

Holyoke Heritage State Park

Department of Conservation and Recreation

February 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 the neighboring [Holyoke Merry-Go-Round](#), [Children's Museum at Holyoke](#), and [International Volleyball Hall of Fame](#).

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. Create the perfect snowflake. Decorate a paper hat and put your New Year's resolution on it. There is always something for youngsters to do in the Visitor Center while guided by adults.

Embellish the Story.

As you walk through our exhibit gallery, young readers and their families can read *Tracks in the Snow* by Wong Herbert Yee. Then, color an animal footprint and post it near the animal depicted in the story.

FOR TEENS AND ADULTS.

**Saturdays,
10:00–11:00 am.
February
7, 14, 28.**

Holyoke, the Water City - a presentation.

Come find out why "The Paper City" should instead be called "The Water City." Topography and the Connecticut River's character gave rise to a prosperous city in the late-19th and early-20th century. Even today, water continues to power Holyoke. Come enjoy the story of ingenuity and vision in the making of the dynamic city of Holyoke. Program takes place inside the Visitor Center utilizing exhibits and visuals. By the end, you may be convinced! Reservations requested but not required. Call (413) 534-1723.

More programs continued on next page.

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FOR ADULTS.

Fridays,
10:00-11:30 am.
February
6, 13, 27.

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. Weather and surface conditions may cause cancelation. Reservations requested but not required. Call: (413) 534-1723.

FEBRUARY SCHOOL VACATION WEEK.

Tuesday,
February 17.
10:30 am -
12:00 pm.

Nature's Helping Hands Week.

Investigate different ways in which plants and animals help us. Come one day or every day to learn how we cannot live without them.

Wednesday,
February 18.
10:30am -
12:00 pm.

Dogs – Our Best Friends.

Learn how dogs help people with disabilities and with emotional support. Meet a team of therapy dogs that are members of “Love on a Leash.”

Thursday,
February 19.
10:30 am -
12:00 pm.

Worms Make Great Soil.

Anyone can compost. Learn how to turn your food scraps into nutritious soil for your garden. See a vermiculture bin and check out the red-wiggler worms. Take home some “worm juice” to fertilize your houseplants.

Friday,
February 20.
10:30 am -
12:00 pm.

Trees to the Rescue.

Trees cool hot cityscapes, filter polluted air, provide relaxing views, slow runoff and more. Discover beneficial traits of urban trees in Holyoke Heritage State Park. Take a short walk outside to learn how trees help you. Find out how to get a tree planted in your yard for free this spring.

Pollinators, Plants and Food.

Many plants we eat and enjoy depend on pollinators like bees, butterflies, bats or birds to propagate them. Learn about this important relationship, then make some seed-embedded paper to take home to plant in your garden for those important pollinators.