

Yokun Ridge South

DIRECTIONS:

From the center of Lenox, take Route 183 South for 1.5 miles, passing Tanglewood. Where 183 bears left, go right on the Lenox-Richmond Rd., continuing uphill for 1.5 miles. Take a left into the parking area for “Olivia’s Overlook,” walk to the trailhead at the back of the lot opposite the stone wall.

TRAIL DESCRIPTION:

After entering the woods the Charcoal Trail bears left, following the red triangular blazes down through a hemlock stand, over a low stone bridge, and along the side of a hill on a gentle incline. Look around here for the circular level areas where charcoal was produced in the 1800s. After crossing a small ravine on another stone bridge, you start the climb back up to the ridge.

At the ridge you can follow the Walsh Trail or the older Ridge Trail back to the parking lot. The Walsh Trail is smooth and wide with easy grades. The Ridge Trail is steeper, with some trickier footing. The Ridge Trail also continues south from this point. However, it is unmarked and crosses private land.

Distance: 1.6 miles

Time: 1 hour

Elevation Gain: 440 feet

I would like to become a member of the Berkshire Natural Resources Council.

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All contributions are tax deductible.

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Berkshire Natural Resources Council is a membership-supported, non-profit land conservation organization that has completed over 200 conservation projects encompassing 14,500 acres of conserved land throughout Berkshire County. BNRC maintains Yokun Ridge as well as a number of other trails and reservations around the county. Please consider joining us and helping protect the best of the Berkshires.



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Yokun Ridge South Trail Map

Rising above Stockbridge Bowl, the expanse of West Stockbridge Mountain and Olivia’s Overlook are scenic treasures of the Berkshires. The 252 acres to the south of Lenox-Richmond Road provide a fantastic hiking opportunity. Here are beautifully constructed trails that take in open woods, cross several small streams, offer a nice climb up to a ridge, and present the visitor with lovely vistas.

Created from the generous gift of three separate donors, the Jackson, Hatch and Stokes families, the properties that make up Yokun Ridge have seen a variety of uses over the years. From pasture in the lower reaches to forests cleared for charcoal to feed the Richmond Furnace, these woods tell a story of renewal. BNRC continues to manage these lands for multiple uses, including recreational and wildlife values.

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