

Wachusett Reservoir Watershed Department of Conservation and Recreation

Division of Water Supply Protection



APRIL 2025 PROGRAMS

All Programs are free and open to the public. Dogs are not allowed on water supply protection lands. For additional information, please email Kathryn.Parent@mass.gov or call 617-352-4044.

SPRINGTIME HIKE WITH BOYLSTON LIBRARY

Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Meet at Boylston Public Library, 695 Main Street, Boylston. Join DCR Watershed Rangers for this hike to Scar Hill Road as we enjoy the sights of spring on the Wachusett Watershed! This guided hike will be about 3 miles round trip to shoreline views of Scar Hill Bluffs on easyto-moderate terrain. There will be a few inclines on paved road and dirt access road, and we'll navigate over forest trail to sandy shore. Dogs are not allowed. Come and enjoy the changing season with us!

POOLS AND PONDS WALK

Tuesday, April 22, 10 - 11 a.m.

Meet at Mass Central Rail Trail- Sterling Spur, 25 Gates Road, Sterling. Take a closer look at water sources during this slow-paced familyfriendly walk. These nearby water features attract a variety of wildlife that depend on these habitats. We'll listen for frog calls and look for other signs of wildlife. Up to a 1-mile easy walk. All ages are welcome.

SALT SLEUTH COMMUNITY SCIENCE

Saturday, April 26, Drop in between 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Meet at Wachusett Reservoir Headquarters, 180 Beaman Street, West Boylston.

Become a Salt Sleuth to do freshwater forensics! Volunteers will contribute valuable data as increasing chloride levels have been documented from road salt in the Wachusett Reservoir Watershed. Collect a water sample from any body of water during Earth Day Week. Bring the water sample with you or pick up a sampling kit at the Wachusett Reservoir Headquarters. DCR Environmental Quality Staff will test for conductivity, map the results, and demonstrate salt measurement techniques. All ages are welcome.

Wachusett Reservoir 180 Beaman Street, West Boylston MA 01583 508-792-7806



Wachusett Reservoir Watershed

Department of Conservation and Recreation, Division of Water Supply Protection Headquarters: 180 Beaman Street, West Boylston MA 01583 508-792-7806

May Events

All Programs are free and open to the public. Dogs are not allowed on water supply protection lands. For additional information or to check on event status please call 617-352-4044 or email

NORTH DIKE TO DAM GUIDED WALK Saturday, May 10, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Meet at Gate 39, located at the intersection of South Meadow Road and Route 110 in Clinton. This guided 1-mile walk along the North Dike will lead to the Wachusett Dam in Clinton. Once you reach the dam, take some time to explore the area on your own. The walkway across the dam will be open for walking at 2 pm.

DAM DAY Saturday, May 10, 2 - 5 p.m.Wachusett Dam, Rt 70, Clinton.
The DCR Division of Water Supply Protection will open the top of the Wachusett Dam for the public to access, walk across, and enjoy! DCR Watershed Rangers will be on hand to provide information regarding the agency's watershed protection program. Parking is available along Route 70, and thanks to the Clinton Public Schools, will also be available at the Clinton Middle School or Clinton High School for a 1-mile easy walk to the Dam along the North Dike Path. *Due to increased security, backpacks and other large bags will not be allowed at this event. All other items brought to the event may be subject to search.

OPEN HOUSE and BIOBLITZ Saturday, May 24, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Stillwater Farm Interpretive Center 228 Redemption Rock Rd., Sterling. This historic farmhouse, built in the 1790s, features displays on the Wachusett Watershed, local wildlife, and the farm's history. The area features a one-acre meadow and a one-mile forest hiking trail along the rocky hillside. Stop in to help survey habitats and identify plants and animals to contribute to a snapshot of the biodiversity in the area. Your participation will help us provide future educational opportunities. Focus areas with field staff are scheduled throughout the day. Everyone is welcome to participate.

FisHISTORY

Wednesday, May 28, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Meet at Boylston Public Library, 695 Main Street, Boylston. Join the DCR Watershed Rangers as they present the history of fishing from the 1890s to today at the Wachusett Reservoir. They will draw from historical state records and showcase the species of fish found in the reservoir from surveys. The presentation will be followed by Q&A.

BIRD OUTING

Friday, May 30, 9-10:30am.

Meet at Sensory Trail, Mass Central Rail Trail, 25 Gates Road, Sterling. This program is designed to be intentionally inclusive and accessible for beginning birders. Birders of all experience levels are welcome. Nestled between two water bodies, this trail is a wonderful place to look and listen for birds and use our senses to observe behavior and notice habitats. We will walk slowly for 34 mile round trip. Strollers and wheelchairs are welcome. For accessibility information, please contact (617) 645-4329.

Scan for events

OLD STONE CHURCH- HISTORY TOUR Saturday, May 31, 10 -11:00 a.m.

Meet at The Old Stone Church, 130 Beaman Street, West Boylston. This popular landmark endured fire, flood, and collapse and has become a symbol of resilience through a changing landscape. Join us for a walking tour highlighting the history and recent site improvements of shoreline stabilization, walkway, and planting upgrades.