

Myles Standish State Forest, July 2025 Program Calendar

194 Cranberry Road, South Carver, MA. For questions about programs: (508) 866-2526 | cassie.palmer.woods@mass.gov



ADA/reasonable accommodations

617-645-0358 | moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov

The Nature Center is open Wednesday-Sundays,
11:30 PM to 2:00 PM. Hours may change based on staffing

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Nice and Easy Hike 9:30 to 11am	30	1	2 Hike for Health 9:30-11am	3 Woodland Neighbors: Eastern Blue Bird 9:30-10:30am Nice and Easy Hike, East Head Pond 3-4:30pm	4 Hike for Health 9:30-11am	5 Turtle Spotting 9:30-10:30am Cannonballs & Cranberries: 3-4:30pm
6 Nice and Easy Hike, Frost Pocket Loop 9:30 to 11am Crafts in Nature 2-3pm	7	8	9 Hike for Health 9:30-11am	10 A Murder Most Fowl: The American Crow 9:30-10:30am Nice and Easy Hike 3-4:30pm	11 Hike for Health 9:30-11am Nature Games: 2-3:30pm	12 Campfire Tales: Family Folktales 6-7pm
13 Nice and Easy Hike 10-11:30am	14	15	16 Hike for Health 9:30-11am	17 Woodland Neighbors: Turtle Power Hour 9:30-10:30am Nice and Easy Hike, Frost Pocket Loop 3-4:30pm	18 Hike for Health 9:30-11am	19 Turtle Spotting 9:30-10:30am Pine Barrens: A stroll of Ice & Fire 3-4:30pm
20 Nice and Easy Hike, East Head Pond 9:30 - 11am Crafts in Nature 2-3pm	21	22	23 Hike for Health 9:30-11am	24 Creature Feature 9:30-10:30am Nice and Easy Hike, Frost Pocket Loop 3-4:30pm	25 Hike for Health 9:30-11am Nature Games: 2-3:30pm	26 Early Birding 9:30-10:30am Talking Trees 3-4:30pm
27 Nice and Easy Hike, Frost Pocket Loop 9:30 - 11am	28	29	30 Hike for Health 9:30-11am	31 A Murder Most Fowl: The American Crow 9:30-10:30am Nice and Easy Hike 3-4:30pm	1 Hike for Health 9:30-11am	2 Turtle Spotting 9:30-10:30am Pine Barrens: A stroll of Ice & Fire 3-4:30pm

Program Descriptions

Things to Know Before You Go

- All programs are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.
- All children must be accompanied by an adult.
- Dress for the weather; bring sunscreen, bug spray, water, and a snack.
- Rain cancels most programs; call ahead to confirm (508) 866-2526.
- No dogs at programs. Starting on April 1st to September 15th dogs and other pets are not authorized on the beach, with the exception of service animals, per DCR regulations.
- A daily parking fee is required in some areas: \$8 MA Vehicle, \$30 non-MA. Vehicle fee is collected from 8AM to 4PM.
- Park Trail Map: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/myles-standish-trail-map/download>.

Talking Trees

The story of the forest is told by its trees. They are living beings that have strange and fascinating ways to communicate and help one another. Learn about the most common trees in the Massachusetts Pine Barrens ecosystem and what these silent giants can tell us if we know how to listen. **Meet at the Interpretive Center next to the parking lot at the forest headquarters (P1).** Parking is free of charge. The program consists of a 2.6-mile hike around the East Head Reservoir that has some small inclines and declines. Event may be canceled due to inclement weather. Suitable for adults and children over the age of 8.

Creature Feature

Join us for a fun, hands-on program about the animals of Myles Standish State Forest. Check out the pelts and skulls of the animals that make their home throughout the forest. **Meet behind the bathhouse at the College Pond Day Use Area.** The program is free but there is a daily parking fee of \$8 per MA Vehicle, \$15 per non-MA per car to park at College Pond Day Use Area for the day. Event may be canceled due to inclement weather. Suitable for adults and children over the age of 8.

Nature Games

Come to the Interpretive Center for some fun nature-based games and activities. We'll have various games lined up like bat-based Marco Polo and nature-based Simon Says! **Meet at the Interpretive Center next to the parking lot at the forest headquarters (P1).** Parking is free of charge. The program consists of 2-3 games over the span of the program's time frame. Feel free to come and go as you please. Children must be accompanied by at least one adult.

Nice and Easy Hike, East Head Pond

Join the park interpreter for a peaceful stroll along East Head Pond. It is a 2.6-mile hike over mostly flat terrain with minimal inclines and declines. On this walk we will see plenty of different plants and animal life. Please be sure to bring water and insect repellent for this walk. **Meet at the Interpretive Center next to the parking lot at the forest headquarters (P1).** Parking is free of charge. Event may be canceled due to inclement weather. Suitable for all ages.

Nice and Easy Hike, Frost Pocket Loop	Join the park interpreter for a peaceful stroll along one of our Frost Pocket Loop. It is a 1.6-mile hike that will have a few inclines and declines. On this walk we will see plenty of different plants and animal life. Please be sure to bring water and insect repellent for this walk. Meet at the parking lot off Upper College Pond Road (P2). Parking is free of charge. Event may be canceled due to inclement weather. Suitable for all ages.
Hike For Health	Join us for a briskly paced walk around our East Head Pond. It's a 2.6-mile hike around the pond with various interesting plants and animals. Please bring water, sturdy footwear, and bug spray for this hike. This program does contain a few small inclines and declines Meet at the Interpretive Center next to the parking lot at the forest headquarters (P1). The event may be canceled due to inclement weather. This event is suitable for adults and teens.
Pine Barrens: A Stroll of Ice & Fire	This is a forest born of ice and fire. It has been shaped by both human hands and changing climates. Join us on this gentle 1.6-mile hike through the famous Pine Barrens ecosystem of Myles Standish State Forest. We'll explore the natural history of the forest from Native American hunters to today's visitors. This program does contain a few inclines and declines. Meet at the parking lot off Upper College Pond Road (P2). Parking is free of charge. Event may be canceled due to inclement weather. Suitable for adults and children over the age of 8.
A Murder Most Fowl: The American Crow	Crows are much more intriguing than you might guess. Remarkably social and intelligent, these clever birds have long been a source of fascination and lore. We will also discuss how different cultures have viewed crows throughout history and how these myths closely relate to the actual behavior of crows. This program will consist of a ½ mile walk up one of our paved biking paths, with slight inclines and declines. Meet at the Interpretative Center next to the parking lot at forest headquarters (P1). Event may be cancelled due to the inclement weather. Suitable for adults and children over the age of 8.
Turtle Power Hour	Turtles rock! Many species make their home throughout MSSF, including one you will likely only see here in this forest. On this all-ages program we will learn about turtles, their behavior, how to identify different species of local turtles, and hopefully see some ourselves! This program will consist of a short 5 to 10-minute walk over mostly smooth terrain with minimal roots. Meet at the Interpretive Center next to the parking lot at the forest headquarters (P1). Event may be cancelled due to the inclement weather. Suitable for adults and children over the age of 8.
Crafts in Nature	Join us for some nature-based crafts. We'll try out different crafts that can help us learn about nature and possibly help it too! Meet at the Interpretative Center next to the parking lot at forest headquarters (P1). Event may be canceled or moved indoors due to inclement weather. Suitable for children and young teens.
Eastern Blue Bird	Join us for some morning bird watching as we talk about the Eastern Blue Bird, a feisty little bird with a story of its own. This program will consist of a ½ walk up one of our paved biking paths that has some inclines and declines. Meet at the Interpretative Center next to the parking lot at the forest headquarters(P1). This event may be canceled due to inclement weather. Suitable for teens and adults. No bird watching experience required.

Early Birding	Morning bird songs are a beautiful thing. Join us for some early morning bird watching and let's see what songs we hear. We'll be going out to one of the paths to see what birds we can find. This program will consist of a ½ walk up one of our paved biking paths that has some inclines and declines. Meet at the Interpretative Center next to the parking lot at forest headquarters (P1). Event may be cancelled due to the inclement weather.
Turtle Spotting	You know what's cooler than a turtle? A dole of turtles! Let's see if we can see a few sunning themselves in the morning light in various spots around the East Head Reservoir. This program will consist of a short 5-minute walk on flat terrain. Meet at the Interpretative Center next to the parking lot at forest headquarters (P1). Event may be cancelled due to the inclement weather.
Campfire Tales: Family Folktales	Time for some fun by the fire! Join us for some good old-fashioned campfire stories told by our interpreter and maybe others who want to give it a try. Meet at the Interpretative Center next to the parking lot at forest headquarters (P1), and Frome there We'll head over to the Pavillion. Event may be cancelled due to inclement weather. Suitable for ages 8 and up.
Cannonballs & Cranberries	Join the park interpreter for a guided tour around a working cranberry bog and discover the fascinating history of the bog, from iron production to cranberry agriculture. Learn about how this land was formed thousands of years ago and what the bogs have meant to the inhabitants of the region over time. See these bogs as they ripen on this gentle and informative walk. This program consists of a 1.6 mile walk around two cranberry bogs. The beginning and end of the program do have an incline/decline to get to the cranberry bogs. Meet at the Rocky Pond Cranberry Parking Lot (P7). Event may be canceled due to inclement weather. Parking is free of charge. Suitable for adults and children over the age of 8.