

# Suggested Hikes, Rides and Paddles!

---

## Mount Everett State Reservation

143 East Street, Mount Washington, MA 01258, (413) 528 0330

To help you plan your visit to DCR's Mount Everett State Reservation, 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/mt-washington-state-forest-trail-map/download>

## Introductory Hike Guilder Pond Loop

**Trailhead:** During the summer season drive up Mount Everett Road to the Appalachian Trail parking lot. Off-season with the gate closed, park at the entrance of Mount Everett Road, just off off East Street, and hike up the road to Guilder Pond.

**Lat/Long:** 42.107043, -73.435818

**Distance:** 1 mile (2.5 miles off-season) round-trip **Difficulty:** Moderate

**Brief Description:** Guilder Pond is the second highest pond in Massachusetts (2,048 feet elev.). This pleasant 1-mile loop trail circles the pond. Features include blooming mountain laurel and azalea in the June, and a reflected colorful palette of foliage in the October. Summer hikers may enjoy sunning themselves on the lovely rock outcropping on the eastern side, near the AT. Off-season parking at the entrance to Mount Everett Road adds on 1.5 more miles round-trip to the hike.

## Signature Hike Race Brook Falls

**Trailhead:** Begin your hike at the paved parking area and kiosk off Route 41 in Sheffield. **Lat/Long:** 42.089805, -73.411198

**Distance:** 4.0 to 4.8 miles Round Trip **Difficulty:** Strenuous

**Brief Description:** Three-tiered Race Brook Falls is a highlight feature of Mount Everett. These steep and braded trails lead you past various views of the falls. Mind your step avoiding drop-offs! The top of the trail intersects with the Appalachian Trail (AT).



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Return by the same route (2.6 miles round-trip). OPTION: At the top turn left onto the AT and climb up to Race Mountain (2,372 ft. elev.) which offers many stunning scenic views from the open ledges (add on 1.6 miles round-trip)

## 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.](#)



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

- **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.*