



Bay Circuit Trail Greenway

A note from the coordinator...

Last month held many opportunities to kick off the season surrounded by inspired people who do good by their trails and their communities; I attended the **Mass Central Rail Trail Alliance's** annual meeting, the annual **Mass Land Trust Conference**, and the newly established **North Shore Trails Summit**.

Each of these events had different focal points, but the common theme between them was to make friends with your peers and to help each other out as much as you possibly can to achieve our shared goals of protecting the land we have and then enjoying and sharing it in sustainable ways.

I look to spend my year uplifting the Bay Circuit and it's complex network of communities. Please share your updates with me so that I may expand my own network of friends and peers as well as yours. This newsletter is a great place to find common ground which will be blooming any moment now.

Happy Spring everyone!

UPCOMING EVENTS - APRIL

- 4/9 - [Try Exploring Andover - Andover to Tewksbury BCT](#)
- 4/11 - [Saturday Maintenance In Hanson](#)
- 4/12 - [Spring Hiking Program \(for AMC Boston Chapter\)](#)
- 4/12 - [Sunday Trail Maintenance - Boxford](#)
- 4/14 - [Tuesday Rail Trail Ride - Acton](#)
- 4/22 - [Earth Day in Acton](#)
- 4/22 - [Earth Day in Ipswich](#)
- 4/22 - [Earth Day in Southborough](#)
- 4/22 - [Lets Hike Bald Hill](#)
- 4/23 - [Women's Hike Series](#)
- 4/25 - [Hike for a Change Begins](#)
- 4/25 - [Interchapter Spring Fling @ Borderland SP](#)
- 4/26 - [Sunday Maintenance South Shore](#)
- 4/30 - [Full Moon Hike Series 2](#)

Register for waitlist: availability will be announced on 4/10

For ALL upcoming BCT events see [HERE](#)



photo by Michael Campbell

2026 BCT WOMEN'S HIKE SERIES

Join the BCT Coordinator on a monthly Women's Hike along the Bay Circuit Trail. On the fourth Thursday of each month, we will meet up somewhere along the BCT for an hour+ hike, usually averaging between 3 and 5 miles. Join us for one hike or try to join us for all of them! The 2026 dates and registration links are below:

Date & Time	Location
3/26th @5:30pm	Moose Hill
<u>4/23rd @5:45pm</u>	<u>Rocky Narrows</u>
<u>5/28th @6pm</u>	<u>Lincoln, MA</u>
<u>6/25th @6pm</u>	<u>Ashland Town Forest</u>
July	NONE
<u>8/27th @6:15pm</u>	<u>Framingham</u>
<u>9/24th @5:15pm</u>	<u>Sudbury</u>
<u>10/22nd @5pm</u>	<u>Concord</u>

CONTACT US

BCT Coordinator:

Amber Stearns
astearns@outdoors.org

BCT Assistant:

Sarah Dolan
sdolan@outdoors.org

AMC Trail Volunteer Program Supervisor (For

questions about training opportunities)
Connor Piechota
cpiechota@outdoors.org

BCT Website & Socials

baycircuit.org
IG - @baycircuit
FB - @baycircuit

[Newsletter Registration LINK](#)



WELCOMING SPRING 2026

“Spring is back on the Bay Circuit Trail and it feels like the trail let out a huge sigh of relief right along with the rest of us. Longer days, birds testing out their warm-up songs, and that first hint of mud season are all great reasons to get outside and explore a new stretch of the BCT this month.

The trail is a wonderful way to take care of yourself, both mentally and physically. Whether you're easing into the season with a short, accessible walk or tackling a section you've been curious about, time outside can lower stress, boost your mood, and help you feel more connected to the places we all care about.

This Earth Month, I challenge you to check out a part of the BCT you haven't visited yet. Maybe you'll stumble upon early wildflowers, a boardwalk you didn't know existed, or a view that makes you stop and say, “Okay... yeah, this was worth putting on real shoes.”

And if something catches your eye - beautiful, quirky, or “uh-oh, someone should know about this,” please share it with us.

Tag your photos with #BayCircuitTrail on Instagram so we can follow along with your adventures. Here's to fresh air, fresh trails, and a fresh season ahead.”

— Sarah Dolan, Bay Circuit Trail Assistant

FULL MOON HIKES

Join Sarah Dolan, the BCT Assistant, on a monthly Full Moon Hike on the Bay Circuit Trail. During the evening of each Full Moon we will meet up somewhere along the BCT for a night hike. Join us for one hike or try to join us for all of them! Locations are tentative.

April 30th - Bradley Palmer, Hamilton

June 1st - Dover

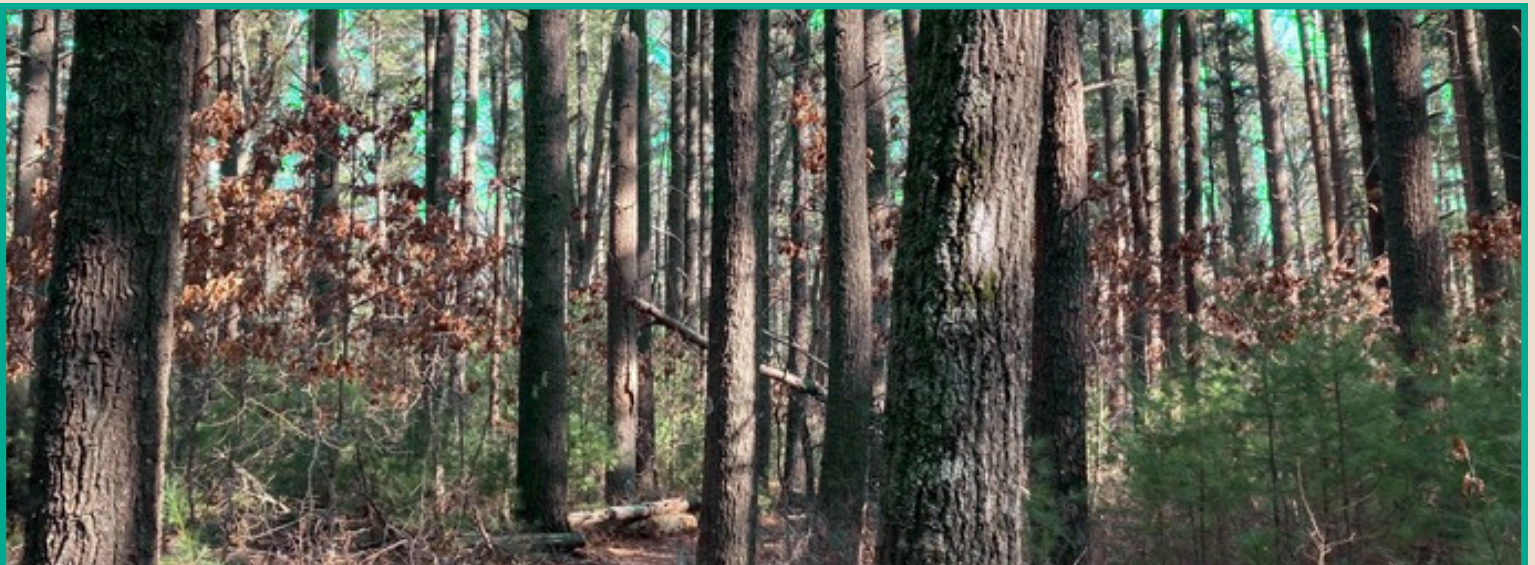
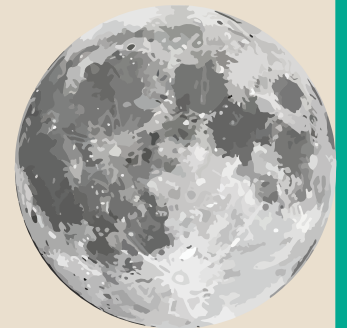
June 29th - Andover

July 29th - Dover

August 27th - Andover

September 26th - Essex County

October 26th - Andover



TRAIL ALERTS - MAP & WEBSITE UPDATE

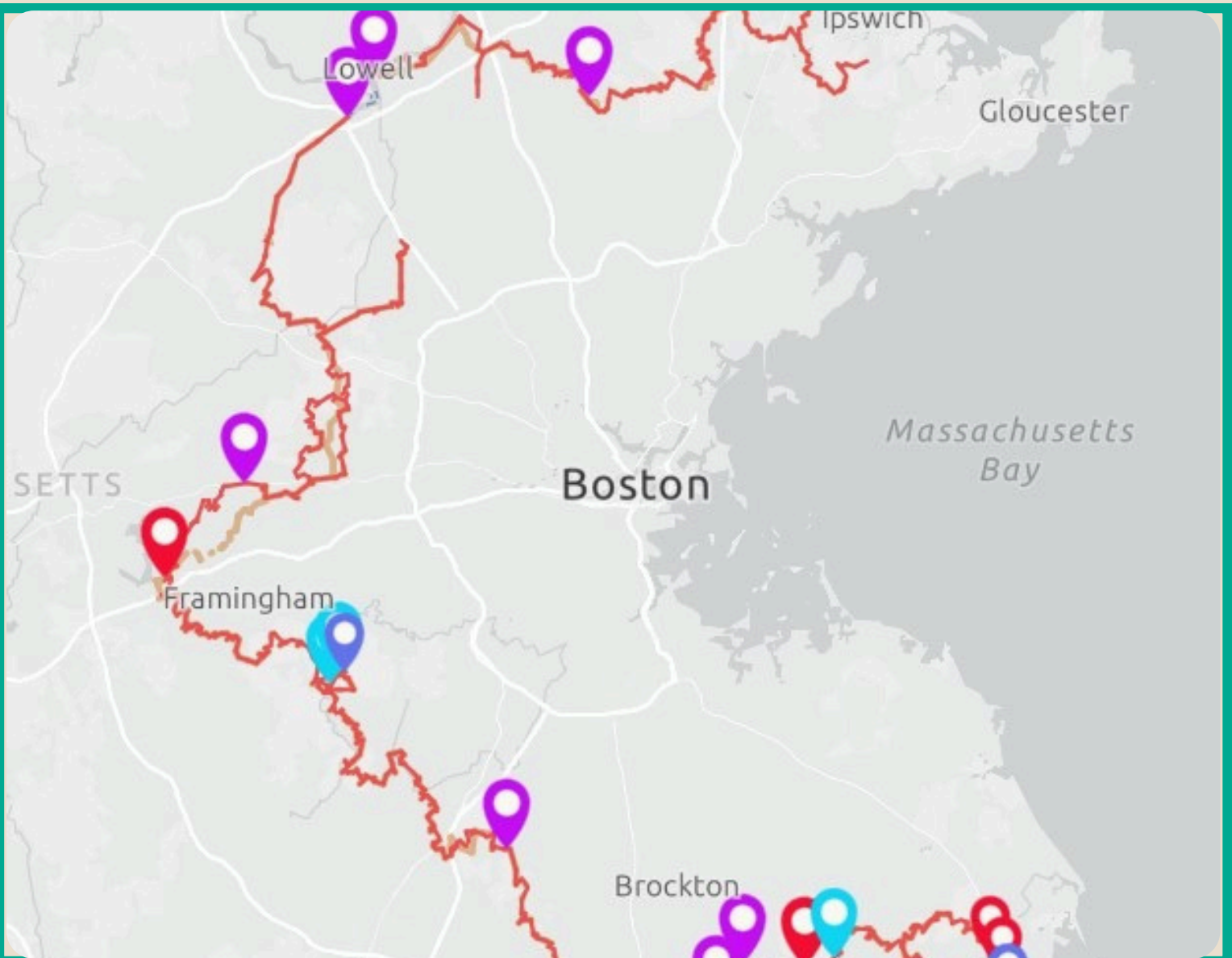
To better inform the BCT community of trail obstacles, check out the [interactive map](#) and the new **[Trail Alerts Page](#)**. These will include notices of flooding, closed roads, reroutes, temporary detours, hazards, and ongoing projects. If you come across a significant obstacle along the trail, please email us and we will update the map. More info on the next two pages.

(flooded sections need to be impassable to become a trail alert)

Purple = Reroute or Temp Route

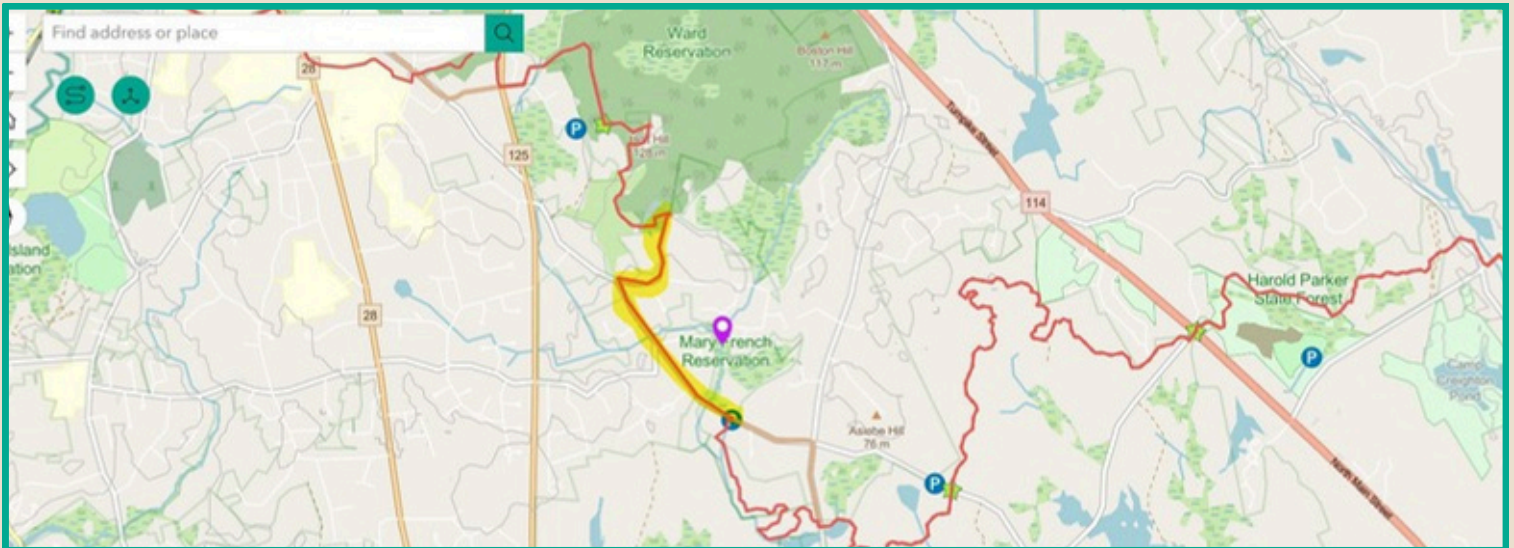
Light Blue = Flooding

Red = Hazard

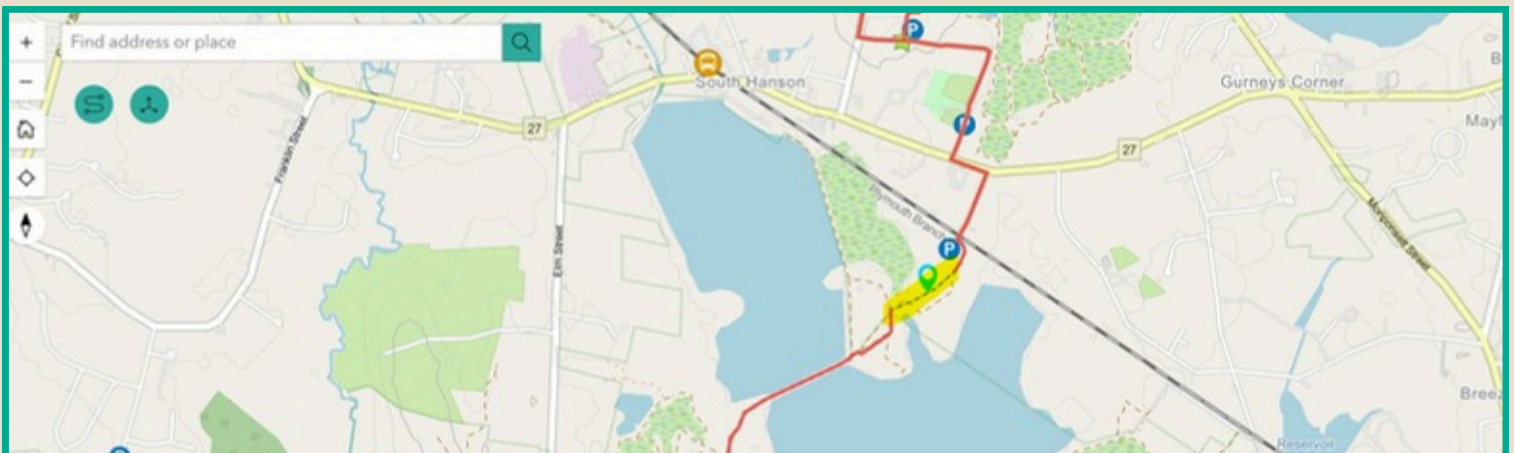


TRAIL ALERTS - CONTINUED (1)

MARY FRENCH BOARDWALK - “Due to ongoing repairs to the Mary French Boardwalk, public access is restricted. Bay Circuit through-hikers (westbound) should proceed from the Skug Reservation left/northwest on Salem Street for 7/10 of a mile, enter the Ward Reservation on the right near the intersection with Gray Road, and rejoin the Bay Circuit Trail at the top of the hill.” - Andover Trails

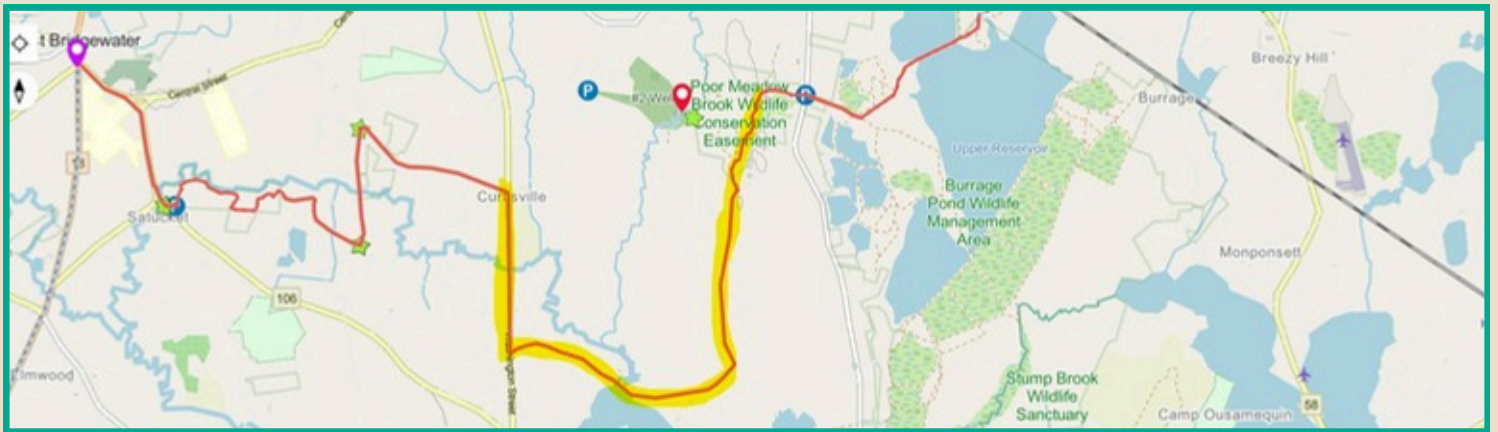


BURRAGE POND FLOODING - The trail crossing at Burrage Pond WMA in Hanson is often flooded, especially during wet seasons. The alternative route is to take main roads around Burrage Pond. Heading west from Robinson's St, Hanson, follow Rt 27 to Elm St and then head south on Elm until you reach the Burrage Pond WMA gravel parking. The trail continues west into Hanson Conservation Land and briefly follows the powerlines.

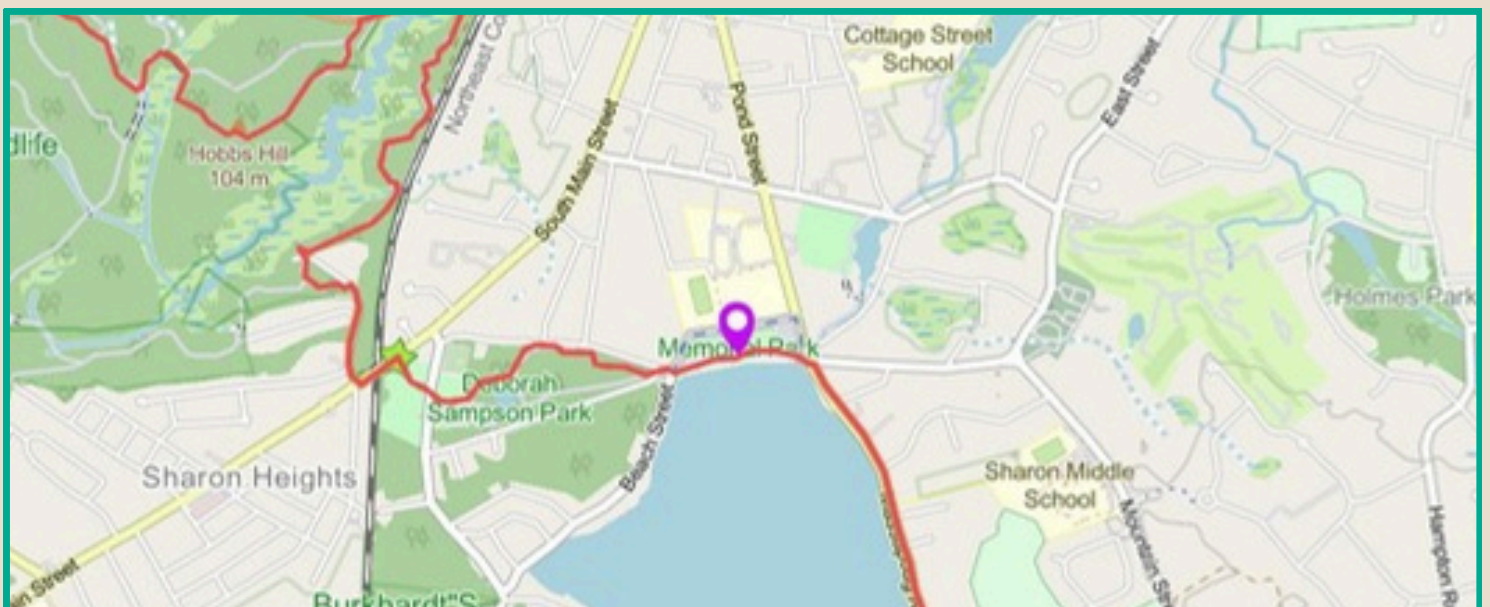


TRAIL ALERTS - CONTINUED (2)

POOR MEADOW BROOK REROUTE - The Poor Meadow Brook Boardwalk in East Bridgewater / Hanson is no longer safely passable. Please take the temporary reroute shown on the Interactive Map. Heading east from Crescent St, turn right onto Washington St until you reach Pond St. Follow Pond St and then turn left onto Hudson. Look for a turn left onto a wooded trail between two homes on Hudson St. Trail is marked with BCT blazes



MEMORIAL BEACH PARK SEASONAL PATH - Memorial Beach Path in Sharon is only open to BCT Hikers between October 15 and April 15 annually. Between April 16 and Oct 14, please follow the reroute along Beach St and Pond St side walks.



2026 BCT RAIL TRAIL RIDE SERIES

Join the BCT Coordinator on a monthly bike ride of the rail trails that overlap the Bay Circuit Trail. On the second Tuesday of each month, we will meet up somewhere along the BCT for an hour+ ride. These will always take place on paved or stone-dust rail trails and will not require any mountain biking experience. Join us for one ride or try to join us for all of them! 2026 dates are available but registration will become available later this month: See [HERE](#) for all BCT events

Date & Time	Location
<u>4/14 @5:30pm</u>	<u>BFRT Acton</u>
BONUS: 5/9	Sudbury
5/12 @5:30pm	Wayland
BONUS: 5/23	Wayland
6/9 @6pm	Sudbury
July	NONE
8/11 @6pm	TBD
9/8	TBD
10/14	TBD

(Yes, 10/14 is a Wednesday!)

TRAIL MAINTENANCE

Looking to start off your weekend with some productivity out of doors? Join us for a few hours to conduct standard trail maintenance on portions of the BCT

What to expect?

- Lopping overgrown shrubs and trees to clear the trail
- Brushing in sections of trail that have been widened or eroded
- Blazing sections that are missing directional signs

Upcoming Dates

4/11 @ 9am - Hanson

4/12 @ 12:30pm -
Boxford

4/26 - South Shore



APRIL - EARTH MONTH ACROSS THE REGION

Spring has sprung! If you're looking for reasons to get outside this spring click on any of the links below for details about Earth Day events across BCT Communities this April.

[FONAT - BCT at Cyr Recycling Center \(North Andover\) - April 12th](#)

[North Andover Town Wide Cleanup - April 18th](#)

[Green Hanson's Walk in the Woods - April 14th](#)

[Andover's 6th Annual Earth Day Cleanup - April 18th](#)

[Lowell Earth Day; Nature Games and Seedlings - April 22nd](#)

[Acton - Invasive Plant Management - April 22nd](#)

[Ipswich - Trail Reconstruction - April 22nd](#)

[Southborough - Trail Development - April 22nd](#)

[Framingham Earth Day - April 25th](#)

[Southborough Earth Day Cleanup - April 25th](#)

[Dover Earth Day Cleanup - April 25th](#)

[Neponset River Watershed Association \(multiple locations\) - April 25th](#)

[Lowell Park & Conservation Trust Eco Films - April 26th](#)

[Wildlands Trust April Events - Throughout April](#)

[Sudbury Valley Trustees April Events - Throughout April](#)



HIKE FOR A CHANGE APRIL 25 - MAY 30, 2026

“Come along as Josh Moughan of The Dirty Hands Project hikes more than 200 miles on the Bay Circuit Trail in Massachusetts to raise awareness about mental health and show why nature is a remedy for depression and anxiety.

Hike For A Change is back for its third year. From **Saturday, April 25 to Saturday, May 30**, we will once again hike the 230 mile Bay Circuit Trail, from Duxbury to Plum Island, Massachusetts. We will also be adding new hikes in Denver, CO, Charleston, SC, Peabody, MA; and an unforgettable final hike in Danvers, Massachusetts.

Mental health touches all of our lives, and Hike For A Change creates space for meaningful conversations, community, and connection. We encourage you to join us and take time to unplug, step into nature, and take time to reset your mental health. Hike For A Change is more than a hike; it’s a movement.”

To join the Hike For a Change and learn more about The Dirty Hands Project, click [HERE!](#)



Photo from Hike for a Change website



AMC TRAIL SKILLS COLLEGE
MAY 14 - 17, 2026
Camp Dodge Trails Center (New Hampshire)

Registration for the 2026 AMC Trail Skills College is open!

This event is for the entire trails community - volunteer and professional trail stewards with all levels of experience. Whether you are just starting out and looking for ways to get involved, or a professional looking to further your skills and build your network, this event offers opportunities for everyone, and all are welcome!

We are lucky to once again be able to offer such a robust selection of courses and grateful to have so many of the industry's best providing instruction. For safety and best teaching practices, there will be set capacities for day programs and will be able to open up our evening programs to all who would like to participate. **To check out the schedule of events, click [HERE](#).**

***Note: For multi-Day trainings, participants must go through the entirety of the course, so please plan accordingly so you do not over book yourself.**

***Note: There will be no refunds or switching of workshops past May 1st.**

Thanks to all the instructors and the event planning team for putting this all together. Please feel free to reach out to our Trails Training Programs Supervisor, Erik Samia, (esamia@outdoors.org) with any questions.

We hope to see you at this year's 5th annual Trail Skills College!

Thanks,
AMC Trails