



Holyoke Heritage State Park
Department of Conservation and Recreation

April & May 2026 Programs

Programs are free and open to the public. All programs meet at the Visitor Center unless otherwise noted. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Dress for the weather. Inclement weather cancels outdoor programs. For more information call (413) 534-1723.



ADA/Reasonable Accommodation.
Call (617) 645-0358, or email Moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov.

**Open Daily,
Except Mondays,
12:00–4:00 pm.**

Visitor Center open hours.

Located at 221 Appleton Street in Holyoke. Accessible by PVTA public transit. Free admission. Open Tuesdays through Sundays. Closed Mondays. Exhibits depict Holyoke’s affluent industrial mill era. Park information, restrooms, drinking water, wheelchair accessible. Also visit our neighboring attractions: Holyoke Merry-Go-Round, Children’s Museum at Holyoke, and International Volleyball Hall of Fame.

FOR ADULTS

**Fridays,
10:00–
11:30 am.**

April 3, 10,
May 1, 8, 15, 22,
29.

Nice & Easy Walks.

A leisurely walk geared for older adults, but open to all. Join the park interpreter for some exercise along the streets of Holyoke with informal, on-the-go interpretation. Each roughly 1- to 2-mile walk features a topic such as Holyoke history, canals, plants, or wildlife. Reservations requested, call (413) 534-1723.

**Saturdays,
10:00 am–
11:00 am.**

April 4, 11, 18.

Holyoke, the Water City.

Topography and the Connecticut River gave rise to this prosperous city in the 1800s. This indoor presentation of exhibits and visuals illustrates the origins of our planned industrial city and how water continues to power Holyoke. Reservations requested, call (413) 534-1723.

**Saturday,
10:00 am–
12:30 pm.**

May 16 & 23.

Holyoke Canal And Fishway Tour.

Two tours in one! An easy 1-mile walking tour of the first and second level canals. Discover how they were built and how they work. Then, visit Holyoke Gas & Electric’s Robert Barrett Fishway for a guided tour of the powerhouse and the amazing fish lift. Free. **Meet at Holyoke Heritage State Park Visitor Center.** Children must be accompanied by an adult. Dress for the weather. Severe weather cancels. **Space is limited to 15 people.** **Registration required,** call (413) 534-1723.

Coming events



April & May 2026 Programs

FOR KIDS AND FAMILIES.

Ongoing Daily,
Except Mondays,
12:00 – 4:00 pm.

Investigation Tables.

Test your skill at working in a mill with the spindle game. Color a leaf and put it on the correct tree. Go for a virtual hike on the interactive board game. There is always something for youngsters to do in the Visitor Center while guided by adults.

Tuesdays–
Saturdays,
8:30 – 4:00 pm.

StoryWalk®.

For young readers and their families. Combine a walk outdoors along the park sidewalks with reading a delightful children’s book and you have a StoryWalk®. April features *The Earth and I* by Frank Asch. May features *The Listening Walk* by Paul Showers.

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.

APRIL SCHOOL VACATION WEEK

Thursday,
April 23.
10:00 am–
12:00 pm.

Make a Water Turbine.

How does falling water power Holyoke? By turning a turbine of course! Assemble a model turbine, then test it out. All materials supplied. **Meet outdoors under the canopy.** Best for ages 9-14. Youngers welcome with help. Arrive anytime and stay as long as you like.

Friday,
April 24.
10:00 am–
12:00 pm.

Trees to the Rescue.

Trees are superheroes. They shade hot city streets, make the oxygen we breathe, grow food we eat, beautify the outdoors, and so much more! Take a short, guided walk to meet these tree superheroes and collect some gifts from them. Take these tree gifts to the **Children’s Museum** and craft them into paper. Best for ages 7-15. Inclement weather cancels outdoor tree walk. **Meet under the canopy.** Co-sponsored with the Children’s Museum of Holyoke, which has an admission fee.

Saturday,
April 25.
10:00 am–
12:00 pm.

Make and Take a Repurposed Bag.

Make a useful bag out of something destined for the landfill. Fashion a tote from a bag that once held birdseed, barley, horse feed, or grain. We’ll guide you through the process of using a grommet machine to make your bag. Then take home and use your bag! **Meet under the canopy outside.** All materials provided. Best for ages 7 (with assistance) to adult. Arrive anytime, stay as long as you like.

Coming events