

Constance Patch Program at Camp Laurel

Camp Laurel
175 Club House Road
Lebanon, CT

Please do all five requirements

Requirement # 1: Make plans to visit Camp Laurel

Leaders, please use the form #5340, "Site Reservation Application for GSofCT Users."

Monday through Thursday, Camp Laurel is available without a fee.

There is a \$3 per person usage fee for Friday evenings and weekends.

Please prepare for your stay at Camp Laurel by wearing the correct clothing and footwear, bringing your water bottle and snack, and knowing the plan for the day.

Requirement #2: Discover the camp!

Camp Laurel's mascot is a ladybug named Laurelei. She arrived at Camp Laurel in the spring of 2011. During the summer she sometimes visits with her insect friends, including Constance, around the camp and especially with the gang at the lake. Those dragonflies are great fliers!

Camp Laurel has a variety of great outdoor activity areas including archery and water sports. Girl Scouts can use the paddle boats, canoes and funyaks to explore our lake, Stiles Pond. If it is warm enough, girls can swim, too. If you think you would like to use any of these activities you will need to have specially trained leaders supervising. Please contact a Girl Scout Service Center when planning your visit for a list of qualified Girl Scout adults.

Using the camp map, take a hike through the property. Count how many living units there are, where the horses live in the summer, and look for some of Laurelei's friends. Come to camp prepared to go Letterboxing! Visit <http://letterboxing.org/> to learn more about this great activity and then once at Camp Laurel, use the attached clues to find at least one of our letterboxes!

Requirement #3: Connect with the property!

Please have your group answer the question "What did you do today?" in Camp Laurel's Reflection Journal. Take a moment and read what others groups have written and then share your group's story.

Requirement #4: Take Action!

Each group will need to complete a service project for the property. You might collect wood for a wood pile or maybe clean, dust, or wash windows at one of the camp buildings. You can rake leaves and clear trails for future use. Groups wishing to do a larger project may contact the Property Department for a Laurel wish list.

Requirement #5: Live Healthy, Lead Healthy

As part of the Girl Scout Live Healthy, Lead Healthy initiative, girls may use the troop equipment that camp has available for you to create some games that will challenge you physically. Or, you can learn about healthy snacks and prepare either a healthy snack option or a smoothie.

Thank you for sharing Camp Laurel with me by being gentle with the earth, the creatures, and each other! Please come back again soon!

Your friend,

Laurelei

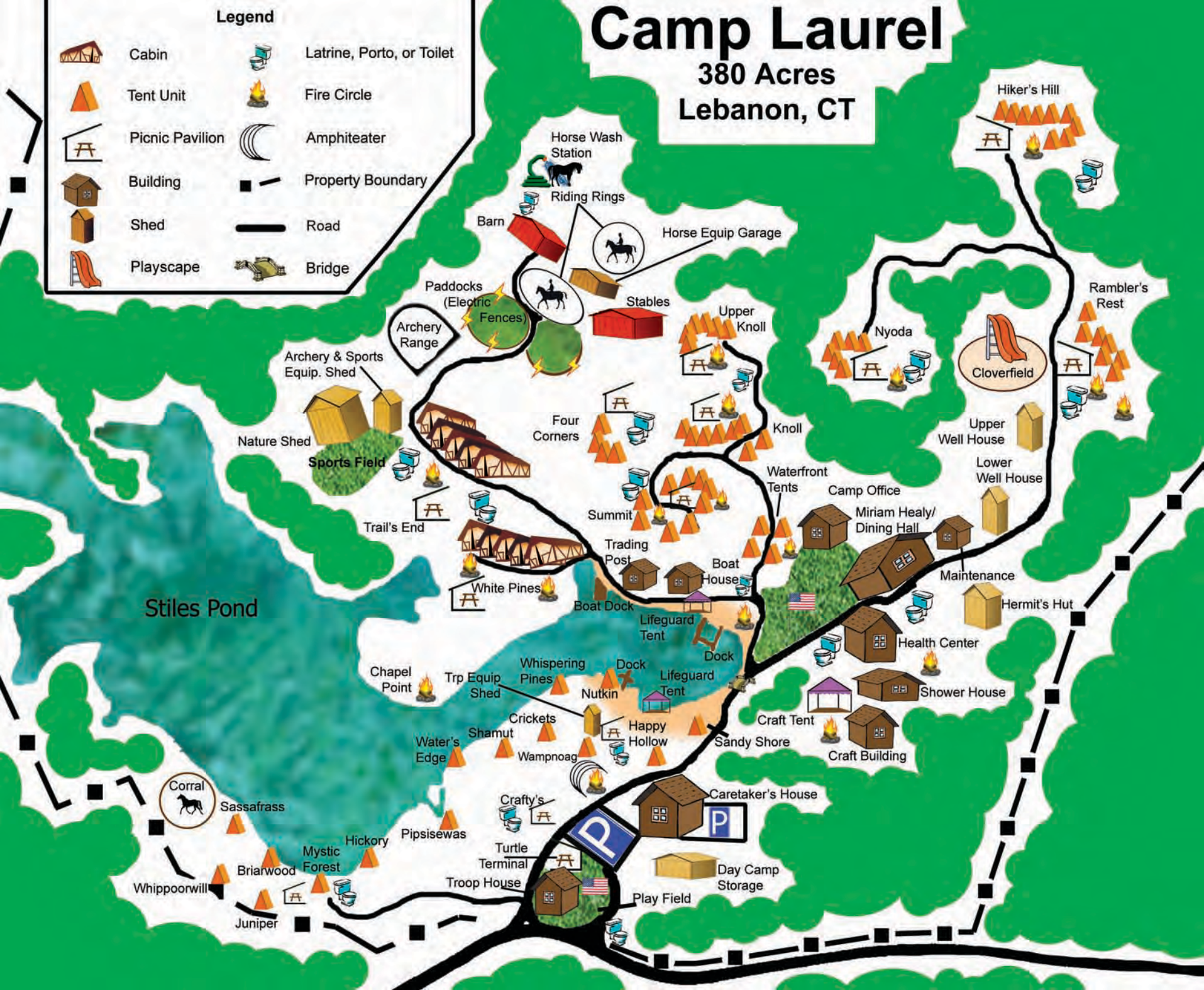


Camp Laurel

380 Acres
Lebanon, CT

Legend

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------|---|---------------------------|
|  | Cabin |  | Latrine, Porto, or Toilet |
|  | Tent Unit |  | Fire Circle |
|  | Picnic Pavilion |  | Amphitheater |
|  | Building |  | Property Boundary |
|  | Shed |  | Road |
|  | Playscape |  | Bridge |



Two Laurel Letterboxes

These letterboxes were first planted in August 2002

Please park in the lot near the caretaker's house. Look for the metal gate near the paved road. To the left of the gate is the camp map. Behind the camp map is Firefly circle.

Follow the path past the platform tents to the right. At the intersection on the path take a right past the portos by the pond. You will see Shoreside and Sandy shore units. On the other side of Sandysore are the boating and swimming areas. Please stay on this side of the fence.

Follow the fence and the path behind Nutkin and towards Whispering Pines. Take a left up the hill towards Nature. Here you will find picnic tables under a shelter and Gopher's hut.

Continue past Shawmut heading up the hill to find Crafty's place. The path continues down the hill to the right behind crafts. Head toward the water. You will find 2 picnic tables. Stop to enjoy the view.

On your left will be a bridge. Head across. Follow the path past Hickory Unit on your left. Soon you will come to the area called the Outback.

Your treasure is hidden in the rock wall behind Sassafras, near the tree with 2 sisters.

Please replace the box as you found it, thank you!

The Sky's the Limit Letterbox

From the bottom of the steps of the Miriam Healey Program Center, head North to a dirt road. The first hill you will climb is between two rooty, rocky banks.

As you climb up a second incline, notice the barbed wire on your right. When you reach the top of that hill, the road levels off and bears left.

Continue until you reach a green box on your left. Walk 40 paces up a third hill (which should bring you halfway up the hill). There should be a small grove of pine trees on your right.

By the right side of the trail, there is a strange pine tree with dead branches and a small cairn (°a cairn is a pile of rocks) at its base. From there, walk 14 paces at 350° to a slightly leaning tree in the center of the grove.

By the base of that tree you will find your reward under a pile of rocks with white quartz on the top.

Edited 8/18/11 akt.

The Sky's the Limit Letterbox

These letterboxing clues have been modified for younger Girl Scouts.

From the bottom of the steps of the Miriam Healey Program Center, head North to a dirt road. The first hill you will climb is between two rooty, rocky banks. As you climb up a second incline, notice the barbed wire on your right. When you reach the top of that hill, the road levels off and bears left.

Continue until you reach a green box on your left. Walk 40 paces up a third hill (which should bring you halfway up the hill).

There should be a small grove of pine trees on your right. By the right side of the trail, there is a strange pine tree with dead branches and a small cairn (*a cairn is a pile of rocks) at its base.

From there, walk 14 paces into the center of the grove to a slightly leaning tree. By the base of that tree you will find your reward under a pile of rocks with white quartz on the top.

Please remember to stamp in, write in the journal, and re-hide the box.

Edited 8/18/11 akt

TAJAR'S TREAT LETTERBOX

(Replanted for the 2nd time 8/1/03 by Pine Tree)

Tajar looks like a jaguar, badger, and tiger. He lives in his hiding place which is "between the roots of the tree and the top of the sky". For more information – please read Tajar Tales by Jane Shaw Ward.

From the parking lot – head towards firefly circle – (it's an amphitheater with a fire pit). Head up the main trail to Cricket's tent. Tajar's mailbox is located behind this tent. The campers attending day camp can write to Tajar. His home is also located there.

Continue to follow the trail between Gopher's Hut (trading Post) and Cricket's tent.

This trail will lead to the pond.

At the pond follow the trail to the left. Look for an eleven foot home for woodpeckers on the left side of the trail.

Your treasure is inside the tree – hidden by bark.

Please stamp and replace the bark.

Edited 8/18/11 akt

Letterboxing at Camp Laurel #1

*Beyond the **End** of the **Trail**,
Climbing up a rocky road,
You will find two rolls in the road.
Pass by the first, and at the second,
Follow it off the road to the right.
In the woods at this spot, you will see
A fallen tree of dark brown color
Follow the tree's trunk until you find
The place where the tree crosses an old
boundary
Of rocks, that once bordered a farmland
At this crossing, behind the wall,
There will lie your treasure.*

Edited 8/18/11 akt

Letterboxing at Camp Laurel #2

*Near the lake where the **Pines** are **White**, pass the five places that are brown with green.*

Walk until the road becomes a path.

Follow the path toward the lake.

When you reach the place of fire by the lake's edge, turn left and walk along the lake edge path.

You will pass a large tree and then another, if the second tree has a blue spot on it and pink yarn, you are near.

Walk to the small clearing near the old tree without leaves.

There, near the fallen tree that termites once enjoyed, you will find your treasure.

Fuzzy Bear Running from Mosquitoes Letterbox

Begin at Turtle Terminal at the entrance parking lot of Camp Laurel. Walk north-west past the main gate and follow the dirt footpath south through Happy Hallow Campsite (in the day camp area).

Need a potty brake? The porto-potties are just ahead! Stroll through Sandy Shore Campsite and along the waterfront beach split rail fence to Whispering Pines Campsite.

Then head up the hill on the left to Lakeview Pavilion and to the stone gravel drive. Continue to Crafty's Place Pavilion. From the south-east corner post of the pavilion (farthest post along walkway) walk down the hill along the footpath approximately forty feet (about 16 paces).

Look for the huggable-size Oak tree on the water-side of the footpath. It's a great tree to hug if you get caught running at camp! At the base of the Oak tree look for the flat rocks hiding the letterbox.

Find the stamp inside the letterbox. Use the stamp to stamp your book and leave your stamp in our book. Please return the letterbox to its hiding spot.



This letterbox was created for your fun by the Mosquito Chasers Leader Training patrol on August 13 & 14, 2010.

Edited 8/18/11 akt

Wild West Camporee Letterbox at Camp Laurel

This box was placed in 2006 for the Durham/Middlefield Service Unit annual camporee. Our theme was "Survivor: Wild West... so we hope you enjoy the interesting phrasing to our clues"

Before you begin, grab a compass, pen, rubberstamp, and a notebook or paper for each person.

Start behind the riding ring. Head down the path at 30°. Go past the phone, yep that's what we said, see if you can find it but it ain't botherin' you none so you best leave it alone, and get yourself over a rock.

You will see a pile of rocks on the right, might don' be a cowboy buried under there, pay yer respects and keep on walkin'. Past the "Ostrich leg" tree to your right, then turn 110° and head down the blue trail.

Get along little doggies and move on down that there trail. There are a few rocks in the trail, watch yer step. When you come to an oval rock before a bend in the trail, head 40° off the path.

Look for "Cracked saddle rock". It is a large boulder with a split. (If you pass the Beech tree with the blue metal tag, turn around now - ya hear - you have gone too done far.)

When you find the rock, if there aren't any rattlers around, reach inside and try to find our box. Once you find the box, stamp your troop stamp into our book, then stamp our stamp into your book. After y'all have found your "buried treasure", y'all best return all them there goodies exactly as you had found them.

Head back from where's y'all started. Or keep on headin' towards the mess hall. Thanks y'all.

Hope you had fun.

We'd love to hear from you about this letterboxing adventure.

Contact Troop 2050 at Carolesib@sbcglobal.net

Also check out our other boxes at Pattagansett, Carlson, and Murray.

Edited 8/18/11 akt

Flying Fish Letterbox

These letterboxing clues have been modified for younger Girl Scouts.

One day, little Betty Girl Scout decided to go for a hike. She went to the camp map in the parking lot to figure out where to go. From there, she headed to a path across the street by pole # 2038. She passed through a stone wall and continued down the path until she came to a fork in the trail.

After some careful consideration, Betty turned left and walked along until the lake was in sight at a second fork. It was such a nice view of the lake, she decided to stop and admire the view on the bench for a little while.

Then, Little Betty Girl Scout turned South (left) and stopped for a second to chat with her friend, Suzy Safety, who warned her to be careful on the steps down to the footbridge.

She crossed over the babbling brook (that may quiet down in warmer weather), and continued along the lake, noticing the "almost octopus" by the water's edge.

She stopped when she reached a yucky rotting stump in the middle of the trail that was being used as a firewood holder. From there, she turned left and walked up a hill, with a "Hickory" on her right, to a dirt road.

She started South (right) down the road, and right before she walked down a small hill, Betty noticed a tree with 3 trunks, plus another tree growing out of its base on her left... and you'll never guess what she found there!

Behind that tree, under a pile of bark, there was a flying fish that was resting after taking a trip to the upper camp!! Little Betty Girl Scout exchanged stamps with the small fish and left him a note, then left him to rest.

She then returned to the dirt road, and, having enough excitement for the day, went down the small hill, turned right at the latrines, and went back home the way she came.

Edited 8/18/11 akt