



Research Permitting

Dear Potential Researcher:

We at the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Bureau of Planning and Resource Protection recognize that research is a valuable and necessary component of an effective land (or parkland) management program. Therefore, we cooperate with educational institutions and other entities proposing appropriate studies on Department lands. However, coordination and supervision of research projects are necessary to prevent inadvertent interference between research and park management activities; to avoid conflict with park operations; to maximize the benefits and utility of research results; and to avoid conflict between activities and public use of DCR properties.

All individuals or groups planning to use DCR lands for research must first submit a proposal for approval. The form to use when submitting a proposal can be found at <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/permits-rentals/dcr-permits.html#ResearchPermits> Final approval or rejection of a proposal will be issued following review by appropriate DCR Bureau, District and Senior staff. Approval of any proposal may require a site visit with the applicant in order to clarify potential impacts associated with a proposed project.

All research studies or projects are subject to annual review, and will be reauthorized, if appropriate, following review. It is the researcher's responsibility to submit renewal requests and to notify DCR Ecology Program of project completion. Annual progress reports summarizing work completed to date and work planned for the next year shall be submitted with a request for renewal.

Please send DCR Ecology Program copies of annual and final reports, including theses or dissertations, research manuscripts, journal articles, etc., when available. Upon completion of a project, it is the researcher's responsibility to immediately return any keys (if applicable), remove all research apparatus and restore study sites to their previous condition to the extent feasible.

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Putnam of the DCR Ecology Program at nancy.putnam@state.ma.us or 617-626-1394. Thanks for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Joe Orfant
Bureau Chief
DCR Planning, Design and Resource Protection

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS · EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Department of Conservation and Recreation
251 Causeway Street, Suite 600
Boston MA 02114-2119
617-626-1250 617-626-1351 Fax
www.mass.gov/dcr



Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lt. Governor

Matthew A. Beaton, Secretary,
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Carol I. Sanchez, Commissioner
Department of Conservation & Recreation