from dawn to dusk for recreational activities. See our Trail Kiosk and displays in the Rosenberg Room for more info.