

Walden Pond State Reservation

Department of Conservation and Recreation

February 2026 PROGRAMS

Programs are free and open to the public. Regular parking fees apply. Children must be accompanied by an adult. No dogs/pets allowed on premises year-round. Park closes when visitor capacity is reached. DCR Closure Alerts: <https://www.mass.gov/parkalerts>. Call (978) 405-2082 or email walden.programs@mass.gov.



ADA/Reasonable Accommodation

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

**Daily,
10:00 am-
3:00 pm**



Visitor Center Exhibits, *Walden* Film, & Gallery

Investigate the life & legacy of Thoreau through exhibits, art, and film. *Walden* shows every ½-hour, last show at 2:30pm. Gallery exhibition, *A Journey to the Pond*, by local painter Amy Roberts, Feb 2025 -Apr 2026.

Daily



Self-Guided StoryWalk® Of *Walden Pond: Henry David Thoreau, Frederic Tudor, and the Pond Between*, by Lesa Cline-Ransome.

Read about the 19th century ice trade at Walden. Story pages start on the “Woods Path,” along the Accessible trail and continue along the easy 1/2-mile, crushed stone surface to Thoreau’s house site. *Snow spikes encouraged. All ages.*

The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT, and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. StoryWalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson. This StoryWalk® is provided by Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Interpretive Services.

**Wednesdays,
Fridays &
Saturdays
11:00 am-
12:00 pm
(Except Feb 20,
21 & 28)**

Thoreau House Talks

Swing by the **Thoreau House Replica** to hear about writer and naturalist Henry David Thoreau during these ongoing 10-minute talks with a Park Interpreter. **All ages.**

Talk subjects include: Henry’s Conservation Legacy, Henry’s Experiment in Simple Living, and Thoreau’s Night in Jail.

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**Tuesdays &
Saturdays
2:00–3:30 pm**
(Except Feb. 21
& 28)

**Sundays &
Wednesdays
1:00–2:30 pm**

**Thursdays
1:00–2:30 pm**

The Beavers are Back!

Meets at **Visitor Center**. Join a Park Interpreter for this guided 1-mile roundtrip walk to Heywood's Meadow to see signs of our resident beavers. Learn how these rodents improve the local ecology. *Binoculars & snow spikes encouraged!* **Ages 10 and up.**

Winter Walk

Meets at **Visitor Center**. Join a Park Interpreter for a ½-mile walk to Thoreau's original house site, where you will look, listen, and make note of your observations in the natural world like Henry did. Come learn about Thoreau's thoughts and feelings about the winter season. Wear good, solid shoes. **Ages 10 and up.**

Winter Tree Identification

Meets at **Visitor Center**. Join a Park Interpreter for this ½-mile guided walk, where you will see how to identify local trees in the winter. *Snow spikes encouraged.* **Ages 10 and up.**

SPECIAL EVENTS

**Friday
11:00 am –
12:30 pm
February 20**

Presidential History Come Alive

Visitor Center. In honor of President's Day, North Shore & NECC History Professor Rich Padova will share some of his favorite presidential memorabilia from his personal collection. A native Lawrencian, now living in Andover, Padova's historical expertise has been featured in numerous articles for The Eagle Tribune, & he's released several booklets on the Presidents, First Ladies, & contentious political campaigns. In summers, you can find him at Lawrence Heritage State Park. **All ages.**

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Saturday
1:00 pm -
3:15 pm
February 21

Winter Tree Walk with Jeff Adams

REGISTRATION REQUIRED (Max. 25) email:
walden.programs@mass.gov

Meet at Visitor Center. Join naturalist and avid outdoor enthusiast Jeff Adams for a winter walk featuring identification tips and natural history facts for some of Walden shore's trees and shrubs. We'll discuss different techniques for identification of bare trees/shrubs like branching, buds, bark, galls, and persistent leaves and fruit. We may also see some non-woody plants that remain erect in winter. Sturdy hiking boots are recommended. After the first 25 people sign up, others will be wait-listed. **Ages 10 and up.**

Saturday
12:00 pm -
1:30 pm
February 28


Celebrate the Lunar New Year; Year of the Horse!

REGISTRATION REQUIRED (Max. 25) email:
walden.programs@mass.gov

Meet at Visitor Center. Join multimedia artist Elena (Zhonghe) Li for a hands-on paper cutting workshop, where you'll get to decorate your own lantern. Li's art is inspired by her deep love of nature, grounded in Taoist philosophy, which emphasizes simplicity and living in harmony with nature. Many Chinese intellectuals consider Henry David Thoreau "the American Laozi" (master of Taoism). Materials will be provided. **All ages.**