

Take Your Own Trail Walk: Narrow Gauge Rail Trail, by Clem Larson, Bedford Trails Committee

The **Narrow Gauge Rail Trail (NGRT)** follows the railbed of what was once the Billerica & Bedford Railroad, built in 1877. For the history of this unique rail trail, please see the Bedford Citizen article “Bedford Explained ~ A Narrow Gauge Railroad Once Connected Bedford and Billerica” by Jim Shea, Friends of Bedford Depot Park, at-- <https://www.thebedfordcitizen.org/2020/08/bedford-explained-a-narrow-gauge-railroad-once-connected-bedford-and-billerica/>.

The Narrow Gauge Rail Trail starts on Loomis St. about 50 yards east of the Depot Park, and goes north past The Great Road, York Conservation Area, Fawn Lake, the Lane School, Bueller Ponds, Wilderness Conservation Area, and ends in Billerica. The trail is popular with walkers, joggers, casual bikers, dog walkers and students.

Difficulty Level: Low-Moderate:

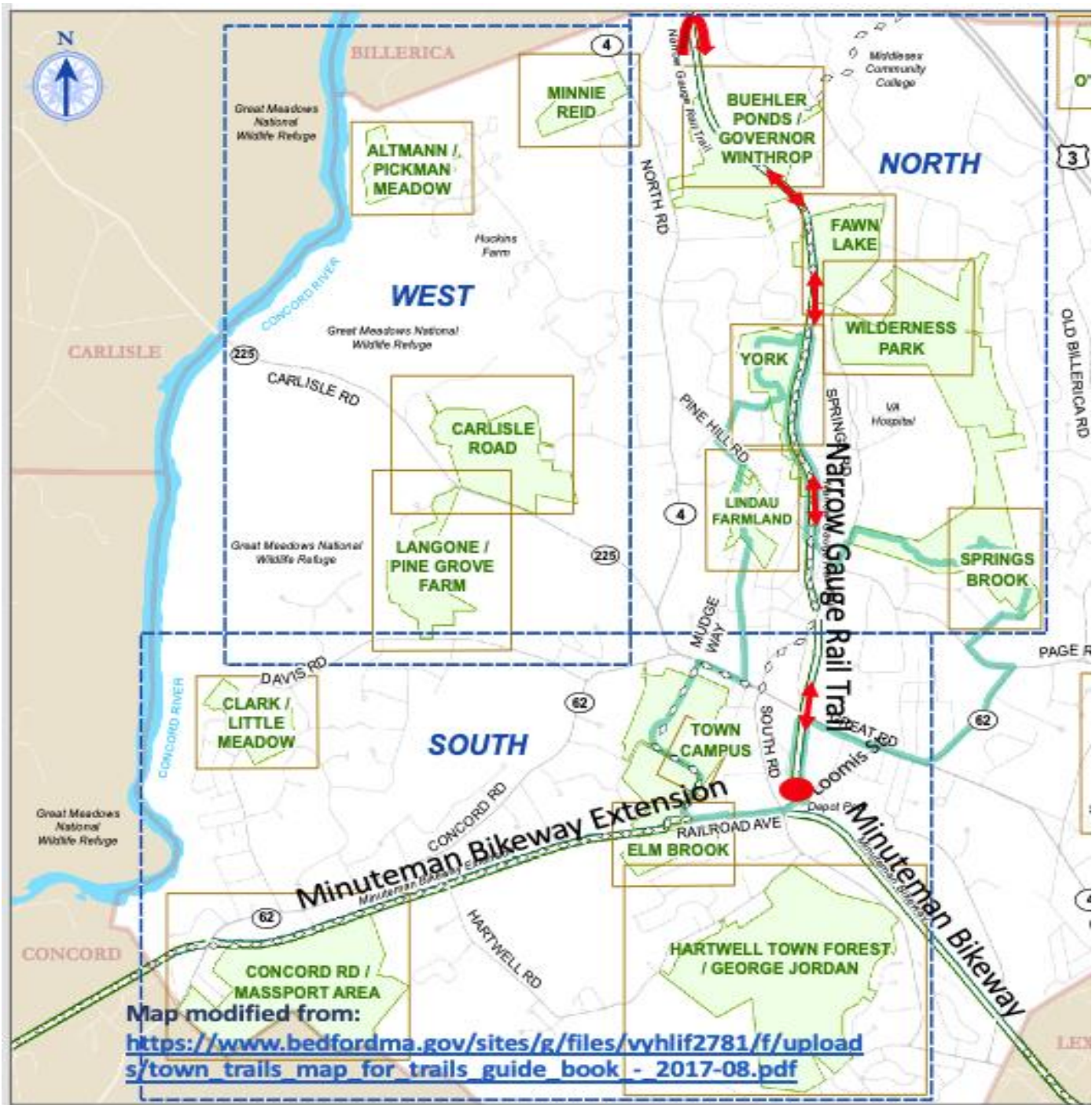
This trail is fairly flat over about 3.1 miles each way to Springs Rd. in Billerica. The trail starts off paved at the south end, transitions to stone dust, and then becomes a dirt trail.

Driving Directions: From the Bedford Library at 7 Mudge Way, turn right on The Great Road (Routes 4/225/62). Continue on The Great Road about 0.2 mile, and turn right at the light at South Rd. Follow South Rd. 0.4 mile, turn left on Loomis St., and take the first right into the Depot Park parking lot (see map). The trail starts on the north side of Loomis St. (Google maps address 63 Loomis St., Bedford) across from the Short Stop Café.

Parking: Please park at the Bedford Depot Park (entrance at Loomis St. near South Rd. (see map)

Walking Directions: (see map) This trail walk is basically just an “out-and-back.” From the Bedford Depot Park, cross Loomis St., and follow the map directions.





Note: Note that all walks are at your own risk. Depending on the time of the year, ticks may be out, and poison ivy may be active. Please wear comfortable, closed-toe walking shoes or boots that can handle wet or mud, and ice and snow in the winter. Children and dogs on leash are welcome.

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