



Great Falls Discovery Center  
Department of Conservation and Recreation

# MAY 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:  
Call (617) 645-0358, or email [Moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov](mailto:Moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov)

# Coming Events

**Visitor Center Open Hours.** **Tuesdays, 10:00 am–4:00 pm, Wednesdays–Sundays, 10:00 am–5:30 pm, and open May 25, 10:00 am–4:00 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. Closed Mondays, except open on May 25.

**Ongoing,**  
April 2 –  
May 30.  
Accessible during open hours.

**Great Hall Art Exhibit: All Our Relations – To Honor the Wampanoag Supreme Sachem Pometacomet on the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Great Falls Massacre.**  
This exhibit in the Great Hall, features work by Deborah Spears Moorehead, Seaconke Pokanoket Wampanoag, and Robert Peters, Mashpee Wampanoag, focusing on pre-colonization, the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Metacomet’s (King Philip’s) War and the Great Falls Massacre of 1676. Learn about Indigenous history and their continued presence here and throughout the Northeast. Sponsored by Friends of the Center, the Nolumbeka Project, and funded by the Montague Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. For all ages.

**Ongoing,**  
April 18 –  
May 12.

**Outdoor Story Walk® — *Ruby’s Birds*.**  
Enjoy a story, fresh air and exercise! Join us on the Discovery Center’s grounds for a free self-guided StoryWalk® featuring *Ruby’s Birds*. Description. For ages 3 and up and anyone who loves migratory birds!

**The StoryWalk® Project** was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT, and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. StoryWalk® 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.**



## MAY 2026 PROGRAMS

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# Coming Events

### Thursdays,

May 7, 14,  
21 & 28.

**1:00–2:00 pm.**

### 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.

### Friday,

May 1.

**4:00–5:30 pm.**

### First Friday: Turners Falls Tenement Tour.

Discover how tenements tested every aspect of the town, from sanitation to wages. On this May Day tour, learn about the storekeepers and laborers who made this planned industrial community. Meet DCR staff outside the Great Hall for a 1.5-mile guided walk through downtown Turners Falls. Ages 8 and up.

### Friday,

May 8.

**10:30–  
11:30 am.**

### Kidleidoscope Story Hour - Fish.

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 are welcome. Meet in the Great Hall.

### Friday,

May 8.

**7:00–9:00 pm.**

### Great Falls Coffeehouse Presents:

#### Lara Herscovitch & The Highway Philosophers.

Join us for the Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center's concert series featuring local talent. *Lara Herscovitch & The Highway Philosophers* offer a rich tapestry of songs with themes that will stay with you. Refreshments available. Sliding scale suggested donations, in support of educational programming at the Center. All ages.

### Saturday,

May 9.

**10:00–  
12:00 pm.**

### Park Serve Day:

#### Give a Day, Make a Difference.

The Department of Conservation and Recreation invites you to the Great Falls Discovery Center to lend a hand during this day of volunteer service to our state parks. Bring your own water and snack. For registration visit [mass.gov/info-details/dcr-park-serve-day](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/dcr-park-serve-day). For ages 6 and up. Meet at the main entrance.

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## MAY 2026 PROGRAMS

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# Coming Events

**Saturday,**  
May 16.  
**11:00 am–**  
**12:00 pm.**

**Artist Reception: All Our Relations – To Honor the Wampanoag Supreme Sachem Pometacomet on the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Great Falls Massacre.**

Enjoy conversation and coffee with Wampanoag artists Deborah Spears Moorehead and Robert Peters in the Great Hall to view and learn more about their shared exhibit. Sponsored by Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center, the Nolumbeka Project, and funded by the Montague Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. For all ages.

**Saturday,**  
May 16.  
**12:30 pm–**  
**end time.**

**The Nolumbeka Project Presents: Day of Remembrance.**

A commemoration of the Great Falls Massacre, May 19, 1676, and Metacom’s Resistance (aka King Philip’s War) 350 Years Ago, 1676–2026. Tribal members and non-Tribal public are welcome. Honored presenters include: Eastern Medicine Singers, Strong Eagle ‘Many Feathers’ Daly, Liz Coldwind Santana-Kiser, Roger Longtoe Sheehan, Dr. Margaret M. Bruchac, Martín Espada, Deborah Spears Moorehead, Robert Peters, Jose ‘Ite’ Santana, Diane Travis, Pat Allen, Carol Letson, and David Brule. For more information visit [nolumbekaproject.org](http://nolumbekaproject.org). Free and open to all. Held rain or shine.

**Saturday,**  
May 23.  
**10:30 am–**  
**1:00 pm.**

**Find Us at the Farmers Market!**

Join DCR staff for family activities at the Great Falls Farmers Market, located between 6th and 7th streets along Avenue A at Peskeompskut Park. For all ages.

**Saturday,**  
May 23.  
**1:00–2:15 pm.**

**Eyes on Owls Presents: Owls Up Close.**

Everyone loves owls! Come see them up close and enjoy a slide presentation and introduction to six live owls including hooting lessons. Learn about field marks, owl pellets, tips on how to protect owls, and the importance of owls and other birds of prey in the ecosystem. For adults, youth, and children ages 5 and up (accompanied by an adult). Free. Sponsored by the Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center and Rescue Franklin County Wildlife, a group of community volunteers committed to raising awareness about the harms of pesticides to birds of prey and encouraging the use of wildlife safe alternatives.

**MORE PROGRAMS CONTINUED, NEXT PAGE.**

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## MAY 2026 PROGRAMS

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# Coming Events

**Sunday,**

May 24.

**10:30 am–**

**12:00 pm.**

### **Art Naturally: Tissue Paper Blooms.**

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 tissue paper, pipe cleaners and jute. All art materials are provided but feel welcome to use your own. Meet in the Great Hall at 10:30 a.m. for complete instructions. For adults, teens and children ages 6 and up (accompanied by an adult).

**Sunday,**

May 24.

**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,**

May 30.

**12:30–**

**5:00 pm.**

### **Find Us at Música Franklin's Fun Fest!**

Música Franklin has all the fun, and we want to join in! Find us at Unity Park on First Street in Turners Falls at our River's Edge investigation station. Fish sustain life throughout our valley, from eagles to otters, even other fish. See how your wingspan compares to that of an eagle's. Learn how you can be part of this year's fish migration through games and more. Learn more about the festival by visiting [musicafranklin.org/fun-fest](https://musicafranklin.org/fun-fest). For all ages.

**Saturday,**

June 6.

**10:00 am–**

**2:00 pm.**

### **Save the Date!**

#### **19<sup>th</sup> Annual Free Family Fishing Day!**

Visit us for a day of FREE fishing fun. Enjoy our annual Family Fishing Day at Barton Cove, with additional activities at Great Falls Discovery Center including fish printing and fly tying. Adults and children of all ages are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Event is held rain or shine. Parking is free at each site. More details coming soon, or call the Discovery Center, (413) 863-3221.