

## Letterbox Clues 2018

### **Dead River Picnic Path**

Park at the Dead River gate and walk in to the Picnic Path. Near the end of Picnic Path, just before the shore of the Dead River, look for the wooden letterbox at the base of one of the cedar trees on your left.

### **Hay Ledges**

From the Dead River or Mountain trailhead, follow the Hay Ledges Path until you come to the Overlook. Before you check out the view, you will see the natural "stone wall" where porcupines once resided. On the long south side of the wall, just off the trail, you will find the letterbox behind the base of a tree.

### **Great Pond Mountain**

From the top of the mountain, take the trail that leads to the northwest side of the mountain (take a left as you follow the blue blazes). Look for the view that features distant inland mountains (including Katahdin, on clear days). Follow the footpath downhill to a patch of trees and bushes to the left of the slanting ledge. In the group of trees, you will find the letterbox at the base of the large white pine.

### **Mead Mountain**

On the Valley Road, just over a mile from the South Gate, there is a small white sign on the right that reads "One Lane Bridge Ahead." Across the road is the Mead Mountain Trail, identified by a sign on a tree and a small log pile at the base of the trail. Proceed up the trail a few hundred yards, past a small clearing on your left to an abandoned beaver pond. Over the bridge and on your right, just off the road, you will find the letterbox secured to a beech tree.

### **Mead Mountain #2**

Hike up Mead Mtn on the tote road and continue on the path on up the mountain through the forest. You will reach an open space in which the high point in the center is marked by a cairn. From the cairn follow the path leading down to the right to the cliff-top overlooking Hot Hole Valley. Just before you reach the clifftop, there is a large boulder on the left with a rock on it. The letter box is about 50 feet further to the left among boulders.

### **Oak Hill Path**

Hike up Oak Hill to the first major view of the Hothole Valley. The path makes a right uphill. To find the letterbox, walk east (straight ahead) for 16 steps and look for the letterbox behind an old spruce. Enjoy the view!

### **Flag Hill**

Hike up the Flag Hill Path to the top of the mountain. Then follow the winding path to the north (look for blue painted markers on the rocks). When you see the ledges on Great Pond Mountain, explore the perimeter of the ledge you are standing on. The letterbox is wedged between two spruce trees.

### **Coywolf Path**

Starting at either end of the Coywolf Path, hike until you reach a rocky drop-off with a view of a beaver pond. Look behind you and you will see the letterbox perched between the trunks of a red maple.

### **Chapman Farm**

From the parking area, follow the road down the steep hill. Enter the hiking trail on the right at the bottom of the hill. Go straight at the intersection at the start of the loop. Turn left at the viewpoint sign & follow the viewpoint trail to the end. At the last trail marker, sit down on the mossy rock with your back to the tree & contemplate life. When you are ready, look back over your left shoulder. You will find the letterbox attached to the far side of the blow-down.

### **Esker Path**

A few hundred feet inside the South Gate take Esker Path on your right. Where the trail forks, continue along the footbridges down to the Beaver pond on your left. Just beyond the pond, off the trail to your left, you will find the letterbox resting on a stump.

### **Popple Grove**

From the South Gate Entrance, go 1/10<sup>th</sup> of a mile to the Children's Area on the right. Go past the Climbing Tree and through the Poplar Circle. Look for the letterbox on the double stump down in the woods and to the right.

### **Viewshed**

About one mile in from the South Gate Entrance on the Valley Road, there is a bench in a clearing from which you can see Great Pond Mountain in the distance. Walk 75-80 paces towards the mountain. To your right is a small hill with a lone pine in a clearing. About twenty steps from that tree you will see a small cluster of white birch trees where the letterbox is hidden.

### **Wooden Bridge**

From the South Gate, proceed down the Valley Road about 1.25 miles to a wooden bridge over a small brook. About ten paces before the bridge, you will see a large mossy rock entwined in a tree's roots. Just behind the rock, you will find the Wooden Bridge Letterbox.

### **Gravel Pit**

Travel the Valley Road keeping your eyes open for the Gravel Pit on the right. From Valley Road count off about 25 paces to the nearest cluster of boulders. You will find a Letterbox hidden among the boulders.

### **Toolshed Clearing**

Nearly 2.5 miles in from the North or the South Gate, marking the halfway point along the Valley road, there is a small restroom sign on right edge of the road. Go up the trail, towards the restrooms, and there is a tangled root system surrounded by boulders. Among the roots, you will find the letterbox.

### **Baker Brook**

NORTH GATE ACCESS RECOMMENDED. Less than a mile in from the North Gate Entrance you will see a clearing on the left. Find a "Camping" sign at the start of a trail. Follow the trail to the Baker Brook Campsite, distinguished by its log shelter and fire pit. With your back to the shelter turn left and look for the footpath that leads you to the brook. About ten feet from the brook is a large boulder and a fir tree. At the base of the fir tree, you will find the letterbox. Note: please be respectful of campers if site is being used. GPMCT maintains the camp site.

### **Notes:**

- In 2018, the North and the South Gates are open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, 8am- sunset, until the end of October
- Hunting is allowed in the Wildlands: wear blaze orange accordingly

- See our website for maps, info on camping, hunting and other uses of the Wildlands, info on Great Pond Mountain Conservation Trust, and an event calendar



