

The DCR Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center offers educational programs in schools, remote programs via Zoom, guided outdoor hikes in areas of Quabbin Park in Belchertown, and for older students (5th and up) a Dana Common hike at Gate 40 in Petersham. We work with students of all ages, from Pre-K to college. There is no charge for any DWSP education programs.

**QuabbinVisitor.Center@mass.gov**

- Groups of over 25 people must have an Access Permit. **There is no charge for permits for educational groups** ([www.mass.gov/info-details/watershed-permits](http://www.mass.gov/info-details/watershed-permits)).
- Please schedule programs at least two weeks in advance.
- Please be prepared when visiting Quabbin Reservoir: dress appropriately for the weather and outdoor recreation; especially be aware of ticks.
- All DWSP rules and regulations apply; dogs are not allowed anywhere at the Quabbin Reservoir.

MWRA is responsible for drinking water distribution and treatment.



## A photograph of a stone arch bridge with a waterfall cascading over its spillway, surrounded by lush green foliage. The bridge is constructed from large, dark stone blocks and features a single large arch. The water flows over a series of steps or spillways directly beneath the arch, creating a small waterfall. The surrounding area is densely populated with green trees and bushes, with some foliage in the foreground partially obscuring the view. The scene is captured in bright daylight.

Department of Conservation and Recreation  
Division of Water Supply Protection  
485 Ware Road, Belchertown, MA 01007  
413-323-7221  
**[www.mass.gov/dcr/watershed](http://www.mass.gov/dcr/watershed)**

## **Narrated PowerPoint Presentations**

35-45 minutes, available year-round as remote programs via Zoom or on-site at the Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center. These programs are also available in-person for schools in the Quabbin and Ware River watershed region.

### ***Exploring the Quabbin Reservoir***

Quabbin Reservoir is part of a water supply system that provides drinking water to 43% of Massachusetts. How much do you know about the reservoir, its history and how it is managed today?

### ***Lost Towns of the Quabbin Valley***

What was it like growing up in Dana, Enfield, Prescott and Greenwich before the reservoir was built? Find out through historic photos and former resident's own words.

### ***Eagles, Loons, and Bears oh My!***

In the past 50 years our region has seen the return of many woodland animals in part because of the great habitat created by the Quabbin Reservoir and Ware River watershed forests. Learn about the behavior and habitats of some local wildlife.

## **Suggested Curriculum Connections**

### ***Elementary curriculum connections***

- *Engineering Design*
- *Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems*
- *Earth's Systems*
- *Massachusetts, Home to Many Different People*

### ***Middle School curriculum connections***

- *Engineering Design*
- *Earth's Systems*
- *United States and Massachusetts Government and Civic Life*

## **Interactive Classroom Programs**

30–45-minute programs focused on watershed protection, building dams and wildlife at Quabbin. These programs are available to schools in the Quabbin and Ware River watershed region.

### ***Branching Out***

What is a watershed? What role do they play in our environment? Students will build a model of a watershed and learn how they impact the world around us. (Project WET Activity)

### ***Build a Dam***

Where did the water for Quabbin Reservoir come from? In this program students will experiment building a model dam to better understand how the reservoir was created.

### ***Wildlife Artifacts Exploration***

How heavy is a moose skull? How soft is rabbit fur? How are turkey's tail feathers different from the wing feathers? This 30-minute program provides students the opportunity to touch and examine wildlife artifacts from bones to feathers to pelts of wildlife.



## **Outdoor Programs**

Visitor Center staff is also available to offer guided outdoor programs to schools and groups on site at Quabbin Reservoir.

### ***History Detectives***

Explore Webster Road Trail in Quabbin Park and discover signs of the past. Easy 0.5 miles

### ***Habitat Investigations***

Walk the Shoreline Trail and look for signs of wildlife. Easy 1.0 miles.

### ***Dana Common Hike***

***(Available to 5<sup>th</sup> grade and older)***

Walk the road to Dana Common and find out what life was like in one of the dis-established towns and discover how the landscape has changed since the Reservoir was built. Moderate, 1.8 miles to Dana Common



*View of Dana Common c. 1930*