

Skyline Scenic Area

The small Skyline Scenic Area parking area is located on the north side of Stafford Road about 0.2 miles west of the intersection with Root Road. It is not plowed in the winter.

The Skyline Scenic Area offers a 1.5 mile trail loop with a broad, panoramic view across the Connecticut River Valley on clear days from the scenic overlook. The trail is well-marked with yellow plastic diamonds. The shortest way to the lookout point is to the left from the parking area. This half mile section, known as the Ledge Trail, includes a steep, rocky section that may be treacherous when wet, snow covered, or icy. To the right from the parking area is the much easier, mile-long section leading to the same lookout. This is a non-motorized trail open to hikers during daylight hours for passive recreation.

The tallest buildings of Hartford can be seen to the south, as well as other points of interest including Hubble Tower (southwest), Meriden's Hanging Hills (to the left), Mount Greylock (northwest), Mt. Tom and the Holyoke Range (north).

As the trail winds through a Hemlock grove just northeast of the lookout, look to the sides of the trail for a group of distinct depressions among the trees. Thus far no one has explained the origin of these "Mystery Pits" satisfactorily. Can you?