



August 2017

Myles Standish State Forest

Park Phone Number: (508) 866-2526

Park Website: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-south/myles-standish-state-forest.html>

All programs are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Reasonable accommodations are available upon request.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Family Bike Hike 10:00am to 11:30am	3 Off the Beaten Path 9:00am to 11:30am College Pond Creature Feature 1:00pm to 2:30pm	4 Cutter Field Bird Watch 9:00am to 10:30am Cannonballs and Cranberries 1:00pm to 2:30pm	5 Explore Nature: Damsels and Dragonflies 3:00pm to 4:00pm Night Hike 8:00pm to 9:15pm
6 Animal Detectives 10:00am to 11:30am Tale of Two Presidents 1:00pm to 2:00pm	7	8	9 Pond Shore Foray 10:00am to 11:00am	10 Off the Beaten Path 9:00am to 11:30am College Pond Creature Feature 1:00pm to 2:30pm	11 Intro to Nature Photography 10:00am to 11:00am Tale of Two Presidents 1:00pm to 2:00pm	12 Turtle Tromp 3:00pm to 4:00pm Owl Prowl 8:00pm to 9:15pm
13 First Peoples of Plymouth (Borderland State Park)	14	15	16 Family Bike Hike 10:00am to 11:30am	17 (Regional meeting)	18 Cutter Field Bird Watch 9:00am to 10:30am Stroll of Ice and Fire 1:00pm to 2:30pm	19 Explore Nature: Who's That Singing 3:00pm to 4:00pm Night Hike 8:00pm to 9:15pm
20 South Eastern Walking Club 9:00am to 12:00pm Amazing Maize 2:00pm to 3:00pm	21	22	23 Murder Most Fowl 10:00am to 11:30am	24 Off the Beaten Path 9:00am to 11:30am College Pond Creature Feature 1:00pm to 2:30pm	25 Cutter Field Bird Watch 9:00am to 10:30am Cannonballs and Cranberries 1:00pm to 2:30pm	26 Animal Detectives 10:00am to 11:30am Explore Nature: Terrific Trees 1:00pm to 2:00pm
27	28	29	30 (END OF SEASON MEETING)	31 Off the Beaten Path 9:00am to 11:30am		

Program Descriptions

Things to Know Before You Go!

- All programs are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.
- All programs meet at the Interpretive Center in the Head Quarters parking lot (P1) unless otherwise noted.
- All children must be accompanied by an adult.
- Reasonable accommodations are available upon advance request.
- Dress for the weather; bring sunscreen, bug spray, water and a snack.
- Rain cancels some programs; call ahead to confirm (508) 866-2526.
- Most parking lots are free. At College Pond and Fearing Pond Day Use Areas, there is a daily parking fee of \$8 MA Vehicle, \$15 non-MA. Information about our annual ParksPass can be found here <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/passes-and-fees/buy-parks-pass-dcr-generic.html>. Seniors (62+, MA resident) can get a lifetime Parks Pass for \$10 at the Park Headquarters.
- Park Trail Map: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/parks/trails/mssf.pdf>

Title	Description
Explore Nature Series	<p>We'll explore the natural world of Myles Standish State Forest with guided walks, games and activities. For children and curious adults of all ages; all children must be accompanied by an adult. Here are the programs for August:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 5th - Damsels and Dragonflies: Come find some of our beautiful and rare butterflies and moths that make their home in this forest. Learn some of the most common types of moths and butterflies that are here, and also what these insects can tell us about the health of the forest. Nets will be provided by the DCR. • August 19th - Who's That Singing?: Learn about the birds that inhabit our beautiful forest and learn to identify the most common songbirds found in Myles Standish State Forest. We'll search the fields and forests around the East Head Reservoir for these lovely creatures and how to identify them by sight and by song. Binoculars will be provided by the DCR. • August 26th - Terrific Trees: Come explore the many types of trees that grow in Myles Standish State Forest. How do they make food, get water, and provide shelter for many different types of animals? Come find out!
Night Hike	<p>What happens in the forest as night approaches? Join us on a guided walk through the night woods to discover how nocturnal birds and animals use their senses to survive at night. This is a moonlight thrill for all ages. No flashlights allowed on this walk and bring your insect repellent.</p>
Family Bike Hike	<p>Learn about the forest on this relaxing bike ride on paved bike trails through the forest in a roughly 3 mile loop. All participants must have their own bike, wear a bike helmet (no exceptions!) and bring water. Program is for adults and children 8 years old and up; younger children in carriers with a helmet are welcome.</p>
Turtle Tromp	<p>Turtles are wonderful! Many species make their home throughout MSSF, including one you are likely to only see here in this forest. On this all-ages program we will learn about turtles and their behavior as well as learn to identify different species of local turtles and hopefully see some ourselves! Rain cancels.</p>

<p>Off the Beaten Path</p>	<p>Join the Park Interpreter on a recreational hike each week into a different part of Myles Standish State Forest. Each hike travels along different trails and is about 4 to 5 miles in length. Join us for one hike or come for the whole series! Please wear bug spray, sunscreen, and supportive shoes. Bring along water and a snack. For adults and older children who can hike 4 to 5 miles of moderately difficult trails. For a trail map, including parking lots, visit Rain or shine; downpours and/or thunderstorms cancel. All children must be accompanied by an adult. We'll meet in a different location each week. August 3rd: Meet at Rocky Pond Parking Lot (P7) August 10th: Meet at Parking Lot 2 (P2) off of Upper College Pond Road August 24th: Meet at the corner of Alden Road and Liggett Road August 31st: Meet at</p>
<p>Cutter Field Bird Watch</p>	<p>Join us for an informal bird watching program in one of MSSF best bird watching locations. This is for beginner birders who want to learn basic bird and call identification. Please bring binoculars if you have them – or borrow a pair of ours. All ages welcome. <i>Meet at -Fearing Pond Day Area; parking fee will not apply.</i></p>
<p>A Stroll of Ice and Fire</p>	<p>This is a forest born of ice and fire. It has been shaped by human hands and by changing climates. On this gentle hike we discuss the geological and natural history of the forest from Native American hunters to visitors of the forest today. This 1.6 mile hike <i>meets at Parking Lot 2 on Upper College Pond Road.</i> Suitable for adults and children 8+.</p>
<p>Creature Feature</p>	<p>Come learn about some of the creatures that live here at Myles Standish State Forest. Each week, the Park Interpreter will set up a display of pelts, bones, skulls, other artifacts, and perhaps a live animal or two! <i>Program will take place at the College Pond Day Use Area; parking fee applies.</i></p>
<p>East-head Ramble</p>	<p>Let's get moving and learn a little about nature while we do it. On this lovely and relatively flat 2.6 mile hike around the East Head Reservoir, the largest pond in Myles Standish State Forest, we will explore the flora and fauna that live on, in, and around this essential water source. Suitable for adults and children 8+.</p>
<p>A Tale of Two Presidents</p>	<p>Theodore and Franklin Roosevelt were cousins and American presidents who directly contributed to the preservation and improvement of this beautiful forest. Learn how the Roosevelts were instrumental in making this forest what it is today. Suitable for adults and children 10+. Rain or Shine</p>
<p>Cannonballs and Cranberries</p>	<p>Hike around the Rocky Pond Cranberry Bog to explore the history of the bog, from iron production to cranberry agriculture. These bogs helped America win its independence by producing iron used in cannonballs for the USS Constitution! <i>Meet at the Rocky Pond Cranberry Parking Lot #7 on Bare Hill Road.</i> For adults and children 12+.</p>
<p>Southeastern Walking Club</p>	<p>Join the Park Interpreter on a fun and informative hike to the beautiful and secluded Lost Horse Bog and its fascinating history. Best suited for adults and older children who can hike 5 to 6 miles over moderately difficult trails. Be sure to wear good hiking shoes, bring plenty of water and a snack, as well as bug spray and sunblock. <i>Meets at Parking Lot 6 (P6) off of Bare Hill Road.</i> Rain cancels.</p>
<p>Intro to Nature Photography</p>	<p>Have you ever tried to take a picture of something beautiful you saw when you are out in nature but it just didn't come out quite "right"? Learn how to take great pictures with everything from long lens cameras to disposable cameras and smart phones. Learn simple tips that will improve your photos and walk to a few lovely spots where you can practice.</p>
<p>A Murder Most</p>	<p>Come and discover these fascinating birds and their unique behavior. Remarkably social and intelligent, these clever</p>

Fowl: The American Crow	birds have long been a source of fascination and lore. We will also discuss how different cultures have viewed crows throughout history and how the myths closely relate to real crow behavior. <i>Rain or shine.</i>
Animal Detectives	Animal tracks tell the story of wildlife in the forest. Where they go, what they eat, and who's trying to eat them. On this fun all-ages program we will learn how to tell what these animals are up to when no one is around by reading their tracks. Suitable for all ages.
Amazing Maize	Did you know human beings invented American Corn, or Maize? It's true! Come find out how hunter gatherers in Mesoamerica (modern day Central America) transformed a barely edible grass into the world's most popular and important staple food. <i>Rain or shine.</i>
Owl Prowl	When the sun sets owls take to the sky and rule the forest at night. Learn about the types of owls that live here in Myles Standish and how owls use there amazing adaptations to become the most impressive nocturnal predators in the forest. Hopefully we will hear and/or see some of these elusive creatures ourselves. All ages welcome.
First Peoples of Plymouth	What was life like here before the arrival of the Pilgrims? How did Indigenous Peoples in this region live? This program will explore the lives, culture and practices of local Wampanoag people prior to and immediately after European contact. Suitable for ages 12+. <i>Rain or shine.</i>