



Hardwick Outdoors

Adventures for every season!

Recreation

- 1 Hardwick Trails**  
Behind Hazen Union School, the Hardwick Trails feature 6 miles each of wide multi-use trails and single track mountain bike trails. The two networks wind throughout this hilly wooded terrain. In winter, the wider trails are groomed. The space also includes a Fitness Loop, and both a StoryWalk and Poetry Walk.
- 2 Hazen Union Recreational Spaces** 
If you are up for a game of tennis or pickleball, courts for both can be found on the Hazen Union campus. These facilities are available for public use during non-school hours. Hazen Union is also the access point for the extensive Hardwick Trails system.
- 3 Marlene Clark Fitness Loop**
Stretch, strengthen, and boost your cardio while traversing this 1/3-mile, hilly, wooded trail, starting at the log cabin. Challenge yourself at six fitness stations along the way, making for a perfect circuit training opportunity.
- 4 Hardwick Elementary Rec. Spaces** 
Playground and ballfields directly behind the school building are available for public use during non-school hours.

Green Spaces

- 5 Memorial Park**
A quiet place to rest and reflect, this park was dedicated after World War II to the memory of Hardwick's veterans. An LVRT "pause place" has now been established beside the park.
- 6 Atkins Field** 
Once home to the Woodbury Granite Company, this 15-acre parcel is now owned by the Center for an Agricultural Economy. Seasonal activities include the Community Gardens and Orchard, Hardwick Farmers Market, and a popular pump track. The Pavilion hosts events year-round.
- 7 Idle Hour Park** 
A great place to read a book, eat lunch with a friend, or just watch the world go by, this was once the site of the storied Idle Hour Movie Theater (1923-1977).
- 8 Peace Park** 
Created in 1984, this is a lovely spot with multiple picnic tables from which to enjoy the sights and sounds of the river.
- 9 Overlook Park (East Hardwick Village)**  
This modest park enables visitors to pull off the road for a spectacular view of the Lamoille River and falls. First dammed in the 1790s to provide power to a mill, the falls quickly became the industrial center of the village.
- 10 Mackville Pond Recreation Area & Playground**  
Originally a millpond for John Bailey's Woolen factory and later owned by the Woodbury Granite Co., Mackville Pond is a popular area attraction. The recreation area includes a playground, picnic sites with tables and grills, and a large grassy play area.

Lamoille Valley Rail Trail

- Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT)**  
The Lamoille Valley Railroad served as an economic lifeline to this region from the late 19th century through most of the 20th century, ceasing operations in 1994. Recently completed, the 93-mile Lamoille Valley Rail Trail is the longest rail trail in New England. A recreation corridor for walking, hiking, cycling, horseback riding, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, dogsledding, and snowmobiling, the LVRT is a wonderful way to get moving outdoors in any season.
- 11 LVRT Hardwick Depot Trailhead**  
The first train came through Hardwick in 1872. Today, LVRT users can start their adventure at the Hardwick Historical Society's Depot Museum or neighboring historic opera house, the Town House. Additional parking is available along Creamery Road. Restaurants, retail shops, and other attractions in Hardwick's Designated Downtown are just a few blocks from this site.
- 12 LVRT East Hardwick Trailhead** 
At this location, a small train depot once stood. Today, LVRT users can take a picnic break here and walk to Overlook Park to view the falls.

Water

- 13 Hardwick Lake** 
The dam that created this 101-acre lake was constructed in 1911. A popular spot for fishing, birding, and picnicking, it can be accessed via the boat launch on Craftsbury Road (Rt 14), or from the Hardwick Trails.
- 14 Lamoille River** 
The scenic Lamoille River begins at the outlet of Horse Pond in Wheelock, VT and runs nearly 85 miles across northern Vermont before emptying into Lake Champlain at Mallet's Bay. Paddlers or anglers can gain access to the river from the parking area off Rt. 15.
- 15 Mackville Pond**  
A large grassy area alongside Mackville Pond provides a great location for fishing or group gatherings. Paddlers may carry boats the short distance from the parking area to the water.

Winter

- VAST Trails**
Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST) maintains a system of groomed trails for snowmobile use in Hardwick, Cabot, Woodbury, Greensboro, Craftsbury, Worcester and Wolcott.
- 16 VAST Trailhead (Wolcott Street)** 
Vehicle and trailer parking with access to the VAST trails.
- 17 Hardwick Trails** 
Explore six miles of rolling groomed terrain, tracked for a classic ski, but wide enough for skate-skiing. Check hardwicktrails.com for information about ski and snowshoe loans, and trail conditions.

Hardwick Area Recreation Map

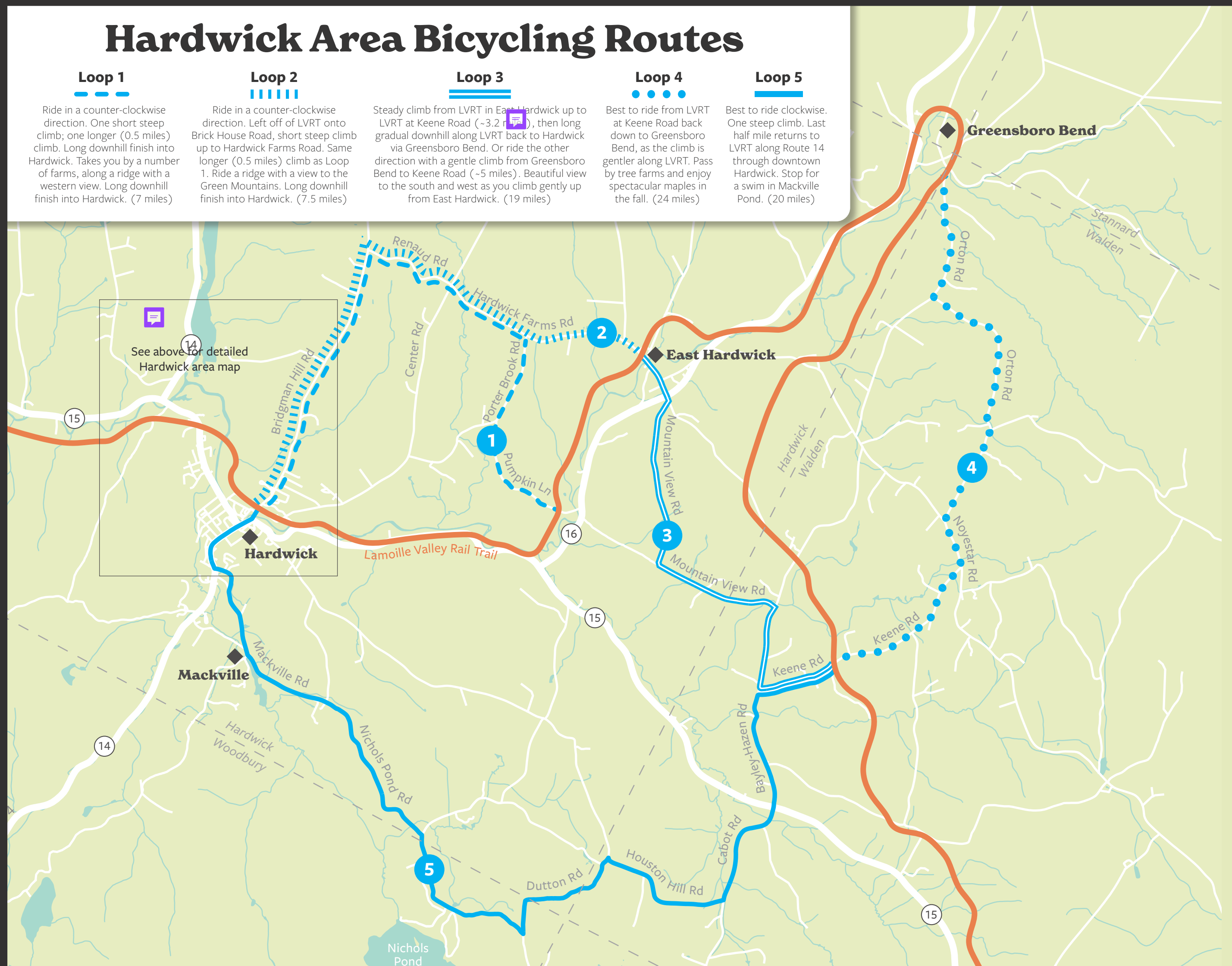
The Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) runs through the heart of Hardwick and offers access to a wealth of outdoor recreational opportunities in any season.

- Lamoille Valley Rail Trail
- VAST Trail
- Hardwick Trails
- Bicycle Parking
- Green Space
- Water Access
- Winter Access
- LVRT Access
- Recreation

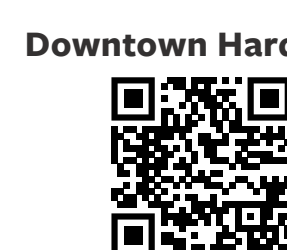
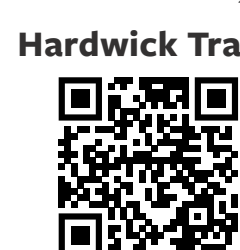
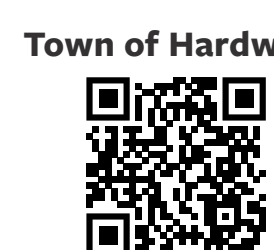


Hardwick Area Bicycling Routes

- Loop 1**
Ride in a counter-clockwise direction. One short steep climb; one longer (0.5 miles) climb. Long downhill finish into Hardwick. Takes you by a number of farms, along a ridge with a western view. Long downhill finish into Hardwick. (7 miles)
- Loop 2**
Ride in a counter-clockwise direction. Left off of LVRT onto Brick House Road, short steep climb up to Hardwick Farms Road. Same longer (0.5 miles) climb as Loop 1. Ride a ridge with a view to the Green Mountains. Long downhill finish into Hardwick. (7.5 miles)
- Loop 3**
Steady climb from LVRT in East Hardwick up to LVRT at Keene Road (~3.2 miles), then long gradual downhill along LVRT back to Hardwick via Greensboro Bend. Or ride the other direction with a gentle climb from Greensboro Bend to Keene Road (~5 miles). Beautiful view to the south and west as you climb gently up from East Hardwick. (19 miles)
- Loop 4**
Best to ride from LVRT at Keene Road back down to Greensboro Bend, as the climb is gentler along LVRT. Pass by tree farms and enjoy spectacular maples in the fall. (24 miles)
- Loop 5**
Best to ride clockwise. One steep climb. Last half mile returns to LVRT along Route 14 through downtown Hardwick. Stop for a swim in Mackville Pond. (20 miles)



For more information about retail and dining, local resources, and other outdoor adventures in the Hardwick area, please visit these websites.



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