



January-February 2026 Programs

All programs are free and open to the public. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. All programs meet at the Notch Visitor Center, 1500 West Street, Amherst, MA, unless otherwise noted. To register for programs or get more information, call the Visitor Center (413) 253-2883 or email Holyoke.range@mass.gov.

 ADA/Reasonable Accommodation
617-645-0358 | Moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov

**Thursdays
through
Mondays
9:00–4:00 pm**

Visitor Center Open Hours
The Notch Visitor Center at 1500 West Street in Amherst, features trail maps, park orientation and information, exhibits, restrooms, and drinking water. Take a walk or hike in the park. Accessible by PVTa public transit ([Amherst R38](#)). Wheelchair accessible. Lobby and restrooms are open daily; Info desk and exhibits may be closed periodically for programming.

**Fridays
10:00–11:00 am**

Nature Storytime - Kiddleidoscope
For ages 0-6+, accompanied by an adult. Enjoy nature themed stories paired with age-appropriate activity or craft. All materials are provided.

**Saturdays
1:30 –3:30 pm**

Hot Cocoa with a Ranger
All ages. Warm up by the fire, enjoy complimentary hot chocolate while exploring the exhibits inside visitor center. Use this time to ask the Ranger all about the Drop in, chat with staff, stay for five minutes or an hour.

**Saturday
10:00–12:30 pm
January 17
January 31**

Off the Beaten Path Hike
For ages 12 and up. This guided hike explores the wonders of winter wildlife survival. A more strenuous 2–4-mile hike over uneven terrain. Dress for the weather, bring water, snacks and extra layers. Ice grippers are required and hiking poles recommended. Free registration required.
Register: 413-253-2883 or holyoke.range@mass.gov
Meeting Location:

- 1/17: Batchelor Brook Trailhead, 81 Batchelor St, Granby, MA
- 1/31: Notch Visitor Center, 1500 West Street, Amherst, MA

**Saturdays
10:00–11:30 pm
January 24
February 14**

Dog Days - Winter Walks
For well-behaved, socialized dogs and their humans of all ages. A 1-2 miles guided walk in the woods with your canine companion. Learn key canine hiking safety while practicing Leave No Trace principles! Dogs must always be under control and on a 6-foot leash. Owners without dogs are welcome! Ice grippers required.
Register: 413-253-2883 or holyoke.range@mass.gov
Meeting Location:

- 1/24: Skinner State Park Sign: 39 Old Mountain Rd, Hadley,MA
- 1/14: Notch Visitor Center, 1500 West Street, Amherst, MA



Mount Holyoke Range State Park
Department of Conservation and Recreation

January-February 2026 Programs

SPECIAL EVENT

Sundays
1:00–2:00 pm
Jan.11, 25
Feb. 1, 28

- Speaker Series**
On Sunday afternoons explore a variety of presenters all related to the Range. For all ages.
- January 11 — Reimagining the Role of Botanic Gardens, with Smith College**
Join John Berryhill, Director of the Smith College Botanic Garden, for an exploration of the questions that have sparked a profound shift in botanic gardens in the 21st century. Highlighting Smith’s meaningful collaboration, student-centered innovation, and deprioritized collecting the exotic, turning our gaze to the familiar - including the Mount Holyoke Range. Open to all ages.
- January 25 — Snakes of Massachusetts**
Discover local Massachusetts snakes in an interactive talk accompanied by a slide show. Explore snake life cycles, their benefits to ecosystems, and compare images of local snakes. Meet ambassador snakes up close - Naga the corn snake, and Inky the king snake! Open to all ages.
- February 1 — Dinosaurs, Dunes, and Drifting Continents, with Prof. Richard Little**
Dive into the geo-history of the Connecticut River Valley with Professor Richard Little. Uncover a timeline of geologic formations around Range. Open to all ages.
- February 28 – Summit House Film Screening**
Join a modest screening of the 1976 documentary film that changed the future of the historic Mt. Holyoke Summit House. Step back in time and view the 30-minute documentary, followed by a 30-minute virtual live meet-and-greet with the filmmaker herself, Gwen Clancy. Open to all ages.

Coming Events