

KILLINGLY BIKE TOUR

LONG ROUTE

A Tour of the natural, cultural and historic resources of Killingly

Sponsored by:

The Killingly Conservation
Commission

Town-wide Loop (approx. 25 miles)

This tour will take participants on a cross-section of development in Killingly. The route will start with a ride along the rural scenic area of Lake Road and into the Killingly Industrial Park. The route then passes on through the historic mill settlement area in Attawaugan and Ballouville and onto River Road, past the newly replaced and re-opened Putnam Road Bridge. The tour continues along to North Road where riders will work to get up the hill and take advantage of the scenic views and open space that North Road has to offer. Stop at Palazzi's Apple Orchard for a short break and continue on to Bailey Hill Road and view the old mills and farm settlements that scatter this rural area of East Killingly. The Route will continue on to East Franklin Street to Upper Maple Street and back to the College— through the Borough of Danielson where riders will be able to see various churches, mills and other historic buildings

REMEMBER...

THIS IS NOT A RACE!

**STOP AT ALL INTERSECTIONS AND
USE EXTRA CAUTION WHEN CROSSING
THESE AREAS!**

RIDE SAFE AND HAVE FUN!

The Killingly Conservation Commission Goal Statement:
"To promote development, conservation, supervision and responsible management of all natural resources within the Town of Killingly and provide the methodology for protection and maintenance of these resources."

If you would like more information on the Killingly Conservation Commission, feel free to attend one of their regularly scheduled meetings at the Killingly Town Hall (172 Main Street in Danielson). The Commission normally meets the third Wednesday of every month at 7PM in the Council Chambers.

POINTS OF INTEREST ALONG THE ROUTE: (Refer to map for locations)

① Start/End

QVCTC is part of a 2000 acre tract which James Danielson of Block Island Purchased in 1707. The earliest known settler of this part of Killingly, he reportedly had seen the beautiful Quinebaug and Five Mile River Valley during campaigns in King Phillip's War circa 1676.

② Rogers

The name of this mill village has changed twice: from Williamsville to Goodyear in 1916 and from Goodyear to Rogers in 1954. Situated adjacent to the Quinebaug, this mill was fully equipped to make cloth from bales of cotton. Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. produced cotton duck for rubber tires here and prospered during WWI. Rogers Corp. has owned and occupied the mill since 1935. The hurricane of 1955 destroyed many 19th Century mill houses.

③ Lake Road

The southern portion of Lake road contains beautiful forested hills that give way to open active farming fields, a Chestnut Grove and the Quinebaug River. The northern portion of Lake Road is the Killingly Industrial Park – home to industries such as Brooks, Automatic Rolls, Pepsi and Coz Plastics. The Lake Road Generating Power Plant currently under construction off of Lake Road will be a 792 megawatt, natural gas fired, combined cycle facility when complete. At the intersection of Lake Road and Tracy Road begins the Tracy Road Smart Parks trail – a 10' wide paved recreational trail 1.2 miles in length.

Current road improvements by the State are extending this trail into Putnam. Future expansions will link this trail with the Putnam River Trail on Kennedy Drive.

④ Attawaugan, Ballouville, Pineville Mills

Attawaugan: site of one of the earliest cotton mills in NE Connecticut – The Stone Chapel Manufacturing Co. In 1825, Jabez Amesbury and Leonard Ballou purchased a grist mill in the general area of St. Anne's, thus the name Ballouville. The present day Ballouville Factory was erected in the 1860's. The Pineville Mill was the 3rd factory owned by the Attawaugan Mfg. Co. on the 5-Mile River during the 1800's.

⑤ Putnam Road Bridge/Stone Road

This reconstructed bridge (completed in 1999) crosses the Five Mile River and connects Putnam, River and Stone Road. The stone house dates back to 1820 (one of few in the region and is the most visible remains of a factory complex which was destroyed by fire in 1861. Foundations for tenement housing and the factory are still visible. In 1970, the entire site was named to the National Register of Historic Places as an Archeological site. From here to Putnam, the 5-Mile River hosts a unique variety of ponds, wetlands and rolling terrain in which mink, fishers, eagles, pileated woodpeckers, great horned owls, beaver, even the occasional bear and moose have been seen.

⑥ North Road

This is one of the oldest roads in Killingly. By 1715, a group of families from the greater Boston area had settled this as the Chestnut Hill Purchase. Take a break at Palazzi's Orchard and enjoy the great scenery and learn a little about the history of the area.

⑦ Bailey Hill Road

This is another 18th Century road and was used to travel to the mill site on Whetstone Brook and the meeting house in South Killingly. A small cemetery to the west is thought to contain burials of slave children who died escaping to freedom along the "underground railroad" routes in Eastern Killingly. Enjoy the scenic views, extensive farmland and rural character that attracts people to this region.

⑧ South Killingly

This village, clustered around the meeting house and grange hall, has good examples of 18th and early 19th century buildings. It served as the social center for all of the sparsely settled southeastern Killingly.

⑨ Old Furnace State Park

Originally a town park in 1909, Old Furnace was the site of an iron furnace during the 1830's and 40's. The park connects to Ross Pond State Park – protecting hundreds of acres of forest, hiking trails, scenic cliffs, streams, wetlands and ponds in Killingly.

⑩ Franklin Street

During the early 1800's, Franklin St. was a main stagecoach road between Providence and Hartford. Broad St. and Green Hollow Rd. were the main stagecoach routes between Norwich and Worcester. In the 1800's a tavern was located at this intersection. Homes on Franklin and Broad St. display examples of a variety of architectural styles in both wood and stone.

⑪ Water Street

A blacksmith and iron works had been erected near the corner of Main and Water St in the 1770's. During the 1780's, one of the first woolen mills in CT was constructed near the confluence of the Five-Mile and Quinebaug Rivers. Later assimilated into the Danielson Manufacturing Co., this area is one of the oldest textile site in the entire U.S. The Danielson Co. store, located near the present brick factory, was run by Comfort Tiffany – Father of the famous NY jeweler Charles Tiffany – apparently born in a house on Maple St. in 1812.

