



Wachusett Reservoir Watershed

Department of Conservation and Recreation Division of Water Supply Protection

April 2026 Programs

All programs are free and open to the public. Please note that dogs are not allowed on water supply protection lands.

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

coming events

Spring Puddles Stroll & Story

Friday, April 24, from 10 to 11 a.m.

Meet at the Mass Central Rail Trail - Sterling Spur, 25 Gates Road, Sterling. Join a morning of outdoor adventure on this slow-paced walk to spot signs of wildlife and listen for frog calls. We'll stop at the forest play area to read *The Noisy Puddle* and celebrate the magic of vernal pools. This 3/4-mile easy stroll is geared toward early childhood, and all ages are welcome for this family event. The flat, accessible trail is stroller and wheelchair friendly.

Creatures of the Forest

Saturday, April 25, 1 - 2 p.m.

Meet at Mass Central Rail Trail- Sterling Spur, 25 Gates Road, Sterling. Explore what the wild things in the watershed are up to this Spring on a guided sensory adventure designed for explorers of all abilities! We'll take a slow, 3/4-mile round-trip stroll to listen and look for "telltale" signs of forest life. With a flat trail and benches to rest, this inclusive outing is stroller and wheelchair accessible. No dogs are allowed on DCR watershed properties. Service and medical support animals, when acting within their service capacity, are welcome.

Tree Cookies

Saturday, April 18, 3:00-3:45 p.m.

Look at a tree's life story in cross-sections "tree cookies" and core samples to determine a tree's age and observe its growth patterns. Simulate how trees compete for essential resources, such as light, water, and nutrients. Design a tree cookie pendant to keep. Suggested ages 6 and up Meet at Boylston Public Library, 695 Main Street, Boylston. [Please register in advance.](#)



Wachusett Reservoir Watershed

Department of Conservation and Recreation Division of Water Supply Protection

May 2026 Programs

All programs are free and open to the public. Please note that dogs are not allowed on water supply protection lands.

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

Park Serve Day

Saturday, May 2, 10 – 11 a.m.

Meet at Stillwater Farm Interpretive Site, 228 Redemption Rock Rd., Sterling
Join this family activity to help build homes for our local Eastern bluebirds and plant spring flowers at Stillwater Farm. Learn about bluebird habitat, attracting and keeping bluebirds, and how to maintain and predator-proof a bluebird house. Build a nesting box to take home for your own backyard. Limited supply available. [Please register to reserve a spot.](#)

Who's Whoo in the Watershed Forest

Saturday, May 2, 11:30– 12:30 p.m.

Meet at Stillwater Farm Interpretive Site, 228 Redemption Rock Road, Sterling.

Step into the meadow and forest to uncover the secrets of local wildlife! On this ½ mile habitat hike, search for owl pellets and other wildlife clues. Learn about animal diets by examining replica skulls. After the hike, you'll have the opportunity to see what an owl eats by dissecting a sterilized owl pellet.

History of the Construction of the Wachusett Reservoir

Thursday, May 7, 6-7 p.m.

Meet at the Bigelow Free Public Library 54 Walnut St., Clinton, MA, 01510
Historical photographs, annual reports, and archived scrapbooks show the engineering marvel of the reservoir system. [Please register in advance.](#)

Hike on North Dike to Wachusett Dam

Saturday, May 9, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Meet at Wachusett Reservoir Gate 39, located at the intersection of South Meadow Road and Route 110 in Clinton.

This guided one-mile walk along the North Dike will lead to the Wachusett Dam in Clinton. Once you reach the dam, take some time to explore the area and return on your own. The walkway across the dam will be open for walking at 2 pm.

Coming events

Dam Day

Saturday, May 9, 2 - 5 p.m.

Wachusett Dam, Rt 70, Clinton.

The DCR Division of Water Supply Protection will open the top of the Wachusett Dam for the public to access, walk across, and enjoy! DCR Watershed Rangers will be on hand to provide information regarding the agency's watershed protection program. Parking is available along Route 70 and will also be available at the Clinton High School for a 1-mile easy walk to the Dam along the North Dike Path.

*Due to increased security, backpacks and other large bags will not be allowed at this event. All other items brought to the event may be subject to search.

Wachusett Reservoir Legends and Lore

Thursday, May 14, 6-7 p.m.

Meet at Bigelow Free Public Library 54 Walnut Street, Clinton, MA 01510

Bust myths and turn mystery into history as we unravel the tales surrounding the construction of the Wachusett Reservoir through newspaper clippings, historical photographs, and annual reports. [Register for the event](#)

Watershed Wildlife: Skull Science

Wednesday, May 20, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Southborough Library 25 Main St, Southborough, MA, 01772

Find clues in replica skulls about how different creatures survive. A Skull Detective Checklist helps young learners classify animals as predator, prey, carnivore, herbivore, or omnivore by examining key skull features like eye sockets and teeth. For ages 6-10. [Please register in advance.](#)

Nature Journaling

Thursday, May 28, 6:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.

Meet at the Gale Free Library, 23 Highland St, Holden, MA 01520

Discover the benefits of nature journaling! Learn how this practice can significantly improve your mental well-being while fostering a deeper connection with the natural world around you. This session will provide you with the tools to create your own nature journal, or bring your own to show off! [Register for the event at the library.](#)

Bird Outing

Friday, May 29, 9-10:30 a.m.

Meet at Sensory Trail, Mass Central Rail Trail, 25 Gates Road, Sterling.

This program is designed to be intentionally inclusive and accessible for beginning birders. Birders of all experience levels are welcome. Nestled between two water bodies, this trail is a wonderful place to look and listen for birds and use our senses to observe behavior and notice habitats.

We will walk slowly for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile round trip. Strollers and wheelchairs are welcome. Dogs are not allowed on water supply protection lands. Service and medical support animals, when acting within their service capacity, are welcome.