



Blue Hills Reservation Mountain Bike Trails Update Spring 2012

Greetings from the DCR Blue Hills Reservation:

The Blue Hills Resource Management Plan was released in April 2011 following an extensive process of research, public meeting and review. As one of the high priority recommendations, DCR is moving forward on opening mountain bike access to the Ponkapoag Pond, Ponkapoag East and West Street sections of the park. The recommendation is listed on page ii of the Resource Management Plan.

“Open appropriate existing trails in the Ponkapoag Pond, Ponkapoag East and West Street sections to mountain bike use, in accordance with the Trails Guidelines and Best Practices manual. Revisit the impacts of this recommendation on natural resources, golf course operations, trail user conflicts and public safety in the upcoming Trail System Plan”

This is the final phase of a three phase mountain bike trail opening. In Phase 1 during fall 2012 a trail loop was opened around Ponkapoag Pond. Phase 2 and Phase 3 are in effect as of April 1, 2012 opening additional mountain bike trails east of Route 24 (Ponkapoag East) and the West Street section also known as Ponkapoag Far East, respectively.

In addition, an updated Blue Hills Mountain Bike 2012 brochure which will be available starting April 1 at the park headquarters and the DCR web site.

The recommendation to reduce the winter trail closure for mountain biking has also been reduced from Jan 1 –April 15 to a trail closure from March 1 – March 31 as per the DCR Blue Hills Resource Management Plan effective this spring 2012.

If you have comments you would like to share please email Maggi.Brown@state.ma.us and Robert.Mackenzie@state.ma.us.