ACCESS/PARKING: Access in Ridgefield is via either the Bennett’s Pond Trail System (SP4) or the Pine Mountain Trails (Area 5), with the junction occurring at a point on the ridge near the intersection of the Bennett’s Pond and Pine Mountain trails. The trail is also accessible from a parking lot near where the trail crosses route 7 at Starrs Plain Road. The Ives Trail has its own distinctive markers (yellow and red).

DIFFICULTY: Easy to moderate

FEATURES: The Ives Trail runs from the Bennett’s Pond and Pine Mountain trail systems in Ridgefield to the Terre Haute Preserve in Bethel, traversing a greenway that links these areas with Wooster Mountain State Park and Tarrywile Park in Danbury. The trail was completed in 2013, and its total length is about 14 miles. The trail features several spectacular viewpoints, views of many small lakes and reservoirs, and a great variety of forested areas. Difficulty varies, but much of the trail is moderate and there are some steep, difficult sections.

HISTORY: Named after Danbury native Charles Ives, a 20th century composer, the trail also links his birthplace in Danbury with the location of a summer cabin on Pine Mountain where he composed some of his "environmental" music. The Ives Trail Task Force was commissioned in October of 2003, as a direct result of the City of Danbury’s update to its Plan of Conservation and Development.

For more information on the trail to go to the Ives Trail Greenway website: The Ives Trail

Here is the map produced by Ives Trail Greenway: Iv estrail_map_2020.pdf