

Wachusett Reservoir Watershed

Department of Conservation and Recreation Division of Water Supply Protection

January 2026 Programs

All programs are free and open to the public. Please note that dogs are not allowed on water supply protection lands. Dress in layers with sturdy footwear, be prepared for windy conditions near the water. Bring water and trekking poles, traction devices, or snowshoes depending on trail conditions, and your sense of adventure!

To check on event status please call or text 617-352-4044 or email Kathryn.Parent@mass.gov



ADA/Reasonable Accommodation

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

Thursday, Jan. 1, 2026, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. First Day Hike

Celebrate the New Year with a First Day Hike at Wachusett Reservoir. Meet at Gate 22 on 167 Temple St, Rt 140, West Boylston.

Saturday, Jan. 10, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Earth, Wind, and Water Hike

This walk along the North Dike offers scenic views over the water and takes you through a railroad rock cut to the spillway and points of interest around Wachusett Dam. About 3 miles round trip. Be prepared for windy conditions. Meet at Wachusett Reservoir, Gate 39, Route 110 & South Meadow Road, Clinton.

Saturday, Jan. 17, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Hike to the Narrows

About 2.5 miles round trip as we find the shore at the narrowest part of the reservoir. Moderate hike with hills, roots and rocks underfoot. Meet at Wachusett Reservoir Gate 8, Parking near the intersection of Cross Street and Route 70, Boylston.

Saturday, January 17, 3 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Water is Everywhere Story Time

The Boylston Public Library invites young children to explore water-themed picture books and hands-on activities to introduce different forms and uses of water. We'll do a simple water experiment with miniature snowmen and a collage craft. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required. [Register through the Boylston Library website](#). Meet at Boylston Library, 695 Main Street, Boylston.

Saturday, Jan. 24, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Hike to Greenhalge Point

Enjoy the scenic shoreline views on this 4-mile round trip. Moderate hike with hills, roots and rocks underfoot. Meet at Wachusett Reservoir Gate 35, at the intersection of Route 110 and Chace Hill Rd, Sterling.

Saturday, Jan. 31, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Mass Central Rail Trail (Sterling Spur) and Pond Loop

About a 3.8 mile round trip on easy to moderate terrain. Fine tune your senses and connect to nature! Meet at Mass Central Rail Trail (Sterling Spur), 25 Gates Road, Sterling.

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February 2026 Programs

All programs are free and open to the public. Please note that dogs are not allowed on water supply protection lands. Dress in layers with sturdy footwear, be prepared for windy conditions near the water. Bring water and trekking poles, traction devices, or snowshoes depending on trail conditions, and your sense of adventure!

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Saturday, February 7, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

South Bay Hike

About a 2.5 miles round trip on moderate terrain. Explore the unbeaten paths and sandy shores between South Bay and Horseshoe Cove. Meet at Wachusett Reservoir Gate 22, 167 Temple Street (Route 140), West Boylston.

Saturday, February 14, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Cabin Fever Ranger Hike

Get outside and join Watershed Rangers in exploring the winter woods to find signs of the wildlife in the watershed. The terrain on this family-friendly hike will range from easy to moderate, with some hills that provide rewarding views of the Wachusett Reservoir shoreline. About 2.5 miles round trip. Meet at Gate 8 Sawyer's Bluff at the intersection of Cross Street and Route 70, Boylston.

Tuesday, February 17, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

The Incredible Journey of a Water Drop

Imagine you are a water molecule! Roll the dice to journey through different stations of the water cycle, experiencing its unpredictable paths. Explore the challenges that water encounters. Collect beads at each station of your unique journey and create a bracelet or keychain to keep. Meet at Boylston Public Library, 695 Main St, Boylston. All ages. Drop in anytime between 11-12

Saturday, February 21, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Earth, Wind, and Water Hike

This walk along the North Dike offers scenic views over the water and takes you through a railroad rock cut to the spillway and points of interest around Wachusett Dam. About 3 miles round trip. Be prepared for windy conditions. Meet at Wachusett Reservoir, Gate 39, Rt. 110 & South Meadow Road, Clinton.

Saturday, February 28, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Mass Central Rail Trail (Sterling Spur) and Pond Loop

About a 3.8 mile round trip on easy to moderate terrain. Fine tune your senses and connect to nature! Meet at Mass Central Rail Trail (Sterling Spur), 25 Gates Road, Sterling.

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March 2026 Programs

All programs are free and open to the public. Please note that dogs are not allowed on water supply protection lands. Dress in layers with sturdy footwear, be prepared for windy conditions near the water. Bring water and trekking poles, traction devices, or snowshoes depending on trail conditions, and your sense of adventure!

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ADA/Reasonable Accommodation

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Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

South Bay Hike

About a 2.5 miles round trip on moderate terrain. Explore the unbeaten paths and sandy shores between South Bay and Horseshoe Cove. Meet at Wachusett Reservoir Gate 22, 167 Temple Street (Route 140), West Boylston.

Saturday, March 14, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Hike to Sawyers Bluff

About 3 miles round trip. Hike to the rocky shoreline and enjoy the views at the narrowest part of the reservoir. Meet at Wachusett Reservoir Gate 8, Intersection of Cross Street and Route 70, Boylston.

Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

North Dike to Dam Hike

This walk along the North Dike offers scenic views over the water and takes you through a railroad rock cut to the spillway and points of interest around Wachusett Dam. About 3 miles round trip. Be prepared for windy conditions. Meet at Wachusett Reservoir, Gate 39, Rt. 110 & South Meadow Road, Clinton.

Friday, March 27, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Spring Sensory Outing

This program is designed to be intentionally inclusive and accessible for safe interaction with the outdoors. Enjoy the magic of spring, the return of early migratory birds, vernal pools, and more! Along a half-mile trail, the group will pause for activities designed to fine-tune senses and connect to nature. Meet at Sensory Trail, Mass Central Rail Trail, 25 Gates Road, Sterling.

Saturday, March 28, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Mass Central Rail Trail (Sterling Spur) and Pond Loop

About a 3.8 mile round trip on easy to moderate terrain. Fine tune your senses and connect to nature! Meet at Mass Central Rail Trail (Sterling Spur), 25 Gates Road, Sterling.