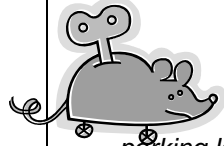


DCR South Region Hikes & Happenings Winter 2009 - 2010

Sunday, December 6

Holiday Toy Drive & Mountain Bike Ride or Hike

Toy Drop & refreshments 10 am – 1 pm
Mountain Bike Ride 10 am
Houghton's Pond Hike 1 pm



Meet at the
Houghton's Pond main
parking lot at 840 Hillside Street in Milton.

Join the DCR Park Rangers and volunteers from Blue Hills TrailWatch and New England Mountain Bike Association for our annual holiday toy drive collection. Bring a new unwrapped toy, then go on a guided or self-guided ride or hike. All toys will be donated to Interfaith Social Services which help deserving families during the holidays. Gifts for children ages 11-16 are most needed and appreciated.

Call 617-698-1802 x 212 for more information.

Saturday, December 19 2 pm- 4 pm Sunday December 20 2 pm - 4 pm Rangers in the Rink

Meet a Park Ranger at the rink and learn about the exciting Park Passport program and free winter fun offerings from DCR. Call 617-698-1802 for directions.

Ulin Rink in Milton Saturday
Bajko Rink in Hyde Park Sunday

First Day Hikes 2010 Friday, January 1

Free hot & hearty soup at noon

All hikes begin at 1:00 pm

Meet at the Houghton's Pond main parking lot at 840 Hillside Street in Milton.

Celebrate the New Year in the Blue Hills. This is year nineteenth of our annual

New Year's tradition! Join the fun.

Warm up with a free cup of hearty soup,

then stretch your legs on a variety of guided hikes suitable for all ages and abilities.

A great way to jump start the year!



For more information, call 617-698-1802.

Winter Trail Work Days

Call 617-698-1802 x 219 to register and get directions

Winter is a great time for trimming back trails and cleaning culverts. Lend a hand in the woods. Please bring gloves, water and dress in layers.

Stony Brook, Hyde Park	January 18
Wilson Mountain, Dedham	January 30
Blue Hills, Milton	February 6 & 20



Saturday, January 9
9 am- 2 pm
Winter Trails Day

Meet at Leo J. Martin Golf Course at 200 Park Road in Weston. Call 781-891-6575 for more info.

New to snow sports? Try snowshoeing and cross country skiing at Weston Ski Track and discover the great fitness and social benefits with these easy-to-learn winter sports. Celebrate Winter Trails Day at the DCR Leo J. Martin Golf Course. Free demos, additional rentals for a fee. Visit www.skiboston.com or call the number above for more information. See you on the trails!

Saturday, January 16 1 pm
Evergreens of Winter

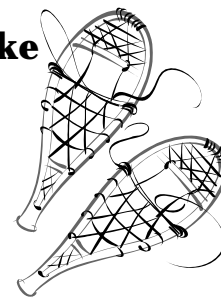
Meet at the Houghton's Pond main parking lot at 840 Hillside Street in Milton. Venture with us on a leisurely walk through stands of pine and hemlock, as we look at the hardy trees, shrubs and ground covers that stay green throughout the winter. 1.5 hours

Sunday, January 24 1 pm
Bigfoot Stomp:
A Snowshoe Hike

Call 617-698-1802 x212 for registration and meeting place.

Did you just get a new pair of snowshoes or looking to get a set?

Join a DCR Ranger and an REI Outdoor School Instructor for a guided romp through the Blue Hills. We'll provide the tips and tricks to getting around in the deep stuff. REI will also have a limited number of adult size snowshoes to loan. No experience is necessary! 1.5 hours



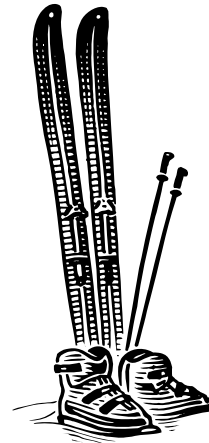
Saturday, January 30 1 pm
St. Moritz Winter Wonderland

Meet at the Shea Rink parking lot at 651 Willard Street in Quincy. The St. Moritz area of Quincy was once the home of a huge winter carnival. Join us as we discover the interesting history of this winter wonderland on this easy hike. 1.5 hours.

Sunday, February 7 1 pm
Elm Bank Ski or Hike

Call 617-333-7404, x101 for registration and meeting place.

Join a DCR Ranger on an easy Nordic adventure along the beautiful Charles River. Glide across the open fields and stride beside the river on a level wooded trail. If no snow, we will hike. Must provide own cross-country skis and equipment. Experience is required. 1.5 hours

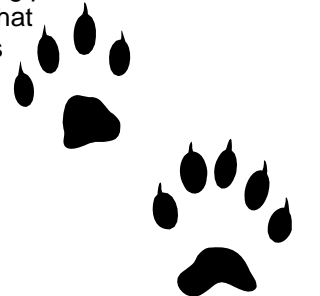


Saturday, February 13 1 pm
Winter Wildlife Safari

Call 617-698-1802 x213 for registration and meeting place.

Put on your detective hat as we search for clues of animal activity. Where do animals go in winter?

Unlock the mysteries of wildlife in winter on this seasonal outdoor safari. 1.5 hours



Sunday, February 21 2 pm - 4 pm
Frozen Fun
at Reilly Memorial
Skating Rink
Chestnut Hill Reservation

Meet at the Reilly Memorial Skating Rink at Cleveland Circle in Brighton

Join the DCR rangers at Chestnut Hill Reservation for some winter fun. Enjoy some frozen fun on the ice at Reilly Rink or take an outdoor stroll with a ranger to look for signs of winter wildlife.

Free ranger –led
Family winter hike
from 2:30 pm- 3:15 pm

Free Public Ice Skating
2:00 pm -3:50 pm
 Skate rentals available for a fee

DCR Park Passport Discovery
from 2 pm – 4 pm



Call 617-333-7404 x 101 for more information.

Saturday, February 27 9 am
Mile-A-Minute:
Invasion of the Aliens



Call 617- 698-1802 x 219 to register and for meeting place.

What lives in the Blue Hills, grows 6 inches a day and is destroying the habitat of our native species? Join DCR Forestry Assistant Alexandra Echandi in an indoor discussion of Mile-a-Minute, an invasive weed recently identified in the Blue Hills. Learn how to identify, report and help control the spread of this and other invasive plants. 1.5 hours.

Sunday, February 28 9 am
Canines & Coffee

Meet at the Houghton's Pond main parking lot at 840 Hillside Street in Milton. Team up with your favorite pooch and a cup of joe on this early morning ranger – led stroll around Houghton's Pond. Coffee provided. Dogs must be leashed. 1.5 hours

Coming Soon!!
Mark your calendar for
Maple Sugar Days

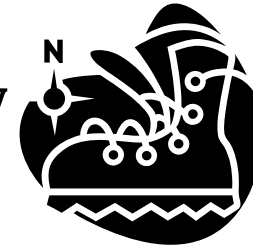
March 13 &14

Blue Hills Reservation

Call 617-698-1802 for more info.



Things to know before you go



- Wear sturdy footwear
- Carry drinking water on all hikes
- Dress in layers for maximum comfort
- We will hike unless the weather is severe
- If weather conditions are questionable, please call the reservation headquarters on the day of the program at 617- 698-1802, extension 3.
- Reasonable accommodations available. For questions regarding accessibility, please call the park rangers at 617-698-1802.

All programs are free!

If you would like to receive this brochure via e-mail, please send an e-mail request to: Tom.Bender@state.ma.us

South Region Headquarters
 695 Hillside St. Milton, MA 02186
 (617) 698-1802
www.mass.gov/dcr



South Region

Hikes and Happenings
Winter 2009-2010



- Blue Hills Reservation
- Blue Hills Trailside Museum
- Brook Farm Historic Site
- Chestnut Hill Reservation
- Cutler Park Reservation
- Elm Bank Reservation
- Hammond Pond Reservation
- Hancock Woods Reservation
- Hemlock Gorge Reservation
- Upper Neponset River Greenway
- Lost Pond Reservation
- Quincy Quarries Historic Site
- Stony Brook Reservation
- Upper Charles River Reservation
- Wilson Mountain Reservation