

*Section 11: Rangeley/Stratton Region 217****Fire Warden's Trail (map 2: D4–D5)***

To reach the trail, follow ME 27 north from Kingfield. Turn left (west) onto the paved road (West Kingfield St.) at Jordan's Lumber Company, 0.2 mi. north of the bridge over the Carrabassett River. At 3.3 mi. from ME 27, the road becomes gravel. Go straight through a crossroads at 3.5 mi. (road becomes Rapid Stream Road). From this point, the road is partially private. At 6.0 mi., a road turns left to a wooden bridge over the Rapid Stream. Park before the bridge, which has suffered some structural damage and may be unsafe for cars.

From the parking area, cross over this Rapid Stream bridge, and then a second bridge over Norton Brook where you will reach a fork in the road. Bear right at the fork, and continue 0.5 mi. to a T-intersection where you should see a trail sign. This trail traverses private land and signage may not be maintained.

The blue-blazed trail follows the southern bank of a brook, crosses the brook, and gradually climbs the northern bank. In another 0.3 mi., it turns northwest and then crosses a logging road. To reach this point by car, turn right at the trailhead and turn left in about one mile. In approximately 200 yd., the road crosses the trail (marked by a cairn). The road is actively used by logging trucks; use caution. The next 2.0 mi. of the trail, to the abandoned warden's cabin, skirt the northeastern flank of the mountain, crossing four major brooks. Grades are easy. There is a good spring to the right of the cabin.

From the old cabin (2127 ft.), the trail turns left. At 0.1 mi. above the cabin, a side trail leads left to a brook (last sure water). The trail climbs steeply, often through rough sections, for approximately 0.9 mi. The trail emerges at treeline, and is exposed for the last 0.5 mi. In this section, an abandoned telephone line and the few cairns should be followed carefully in bad weather. The trail rises steadily across a boulder field to the fire tower.

Distances from parking near Rapid Stream

- to* T-intersection near Norton Brook: 0.5 mi.
- to* fire warden's cabin: 3.0 mi.
- to* Abraham summit: 4.5 mi., 3 hr. 45 min.

Mount Abraham Side Trail (map 2: C4–D4)

For the approach to this trail, see the description of the Appalachian Trail route to Spaulding Mtn. in this guide.

From the jct. of the Appalachian Trail and the blue-blazed side trail to the Spaulding Mtn. summit, continue south on the Appalachian Trail, descending