



September 2025 Programs

Walden Pond State Reservation
Department of Conservation and Recreation
915 Walden Street, Concord, MA 01742
(978) 369-3253

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



ADA/Reasonable Accommodation
617-645-0358 | Moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov

Daily
10:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.

Daily

Thursday & Fridays
1:00–2:00 p.m.
(except Sept. 4 & 11)

Sundays &
Wednesdays
1:00–2:30 p.m.
(except Sept. 7 & 28)

Tuesdays
2:00–3:00 p.m.

Visitor Center Exhibits, *Walden* Film, and Gallery

Investigate the life & legacy of Thoreau through exhibits, art, and film. *Walden* shows every 1/2 hour, last show at 4:30pm. Gallery exhibition, *Thoreau’s Way*, by local artist Katie Sluder, Aug - Oct 2025.

Self-Guided Storywalk® *Why Do Leaves Change Color?* by Betsy Maestro Posted on the Woods Path Trail

Ever wonder why leaves change color in the fall? Find out with this picture book posted on the Accessible Trail to the Thoreau House Site Trail, an easy 1/2 mile, crushed stone surface trail. 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.*

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, Thoreau’s Night in Jail, and Thoreau Family Pencil Making.

Autumn Amble

Meets at Visitor Center. Join a Park Interpreter for a 1/2 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 autumn season. Wear good, solid shoes. Ages 10 and up.

Reading Walden’s Landscape

Meets at Visitor Center. Take a closer look at the forested landscape on this easy 60-minute walk with a Park Interpreter. Learn how to read a forest’s history and its future based on the current composition and age of tree species. Ages 8 and up.



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Saturdays
1:00–3:00 p.m.
(except Sept. 6)



Excavation at Walden
Meets at House Site. Meet a Park Interpreter to learn about the Archeologist Roland Wells Robbins, and his rediscovery of the Thoreau House Site, during this ongoing 10-minute talk. All ages.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Saturday
12:00–1:30 p.m.
September 6



Farewell, Henry Thoreau... & Richard Smith
Meet at Thoreau House Replica. Join us as we celebrate the 178th anniversary of Henry Thoreau leaving Walden Pond after living here for 2 years, 2 months, and 2 days. We will also bid another farewell: after 26 years of portraying Henry, Public Historian Richard Smith will be hanging up the straw hat. After visiting with Mr. Thoreau at the house replica, join us from 1-1:30pm for a public reception at the Visitor Center to celebrate Richard's 26 years as Thoreau. All ages.

Sunday
12:00–1:30 p.m.
September 28



Thoreau’s “Wild Apples” & Apple Cidering in New England
Meet at Visitor Center. To honor the harvest season and Thoreau’s essay “Wild Apples,” we will host Public Historians Richard Smith and Dennis Picard for an apple-centric event! Smith will introduce us to Thoreau’s essay on the beauty, flavor and lore of everyone’s favorite fall treat, while Picard will educate us on traditional apple cidering in New England. Ages 8 and up.