

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE Howland Research Forest, Maine

Established in 1986 through a partnership between the University of Maine and International Paper Company, the Howland Research Forest is an ecosystem research site in central Maine, representing a low-elevation northern conifer forest dominated by spruce and hemlock. Over the past decades, world renowned science on forest carbon cycling has been conducted at this site which is now owned by Northeast Wilderness Trust.

DATE | September 13, 2025 (rain or shine)

TIME | 10:00am to 2:30pm

TOUR START TIMES | First tour 10:30am Second tour 1:00pm

TOUR DURATION | 30 minutes

LOGISTICS | Please wear comfortable clothes and good walking shoes. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

Please join us to learn more about science at the Howland Research Forest.

Getting to Howland Research Forest

Please park along Gunbarrel Rd before the yellow gate, between the parking signs.

Please do not park on the shoulder of Lagrange Rd.

The shuttle will pick up guests at the parking area at 10:00am, with return to parking at noon.

The second shuttle pick up at the parking area will be at 1:00pm, with return at 2:30pm.



Overview of the tour

1 THE NET CARBON EXCHANGE TOWER

Established in 1996, it is one of the longest running net carbon exchange towers in the world.

2 MEASURING FOREST CARBON

From soils to trees, understanding how carbon moves through a forest is important to forest health, and the role of microbes

3 NASA'S INVOLVEMENT

Established in 1989 the NASA plot contains highly detailed inventory of trees, including a 400-year-old yellow birch tree. This site was used as a training location for NASA's early remote sensing capabilities.

The tour will include a short walk through the forest and climb up the tower (weather dependent) to see the sights and learn more about the research happening here.















