

## **SECTION 27: EDEN/CRAFTSBURY TOWNLINER TO CRAFTSBURY OUTDOOR CENTER**

### **SNAPSHOT:**

This section offers a combination of gentle, rolling, ungroomed terrain through the woods, and the groomed trails of the Craftsbury Outdoor Center. A short stretch, between Rte. 14 and Craftsbury Common, is shared with snowmobiles.

**LENGTH:** 7.6 miles

### **DIFFICULTY:**

This section requires an intermediate level of technical skills. The ungroomed portion of the Trail is narrow but the slopes are gentle. The snow on the short stretch shared with snowmobiles is groomed and well packed. The Craftsbury Outdoor Center trail network is well groomed throughout the ski season.

### **DIRECTIONS TO TRAIL**

#### **ACCESS/EXIT POINTS (south to north):**

##### **1. East Hill (Eden Mountain) Rd. - Eden**

From Eden Mills on Route 100, turn east onto East Hill Road and go 4 miles.

From Route 14 in Craftsbury, head southwest on North Wolcott Road. After 0.45 miles, take the first right onto Merrill Loop, then go immediately right again onto Collinsville Road. From Merrill Loop, go 1.4 miles north and turn right (west) onto Eden Mountain Road. Park single file on one side of road and not in the snowplow turn around. (As you go west from Craftsbury to Eden, Eden Mountain Rd. becomes East Hill Rd.)

Alternatively, from the intersection of Rtes. 15 and 15A in Morristown go 3.9 miles east on Rte. 15 and turn left on North Wolcott Rd. Take North Wolcott Rd. about 8 miles north, almost to Rte. 14 in Craftsbury. Turn left on Merrill Loop, then immediate left on Collinsville Rd. Follow directions from Merrill Loop above.

Parking for two or three cars is available along the side of East Hill Rd near the CT spur trailhead. Ski 1.6 miles south to join the CT just north of Wiley Brook bridge.

##### **2. North Craftsbury Rd. – Craftsbury**

From Rte. 14 in Craftsbury follow the signs to Craftsbury Common. A big parking lot is maintained by the town on the east side of North Craftsbury Rd. in the village of Craftsbury Common adjacent to the CT.

##### **3. Craftsbury Outdoor Center - Craftsbury**

From Rte. 14 in Craftsbury follow the signs to the Outdoor Center. (From the Craftsbury Common green, go north on North Craftsbury Rd., and then bear right onto Wylie Hill Rd. Immediately turn right on Mill Village Rd. After it curves left heading into Mill Village, go right on Lost Nation Rd. to the COC.

### **ROUTE DESCRIPTION:**

From the town line parking lot on Eden Mountain Rd, travel approximately 100 yds southeast across the western edge of the field to intersect the **Catamount Trail (0.0)**. Continue southeast and ski about 0.7 miles along the edge of the field, then back into the woods on a major logging road to a big log landing. Turn left (east-southeast) and follow a smaller logging road, then a trail for about 0.8 miles, emerging on to a sugaring road. Turn right (south) downhill and following the sugar road around a long curve about 0.7 miles to the northeast, and finally due north to ski upstream along the west bank of the Wild Branch. Cross a wooden bridge over the Wild Branch, emerging in a field. Ski uphill (southeast) 0.2 miles to a telephone pole just north of a brown building on Collinsville Rd (2.2)

Go straight east across Collinsville Rd and uphill through an overgrown pasture for about 0.2 miles. Turn right (southeast) and climb gently along an old roadbed. Then descend gently across a field to enter thick woods (just after crossing a VAST trail and some wet seeps). Continue southeast in the woods for about 0.1 miles before turning left to follow the power line right of way over the crest of a hill to the east. Continue downhill alongside a blueberry orchard and take a hard right to swing south of the house and

pond. Cross **Coburn Hill Rd. (3.0)** under the same power line into a pasture. Watch out for saplings and barbed-wire fences as you descend along the southern edge of the pastures to **VT Rte. 14 (3.6)**.

Cross Rte. 14, skiing east along the side of Post Rd. Cross to the field on the south side of the road at a bridge over the Black River, where the CT joins a VAST trail. About 300 yards east of the Black River, the Trail climbs southeast uphill through woods. Continue straight on the CT when Craftsbury Outdoor Center (COC) Trail 6e exits to the right (south). Climb steeply southeast, then east through woods. Exit the VAST trail to the right (east) and uphill through a farm field and around a new house to North Craftsbury Rd. at **Craftsbury Common (4.9)**. The parking lot here provides an intermediate bail out point. Cross North Craftsbury Rd. and ski east across athletic fields to a junction with groomed COC Trail 6. Follow COC trails 6, 6c, and 6, to the **Craftsbury Outdoor Center (7.4)**. Be sure to check in at the Nordic center to pick up a map and pay the appropriate trail fee.

**DISTANCE TO LANDMARKS:**

<b>Mileage</b>	<b>Landmark</b>	<b>Mileage</b>
<b>Northbound</b>		<b>Southbound</b>
0.0	CT south of Town Line parking	7.4
2.2	Collinsville Road	5.2
3.0	Coburn Hill Road	4.4
3.6	Rte. 14	3.8
4.9	Craftsbury Common	2.5
7.4	Craftsbury Outdoor Center	0.0

**SIDE TRAILS AND LOOPS:**

The Craftsbury Outdoor Center maintains one of the finest groomed Nordic ski networks in the east, providing the opportunity for many loops and side trail excursions. Snow is very reliable here so many ski events are scheduled throughout the winter.