



January 2026 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.– 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 2:30pm. Gallery exhibition, *Where the Spirit Dwells: Nature in Papercut and Color*, by local artist Elena (Zhonghe) Li, Nov 2025 -Jan 2026.

Daily

Self-Guided StoryWalk®
***Of Walden Pond: Henry David Thoreau, Frederic Tudor, and the Pond Between*, by Lesa Cline-Ransome.**
Posted on the Woods Path Trail.
Read about the 19th century ice trade at Walden Pond. Posted on the Accessible Trail to the Thoreau House Site, 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. This StoryWalk® is provided by Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Interpretive Services.

Wednesdays &
Saturdays
11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
(Except Jan. 10)

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.

Tuesdays & Saturdays
2:00–3:30 p.m.
(Except Jan. 10)

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. Wear warm clothing and good boots. Binoculars encouraged! **Ages 10 and up.**

Sundays &
Wednesdays
1:00–2:30 p.m.
(Except Jan. 25)

Winter Walk
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 winter season. Wear good, solid shoes. **Ages 10 and up.**



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Thursdays
1:00–2:30 p.m.
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Winter Tree Identification
Meets at Visitor Center. Join a Park Interpreter for this 1/2 mile guided walk, where you will see how to identify local trees in the winter. Wear warm clothing and good boots. **Ages 10 and up.**

SPECIAL EVENTS

Thursday
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
January 1

First Day Hike
Start at Visitor Center. Participate in this self-guided hike along the accessible trail to the Thoreau Original House Site and beyond, following the marked stops along the way. Henry David Thoreau wrote “Things do not change; we change.” Discover how Walden Pond has changed since Thoreau’s time. Meet Thoreau at the House Replica as portrayed by Brent Ranalli. After you hike, enjoy a warm beverage and trail snack. Warm clothing, and sturdy walking shoes are recommended. **All ages.**

Saturday
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
January 10

Peter Alden Presents: *My Wild Life*
Visitor Center. Native Concordian, world-renowned naturalist, lecturer, birder and author Peter Alden presents his new memoir, *My Wild Life: Rare Birds, Close Calls, and the Adventures of an Eco-Explorer*. Mr. Alden will share stories and pictures from his decades of travel to over 7 continents and 127 countries. **All ages.**

Monday
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
January 19

Civil Disobedience
Visitor Center. Join us as we celebrate the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.
12-12:30pm Enjoy scenes from the 1969 play *The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail* by playwrights R. E. Lee and J. Lawrence.
12:30-2:00pm Join Robbins House President Nikki Turpin and local Concord Historian Richard Smith for a presentation and conversation on Henry David Thoreau’s Essay “Resistance to Civil Government,” Black History in Massachusetts, and Civil Rights. *Q and A* to follow.
Ages 10 and up.