

Suggested Hikes, Rides and Paddles!

Maudslay State Park

74 Curzon Mill Road, Newburyport, MA 01950, 978 465-7223

To help you plan your visit to DCR's Maudslay 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/maudslay-state-park-trail-map/download>

Introductory Equestrian Ride Ride the Bridle Paths

Trailhead: Begin at the main Parking Area on Curzon Mill Road. **Lat/Long:** 42.821848, -70.925964

Distance: 5 miles **Difficulty:** Moderate

Brief Description: Offering over 5 miles of maintained bridle paths try starting on the Pasture Trail and Mile Circle north from the parking area. Trails to the east are multi use and horses are welcome on the majority of these paths. Here you will find rolling meadow trails, pine needle covered paths, enchanted stone bridges, and large stands of mountain laurel and rhododendron. More information at <http://www.maudslayequestrians.info/>

Introductory Hike Explore Maudslay's Natural and Historic Landscapes

Trailhead: Begin at the main Parking Area on Curzon Mill Road. **Lat/Long:** 42.821848, -70.925964

Distance: 1-2 miles **Difficulty:** Easy

Brief Description: Head out Pasture Trail. Turn right across the three-arch stone bridge to explore the natural woodlands of pines and mountain laurels. Or turn left to the Long Border Trail to explore the park's historic landscapes and gardens.

Signature Hike

Merrimack River Trail

Trailhead: Park at main lot on Curzon Mill Rd in Newburyport. **Lat/Long:** 42.821848, -70.925964

Distance: 2 miles **Difficulty:** Moderate

Brief Description: Enter “Hedge Drive” at park gate on Curzon Mill Rd, and walk in to Scenic Vista at Helen Moseley Site. Turn right and follow Merrimack River Trail along the River. Encircle Castle Hill and return via Main Road and Pasture Trail.

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.**
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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.*