



Energy and Environmental Affairs

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CHARLIE BAKER
GOVERNOR

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KARYN POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Baker-Polito Administration Announces 11th Annual Park Serve Day

MATTHEW A. BEATON
SECRETARY

State Park Clean-Up Events Set for Saturday, April 29, 2017

LEO ROY
DCR COMMISSIONER

BOSTON- The Baker-Polito Administration today announced that the Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) 11th annual Park Serve Day event will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2017. Park Serve Day is a statewide initiative that was created as a day of volunteerism encouraging the public to partner with state government in an effort to prepare the Commonwealth's many state parks and beaches for the upcoming spring and summer seasons. Some of the responsibilities that volunteers assist the DCR with at local events include cleaning coastlines, clearing trails, and picking up litter.

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"For years, Park Serve Day has signified the unofficial start to the state's outdoor season, encouraging people from every region of the Commonwealth to get outside and lend a helping hand," said **Governor Charlie Baker**. "I want to thank everyone who is able to volunteer and help prepare our state parks system to be enjoyed by people of all ages again this year."

"Through the dedicated work provided by thousands of volunteers, Park Serve Day helps improve our state's natural, cultural, and recreational resources," said **Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito**. "From Holyoke Heritage State Park to Myles Standish State Forest, local cleanup events will be coordinated and scheduled in communities across the Commonwealth, and serve as an excellent way to get outside and help clean state parks for all to enjoy"

The majority of local events will take place between the hours of 8:00AM and 3:00PM, though hours may vary by location, and participants are encouraged to reach out to their local state parks to confirm event times. Work gloves and equipment necessary to complete various projects will be provided by the DCR; however, if participants choose, they can bring their own gloves or hand tools, but the DCR asks those materials to be clearly marked with the owner's name and phone number on them. Power tools will not be allowed.

"Contained within the Commonwealth is a vast array of outdoor recreational opportunities for us all to enjoy," said **Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Matthew Beaton**. "By working together, we are not only ensuring that those resources are protected throughout Massachusetts, but that they will continue to be available for years to come."

At DCR facilities where Park Serve Day projects are taking place, drinking water will be supplied, though participants may bring their own water and food, as well. All volunteers are asked to wear sturdy shoes and work clothes, and to bring sunscreen and insect repellent. All events are rain or shine, so please dress appropriately for the weather. Additionally, all parking fees will be waived at locations where Park Serve Day events are taking place.

"Massachusetts manages the ninth largest state parks system in the nation with over 450,000 acres of parks, beaches, forests, and reservations, and the Department of Conservation and Recreation couldn't effectively do its job without the dedication of the public, who passionately assist the agency every single day," said **DCR Commissioner Leo Roy**. "The Baker-Polito Administration remains committed to providing a first class parks system that is accessible and enjoyed by people of all abilities."

To find a Park Serve Day event near you, please review the list below or search the Park Serve Day webpage located on the DCR's [Programs and Events page](#), where volunteers can register for an event.

Park Serve Day 2017 – Participating Parks:

Central Region

Upton State Park, Upton, HQ Building, 205 Westboro Rd., Upton. Registration at 8:30 a.m. - General clean-up from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Otter River State Forest, 86 Winchendon Rd., Baldwinville. Meet at HQ Building to clean general entrance way into parks and other general clean up from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge. Meet at River Bend Farm Visitor Center. Cleaning banks of canal, flowerbeds and raking from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

West Region

Holyoke Heritage State Park, 221 Appleton St, Holyoke. Meet at Visitor Center. Litter clean up from 10 a.m.-3 p.m

DAR State Forest, 78 Cape Street, Route 112, Goshen; meet at Campground Pavilion at Nature Center by Site #14. Cleaning campground and day-use areas from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A, Turners Falls. Meet at Great Hall. Leaf and litter clean up and planting perennials along Canalside Rail Trail from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

South Region

Boston Harbor Islands-Grape Island, Grape Island Pier, 9 am-3:30 pm (event full)

Boston Harbor Islands-Spectacle Island, Long Wharf North, Boston 9 am-2:00 pm

Shawme Crowell State Forest, 42 Main Street, Sandwich. Meet at Pavillion Area 2 Campground. Area Clean up from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Scusett Beach State Reservation, Nature Center, 20 Scusett Beach Road, Sandwich, 9am to 12pm. Park in main lot. Clean up of gardens and light painting.

Nickerson State Park, Cape Cod Rail Trail, 3488 Main Street/Rt. 6A, Brewster. Park and meet at main lot - front entrance. Clean up throughout park from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Massasoit State Park, 1361 Middleboro Avenue, East Taunton. Meet at HQ building. Planting flowers, pruning, raking and litter pick up. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Myles Standish State Forest, 194 Cranberry Road, Carver. Meet at Myles Standish Headquarters parking lot. Clean HQ, Amphitheatre and Charge Pond Pavilion area from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Blue Hills Reservation, Broderick Stable, 705 Hillside Street, Milton. Meet at Mounted House [to the left of stable 725 Hillside Street]. Repair and install wood fencing behind stable and clean up monument area in front of stable from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

North Region

Maudslay State Park, HQ Office, 74 Curzon Mill Rd., Newburyport, 9am to 1pm – Park in main lot and meet at HQ for clean up designations.

Callahan State Park, Millwood Street Parking Lot, Framingham 9am to 12pm

Middlesex Fells, Flynn Rink, 3920 Mystic Valley Parkway, Medford, 9am to 1 pm – Friends of the Fells are cleaning around rink and Fells Dog are cleaning Sheepfold. All are parking and meeting at Flynn Rink.

MacDonald Park, Parking Lot, Mystic Valley Parkway, Rt. 16, Medford 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. – in partnership with Mystic River Watershed Association.

Boston Region

Charles River Reservation, Main meeting space at Boston Esplanade Oval– all locations clean up times run from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Neponset River Reservation, Quincy and Dorchester. All areas include general litter clean up. Meet up and clean up locations below:

- Neponset Greenway 1 – Neponset Park at intersection of Hilltop Street and Granite Ave., Dorchester, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Neponset Greenway 2 – 2 Hancock Street, Quincy (Riverwalk) 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Neponset Greenway 3 – 2 Hancock Street, Quincy (Riverwalk) 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Neponset Greenway 4 - Pope John Paul Park, Main Parking Lot Entrance – 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Southwest Corridor, HQ Office, 38 New Heat Street, Jamaica Plain, 7 am to 3 pm

Evans Field, 1880 William J Day Blvd., South Boston. Parking and meet-up at Murphy Rink. Evans Field general litter clean up from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, dams, and parkways. Led by Commissioner Leo Roy, the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit www.mass.gov/dcr. Contact us at mass.parks@state.ma.us.

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