

# **Mass Audubon's Blue Hills Trailside Museum Overnight Packet**



Photo by S. Carey



Photo by J. Galluzzo



Photo by E. Snellings

## **This OVERNIGHT PACKET includes:**

**Basic Fact Sheet**

**Sample Schedule**

**Directions to Overnight Facility**

**Facility Map**

**Things-to-Bring Checklist**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

# **SOME OF THE BASICS ON OVERNIGHTS**

## **What is the Overnight Program like?**

An exciting opportunity to experience the Blue Hills like so few others have - after dark! Spend your time enjoying dinner, a night hike to observe the night sky and search for nocturnal animals, live animal encounter, a camp fire, fun activities and breakfast, all while spending the night on top of Chickatawbut Hill in our own dormitory.

## **Who are overnights designed for?**

There are two types of overnights: family overnights and group overnights. Both overnight types are for children ages 7 - 12, and their chaperones. Individual families can register and partake in Family Overnight public programs. These programs are scheduled and posted on Trailside's website. Groups such as scouts, schools, churches, community groups and others can book and schedule their own overnight programs. Overnights are always a minimum of 15 participants and a maximum of 40 participants. A minimum 1:3 ratio of chaperones to children must always be maintained. Chaperones must be at least 21 years old.

## **How do you purchase tickets for a Family Overnight or schedule a Group Overnight?**

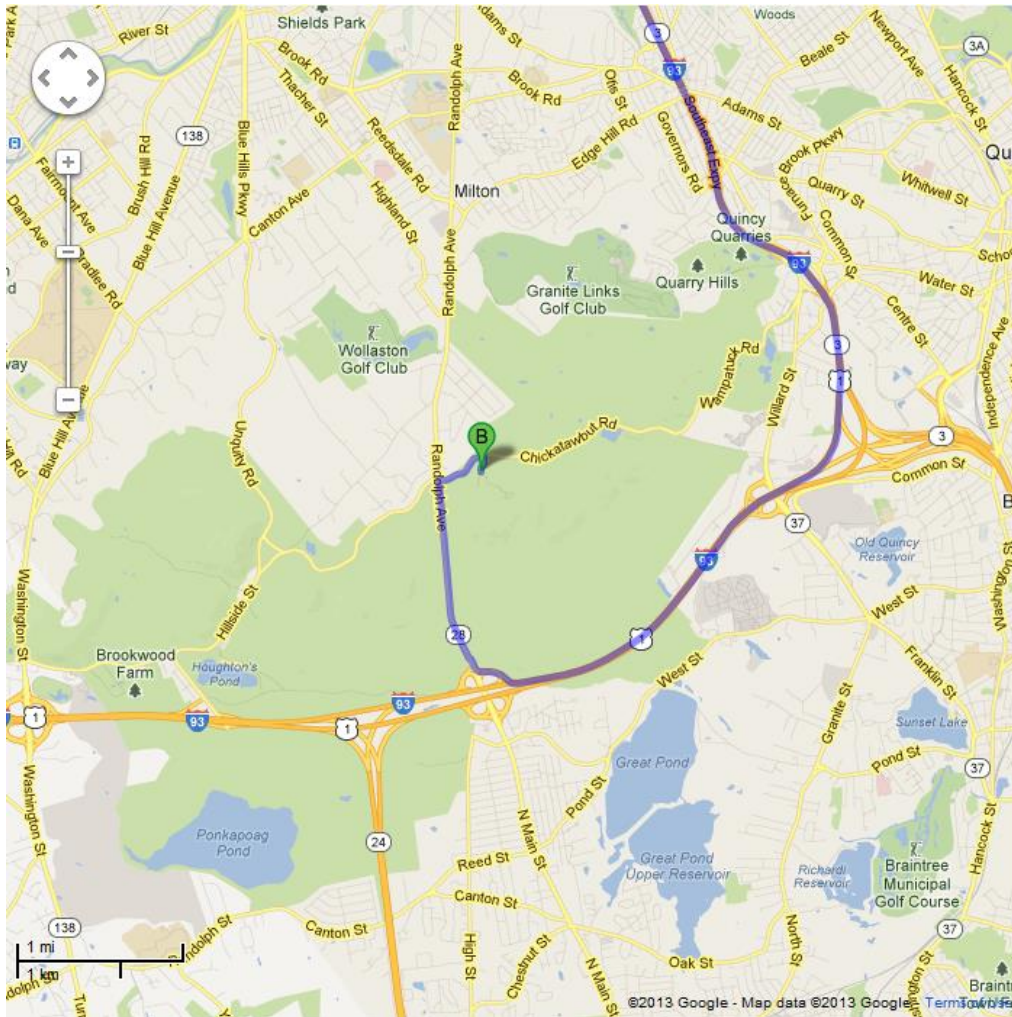
It's easy; just call the education department, 617-333-0690 x 5226.

# SAMPLE SCHEDULE

Time	Activity	Location
5:00 – 5:45pm	<b>Arrival &amp; Check-in</b>	Dormitory
5:45 – 6:00pm	<b>Welcome and orientation</b>	Dining Hall
6:00 – 7:00pm	<b>Dinner (on your own)</b>	Dining Hall
7:00 – 7:30pm	<b>Animal Encounter</b>	Dining Hall
7:30 – 8:30pm	<b>Sensory Night Hike</b>	Trails
8:30 – 8:45pm	<b>Break</b>	
8:45 – 10:30pm	<b>Campfire &amp; S'mores</b>	Fire Circle
<i>11:00pm</i>	<i><b>Lights Out</b></i>	
<i>7:00am</i>	<i><b>Rise and Shine!</b></i>	
7:30 – 8:30am	<b>Breakfast (provided by Trailside)</b>	Dining Hall
8:30 – 9:30am	<b>Morning Activity</b>	Lower Field
9:30 – 10:30am	<b>Morning Hike</b>	Trails
10:30 – 11:00am	<b>Check-out</b>	Dormitory

# DIRECTIONS TO CHICKATAWBUT HILL

**IMPORTANT:** The location of the overnight is **NOT at the Blue Hills Trailside Museum**. The overnight facility does not have an address. Please follow the directions below:

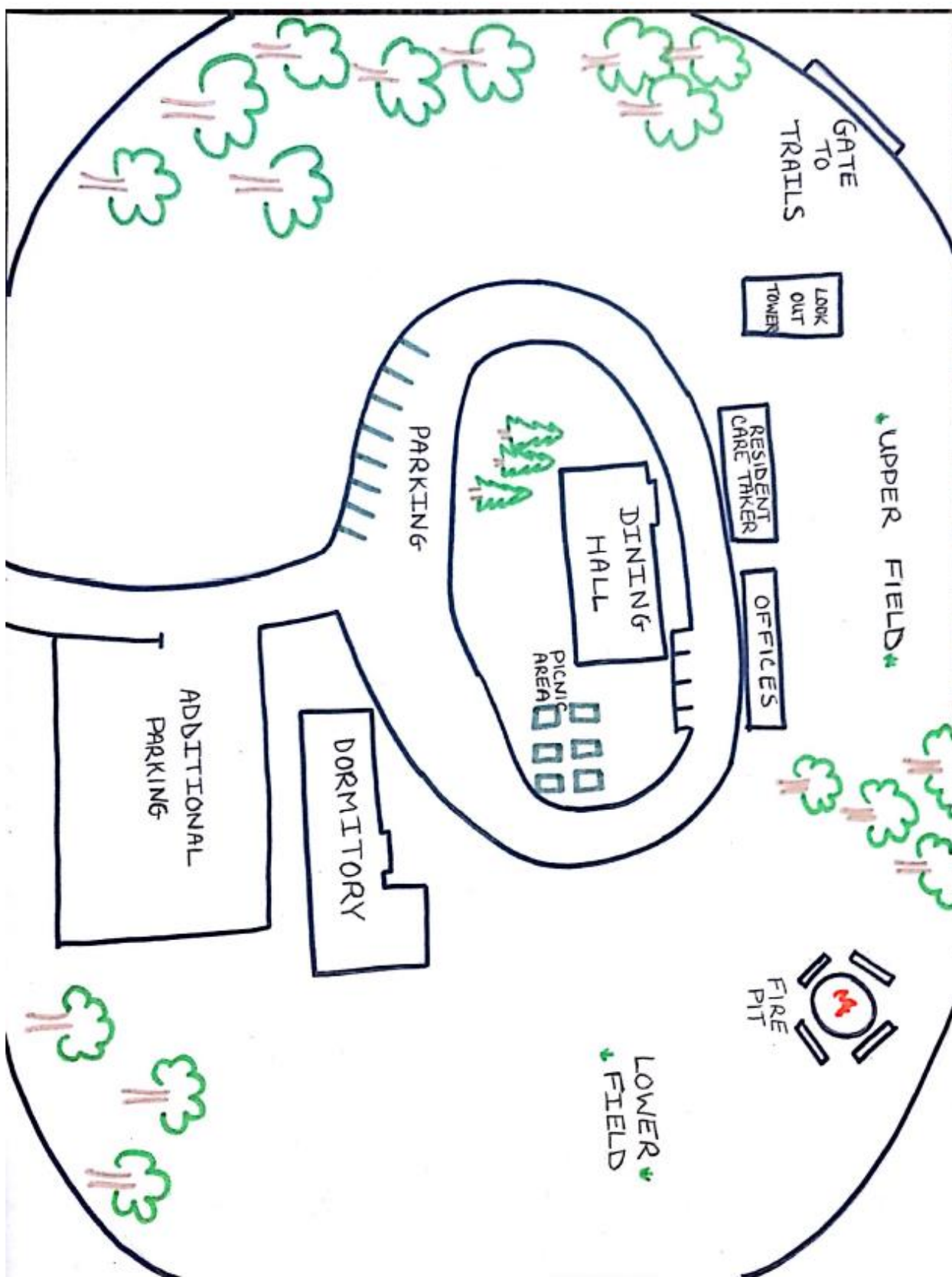


1. Take 93 to exit 5B (Route 28 North, Milton)
2. At the first traffic light, take a right onto Chickatawbut Road
3. Stay on Chickatawbut Road for about 0.3 – 0.4 miles
4. Look for the small access road entrance to the “Norman Smith Environmental Education Center” on right side of Chickatawbut Road. There is also a large sign that says “Mass Audubon Summer Camp”
5. Drive all the way up the access road, where you will be directed to park.

*GPS coordinates: 42.226627,-71.065428*



# CHICKATAWBUT HILL MAP



# THINGS TO BRING TO THE OVERNIGHT

- ☐ Sleeping bag or twin size sheets for your bed
- ☐ Pillow
- ☐ Toiletries
- ☐ Towel (showers are available)
- ☐ Any necessary medications
- ☐ Flashlight or head lamp
- ☐ Pajamas
- ☐ Clothes for all weather (often times it is much colder and windier at the top of Chickatawbut than it will be in surrounding areas- dress warm!)
- ☐ Sturdy boots or sneakers for hiking (waterproof is preferred, trails are often muddy)
- ☐ Rain gear

## Also consider bringing:

- ☐ Camera
- ☐ Ear plugs
- ☐ Bottled water (drinks are only provided with dinner and breakfast)
- ☐ Bug spray
- ☐ Mattress pad

## Do NOT bring:

- × Tents
- × Outside food or drink (besides water)
- × Air mattresses
- × Electronic games

# **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

## **What are the rules?**

- Rule #1: Have fun
- Keep your shoes on (except while sleeping)
- No running inside
- Children and their chaperones must stay together at all times
- Respect your fellow overnights

## **Where will I be sleeping?**

- The dormitory is a series of dorm rooms with 3-4 beds in each room, as well as two large bathrooms with showers. There are twin beds with mattresses and drawers to store belongings in each room.
- If you are participating in a family overnight, your family will be assigned a room during registration.
- If you are participating in a group overnight, rooms will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis during check-in.
- There will be Mass Audubon staff sleeping in the dormitory facility overnight.

## **Will I have access to 24 hour electricity in my sleeping area?**

- Yes.

## **Will I be able to lock my dorm room door?**

- No. While we don't have an issue with theft at the overnight program, we do highly recommend keeping valuables on your person at all times. The Blue Hills Trailside Museum does not take responsibility for any lost or stolen items.

## **What should I do after the overnight program?**

- Visit the Trailside Museum, admission is included in your overnight program fee!

## **Will there be coffee at breakfast?**

- Yes, but only for adult consumption!

## **What if someone in my party has a food allergy?**

- Please let us know of any food allergies ahead of time, and we will do our best to accommodate you.

## NORMAN SMITH ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

Blue Hills Trailside Museum  
1904 Canton Avenue  
Milton, MA 02186  
617-333-0690  
[bluehills@massaudubon.org](mailto:bluehills@massaudubon.org)  
[www.massaudubon.org/bluehills](http://www.massaudubon.org/bluehills)

Thank you for choosing Blue Hills Trailside Museum's Norman Smith Environmental Education Center at Chickatawbut Hill for your upcoming overnight program. The following describes the terms of use for overnight programs.

**Facilities:** The user group shall have the use of the dormitory and dining hall. Mass Audubon staff will provide a brief orientation to the building facilities to the group leaders. Mass Audubon will provide a staff member who will remain on site throughout the duration of the program.

The dormitory has a maximum bed capacity of 50 people, and two separate bathroom and shower stall areas. No food may be stored in the dormitory. The dining hall features bathroom facilities, tables, and chairs. Refrigerators and pantry space are available in the dining hall. The user group may not use the dining hall facilities for the preparation of food.

Mass Audubon will provide an evening snack and breakfast for the user group. All other food is the responsibility of the user group.

Admission to the Blue Hills Trailside Museum is included as part of this program. This admission is valid during normal museum hours the second day of the program. Members of the user group should identify themselves as participants in the overnight program when checking in at the museum's visitor services desk.

**Medical:** Mass Audubon staff members are certified in CPR and first aid. However, the user group shall provide all medical supervision, treatment, and dispensing of medications to program participants. The user group shall furnish a qualified adult or adults to provide basic health supervision. The user group shall provide or obtain emergency care and/or emergency transportation as needed.

The user group shall maintain the following information: names and addresses of all participants; emergency contact names and phone numbers; a listing of any persons with known allergies or health conditions requiring treatment, restriction, or other accommodation while on site. And for minors without a parent or guardian on the property, this additional information: signed permission to participate in activities occurring during the term of the program; signed permission to seek emergency treatment or a signed religious waiver. Copies of this information are to be brought on site for the duration of the program and are the responsibility of the user group.



**Prohibited and restricted activities:**

- All motor vehicles must remain on designated roads and parking areas. Vehicle traffic within the grounds of the summit buildings should be minimal except for unloading and loading luggage at the beginning and end of the program, or in the event of an emergency. All motor vehicles must travel within the facility at a speed of less than 10 miles per hour, and no one shall be transported in a non-passenger vehicle area, like the back of a pick-up truck.
- Smoking is not permitted inside any building or in any location in the facility.
- Except for service animals, pets are prohibited.
- The following items and activities are also prohibited:
  - All firearms, archery equipment, fireworks, explosives, ammunition, and other weapons
  - Stoves, lanterns, and other equipment using propane, kerosene, or other flammable liquids
  - Open fires, except with prior permission and in designated campfire areas
  - Cutting trees and removing vegetation
  - Alcoholic beverages and recreational drugs
  - All-terrain vehicles, dirt bikes, and skateboards
  - Fishing (except with an applicable state license), trapping, and hunting
  - Erection of permanent signs
  - Loud music or other loud noise
  - Storage or disposal of any hazardous substance
  - Storage or disposal of trash or rubbish except in the designated trash area
  - Operation of remote-controlled aircraft; hot-air or helium balloons
- Other activities as determined in the sole discretion of Mass Audubon that endanger or disturb people, property, wildlife, or the habitat are prohibited.