All visitors must follow directions of Park personnel—in designated areas only:

In addition, the following activities are allowed:

- Swimming at Houghton's Pond
- Non-motorized boating at Ponkapoag Pond
- Charcoal grills or fuel stoves
- Mountain bicycling
- Sporting activities
- Parking

For the protection and enjoyment of the Blue Hills, the Park is open dawn to dusk.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Massachusetts Regulations 12.00 in arrest and/or fine per order of 302 Commonwealth of Massachusetts Police. Any violations of these regulations may result in

- Destruction or removal of vegetation, animals, structures, artifacts or other State property
- Off trail use without a permit
- Disruptive conduct, including public nudity
- Motorized vehicles, except on public roads
- Posting or distributing leaflets
- Hunting or trapping
- Pets, except on a leash
- Alcoholic beverages
- Metal detectors
- Open fires
- Littering

with lifeguard supervision.

The following activities are prohibited:

- Fishing
- Hunting
- Collecting or disturbing bulbs or flowers
- Hauling or trapping
- Entry into or manipulation of State reserved land
- Group use of 25 or more, except with a DCR permit
- Disturbance or removal of vegetation, structures, artifacts or other State property
- Use of natural water bodies

In addition, the following activities are allowed with a State permit:

- Parking
- Sparkling water
- Mountain biking
- Stabilized grills in kiosks
- Non-motorized riding of Ponkapoag Pond
- Parking at Houghton’s Pond
- Stabilized riding at Houghton’s Pond

All visitors must follow directions of Park personnel or Police. Any violation of these regulations may result in arrest and/or fine per order of 302 Commonwealth of Massachusetts Regulations 12.00.
A World of Nature

The Blue Hills Today...

The faces and Places

Native Americans

The People of the Great Hills

The Colons of Axess and Poughs

Quincy Granite

The Birth of Two Industries

The Blue Hills Weather Observatory

A Precious Resource...

Important Contacts:

Athletic Fields

Blue Hills Trails Map and Guide

Skiing, Downhill

Rock Climbing

Nature’s Cutlery

Perch atop the summit of Great Blue Hill, the Blue Hill Ob-

section strategies for birding at the Blue Hills. To view the trai-

Ponkapoag Bog

A Quaking Experience

The Meadow

A Pioneer

The Forests

Of Oak and Hickories

Today, oaks and hickories abound throughout the Blue Hills, partic-

Blue Waves and the audience are never disappointed. For fur-

Ponkapoag Bog is a unique and mysterious world. Neither solid land nor water, the bog is in a class by itself. A carbon sequester at the southeast corner of Ponkapoag Pond allows easy entrance into an Atlantic white cedar swamp. Look for the camelopardal tamarisk plants and sandworts which capture insects to supplement their diet in this acidic and windy environment.

The Meadow

A Pioneer

Imagine the Blue Hills Reservation clamed for fields and pasture unoccupied 1000 years before Europeans arrived. Native Americans quarried in the Blue Hills, seeking brown volcanic rock or boulders which they carved into tools, weapons and arrowheads. Note the many Native American place names throughout the Blue Hills, a tribute to the first people of this land.

The Colons of Axess and Poughs

Seven generations later and their descendants settled in the Blue Hills, introducing orchards and honeybees, houses and barns. They logged the hillsides for lumber and to make fields for grazing. Look for the small wells, which once separated these fields, still winding throughout the Blue Hills.

Quincy Granite

The granite hills at the east end of the reservation launched the birth of two industries, large-scale granite quarrying in 1825 and the first commercial railway in 1826. Quincy granite was used in the construction of some of the most impressive granite buildings, monuments, sculptures and statuary of our nation, including everything houses in Boston, Savannah, New Orleans and San Francisco.

The Blue Hills Weather Observatory

Kite and Clouds

In 1881, meteorologist Albert Lawrence Roch established one of the first weather observatory in the country above Great Blue Hill. Roch used balloons and kites, strong with parson Asc, to measure wind and clouds high above Great Blue.

A Precious Resource...

The Blue Hills Reservation is a fragile ecosystem under heavy use. We ask you to exercise special care in the parkland, please.

Carry on all of:

Stay on marked trails to prevent erosion.

Leave plants and animals undisturbed.

Keep pets a leash at all times.

Comply with all visitor regulations posted on the new sign by side of this brochure.

Enjoying the Reservation

The Blue Hills Reservation Headquarters is located at 6400 Blue Hill Street in Milton. The main house is located at the south end of Blue Hill Avenue, near the Blue Hills Trolley stop. Call (617) 696-0562 for reservations.

Blue Hills trails are by reservation only at the Appalachian Mountain Club, Blue Hills Reservation, Route 9R (Exit 2B) in Milton. Call (617) 698-0501 for reservations.

Boating

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