

**2019 Sanbornton
Pemi River Trail
Day Outing**

**Sunday
August 25, 2019**



Host: Laurie Graham

(603) 998-6867



GRANITE STATE CARRIAGE ASSOCIATION

A Recreational Horse Club for Drivers and Riders

Ride and drive the road less traveled on the Army Corps of Engineers access road along the Pemigewasset River floodplain, the Sanbornton side across from the famous Hill Village. Gates usually closed to wheeled vehicles will be opened for a unique opportunity to drive this quiet trail. The road-wide trail is dirt, sand and in some places dirt and gravel, depending on the repair conditions from the prior spring or if recent heavy rains necessitated subsequent repair due to flooding. This trail has a steep entry road heading downhill, but once in the flood plain it is quite flat. Every spring this area is flooded and under 10-20 feet of water, so don't be surprised when you look up into the trees to see large logs wedged horizontally in the treetops where they settled as the flooding subsided. The trail is approx. three miles in to the old Sanbornton Bridge Abutments, turnaround and return the same way. In the old days you could continue on to New Hampton and Bristol. The carriage-passable trail ends, however a technical challenge is provided for riders beyond the bridge abutments, with steep inclines, narrow passes and some rougher terrain where horseback riders often ride from the river up to Knox Mountain Road.

Riders may make a loop this way, by continuing across the bridge to follow a trail up to meet with Knox Mountain Road then follow Knox Mountain Road to turn right at Bennett's Ferry Road to return to the Town Park. (See LOOP 1 Extended below.)

An optional Second Loop (for carriages or riders) along tree-lined dirt backroads of Sanbornton can add another 6 miles to your transit, passing some of the most beautiful and historic properties, farms and cemeteries of Sanbornton. The ghosts of Sanbornton will appreciate hearing again the clip clop and cart sounds of its not-so-distant past. This route has some long steep inclines/declines so your horse's fitness should be considered.

Arrive at the Sanbornton Town Park between 9 and 9:30am to receive assisted trailer parking. To ensure the most efficient use of the space we have, we will park beginning from closest to the field to further away, no parking in the middle before others arrive.

Briefing is at 10:00am. You may head out earlier, but keep in mind registration will be occurring and trail questions will be addressed at the briefing time. Bring a picnic lunch and refreshment to enjoy at trails end!

GPS Location: 180 Shaw Hill Rd, Sanbornton, NH 03269

Pre-registration is strongly encouraged; please pre-pay your dues online using the PayPal link on any GSCA website page. Must be (or become) current GSCA member to attend, all events included with no extra fees. Membership is \$25.00 per year (for Family including children under 18.)

GSCA WEBSITE/Liability Release forms for Pre-registration:

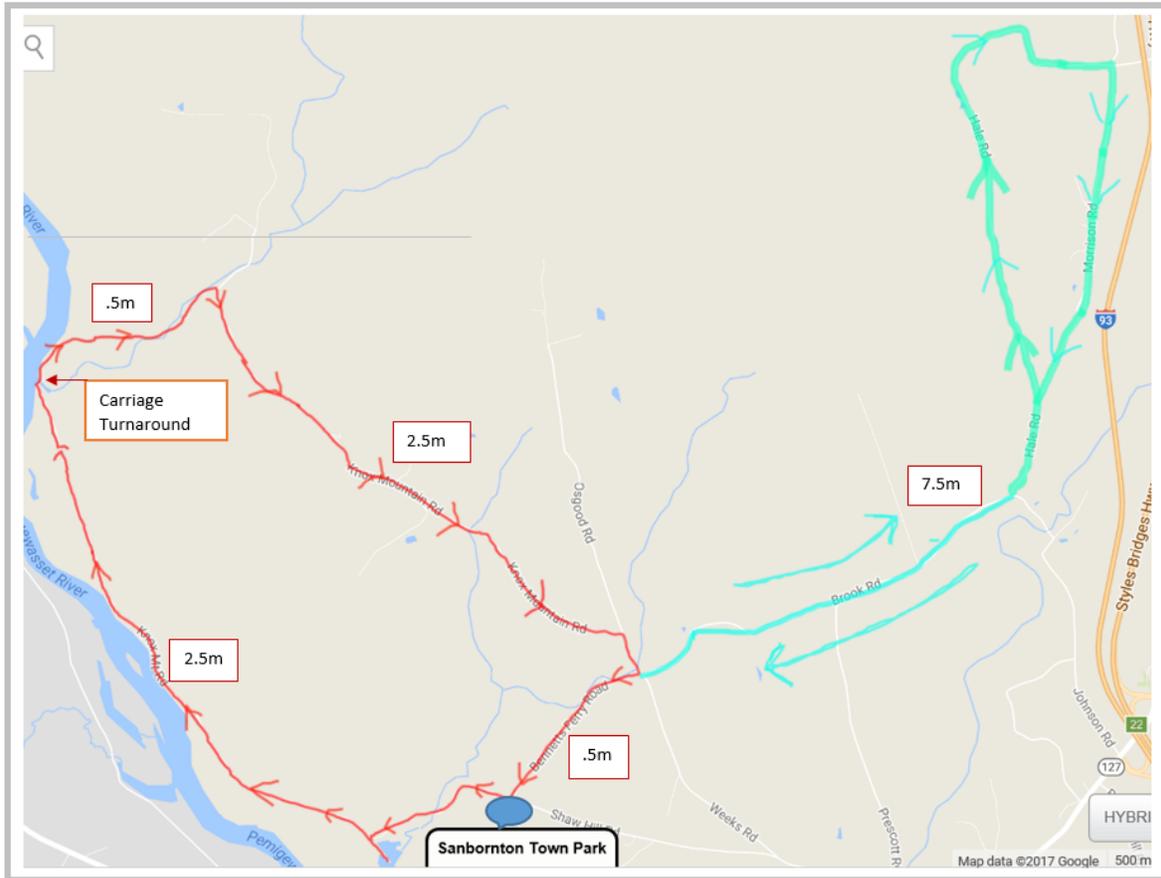
<https://www.granitestatecarriage.org/index.php/activities-photos/gsca-calendar>

FACEBOOK GROUP for OUTING UPDATES: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/GSCAdriving/>

Services:

Gas & Convenience items at Sanbornton General Store, 666 New Hampton Road (Route 127) where you would want to stop if needed before you leave 127 on your way to the Town Park; you can pull in by the diesel pumps for direct trailer driving in and out without needing to back up. There are restroom facilities at the Town Park, convenient to the trailer parking area.

Trail Map



Legend

- **Red = LOOP 1** for Drivers and Riders, 5 miles out/back, **OR Extended** (Riders), 6 miles
 - Drivers would double back on this trail at the Carriage Turnaround at the Old Sanbornton Bridge abutments
- **Green = LOOP 2** for Drivers and Riders, 7.5 miles, almost all dirt

Description

LOOP 1 To Carriage Turnaround and back - approx. 2 hours. Departing from Town Park, take left and continue through the Army Corp of Engineers gate to Shaw Cove. Dirt road, with dryness there are small stones which are used in dirt road paving. Steep road decline into floodplain area of Shaw Cove, then flat the remainder of the trail. Road-wide trail. Steep incline returning from Shaw Cove.

LOOP 1 Extended - 3-4 hours. Same as Loop 1, however there is a moderate incline through ATV wide woods trails. Footing is fairly good, some roots in places. Once on Knox Mountain Road, road rocks are present from roadbuilding activities. Knox Mountain Road will also include another incline and decline until it flattens out by my farm, and then is relatively flat if you choose to return to the town park.

LOOP 2 - 3 - 4 hours at the walk. **LOOP 2** involves very quiet rural back roads, all unpaved with the exception of Morrison Road. Depart from Town Park, cross Shaw Hill road diagonally to the left and turn right to continue on Bennett's Ferry Road, a dirt road. Cross Weeks road at stop sign. Continue on Brook Road, some steep and long inclines, then a long decline all dirt road. Take a left onto Morrison Road, also a dirt road. Bear left at Hale Road, an incline also a dirt road. Follow Hale Road along until it meets up to the other end of newly paved Morrison Road. Take a right onto Morrison road, and follow it to the end where it meets up again with Brook Road, take a right to return the same route - Brook Road, cross Weeks Road to Bennett's Ferry Road and return to Town Park

For the fit horse and rider, feel free to do **LOOP 1 *Extended* plus LOOP 2** (13.5 mis.) Towards the end of **LOOP 1 *Extended***, when you get to the intersection of Brook Road and Bennett's Ferry Road (where the green line meets the red on the map) take a **LEFT** to continue out instead of right to return to the Town Park. Road-experienced drivers may choose **LOOP 1** only (5 mis), **OR LOOP 1 plus LOOP 2** (13.5 mis. total.)

Directions from I-93 South

1. Take exit 22 from I-93 S to NH-127 S in Sanbornton
2. Turn left onto NH-127 S, drive 0.9 mi
3. Turn right onto Prescott Rd, drive 302 ft
 - NOTE: You will see Sanbornton General Store just beyond Prescott Rd
4. Turn left onto Weeks Rd drive 0.4 mi
5. (Golf Course will be on your right)
6. Bear slight left at fork onto Shaw Hill Rd
7. Drive 0.9 mi
8. Destination will be on the left

Directions from I-93 North

1. Take exit 22 from I-93 S to NH-127 S in Sanbornton
2. Turn **RIGHT** onto NH-127 S, drive 0.9 mi
3. Turn **RIGHT** onto Prescott Rd, drive 302 ft
 - NOTE: You will see Sanbornton General Store just beyond Prescott Rd
4. Turn **LEFT** onto Weeks Rd drive 0.4 mi
5. (Golf Course will be on your right)
6. Bear slight **LEFT** at fork onto Shaw Hill Rd
7. Drive 0.9 mi
8. Destination will be on the **LEFT**