



Walden Pond State Reservation New Visitor Center



Improving Visitor Services for Walden Pond State Reservation

Pardon our Appearance

We are excited to announce that DCR is currently constructing a new Visitor Center at Walden Pond State Reservation. The new center and surroundings will provide the opportunity for Massachusetts residents and visitors from all over the world to learn about the significance of Walden Pond. On the reverse side of this brochure is a rendering of the new Visitor Center and surrounding landscape, as they will appear when completed in approximately one year.

The construction will impact your visit to Walden Pond this summer, and we ask for your patience. The parking capacity will be restricted, and visitors may find that previous routes from the parking lots to the pond, as well as hiking trails, are adjusted as construction expands and contracts during this exciting transformation. During weekdays, visitors may experience noise related to the construction. You may notice that some trees have been cut down; wood from these trees, however, will remain at Walden, repurposed as part of the Visitor Center.

During construction, beach and bathhouse operations, as well as programs and special events, will continue. Temporary restrooms will be provided in the parking lot.

Public Benefits

- Expanded opportunities for visitors to learn about the significance of Walden Pond through new interpretive displays in a state-of-the-art facility.
- Enhanced visitor experience between the parking lot and pond through extensive landscaping improvements, including tree plantings.
- Upgraded visitor amenities, including expanded restrooms, drinking fountains, seating, and a bookstore.
- On-site generation of electricity via a solar carport; the Visitor Center will be a Net Zero Building that will be LEED Gold-Certified.
- Orientation for the community to other Thoreau-related sites in the area, such as Walden Woods Project, Concord Museum, Brister's Hill, Thoreau Farm, and Sleepy Hollow Cemetery.

Nearby DCR facilities you may enjoy

Parking fees may apply

Swimming

Ashland State Park, 162 West Union St., Ashland-508-881-4092

Cochituate State Park, Rte. 30, Wayland-508-653-9641

Hopkinton State Park, Rte. 85, Hopkinton-508-435-4303

Lowell Heritage State Park, 160 Pawtucket Blvd., Lowell-978-458-8750

Mystic River Reservation, Shannon Beach, 4 Mystic Valley Parkway, Winchester-617-727-5380

Connors Memorial Swimming Pool, 330 River St., Waltham-781-642-8594

Clarence W. Dealtry Memorial Swimming and Wading Pool, 138 Pleasant St., Watertown-617-924-0132

Hiking

Great Brook Farm State Park, 984 Lowell Rd., Carlisle-978-369-6312

Hopkinton State Park, Rte. 84, Hopkinton-508-435-4303

Lowell-Dracut-Tyngsboro State Forest, Trotting Park Rd. Lowell – 978-369-6312

For more information, email MassParks@state.ma.us, call 617-626-4973, or visit

<http://www.mass.gov/dcr/walden-presentation-2014-september>

Coming in 2016 at Walden Pond State Reservation!

Visitor Center Exterior View



Rendering by Maryann Thompson Architects

- Building interwoven into landscape
- Deck overlook providing enhanced viewing of pond and weather-protected space for interpretive programming
- Net Zero Building that will be LEED Gold-Certified
 - Super-insulated with highly energy-efficient, triple-pane windows
 - Photovoltaic parking canopy in parking lot, generating on-site electricity
 - Passive solar building orientation and openings, natural ventilation/cooling
 - Day-lighting for most of the spaces

Visitor Center Interior View



Rendering by Maryann Thompson Architects

- State-of-the-art interpretive program and exhibit gallery space
- Bookstore space
- Meeting areas
- New and expanded bathroom facilities
- Universally accessible