

Quabbin Reservoir and its 56,000 acres of protected watershed were created in the 1930's to provide drinking water for Metropolitan Boston. Today Quabbin Reservoir is part of a system that supplies drinking water to 40% of Massachusetts residents. As the largest open space in Southern New England it also provides a unique opportunity for groups to learn about watersheds, the history of the Quabbin valley, natural resource management and wildlife habitat, along with many other related topics.

DCR Quabbin Visitor Center staff offer on-site and outreach programs. We work with students of all ages, from Pre-K to graduate level. **There is no charge for any programs that we offer.**

- Groups of 25 or more people must have an Access Permit. **There is no charge for permits for educational groups.**
- We ask that groups schedule programs at least two weeks in advance.
- Program availability is on a first come first served basis.
- Groups should dress appropriately for the weather, for outdoor recreation and be aware of ticks.
- All standard Rules and Regulations apply.

**For more information on programs or to schedule a program please contact:**

**Quabbin Visitor Center  
(413) 323 – 7221  
maria.beiter@mass.gov**

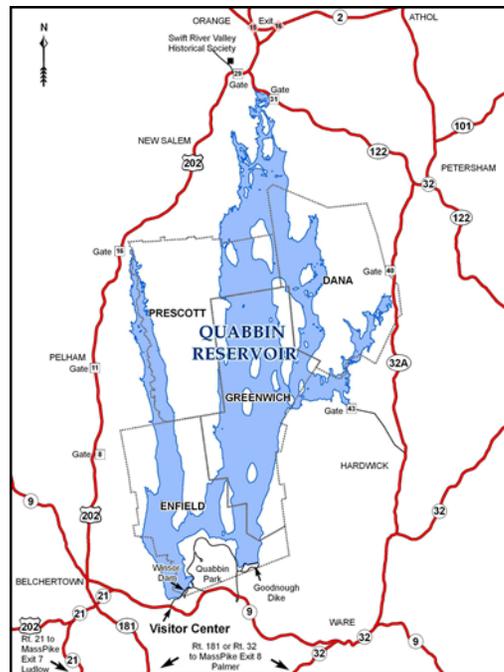
## **QUABBIN RESERVOIR**

Department of Conservation and Recreation  
Division of Water Supply Protection  
485 Ware Road, Belchertown, MA 01007  
[www.mass.gov/dcr/watershed](http://www.mass.gov/dcr/watershed)

## **Quabbin Reservoir's Management Agency**

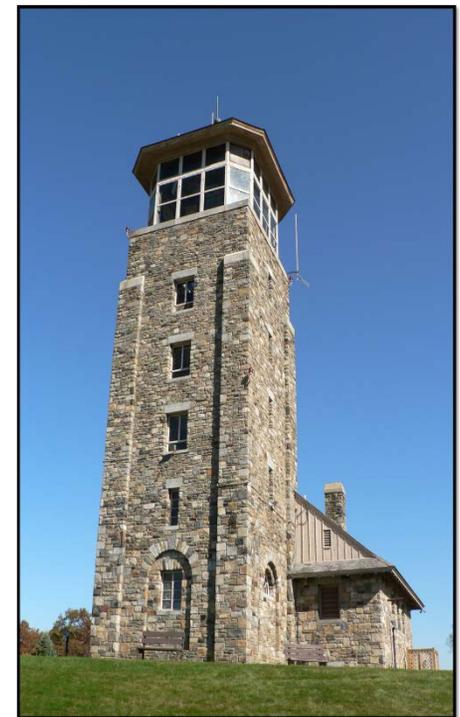
The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), part of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, is steward of 450,000 acres of forests, parks, greenways, historic sites and landscapes, seashore, lakes, ponds, reservoirs and watersheds throughout the Commonwealth.

DCR's Division of Water Supply Protection manages and protects the drinking water supply watersheds for 51 Massachusetts communities, mainly in the Greater Boston area. The Division also provides science-based policy, technical assistance, and resource management for lakes and ponds, rainfall, and other water resource issues throughout the state.



# Quabbin Park and Reservoir

## Programs for Schools and Community Groups



## Quabbin Park

Quabbin Park is the primary area of visitation for the Reservoir. From the Visitor Center classes can travel through the Park by vehicle on the approximately 5-mile paved road that winds through this 3,200-acre section of the watershed. Some of the main points of interest are the Winsor Dam, Spillway, Winsor Memorial, Quabbin Tower, Enfield Lookout, Webster Road, Goodnough Dike and Quabbin Park Cemetery.

## Dana Common

Listed on the National Historic Register in 2013, Dana Common is the most easily accessible area that represents the towns removed for the Quabbin Reservoir. The town green, the original roads and the foundations of the buildings that once occupied the village are above the water line and visible to visitors. Not only will students be able to match up photos of the old buildings with the current landscape, they will learn about some of the “new inhabitants” of Dana – the wildlife that has made this place its home.

We offer programs in other areas of the reservoir as well. Please contact us to discuss other options. 413-323-7221 Maria.



## OUTREACH PROGRAMS

The Quabbin Visitor Center offers **free** educational programs to schools and community groups. Programs can be geared toward any age group. Some examples of outreach programs we offer

### **NARRATED POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS**

***Introduction to Quabbin Reservoir***  
*Learn how and why the reservoir was built and how it is managed today.*

***History of Quabbin Valley***  
*Discover what life was like in Dana, Enfield, Prescott and Greenwich, MA before the reservoir was built.*

***Wildlife of Quabbin***  
*Quabbin Reservoir is sometimes called the “Accidental Wilderness”. Learn how this constructed landscape became home to diverse wildlife.*

### **HANDS ON AND INTERACTIVE (AVAILABLE TO WATERSHED AND WATER USER COMMUNITIES)**

***Branching Out***  
*Students build a model of a watershed and learn the vital role the Quabbin Watershed plays in protecting water quality.*

***Build a Dam***  
*Build a model of a dam and learn how the Winsor Dam and Goodnough Dike helped create the reservoir.*

**Contact us for more information at 413-323-7221 or email [maria.beiter@mass.gov](mailto:maria.beiter@mass.gov)**

## OUTDOOR PROGRAMS

### **(AVAILABLE TO WATERSHED AND WATER USER COMMUNITIES)**

The Quabbin Visitor Center is also available to offer guided outdoor programs to schools and groups from water user communities and communities that are contiguous to the Reservoir and the Ware River Watershed.

Examples of programs:

***History Detectives*** –*explore Webster Road Trail in Quabbin Park and discover signs of the past.*  
*Easy, .5 miles*

***Habitat Investigations***– *walk the Hanks Meadow Trail and look for signs of wildlife.*  
*Easy .5 miles (can also be offered in other locations)*

***Dana Common Hike*** –*Walk the road to Dana Common and find out what life was like in one of the disestablished towns and discover how the landscape has changed since the Reservoir was built.*

*Moderate, 1.8 miles to Dana Common (Bus can meet group at Dana Common to drive back to entrance gate).*

***Water Quality Testing*** – *learn the basics of water testing and why it is an essential piece of water quality protection.*

### ***Other Programs***

*Ponding (available only in May or June)*  
*Nature Journaling*  
*Nature Scavenger Hunt*