

# May 2024 PROGRAMS

All programs are free and open to the public. An adult must accompany children. Reasonable accommodations available upon request. Programs meet at the Houghton’s Pond Visitor Center (840 Hillside St, Milton, MA) unless otherwise noted. Inclement weather may cancel programs. To confirm or for more information call (857) 208-8498.



ADA/Reasonable Accommodation  
Cell: 617-645-0358  
Email: [Moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov](mailto:Moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov)

Tuesdays in  
May

**NATURE’S CLASSROOM, 10:30 am—11:30 am**  
On Tuesday mornings, learn all about the natural side of Blue Hills Reservation. For families and curious adults.

**May 7 & 21—Talking Trees**  
The story of the forest is told in its trees. They are living beings and have strange and fascinating ways to communicate with one another. Learn what these silent giants can tell us if we know how to listen.

**May 14 & 28 —Fire in the Hills:** Forest fires have impacted the lives of humans for as long as there have been humans in these hills. Join us for a discussion on the history of fires in the Blue Hills, what was done right and wrong to fight them, and what challenges climate change poses for fighting fires in Massachusetts in the future.

Tuesdays in  
May

**EXPLORING BLUE HILLS, 2:30 pm—4:00 pm**  
On Tuesday afternoons, explore the lesser seen parts of Blue Hills Reservation. For families and curious adults.

**May 7 & 21—Burnt Hill Path Hike**  
Explore the hidden trails behind Houghton’s Pond. About a 2.5-mile easy to moderate hike. Bring drinking water and dress for the weather.

**May 14 & 28 — The Pond and Beyond Hike**  
Come and join us for a restful and rejuvenating heart healthy, 1.5-mile hike around Houghton’s Pond and Old Route 128.

Wednesday,  
May 8 & 22

**GREAT BLUE YONDER HIKE, 2:30 pm—4:00 pm**  
**Meets at Trailside Museum Parking Lot**  
Join us on a moderate hike to the highest point in MA south of Boston and enjoy the majestic views from the top of Great Blue Hill. Suitable for adults with hiking experience. Bring drinking water and dress for the weather. Inclement weather or icy trails may cancel. Please call ahead to confirm.

Thursdays in  
May

**HISTORY IN THE HILLS, 9:30 am—11:00 am**  
On Thursday mornings, come learn about the history of the Blue Hills Reservation. Accessible lectures at Visitor Center. For adults and children over 12.

**May 2, 16 & 30—The Tree Army**  
During the Great Depression, President Franklin Roosevelt sent millions of young men to improve and expand the parks of America. Come learn their incredible story here in the Blue Hills. Accessible lecture at Visitor Center.

**May 9 & 23—Baker’s Chocolate**  
Chocolate production transformed Milton and Dorchester’s economy and made them leaders in the Industrial Revolution. Come learn what became of their bitter-sweet legacy and the true price of chocolate. Accessible lecture at Visitor Center.

coming events

# May 2024 PROGRAMS

## PROGRAMS CONTINUED

- Thursdays in May

**Vernal Adventures, 3:00 pm—4:00 pm**  
Come experience the rebirth of Spring in the Blue Hills!

**May 2, 16 & 30 — Marsh Madness:** Lovely Marigold Marsh is a vital habitat and home to many species of birds, amphibians, and reptiles returning from migration or hibernation. Discover the wonderful world of a fresh water wetland. All ages.

**May 9 & 24 — Bird Song for Beginners:** Who’s making all that beautiful music in the woods? Find out who these mini-maestros are and how to tell them apart when you hear their symphony. All ages.
- Fridays in May

**KIDLEIDOSCOPE, 10:00 am—11:00 am**  
Join us for a nature crafts and nature facts! Each week we will features a different nature theme, story, and craft. Suitable for ages 4-10 with an adult.
- Saturdays in May

**NATURE EXPLORATION, 9:30 am—10:30 am**  
On Saturday mornings, explore what nature has to offer in the Blue Hills Reservation. For families and curious adults.

**May 4 & 18 —Turtle Trek:** Turtles are truly amazing! Many species make their home throughout the Blue Hills. On this all-ages program we will learn about turtles and their behavior, as well as how to identify different species of local turtles and maybe see some ourselves

**May 11 & 25 —A Murder Most Fowl**  
Crows are remarkably social and intelligent animals. These clever birds have long been a source of fascination and lore. See how different cultures have viewed crows throughout history and how these myths are often supported by the newest science.
- Saturday, May 4, 11 & 25

**NICE & EASY HIKES, 1:00 pm—2:30 pm**  
Looking to get outdoors and take a gentle, guided hike in the beautiful Blue Hills? Join us for our weekly series of leisurely paced nature hikes (1.5-3 miles long). Learn about nature at your own pace and make some friends along the way. All ages.

## SPECIAL HIKES

- Saturday, May 18

**SE MA ADULT WALKING CLUB HIKE, 1:00 pm—3:00 pm**  
Moderately difficult Ponkapoag Pond hike. Join us for a 4.5-mile hike over level terrain. *Meet at Ponkapoag Golf course at 2167 Washington Street in Canton.* Bring drinking water and wear sturdy winter hiking boots and clothes. For ages 16+ years. If weather or trail conditions are questionable, please call (857) 208-8498 to confirm.

