



EXPLORE
YOUR PARKS
exploreyourparks.com

mass
parks
Department of Conservation and Recreation



Becoming an Outdoors Family Camping Weekend

Bringing families and the great outdoors together! The Becoming an Outdoors Family Camping Program is a fun filled, overnight camping experience for families new to camping.

Are you interested in camping? No prior outdoor knowledge is needed! Come join MassParks and MassWildlife for a weekend focused on the basics of camping and recreational skills to help your family enjoy the outdoors.

The weekend is the perfect opportunity to reconnect with your family and with nature. This is a safe, comfortable, and relaxed setting for beginners to experience hands-on lessons for rewarding outdoor experiences in the future. Create new memories with your MassParks and MassWildlife Family.

2013 Becoming an Outdoors Family Camping Weekend Schedule:

July 20 & 21 Otter River State Reservation, *Baldwinville*
 July 27 & 28 Harold Parker State Forest, *Andover*
 August 3 & 4 Nickerson State Park, *Brewster*
 August 10 & 11 Tolland State Forest, *Otis*

For more information about event locations and for registration information, visit www.mass.gov/masswildlife.

Activities May Include:

- Fundamentals of camping
- Nature hike and plant identification
- Nature Center Exploration
- Fishing
- Archery
- Live Animal Program
- Outdoor cooking instruction
- Evening Campfire Program

Want more info?

Call or email Julie Martin at (617) 626-4962 or Julie.Martin@state.ma.us



REGISTRATION INFORMATION
Registration Form
Medical Information Form
Code of Conduct

Medical Information Form

EACH participant in your party needs the following form completed to participate.

All information will be held confidential.

Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Address _____

City/State/Zipcode _____

Medical Insurance Co. _____ Policy # _____

Emergency Contact Name (Person not attending program)

Relation _____ Phone _____

List all prescription and non-prescription medicines currently being taken:

List any allergies (food, medicine, insect stings, etc.)

Medical History: Check off any of the following conditions you currently have or have had:

- | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asthma | <input type="checkbox"/> Stroke | <input type="checkbox"/> Hay fever |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Back surgery | <input type="checkbox"/> Migraines | <input type="checkbox"/> High blood pressure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic back problems | <input type="checkbox"/> Seizures | <input type="checkbox"/> Fainting spell |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heart problems | <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

If diabetic, are you insulin- dependent? ____ Yes ____ No

Have you had a tetanus immunization within the past two years? ____ Yes ____ No

This medical history form is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge

Signature of Participant _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian if participant is under 18 years old

Date _____

Code of Conduct

Please take a few moments to read some guidelines, rules and regulations designed for your family's enjoyment and safety.

Ethical Conduct

- Obey all federal, state, and county laws.
- Be truthful, accurate and discreet if relating incidents occurring on State Park property.

Participation Standards

- Please arrive **ON TIME** and ready to participate
- Maintain a harassment, violence, and drug and alcohol free camping environment
- Be respectful, courteous, and considerate to fellow participants and event staff
- Respect the cultural, religious and political views of others and refrain from imposing your views on others
- Remain pleasant if another participant becomes unpleasant and immediately inform staff who will intervene
- Please follow campsite safety rules outlined by Park staff
- Please report any violations of these guidelines to Park staff

Stewardship

- Camp by example and show parks and resources respect and care
- Do not feed the wildlife, it is harmful, causing wildlife to lose their natural fear of people and impact their ability to survive on their own.
- Return borrowed gear in the same condition it was lent
- Help keep this park clean and throw all litter in the trash.
- Help protect yourself, the wildlife and the vegetation, by staying on designated trails.

Photo Release

By signing below, I hereby grant the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and its subsidiaries, affiliates, partners, related companies, licensees, successors and assigns, and all of their respective officers, directors, employees, representatives, attorneys and agents and any users authorized by (DCR), the following rights: the irrevocable, unconditional, absolute, unrestricted, worldwide, universal and perpetual right and license to use, reproduce, sell, distribute, display, make derivatives of, perform and publish my name, fictitious names, voice, signature, image, actual or simulated likeness, and any photographic or other images of me, including without limitation photographs, negatives, prints, illustrations, portraits, pictures, designs, paintings, drawings, films, videos and other recordings of every kind or nature, for any and all purposes whatsoever (including without limitation editorial, promotional, advertising, marketing, merchandise, packaging and licensing), in any and all media now known or hereafter developed (including without limitation print, TV, radio, Internet, CD, DVD and VHS).

By signing below, I agree that I have read and understand the above code of conduct and photo release and consent to follow it as described to the best of my ability.

Participant Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian if
Participant is under 18 years old _____ Date _____

Participant Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian if
Participant is under 18 years old _____ Date _____

Becoming an Outdoor Family Camping Weekend Frequently Asked Questions

- **How much does it cost?**
The weekend camping registration fee is \$30 per family. A vehicle pass for overnight parking will be provided as part of your session fee. Please have proper identification and license plate information readily available at check-in.

- **Where are the Becoming an Outdoors Family Weekends being held?**
July 20 & 21 Otter River State Forest, Baldwinville (Templeton)
July 27 & 28 Harold Parker State Forest, Andover
August 3 & 4 Nickerson State Park, Brewster
August 10 & 11 Tolland State Forest, Otis

- **What time is check in?**
Check-in time for participants of the program is between 10:00a.m -11:00a.m.
Participants should check in at the Contact Station. Participants will receive an agenda for the weekend upon check-in. All programs will include campsite setup sessions, evening story teller program, fishing or archery programs (equipment provided) and many fun self-guided opportunities!

- **How do I register?**
The registration application can be found at www.mass.gov/masswildlife. Please be sure to indicate the park you would like to attend. Registration is handled on a first-come, first-serve basis with a preference to people who are new to this program. Registration deadline is 1 week before the camping date. Please send your \$30 reservation fee & completed forms to: Julie Martin, Department of Conservation and Recreation, 251 Causeway Street, Boston, MA 02114. Please make checks payable to: Becoming an Outdoorswoman/MSC.

- **How many people can I bring?**
We welcome families of all kinds-- Grandparents & grandkids, aunts/uncles with nieces and nephews, multi-generations!

- **What should I bring?**
You need to bring your own sleeping bags, sleeping pads, tent, food and personal items. Each family will receive a Coleman Stove Cook top upon check in. A complete gear list will be provided once your family has made a reservation. If you are unable to borrow camping equipment, gear can be rented at most sporting goods stores.

- **What age do my kids need to be?**
Kids 6 and up will have a fantastic time at the scheduled activities; however as you are aware younger kids require additional care and attention in an outdoor environment. Please be considerate of others at an activity if your child is having a meltdown! There are other self guided activities with which you can distract the fretful.

- **Can we bring our pet?**
Please do not bring pets. The proper attention a pet needs will prevent you from experiencing what the camping program has to offer. However, the next time you go camping your pet is welcome. Please note pets are not allowed when camping at the Boston Harbor Islands, or in yurts and cabins. Service animals are always welcome.
- **How long does the Camping Weekend last?**
The camping session will last 1.5 days - it will start Saturday morning and go until about noon on Sunday. Participants can remain in the park until dark on Sunday and enjoy activities on their own.
- **Will we see any wildlife?**
Hopefully! Many different animals make their home in the park making for great wildlife watching. Just remember not to approach or feed any animals you may see.
- **What will we be eating?**
Each family is responsible for bringing their own groceries. A suggested shopping list and camping recipes will be provided. Each site will have either a fire ring with a cooking grate or a hibachi style pedestal grill. Both will require charcoal, lighter fluid and matches. You are welcome to bring your own gas or charcoal grill.
- **Will there be a lot of bugs?**
Bugs are an unavoidable part of camping. What kind of bugs and how many will all depend on the park location, weather, and time of year. We've put bug spray on your list of recommended items to bring. Remember to keep strong aromatic sprays and soaps at home; these products attract mosquitoes and bees.
- **What if it rains?**
This camping weekend will be held as scheduled unless there are severe weather conditions, such as tornados or hail warnings that could hinder camper safety. Check weather reports before coming to better prepare for cold or rainy weather.
- **Will there be bathrooms facilities?**
Yes! The campground has bathrooms and shower facilities too.
- **What activities are there for kids?**
All activity sessions are kid-friendly. Camping offers many great adventures! Activities may include fishing, nature hikes, nature center exploration, archery, canoe programs, live animal programs and all locations will feature an evening story teller program.
- **Can we have a campfire?**
Absolutely! Fire wood is available at the campground or camp store for \$5 per bundle. To protect our beautiful trees, transportation of firewood into or out of MassParks campgrounds is strictly prohibited.