

# Suggested MassParks Hikes and Rides!

## Middlesex Fells Reservation

4 Woodland Rd.  
Stoneham, MA 02180

To help you plan your visit to the Middlesex Fells Reservation, 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 this State Park.

**Note: Mountain Bikes are only allowed** on the Mountain Bike Loop (green blaze), Reservoir Trail (orange blaze), and fire roads with the exception of Virginia Woods and Long Pond area.

### Introductory Hike

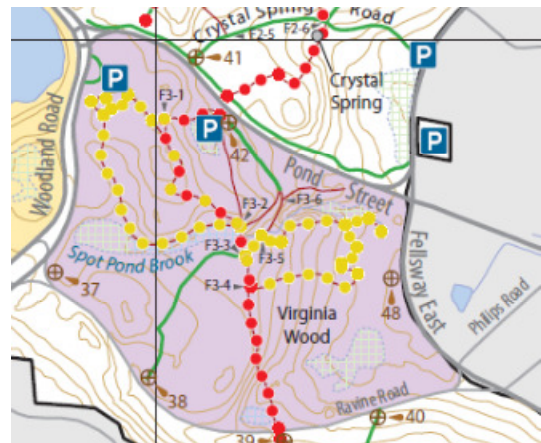
#### Spot Pond Brook Historic Trail

**Trailhead:** Park at the kiosk in a small parking area at a house at 1 Woodland Road

**Lat/Long:** 42.457881, -71.088576

**Distance:** 1 mile, **Difficulty:** Easy

**Brief Description:** *Stroll through the Virginia Woods section of the Fells and explore the history of the Spot Pond Brook Historic District. A loop trail is blazed in yellow. (Note, bikes are not allowed on trails in Virginia Woods.)*



### Signature Hike

#### Skyline Trail

**Trailhead:** Begin at Bellview Pond, Long Pond or Sheepfold Parking Areas.

**Lat/Long:** 42.430743, -71.107207

**Distance:** 6.9 mile loop. Average hiking time, 5 hours, **Difficulty:** Difficult

**Brief Description:** *Blazed in white, the Skyline Trail follows the outer perimeter of the western Fells. There are spectacular views of Boston and the surrounding area especially from Wright's Tower. Most of the Skyline Trail is in wooded landscape, with several steep ascents to rocky outcrops. This trail is open to pedestrians only.*

Have a suggested hike or ride? Contact [paul.jahnige@state.ma.us](mailto:paul.jahnige@state.ma.us)

## Signature Hike

### Rock Circuit Trail

**Trailhead:** Park at Flynn Rink, cross Woodland Road and begin on the Woodland Path.

**Lat/Long:** 42.444425, -71.094877

**Distance:** 3.7 miles. Average hiking time 4 hours, **Difficulty:** Difficult

**Brief Description:** *This trail traverses rocky outcrops in the southeast corner of the Fells providing a variety of scenic views. Enjoy the "Cascades" when flowing and the view from Boojum Rock. Pedestrians only. Blazed in white.*

## Introductory Mountain Bike

### Mountain Bike Loop

**Trailhead:** Begin at the Sheepfold Parking Area.

**Lat/Long:** 42.453157, -71.106668

**Distance:** 6.2 miles, **Difficulty:** Easy

**Brief Description:** *This loop within the western Fells is mostly on fire roads with some short sections of single track trail. It provides an easy ride around the Winchester reservoirs traversing pine and mixed hardwood forests. Caution, this trail is used by a variety of users and shares segments with other blazed loops. Bikers should ride cautiously and yield to pedestrians. Blazed in green.*

## Signature Mountain Bike

### Reservoir Loop Ride

**Trailhead:** Begin at the Sheepfold Parking Area.

**Lat/Long:** 42.453157, -71.106668

**Distance:** 5.2 miles, **Difficulty:** Moderate

**Brief Description:** *Ride the orange blazed Reservoir Trail around the Winchester Reservoirs in the western Fells. This ride offers some single track and ups and downs, with lovely pine forests and water views. This is a popular multi-use trail, so ride with caution, be courteous and yield to other users.*

Have a suggested hike or ride? Contact [paul.jahnige@state.ma.us](mailto:paul.jahnige@state.ma.us)



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

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## 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 permitted on trails** 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. Not all users appreciate encountering pets, even when friendly.
- **Helmets required** for children under 16. Recommended for all.
- **Be aware that some trails are not well marked.**
- **Be aware of hunting seasons** and wear blaze orange when appropriate. For season info visit: [http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/regulations/abstracts/hunting\\_dates.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/regulations/abstracts/hunting_dates.pdf)

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