



**For immediate release  
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## **DCR SETS MAY 1 AS APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR SPECIAL USE PERMITS IN STATE PARKS**

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has set May 1, 2010, as the application deadline for special use permits in state parks and other DCR properties for the calendar year 2010. Applications will be accepted now through May 1, 2010, for events occurring through the end of December 2010.

“To increase the efficiency of our permitting process, and enable our staff to handle the overwhelming demand for special use permits, this new schedule makes enormous sense,” said DCR Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr. “DCR receives about 1,500 special use permit applications a year. Setting a deadline for the applications ensures DCR staff will be able to give each application the attention it deserves.”

Special use permits are required for events on DCR property that exceed the common use of DCR parklands. These can include sports activities and tournaments, concerts, charity walks, road races, cultural festivals, wedding ceremonies, and other group gatherings such as barbecues or those involving amplified sound or amusements.

Permits are \$35 and are available online at [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr). DCR must receive the permit application and fee at least 45 days before the requested event date. Also, all special use permit holders must have liability insurance.

Previously, DCR accepted permit applications year-round, up to 45 days before the requested event date. In setting a deadline for applications, DCR joins most other government bodies with similar requirements. The City of Boston, for example, accepts permit applications from January 1 through March 1 of the same calendar year.

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*The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, dams, and parkways. Led by Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr., the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth*

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