The New England Trail (NET) is one of eleven National Scenic Trails in the USA. The 233 mile trail connects Long Island Sound in Guilford, CT to Mt. Monadnock in New Hampshire. It crosses Farmington from south to north on the Metacomet Trail. The middle section crosses over Farmington Mountain, which is part of the Metacomet Ridge.

Parking is off rt. 6 at 41° 42' 31.19" N 72° 49' 45.46" W. Ascend on the blue and white blazed trail (B/W) to the junction with the blue blazed Metacomet Trail (B) at 0.1 mile. Turn left descending to cross rt. 6, then ascend steeply the south slope of Farmington Mountain with its views of the Farmington Reservoir to the west. At 1.2 miles the trail reaches Mountain Road. Turn right to follow this road east. Turn left into the first driveway (#115) and in 20 feet turn left again to follow the Blue trail. Please stay on the left side of a grassy area. The blue trail soon enters the property of the Hill-Stead Museum. At 1.7 miles, there is a junction with several trails from the Hill-Stead. Turn 90° right to continue to the end of the middle section for the Metacomet Trail at 1.8 miles, which is just before the 6 traffic lanes crossing of rt. 4. Reverse direction and return to your car having completed 3.6 miles and 775 vertical feet on the National Scenic Trail.

Another option is to combine the middle with the southern section to Rattlesnake Cliff and back. It would be a longer day hike of 6.2 miles with 1,625 vertical feet. A third option is to continue out & back to Pinnacle Rock for an 8.4 mile hike with 2,765 vertical feet. You would have completed over half of the New England Trail in Farmington. Your car would be a nice place to refuel.


Alan M. Perrie  12 / 15 / 17