

Suggested MassParks Hikes and Rides!

Ashland State Park

162 West Union Street, Ashland, MA 01721, 508 881-4092 (Summer), 508 435-4303

To help you plan your visit to Ashland State Park, we offer the following suggested hike and ride routes that we think visitors might enjoy. **Introductory hikes or rides** are relatively short and appropriate for most users, including families with children. **Signature hikes and rides** are recommended trail experiences that may be longer or more difficult, but that highlight some of the best features of the forest. For a safe and enjoyable park experience please review the *Things to Know Before Your Go* guidance at the end of this document.

Signature Hike

Ashland Reservoir Loop Trail

Trailhead: Park at the boat ramp lot off of Spring Street in Ashland., **Lat/Long:** 42.232241, -71.468609

Distance: 2 mile loop, **Difficulty:** Easy

Brief Description: *The trail makes a loop around the reservoir, crossing the dam on fairly flat wooded paths.*

Things to Remember:

- **Time, distance, difficulty:** average hiker pace is estimated at 1.5 miles per hour. Most distances are round-trip. Plan conservatively, start early. Be aware of weather and sunset. Trail difficulty ratings based on ruggedness and gradient are **easy, moderate, or difficult**.
- **Wear weather appropriate clothing**, layer for temperature changes. Appropriate footwear is a must. Trails can be wet.
- **Parking at trailheads:** Parking fees may apply. Space may be limited. Be courteous to avoid blocking in others. Do not leave valuables in your car.
- **Bring a map, and share your plans with someone.**
- **Drinking water** is usually not available. Bring plenty! Trailside sources should be treated.
- **Stay on designated trails:** Follow painted blazes and signs if available. Double blazes indicate an intersection or direction change.
- **Pace & group size:** keep your group together; hike only as fast as your group's slowest hiker or rider. Limit group size to 12 people or fewer to lessen impacts.
- **Carry-in, carry-out all trash:** Leave No Trace outdoor ethics are strongly encouraged. For more information visit <http://www.lnt.org/programs/principles.php>



- **Pets are generally permitted** on 10-foot maximum leash and under control at all times. Please clean up after your pet and dispose of all waste outside of park. Be aware of local park rules and that not all users appreciate encountering pets, even when friendly.
- **Be aware that some trails are not well marked.**
- **Be aware of hunting seasons** and wear blaze orange when appropriate. For season info visit: <https://www.mass.gov/outdoor-recreation-safety-tips>

