

## Welcome!

Our nature trail takes you on a moderate hike (roughly 1km) through: the remnants of the old apple orchard, the pine grove, though mixed wood forest with underground springs burbling just out of site, up the hill past mossy piles of stones which the old timers hand picked off the land to plant their potato fields, a wild apple orchard, a stand of American Beech, Sugar Maple and Yellow Birch trees, and an incredible view.



### Our Neighbors

A hotspot for wildlife due to the variety and availability of foods, this area is frequented by: moose, bears, coyotes, white tailed deer, foxes, raccoons, snowshoe hare, small mammals, reptiles, amphibians and birds.



**10. Sugar Maple** An iconic Canadian tree – this is the source of maple syrup and other maple products. Sugar Maple is an old growth species, living up to 350 years. It is an important and favored source of browse



for moose, white tailed deer, small mammals and birds. The leaves are smooth and shaped as a 'U'. Just remember – there is a 'U' in sugar!

**11. Red Maple** Red Maple is a pioneer species, living up to 200 years. Pioneer species are the types of trees that require full sunlight for maximum growth. They also act as nurse trees for the seedlings of old growth species. Red Maple leaves have toothed edges and V shaped notches.



## Thank you for visiting Old Miller Trout Farm Walking Trail!

**Pat & John Stinson**

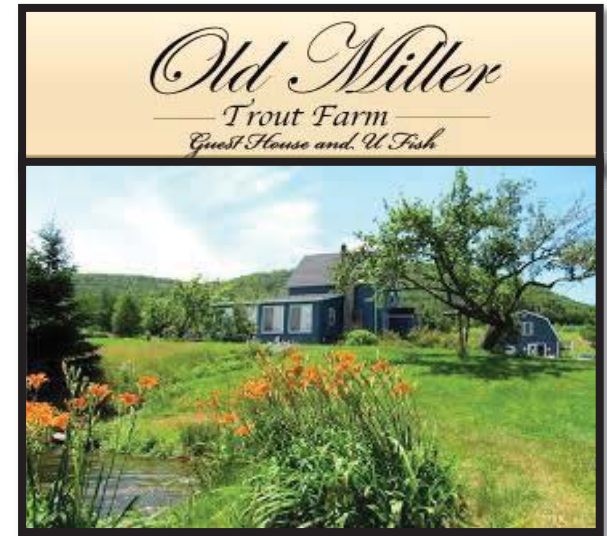
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### Trail Safety Guidelines

- Use trail at own risk! Always let someone know where you are going.
- Pack it in, pack it out: Keep our trail litter free!
- Make noise to alert animals of your approach (talk loudly, sing, jingle keys)
- Be alert. Stay on the trail and avoid hiking at night.
- Avoid odorous items (strong smelling foods, perfumes)
- Wildlife may appear harmless but always be on guard. If an animal appears, view from a distance and slowly back off.  
**Do not approach the animal.**
- If you find yourself suddenly face to face, back off in a slow, calm manner. If the animal advances, make yourself as large and loud as possible and continue backing off.



### 1. Millie The Moose

When Millie was younger, she had an unfortunate encounter with a fence and a ditch. After being rescued and regaining her feet, Millie tottered off into the woods. She has always remained close by. If you don't meet

Millie face to face, you can always see signs of where she has been! Look for nibbled twig ends, hoof prints, droppings, tufts of hair caught on trees and branches where she has taken a notion to scratch an itch.

### 2. Old Apple Orchard Corner

These apple trees are the remnants of an orchard which used to extend, likely along to the pond at the North end, where three very old trees, along with the Red Astrachan, had stood. Apple trees can live up to 100 years and provide a rich food resource to local wildlife.



3. **Black Walnut** A native species to Nova Scotia, the black walnut is highly valued for its timber and for its nut crop. It is a valuable resource to wildlife and your hosts! This tree is a member of the Juglandaceae



family. This family of trees releases a type of toxin into the ground, cutting out the competition for soil nutrients and moisture.

4. **Pine Grove** This lovely stand of pine trees show the signs of invasion from the White Pine Weevil/Wooley Headed Borer. The result of this is dropped needles, malformed trees and dead/dying standing trees. While this is sad, it also plays an important role within the ecosystem. As the pines die young striped maple, balsam fir and juniper are taking hold.



5. **Striped Maple** In the opening to the left - the favorite food of Millie the Moose! An understory tree (tolerant of shade), it gathers as much sunlight as possible with its oversized leaves. It is an important source of browse for moose and white tailed deer, and is also a favorite food of snowshoe hare.



6. **Service Berry** This tree-shrub can live up to 60 years and can be identified by its greyish bark and white, vertical lenticels (small stripes on the bark). It is an incredible resource to wildlife – its berries providing food for many animals and birds. The berries also make lovely jams, jellies and wines.



### 7. Balsam Fir

This is the tree that smells like Christmas! Its needles exude a spicy fragrance when crushed. It can live up to 100 years, and is valued for its medicinal properties. It can be identified by the two white stripes of the underside of the needles, as well as resinous sap blisters covering its grey-green trunk.



### 8. Underground Spring

In the drier season this interesting feature may not be apparent, but if you stand still and listen carefully you just might hear it burbling beneath your feet!



9. **American Beech** This species can live up to 400 years. It is a highly valuable wildlife species. Beech nuts are the favorite food of blue jays, black bears, white tailed deer, foxes and many small mammals and birds. This species is currently struggling with a widespread fungal canker which causes the bark to have a blistered, warty appearance.

