



# Great Falls Discovery Center

Department of Conservation and Recreation

## MARCH 2026 PROGRAMS

---

All programs are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted. Children under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult. The Great Falls Discovery Center is located at 2 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA. For more information, call the Visitor Center at (413) 863-3221.

 ADA/Reasonable Accommodation  
617-645-0358 | Moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov

Coming Events

**Visitor Center Open Hours.** **Tuesdays, 10:00 am–4:00 pm.**  
**Wednesdays through Sundays, 10:00 am–5:30 pm.**

Explore the natural, cultural and industrial history of the Connecticut River Watershed with our dynamic exhibit dioramas year-round. Adjacent to the Canalside Rail Trail, the center also includes the Great Hall exhibit gallery, restrooms, and drinking water. Wheelchair accessible.

**Ongoing,**  
**10:00 am–4:00 pm.**  
February 5 –  
March 28.

**Great Hall Exhibit:**  
***Maps of River History* by Joe Kopera.**

Come see the secret histories of your favorite rivers! Geologist and cartographer Joe Kopera has studied the New England landscape for over 25 years. View the land like a geologist: *Maps of River History*, reveals the hidden details in the topography of rivers and their floodplains, clues to the past 15,000 years of their work shaping the land on which we live. All ages.

**Ongoing,**  
**10:00 am–4:00 pm.**

**Indoor Story Walks.®**

Explore the lives of our favorite mud season amphibians. For ages 3 and up, accompanied by an adult. Meet at the welcome desk.

- **March 1 – 14: *999 Tadpoles* by Ken Kimura.**  
Never underestimate the quick wits of 999 young frogs!
- **March 15 – 31: *The Salamander Room* by Anne Mazer.**  
A boy finds a salamander in the woods and imagines the many things he can do to turn his room into a perfect salamander home.

**The StoryWalk® Project** was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT, and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Story Walk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson. This StoryWalk® is provided by Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Interpretive Services.

**MORE PROGRAMS CONTINUED, NEXT PAGE.**

---



## MARCH 2026 PROGRAMS

---

# Coming Events

**Thursdays,**  
**1:00–2:00 pm.**  
March 5, 12,  
19, & 26.

### **Nice and Easy Walks.**

Easy-paced, 1- to 2-mile guided walk, along the Canalside Rail Trail or downtown Turners Falls, geared for older adults, but open to all. Enjoy some natural and local history along the way. Dress for the weather with sturdy footwear and bring water. Inclement weather cancels. Meet at the main entrance.

**Fridays,**  
**10:30–**  
**11:30 am.**  
March 6,  
13, & 20.

### **Kiddleidoscope Story Hour.**

For ages 3-6, accompanied by an adult. Learn more about our wildlife neighbors in the Connecticut River Watershed. Program includes a story, activities, and crafts. Activities are indoors and outdoors, weather permitting. Siblings and friends welcome. Meet in the Great Hall.

**March 6 — Frogs.**

**March 13 — Salamanders.**

**March 20 — Beavers.**

**Friday,**  
March 6.  
**3:00–5:00 pm.**

### **First Friday: Big Night for Beginners.**

On a mild, rainy night every early spring, thousands of frogs, toads, and salamanders move across Massachusetts to reach their vernal pools and start the next generation of amphibians. But the journey across roads and lawns can be deadly. Join us for a brief presentation, or, come later for games, crafting, and conversations about how to help a local Big Night brigade! Meet in the Great Hall. All ages.

**Saturday,**  
March 7.  
**10:30 am -**  
**12:00 pm.**

### **Art Naturally — Paper Quilting Migrations.**

Discover nature through story, poetry and art in our series of free art programs. With instruction and technique, you create an art piece to take home from fabric, paper, needle and thread, inspired by the spring bird migrations. Or, keep it simple with quilting using paper only. For adults, teens and children ages 6 and up (accompanied by an adult and adept with a needle). All art materials provided but feel welcome to use your own. Meet in the Great Hall at 10:30 a.m. for complete instructions.

**MORE PROGRAMS CONTINUED, NEXT PAGE.**



## MARCH 2026 PROGRAMS

---

# Coming Events

**Saturday,**  
March 7.  
**2:00–4:00 pm.**

**Artist Reception:**

***Maps of River History* by Joe Kopera.**

Come see the secret histories of your favorite rivers and meet the artist who made them: geologist and cartographer Joe Kopera! View Joe's exhibit *Maps of River History* and learn to see the land and our rivers like a geologist. Light refreshments. For all ages.

**Saturday,**  
March 14.  
**2:00–3:00 pm.**

**Winter Local History Talk Series:  
The Grand Trunk Hotel.**

What was so grand about the Grand Trunk Hotel in Turners Falls? The hotel, once sited next to today's Center, was built in 1872 and demolished in 1968. Join DCR staff as we use our imaginations, old photographs, and testimonials, to piece together the story of the grand old days in Turners Falls. For youth and adults. Co-sponsored by Montague Public Libraries.

**Saturday,**  
March 14.  
**7:00–9:00 pm.**

**All Cooped Up! A Musical Performance.**

The Franklin County Musicians Cooperative (COOP) features solo artists, established duos, and small group performers who perform an unpredictable mix of folk, rock, country, Celtic, jazz and swing. Suggested donations. For all ages. Meet in the Great Hall. Sponsored by the Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center and COOP.

**Sunday,**  
March 22.  
**2:30–4:30 pm.**

**A French / Breton Jam Session.**

An informal group of musicians gathers to play the enchanting traditional dance music from France and Brittany, commonly known as bal folk. This is not a performance but rather a coming together of musically minded friends. The event is free and open to the public to come and go at will. For all ages.

**Saturday,**  
March 28.  
**1:00–3:00 pm.**

**Montague Public Libraries Presents:  
Favorite Storybook Character Day.**

Whether you want to channel your inner hero, K-Pop singer, or a beloved blue heeler pup, we can't wait to see your favorite stories come to life. Take home themed art inspired by classic and contemporary storybook characters. Costumes are highly encouraged but not required. This is a fun, family-friendly event perfect for book lovers of all ages! Sponsored by Montague Public Libraries.