

Suggested Hikes, Rides and Paddles!

Hopkinton State Park

164 Cedar Street, Hopkinton, MA 01748, (508) 435-4303

To help you plan your visit to DCR's Hopkinton State Park, we offer the following suggested experiences that we think you might enjoy.

- **“Introductory”** are short and appropriate for most users, including families with children.
- **“Signature”** are recommended trail experiences. These may be longer or more difficult but highlight some of the best park features.

For a safe and enjoyable park experience please review the **Things to Know Before You Go** section at the end of this document. Download a map before you go:
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/hopkinton-state-park-trail-map/download>

Signature Hike West Side Trails Loop

Trailhead: Cedar St, Rt 85, near Rafferty RD **Lat/Long:** 42.24727, -71.52804

Distance: 3.5 **Difficulty:** Easy

Brief Description: Hike the quiet side of this park. Park off Cedar St, Rt 85, near Rafferty Rd. Cross Rt 85 and hike along a small stream on the Glebe Trail. Turn west onto the Duck Pond Trail and follow that to the pond. Look for wildlife. Return on the Duck Pond Trail to the Pipeline Trail then the Fisher Trail and return to the parking area.

Signature Hike Reservoir Run Trail

Trailhead: Cedar St, Rt 85, near Rafferty RD **Lat/Long:** 42.24727, -71.52804

Distance: 2 mi **Difficulty:** Easy

Brief Description: Hike the quiet side of this park. Park off Cedar St, Rt 85, near Rafferty Rd. The trail begins near the parking area and follows along the wooded shore of the Hopkinton Reservoir. Head out and back.

Signature Hike Healthy Hike

Trailhead: Cedar St, in main park **Lat/Long:** 42.26166, -71.52556

Distance: 1 mi **Difficulty:** Easy

Brief Description: Enter the park, use parking at the first Ash St parking area. Head to the Swenson Trail and follow to the Foxtrot Trail. Stroll through the woods to the Arborvitae Trail to a view of the Reservoir. Head back, turn onto Vista Trail to Birch St, then turn onto the Rock Rd trail and Loop Trail and return to parking.

Signature Hike Long/Oval/Quarry/Main Rd hike

Trailhead: Cedar St, in main park **Lat/Long:** 42.26166, -71.52556

Distance: 2.75 mi **Difficulty:** Easy

Brief Description: Enter the park, park at the first Split Rock Dr parking area. Head to the Aikens Trail and proceed to the Long Trail, which, skirts the northern edge of the park. Follow along this rolling path to the Oval Trail, connect briefly onto Dogwood Dr, then follow the Quarry Trail to the Main Rd and return to parking.

Signature Paddle Hopkinton Reservoir

Trailhead: Cedar St, Rt 85, near Rafferty RD **Lat/Long:** 42.24727, -71.52804

Distance: 3 mi **Difficulty:** Easy

Brief Description: Have your own canoe or kayak? Launch at the access near the parking area off Cedar St. Leisurely paddle around the reservoir. No boat? Enter the main park (fee) and rent a boat.

Things to Know Before You Go

- **Time, distance, difficulty.** The average hiker pace is estimated at 1.5 miles per hour. Most distances are round-trip. Plan conservatively, start early. Be aware of weather and sunset. Trail difficulty ratings based on ruggedness and gradient are **easy**, **moderate**, or **difficult**.
- **Wear weather appropriate clothing**, layer for temperature changes. Bring sunblock. Wear appropriate and sturdy footwear.
- **Parking at trailheads.** [Parking fees](#) may apply. Space may be limited. Be courteous to avoid blocking in others. Do not leave valuables in your car.

- **Bring a map and share your plans with someone.**
- **Drinking water** may not be available on site. Bring plenty!
- **Stay on designated trails.** Follow painted blazes and signs if available. Generally, double blazes indicate an intersection or direction change.
- **Pace & group size.** Keep your group together; hike only as fast as your group's slowest hiker or rider. Limit your group size to 12 people or fewer to lessen impacts.
- **Carry-in, carry-out all trash and personal belongings.** Follow the Leave No Trace outdoor ethics. [More information here.](#)
- **Know which parks are pet friendly.** Dogs are not permitted in DCR Water Supply Protection areas (such as Quabbin and Wachusett Reservoirs) and certain state parks. Always keep your dog leashed, 10-foot maximum. Always pick up after your dog and dispose of waste properly. [Complete guidelines here.](#)
- **Be aware of hunting seasons.** Wear blaze orange when appropriate. [More information here.](#)
- **Wear a bicycle helmet** while biking. Riders age 16 and under must wear a helmet. It is the law. [More information here.](#)
- **Wear your PFD** while boating. A Personal Flotation Device (PFD), or life preserver, must be worn by boaters age 12 and under; and canoeists/kayakers from Sept. 15-May 15. [More information here.](#)
- **Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers.** Prevent the transport of nuisance species. Clean all recreational equipment. It is the law. [More information here.](#)
- **Be aware some trails may not be well marked, and some may not be identified on a trail map.**

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) oversees over 450,000 acres of state parks, forests, beaches, bike trails, parkways, watershed lands, and dams across the Commonwealth. DCR's mission is to: *Protect, promote and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural and recreational resources for the well-being of all.*