



**For immediate release**  
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## **DCR LAUNCHING 2<sup>nd</sup> PUBLIC WORKSHOP SERIES TO DISCUSS DRAFT LANDSCAPE DESIGNATIONS FOR STATE PROPERTIES**

BOSTON - The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is scheduling a series of seven regional workshops across the state this spring to seek public input on the application of landscape designations for DCR properties.

The landscape designation process involves categorizing 308,000 acres of DCR lands as either “parklands,” “reserves,” or “woodlands” to prioritize the services and values these lands provide to the public and the environment. The designations are a top recommendation of the Forest Futures Visioning process that the agency undertook in 2009-2010 to develop a renewed vision and long-term strategy for managing forest lands in the state park system.

Of the three new categories, “parklands” would be managed primarily for recreation, human experiences, and the protection of cultural and natural features. “Reserves” would be managed primarily for biological diversity based on natural processes and the protection of large, contiguous blocks of high-value ecosystems. “Woodlands” would be managed primarily for state-of-the-art sustainable forestry, forest products, and active carbon management.

The upcoming workshops will build upon the first round of workshops held last fall that elicited public input on the draft selection criteria and management guidelines for the three designations.

“The Patrick-Murray Administration has made a commitment to implement the landscape designation model to guide management of our facilities, the first time this agency has taken a system-wide approach to addressing land management,” said DCR Commissioner Edward M. Lambert Jr. “This effort, along with the recent hiring of our Director of Forest Stewardship, marks a new direction in forest stewardship for DCR.”

DCR is holding the workshops around the state to share maps showing the designations that have been applied to all properties and discuss them with the public. The workshops are scheduled in these communities:

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS · EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

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Deval L. Patrick  
Governor

Timothy P. Murray  
Lt. Governor

Richard K. Sullivan Jr., Secretary  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Edward M. Lambert Jr., Commissioner  
Department of Conservation & Recreation

**Tuesday, May 24**  
**Essex Agricultural & Technical High School**  
**562 Maple St.**  
**Danvers**  
**6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday, May 25**  
**Elm Bank Reservation**  
**Washington St.**  
**Wellesley**  
**6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

**Thursday, May 26**  
**Berkshire Athenaeum**  
**1 Wendell Ave.**  
**Pittsfield**  
**6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

**Thursday, June 2**  
**Frontier Regional High School**  
**113 North Main St.**  
**South Deerfield**  
**6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

**Monday, June 6**  
**North Middle School**  
**350 Southampton Rd.**  
**Westfield**  
**6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday, June 7**  
**Bristol County Agricultural High School**  
**135 Center Street**  
**Dighton**  
**6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

**Monday, June 13**  
**The Trustees of the Reservation's Doyle Conservation Center**

**464 Abbot Ave  
Leominster  
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

At each workshop, staff members will provide the statewide context for the draft designations, but the discussion will be focused on park land in that particular region of the Commonwealth. The public workshops are open to anyone interested in the future management of DCR park land. The designations will be finalized by fall 2011.

Further information about the Forest Futures Visioning Process, the draft Landscape Designation selection criteria and management guidelines, and the fall 2010 series of Landscape Designation public workshops is available on the DCR website at [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr).

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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 Edward M. Lambert Jr., the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr). Contact us at [mass.parks@state.ma.us](mailto:mass.parks@state.ma.us).*