

GUIDED HIKE AND TRAIL CLEAN-UP AT RACEBROOK TRACT

Orange Conservation Commission (OCC) is hosting a **guided nature walk and trail cleanup** through the Orange section of trails at **<u>Racebrook Tract</u>**, Racebrook Road (just north of intersection with Route 34, Derby Avenue), Orange, on **<u>Saturday</u>**, **<u>May 11, 9am to 11am</u>**.

The walk will be lead and narrated by Mike Ross, Environmental Education Coordinator/Park Supervisor at Dinosaur State Park, CT DEEP. Mike is very familiar with the ecology of Racebrook Tract and its varied habitats of stream belts, forests, wetlands, meadows, and brush which makes this area attractive to a variety of animals and songbirds. He has also established drone-mapping of the tract, used for tracking and locations off of the main trails.

All participants are asked to <u>meet at the trailhead by 8:45am</u>. Please dress comfortably in layered clothing and sturdy walking shoes and insect repellent.

Participants partaking in clean-up are encouraged to wear work gloves and waterproof footwear, and requested to bring rakes, small pruning tools, clippers, etc. We will be clearing small branches, ground-cover and debris from the entrance area and trails, as we follow our guide.

OCC will provide trash bags, waters, granola bars and fruit. The trails are mostly level, with some areas of slight incline/decline. The trek is expected to be 1.5 to 2 miles, returning to the trailhead.

The hike/workday will be cancelled in the event of rain.

This is a fun way to learn about Racebrook Tract trails! Please come out and help maintain Orange's beautiful open spaces and learn some history and nature of the Racebrook Tract!

OCC can be found on Facebook and websites at http://www.orangectconservationcommission.com or https://www.orange-ct.gov/441/Conservation-Commission