Suggested MassParks Hikes and Rides!

Nickerson State Park

Rte. 6A, Brewster, 508 896-3491

To help you plan your visit to Nickerson State Park, we offer the following suggested hike and ride routes that we think visitors might enjoy. **Introductory hikes or rides** are relatively short and appropriate for most users, including families with children. **Signature hikes and rides** are recommended trail experiences that may be longer or more difficult, but that highlights some of the best features of this State Park.

Introductory Hike Little Cliff Pond

Trailhead: Park at the end of Flat Pond Road Lat/Long: 41.758778, -70.017282 Distance: 1.7 mile loop, Difficulty: Easy

Brief Description: *Enjoy the loop around this long and narrow 33 acre natural kettlehole pond. The shoreline is largely wooded with pitch pines and scrub oaks with occasional sandy beaches.*

Signature Hike Cliff Pond Loop

Trailhead: Look for signed trailheads at Campgrounds 4 and 6, at the end of Flax Pond Road, and at Fisherman's Landing, **Lat/Long:** 41.762539, -70.031517 **Distance:** 3.2 miles, **Difficulty:** Moderate

Brief Description: Cliff Pond is 204 acre kettlehole pond, the largest in Nickerson State Park. This trail circles the pond passing sandy beaches, pitch pine and dry oak woodlands and offering lovely water views. Connecting trails lead to both Campgrounds 4 and 6. Mountain biking is not allowed on this trail.



Signature Bike Ride Nickerson Bike Paths

Trailhead: Begin from the parking lot at park entrance or access from the campgrounds **Lat/Long:** 41.775171, -70.031797

Distance: Various, Difficulty: Moderate

Brief Description: Nickerson State Park has over 10 miles of rolling and winding paved bike paths. Explore the Deer Park, Ober or Cedar Trails. Or take a spin on the Ruths Pond Loop. Remember to use caution at the road crossings.

Things to Remember:

- **Time, distance, difficulty:** <u>average</u> hiker pace is estimated at 1.5 miles per hour. Most distances are <u>round-trip</u>. 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. Apprpriate footware is a must. Trails can be wet.
- **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 is usually not available. Bring plenty! Trailside sources should be treated.
- **Stay on designated trails:** Follow painted blazes and signs if available. Double blazes indicate an intersection or direction change.
- **Pace & group size:** <u>keep your group together</u>; hike only as fast as your group's slowest hiker or rider. Limit group size to 12 people or fewer to lessen impacts.
- **Carry-in, carry-out all trash:** Leave No Trace outdoor ethics are strongly encouraged. For more information visit *http://www.lnt.org/programs/principles.php*
- **Pets are generally permitted** on 10-foot maximum leash and under at all times. Please clean up after your pet and dispose of all waste outside of park. Be aware of local park rules and that not all users appreciate encountering pets, even when friendly.
- Be aware that some trails are not well marked.
- **Be aware of hunting seasons** and wear blaze orange when appropriate. For season info visit: *http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/regulations/abstracts/hunting_dates.pdf*

