

## Security Issues

- “See something, say something.”
- Notify officials if anything seems out of the ordinary.
- Report violations of DCR Regulations, suspicious activities or abnormal environmental conditions to DCR Rangers or the MA State Police.
- National security conditions or other issues may require the temporary closure of the reservoir to all public access.
- Notices will be posted at all access points if closure is necessary.

## Emergency Contact Numbers

Emergency  
911

Wachusett Watershed Rangers  
978-365-3800

MA State Police - Holden  
508-829-8410

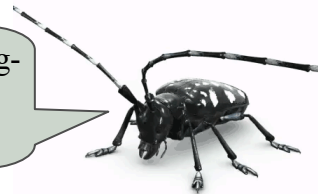
MA Environmental Police  
800-632-8075

## Other Important Numbers

Wachusett Administration Building:  
508-792-7806

Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and  
Wildlife:  
508-389-6300

To Report Asian Long-  
horn Beetle sightings  
call 866-702-9938



## INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS

### Department of Conservation and Recreation Wachusett Reservoir

All programs are run by DCR Watershed Rangers and Education Staff, are FREE, and are open to the public.

For more information, directions, or accessibility questions please contact the Wachusett Watershed Rangers at 978-365-3800

[www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr)



## JANUARY

Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup> 1:00 P.M.

### Animal Adaptation



Mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians have all evolved to develop unique survival adaptations that allow them to withstand the cold and snow of a New England winter. Come learn about these animals through a fun and informative presentation then go with the Rangers to see some signs of what the critters are doing to get through the winter. **Meet at John Augustus Hall, West Boylston.**

## FEBRUARY

Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 1:00 P.M.

### Presidents' Day Snowshoe/Hike



Come and join the Rangers for a fun snowshoe or hike into the woods of the Wachusett Reservoir Watershed. We will explore the wooded winter wonderland and discuss how our past U.S. Presidents have contributed to land and water conservation over the years. The program will last about two hours and the terrain will be easy to moderate. Please bring your own snowshoes and dress accordingly for the weather.

If there is little to no snow we will do a foot hike instead so wear sturdy boots. **Meet at John Augustus Hall, West Boylston.**

### Old Stone Church Self Guided Tour



The Old Stone Church serves as a monument to thousands of buildings that were removed to create the reservoir. Because of its stone construction the church was allowed to remain. The Old Stone Church was built in 1892. The Metropolitan Water Board bought the church in 1897. The state took over the building in 1902. All of the interior items, the stained glass windows, and the church bell were moved to the new Baptist church in West Boylston center. The Old Stone Church was declared a National Historic Site in 1973; by 1975 the roof and a major portion of the walls had collapsed. The church was rebuilt over the next five years to replicate the original exterior. The Old Stone Church serves as a popular tourist attraction. Visitors picnic, take photographs, fish, or simply enjoy the scenery.

# MARCH

Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> 10:00 A.M.

## Massachusetts Metropolitan Water Works Photograph Collection



DCR's predecessor, the Metropolitan Water Board, photographically inventoried the Nashua River valley to document the area before, during and after the Wachusett Project. Join the Watershed Rangers for a look at this unique collection in a Power-Point presentation, concluding with a brief overview of how you at home can access these historic photos and blueprints. Meet at **John Augustus Hall, West Boylston.**

Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> 1:00 P.M.

## Tick Talk



Ticks are a growing problem here in New England. Thousands of Massachusetts residents have been impacted by tick-borne diseases. The Rangers will discuss the tick lifecycle, dangers that ticks pose, and efforts we can take to reduce our exposure to these problematic arachnids. This informational session will be hosted at **John Augustus Hall, West Boylston.**

# APRIL

Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 1:00 P.M.

## Vernal Pool Investigation



Come and learn why vernal pools are a vital part of the ecosystems within the Wachusett Watershed. These pools that dry up later in the year are teeming with life in the spring. Participants will learn how to identify vernal pools and search within the pools for organisms that rely on them for habitat. Please dress to be outdoors in the woods for part of the program. Meet at **Stillwater Farm Interpretive Center.**

Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> 9:00 A.M.—12:00 P.M.

## Stonewalls



Stonewalls in New England are as iconic as lobster and clam chowder. The Wachusett Watershed encompasses thousands of acres of forested lands and fields that contain these structures. Learn about New England geological characteristics and wall construction followed by a guided walk to one of the most impressive stonewalls in the watershed. This is a moderate level hike. Meet at **Stillwater Farm Interpretive Center.**

# MAY

Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> 2:00 P.M.—5:00 P.M.

## Clinton Dam Day



The walkway across the top of the Wachusett Dam in Clinton will be open for the public to walk across and enjoy the view of the Reservoir. DCR Rangers and staff will be there to answer questions, provide historical information, and discuss the importance of watershed protection. Come learn about the Division of Water Supply Protection's role in ensuring that the reservoir remains a pristine drinking water source for 2.5 million Massachusetts residents.

Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 7:00 A.M.—9:00 A.M.

## Bringing Back the Birds



From Common Loons, to Bald Eagles, to native songbirds and raptors, there are many unique bird species that call the Wachusett Watershed home. Some of these species are threatened in Massachusetts. Come hear Wachusett Rangers describe ongoing restoration projects undertaken by the DCR & their partners to help these species thrive in this part of Massachusetts. Meet at **John Augustus Hall, West Boylston.**

Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> 8:00 A.M.—10:00 A.M.

## Cache In/Trash Out Sudbury Reservoir



Combine the fun of geocaching with cleaning up the environment. The DCR Rangers will place caches around the area of the Sudbury Reservoir. Participants will pick up trash along the way to the caches. Trash bags will then be placed along the roadside for pick up by the DCR staff. Meet at **911 Field, Acre Bridge Road, Marlboro.** This event will be posted on [www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com).

### Street Addresses For Programs:

**Stillwater Farm**, 228 Redemption Rock Rd. (Route 140), Sterling, MA

**Old Stone Church**, Junction of Beaman St. and Sterling St., West Boylston, MA

**John Augustus Hall**, 180 Beaman St. West Boylston, MA

To be prepared for hikes consider wearing hiking boots and weather appropriate outdoor wear. You may also want to bring bug spray, water, and snacks.