

smooth egg-shape), usually all present. Twigs green. Leaves and twigs spicy fragrant when crushed.

20. Ironwood *Carpinus caroliniana*; Small tree with muscular-looking, smooth, dark gray bark. Fruits are tiny nuts attached to leafy bracts. Member birch family.

21. Common Witch-hazel *Hammamelis virginiana*; wavy-toothed, uneven-based leaves. Flowers yellow, Sept.-Nov. Also here Highbush Blueberry *Vaccinium corymbosum*; Tall shrub, leaves elliptic. Twigs slender, green or reddish. Small, whitish, bell-like flowers, May-June.

22. Flowering Dogwood *Cornus florida*; Flowers small, clustered, each cluster with 4 large white bracts (not true petals), March-June. Known as "brides of the forest".

23. Black and Scarlet Oaks *Quercus velutina* and *Q. coccinea*; Trees of red oak group found on dry soils. Leaves bristle-tipped. Acorns deep and bowl-like.

24. American Beech *Fagus grandifolia*; Distinctive smooth gray bark, slender many-scaled buds, elliptic, coarse-toothed leaves. Fruits, small triangular nuts.

25. Eastern Red Cedar *Juniperus virginiana*; Medium-sized evergreen (actually a juniper) with both scale-like and needle-like leaves. Heartwood reddish and aromatic. Frequently found on dry, exposed sites and abandoned fields. Note its familiar conical silhouette.

This juniper marks the end of the interpretive trail signage, and the halfway point in the trail loop.

The Tattapanum Trail continues, turning left onto an ancient cartway, its raised shoulders faintly detectable at the trail edge. At the top of the next hill, a stand of Scotch Pine *Pinus sylvestris*, European cousin of the red pine, is established. Then you begin your descent, passing through dense spruce groves (another introduced forest type in this region), and mature oak stands before returning to the trailhead.



THE WATUPPA RESERVATION

In 1895, the Reservoir Commission was established to "protect the purity of the city's water supply", the North Watuppa Pond. Its key accomplishment was the acquisition of watershed lands surrounding the pond and its tributaries now known as the Watuppa Reservation.

Today, the City of Fall River Water Department manages and administers over 7,000 acres of forest and water resources including Copicut Reservoir.

The creation of this municipal nature trail is a signal departure from its long-standing policy prohibiting public use. It reflects a viewpoint that limited, planned and ecologically sound use may be compatible with quality water production.

Grant Funding

A portion of the funding for development of the Tattapanum Municipal Nature Trail was provided by the Massachusetts Forest Stewardship Small Grants Program. The Massachusetts Forest Stewardship Program encourages non-industrial private forest landowners to manage their forests for sound economic, environmental, and social benefits by sharing the cost of developing and carrying out an approved Forest Stewardship plan.

The trail is intended to provide a setting where forest stewardship values can be introduced to an inner city population as well as private forestland owners throughout the region.

Additional funding was generously provided by Molten Metal Environmental Fund.

Directions - Take Route 24 to Exit 8 in Fall River. Turn right onto Airport Road, proceed just over 1 mile to Rigenbach Road. Turn right, go to end, then take left onto Wilson Road. Tattapanum Trail entrance is 1000' down the hill on left.



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TATTAPANUM TRAIL



To assist the public with identification of common forest plant species and other points of interest.

CITY OF FALL RIVER
Municipal Nature Trail

INTERPRETIVE MAP