



Ascutney Trails Association  
P.O. Box 246, Brownsville, Vermont 05037

## **Slot Trail**

The Slot Trail is named for a short section of the trail which passes through a narrow slot with high walls and stone steps. It starts at the upper auto road parking lot and climbs gently to Saddle Junction, 0.1 miles from the summit of Mt. Ascutney. Along the way, three trail junctions provide the opportunity to explore other sites -- the Futures Link Trail, the Slab Trail, and the Castle Rock Trail. Brownsville Rock can also be reached by connecting with the Windsor/Brownsville trail.

### ***Distances from the upper auto road parking lot to:***

- Slab Trail and Futures Link Trail: 0.3 mi.
- Castle Rock Trail: 0.5 mi.
- Saddle Junction: 0.6 mi.

## **Slab Trail**

This is a short trail (0.2 mi) which provides an alternate route to Saddle Junction, bypassing most of the upper half of the Slot Trail. It's named for a section that goes up along the sloping rocks. Two short wooden ladders help in the ascent up the slabs.

## **Castle Rock Trail**

The Castle Rock Trail is a short link (0.1 mi) which connects the Slot Trail to the Windsor Trail and offers access to Castle Rock with its excellent view of the Connecticut River Valley. Coming from the Windsor Trail, the Castle Rock Trail gives the hiker a route down to the upper auto road parking lot or an alternate way to the summit.

## **Futures Link Trail**

The Futures Link Trail connects the Futures Trail to the Slot Trail, providing a way to get to the upper parking lot or an alternate way to the summit. To do this, connect with either the Slab or Slot Trails, go to Saddle Junction and then south to the summit via the last portion of the Windsor/Brownsville Trail. It's about a quarter mile shorter to reach the summit that way than continuing on the Futures Trail to the Windsor Trail.