The Monson Conservation Commission's Flynt Quarry Lands is the 165-acre site of the former Flynt Granite Quarry. This beautiful public reserve features several trails, preserves an important piece of Monson's history, and links the town schools and several neighborhoods to the north.

The U.S. Government opened the quarry in 1809 to provide stone for the Springfield Armory building. In 1825 it was purchased by Rufus Flynt who operated the quarry with a five man crew. In 1839, W.N. Flynt expanded the quarry operation, and, at times, over 30,000 tons of stone were being quarried annually. Stone was used for Monson's most iconic buildings: Memorial Hall, St. Patrick's Church, the Unitarian Universalist Church and the Monson Free Library.

Today this land has exceptional recreational, wildlife and historic features. The property is adjacent to the 75-acre Monson school complex, and the High School's 5K crosscountry course is a highlight of the new trail system. Additional trails explore the unique features of this property. Access to the Flynt Quarry trails is from Margaret Street and Upper Palmer Road. There is ample parking along the road frontage.

The Monson Conservation Commission permanently protected this property through the cooperative effort and generosity of the Town of Monson, the Monson Community Preservation Committee, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Opacum Land Trust, and many generous donors.

Monson Conservation Commission is dedicated to the preservation of open space and stewardship of our natural resources in Monson. We encourage public enjoyment of conservation lands by low impact recreational activities such as hiking, walking, photography and nature study. Opacum Land Trust was formed in 2000 to conserve land of high ecological and historical interest in South Central Massachusetts. They focus on preserving priority habitat and ecosystems, working woodlands and agricultural land, historic and pre-colonial archaeological remains, and scenic land for outdoor recreational activities.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Due to the natural dangers associated with the former Quarry, we request caution with your activities. Please stay away from the edges of the quarry. Please keep your children within view especially on the white trail near the former quarry operation. Please keep pets on a leash. Climbing the quarry walls is prohibited. The use of ATVs, snowmobiles and dirt bikes is not permitted.



Opacum Land Trust P.O. Box 233, Sturbridge, MA 01566 Phone 508-347-9144 www.opacumlt.org

Opacum Land Trust is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible. Contributions for maintaining the Flynt Quarry Lands are welcome, and can be sent to the Land Trust.

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Massachusett



Monson Savings Banks is a proud sponsor of this map-guide.

This trail/facility received funding assistance through the federally funded Recreational Trails Program administered by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Cover photography and map artwork done by Claire Dacey.

## Monson's Flynt Quarry Lands

A newly preserved 165-acre property with exceptional recreational, wildlife and historic features, and walking, hiking and biking trails for public use.

