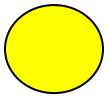


DCR Blue Hills Reservation

Recommended Hikes from Houghton's Pond

Starting from the main parking lot bulletin board at 840 Hillside Street in Milton.

Note that many trail intersections are numbered in the field with a 4 digit marking system (four black numbers on a small white marker. Ex: 1141). These numbers are shown on the DCR trail map to assist with orientation. If you do not have a paper map, consider taking a picture of this hike description and the posted map with your smart phone.



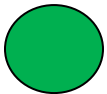
Houghton's Pond Loop

Easy Terrain

.75 miles (45 minutes)

Follow yellow dots

A short scenic hike around popular Houghton's Pond. This walk is very picturesque during every season. Walk from the bulletin board at the main parking area and head down to the pond; circle the pond using the paths and stone dust roadway. Yellow circles on trees guide the way. This trail can be followed in either direction by keeping the pond on your right or left.



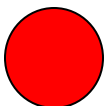
Dark Hollow Loop

Moderate Terrain

2 miles (1.5 hours)

Follow green dots

This rolling forested loop trail takes you through oak-pine woodlands. From the Houghton's Pond bulletin board, follow the stone dust path bearing left toward the beach and bathhouse. Follow the green dots past the bathhouse and head up the paved hill. At intersection # 2071, bear right to loop around the base of Tucker Hill for a pleasant forest stroll following green dots. On your return, retrace your steps downhill, when you again reach intersection #2071.



Buck Hill Loop

Strenuous, with steep, rocky climb

3.5 miles (2 to 3 hours)

Follow red dots

The rocky summit of Buck Hill offers a panoramic view of the surrounding region and is an invigorating climb. From the Houghton's Pond bulletin board, follow red dots toward the beach and past the bathhouse. Follow the red dots over Breeze Hill to intersection #2071 of the red dot and green dot trails. Here you have the option of following the red dot loop either direction. To begin with a more rigorous climb, follow the red dot trail headed north over Tucker Hill, where red dots overlap the blue blazed Skyline trail. For the more leisurely approach to Buck Hill, follow the red dot trail east via Doe Hollow and finish with the more rugged terrain as your return route. Either direction will loop over Buck Hill and back to the red and green dot intersection #2071. Then follow red dots back to the parking lot.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, CALL 911

For Park Concerns, call DCR Ranger Dispatch at 508-820-1428