



Quabbin/Ware River Region

Department of Conservation and Recreation, Division of Water Supply
Protection Headquarters: 100 Winsor Dam Road, Belchertown, MA 01007

DCR Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center Upcoming Programs

All ages are welcome. All programs are free, but registration is required; outdoor programs are limited to 25 people. Please dress appropriately for the weather and bring water. Follow link to register or [visit the Upcoming Events for Quabbin Reservoir webpage](#).

Saturday, July 11, 11am-1pm

Hidden History: Webster Road Trail

[Meet at Hanks Meadow parking lot](#)

Relatively flat terrain; approx. 2.5 miles round-trip

Quabbin's ghost towns are hiding in plain sight – if you know where to look. This two-hour guided interpretive walk will teach you how to read the natural landscape as you uncover clues that reveal the hidden history of Webster Road. Explore old cellar holes and historic stone walls, get to know some native and invasive plants, and learn more about the families who lived in the town of Enfield a hundred years ago. Please bring water and Dress appropriately for the weather. Please wear appropriate footwear and protect yourself against ticks. All ages welcome. Dogs are not allowed.

Register here: [Saturday July 11, 11am – 1pm Hidden History: Webster Road](#)

Sunday, August 2, 1pm – 2pm

Quabbin Park Cemetery Tour

Easy but uneven ground

[Meet at Quabbin Park Cemetery](#)

Take a walk through the Quabbin Park Cemetery and learn about the history and lives of residents (both prominent and ordinary) of the Valley towns. Meet in the Quabbin Park Cemetery off Rt. 9 in Ware. Please dress appropriately for the weather. No dogs are allowed.

Register here: [Exploring the Quabbin Park Cemetery, Sunday August 2, 2026 1-2pm](#)

Thursday, August 6, 2026, 10 am – 11:30 am

Spillway Loop Trail

Approx. 1 mile; Easy

[Meet at the parking lot inside the Middle Entrance to Quabbin Park off Route 9](#)

This easy loop starts at the magnificent spillway bridge and restoration area and follows the spillway channel to the Y-pool before turning to pass a surprisingly important habitat site. The trail is partially wooded but sun protection is recommended, as is tick protection. Dogs are not allowed.

Register here: [Thursday, August 6, 2026, 10 am – 11:30 am Spillway Loop Trail](#)

coming events

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Saturday, August 15, 2026 11am – 1:00pm

Exploring the North Side of the Quabbin Watershed via Gate 29

2.4 miles; Moderate

[Meet at Quabbin Reservoir Gate 29](#)

Join us for a 2.4-mile out/back hike on Quabbin's north side of the watershed. We will be walking through the forest on a dirt road and ending at the shoreline of the reservoir. Walking to the water, the hike covers 1.2-miles and relatively little change in elevation. We will then backtrack and head out the way we came in. Please dress appropriately for the weather and bring water and snacks. Dogs are not allowed.

Register here: [Saturday, August 15, 11am – 1pm Exploring the North Side via Gate 29](#)

Thursday, September 3, 2026, 10 am – 11:30 am

Late Summer Meadow Visit

Approx. 1 mile; Easy

[Meet at Quabbin Park Middle Entrance Parking Lot](#)

This hike will meet at the parking area at the Middle Entrance and walk along the Spillway Road to a small meadow across from the Boat Cove. The walk is easy, but the road along the Spillway is heavily trafficked, so caution is advised. Please wear appropriate clothing and footwear, bring water, and come prepared for insects. Dogs are not allowed anywhere at Quabbin.

Register here: [Late Summer Meadow Visit Thursday, September 3, 2026 10 am – 11:30 pm](#)

Sunday, September 6, 11am-1pm

Hidden History: Webster Road Trail

Relatively flat terrain; approx. 2.5 miles round-trip

[Meet at Hanks Meadow parking lot](#)

Quabbin's ghost towns are hiding in plain sight – if you know where to look. This two-hour guided interpretive walk will teach you how to read the natural landscape as you uncover clues that reveal the hidden history of Webster Road. Explore old cellar holes and historic stone walls, get to know some native and invasive plants, and learn more about the families who lived in the town of Enfield a hundred years ago. Please bring water and Dress appropriately for the weather. Please wear appropriate footwear and protect yourself against ticks. All ages welcome. Dogs are not allowed.

Register here: [Sunday Sept 6 11am – 1pm Hidden History: Webster Road](#)

Saturday, September 19, 2026 11am – 1:30pm

Exploring the West Side of the Quabbin Watershed via Gate 11

3.4 miles; Intermediate

[Meet at Quabbin Reservoir Gate 11, Rt. 202 \(Daniel Shays Highway\)](#)

Join us for a 3.4-mile out/back hike on Quabbin's west side of the watershed. We will be walking down to the water on a dirt road through the forest. Walking to the water, the hike covers 1.7-miles and drops 600 ft. in elevation. We will then backtrack and head uphill the way we came in. Please dress appropriately for the weather and bring water and snacks.

Hike begins at Quabbin Reservoir's Gate 11. The parking area is located on the east side of Rt. 202 (Daniel Shays Highway) in Pelham.

Dogs are not allowed.

Register here: [Saturday, September 19, 11am – 1:30pm Exploring the West Side of the Quabbin Watershed via Gate 11](#)

coming events

Sunday, September 26, 11am-2pm

Exploring the Road to Dana Common

3.6 miles round-trip; Moderate

[Meet at Gate 40 on Rt 32A](#)

The old foundations, stone walls, and shade trees of Dana Common will transport you to the past as you explore Quabbin's unique history. This 3.6 mile round-trip hike will introduce you to some of the notable residents of Dana as you discover what life was like in the Swift River Valley over a hundred years ago. Photos illustrating Quabbin's past will bring Dana to life before your eyes. Please bring water and dress appropriately for the weather. All ages welcome. Dogs are not allowed.

Register here: [Sunday September 26, 11am – 2:00pm Exploring the Road to Dana Common](#)

Thursday, October 1, 2026, 11 am to 1 pm

Soapstone Mountain Hike

2.7 miles; Difficult

[Meet at Quabbin Reservoir Gate 37 – From Rt 122 in New Salem take Monson Turnpike Rd and follow to Gate 37](#)

This scenic hike will begin at Gate 37 and follow an easy woodland road before branching off to a short but very steep hike up the mountain. Hike is challenging and has points which require climbing over large rocks, however the summit is one of the best views of Quabbin Reservoir. Please dress appropriately for weather and insects, wear safe, suitable footwear, and bring water. Dogs are not allowed anywhere at Quabbin Reservoir.

Register here: [Thursday, October 1, 2026 11 am - 1 pm Soapstone Mountain Hike](#)

Saturday, October 10, 2026 11am – 1pm

Exploring Quabbin Park via the Combination Shoreline/Enfield Lookout/Webster Road Loop

3.6 miles; Intermediate

[Meet at Quabbin Observation Tower](#)

Join us for a 3.6-mile looped hike in Quabbin Park. We will begin at the Observation Tower parking area located at Quabbin Hill. We will travel to Hank's Meadow and down to the water, dropping roughly 350 feet in elevation. The trail then travels along the water before we ascend uphill back to where we began. Along the way we'll stop at the Enfield Lookout which offers the best view of the reservoir in Quabbin Park. Please dress appropriately for the weather and bring water and snacks. Hike begins at the Observation Tower parking area. Dogs are not allowed.

Register here: [Saturday, October 10, 2026 11am – 1pm Exploring Quabbin Park](#)

coming events

Thursday, November 5, 2026, 11 am – 12:30 pm

Rutland Prison Camp

Approx. 1.25 miles; Easy, uneven ground

[Meet at DCR Rutland Prison Camp, 299 Intervale Rd, Rutland, MA 01543](#)

Fresh air, three home-cooked meals a day, comfortable sleeping quarters and a private hospital - sounds like a delightful retreat....for a prison?? Indeed, it was! Join DCR staff as we explore the remains of this surprisingly successful social experiment. Ticks are still active so protection is advised, as is wearing orange during hunting season.

Register here: [Thursday November 6, 2026 11am – 12:30 pm Rutland Prison Camp](#)

Saturday, November 7, 2026 11am – 1pm

Exploring the Ware River Watershed – Group Hike Near Muddy Pond

4.1 miles; Moderate

[Meet at DCR Ware River Watershed Route 122 parking area](#)

Join us for a 4.1-mile looped hike in the Ware River Watershed. The route climbs/descends roughly 140 ft. in elevation. The foot path we will travel on is non-technical. The last mile of the hike is on a scenic section of the Mass Central Rail Trail.

We will all meet at the Route 122 rest area parking lot in the town of Oakham. The rest area is in the shape of a banana with grass and picnic tables. The hike begins/ends north of Muddy Pond. Please dress appropriately for the weather and bring water and snacks.

Register here: [Saturday, November 7, 2026 11am – 1pm Exploring the Ware River Watershed – Muddy Pond Hike](#)