

# WELLESLEY TRAILS

## Favorite Trail Walks

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### **Centennial Reservation**

**1.7 miles, 1 hour**

**Take a picturesque walk through rolling meadows to the top of Maugus Hill, one of the highest points in Wellesley. Explore this conservation land purchased by the town for Wellesley's 1981 Centennial Celebration. View the Great Blue Hills in Canton from a hillside meadow overlooking the town of Needham.**



#### **Location and Parking**

Park at the [Centennial Reservation parking lot](#) at 139 Oakland Street.

#### **Directions**

From the traffic light at Rt. 9 and Oakland St, follow Oakland St. south for 0.5 miles. Turn right at the sign for Centennial Reservation and follow the paved driveway to the parking lot.

#### **Walk Description**

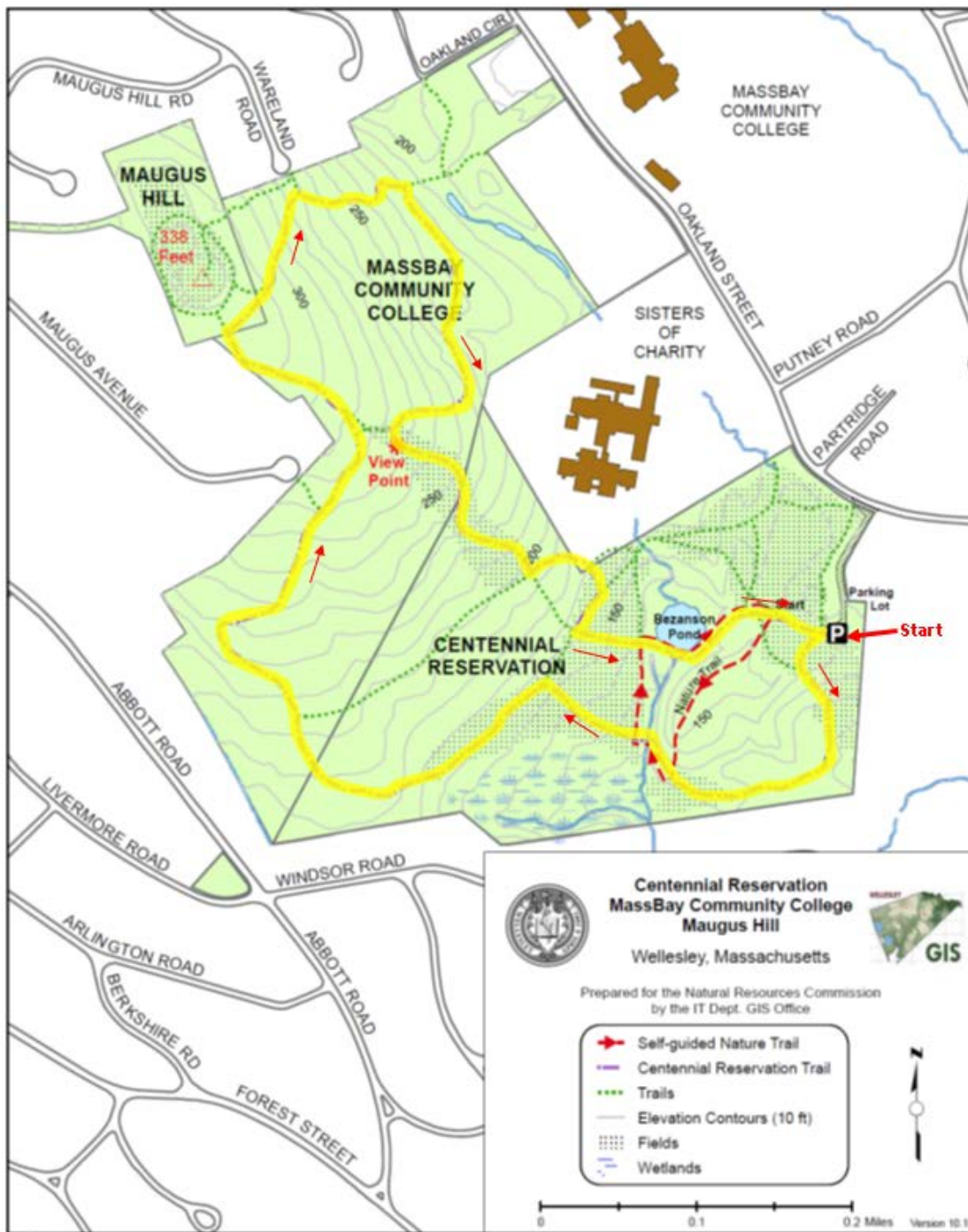
Start at the Centennial parking lot. Follow the purple arrows. Take the trail to the left down the hill through the woods to Bluebird Meadow. Notice the bluebird houses throughout the meadow.

Continue on the trail, over the scout-built footbridge and up through the open meadow. You might see a red-tailed hawk hunting for lunch! At the top of the meadow, turn left and follow the trail up through the woods. On your way you will pass a path to the left which is another entrance to Centennial Reservation from the top of Maugus Avenue. As the trail levels off and meets a downhill option, stay instead to the left to continue to the top of Maugus Hill.

Make your way on the open loop around the large dirt and grass mound – underneath the mounds are water storage tanks that store Wellesley drinking water. On the far right through the trees, when the leaves are down, see a view of the Boston skyline. As you complete the loop back to the wooded trail, follow the purple arrowed trail to the left. This path will descend and soon parallel the Mass Bay parking lot before sharply ascending to the top of the upper meadow.

At the top of this open meadow are some great views. Walk over to the Wellesley Trails bench and see views of the Great Blue Hills in Canton (635 ft) as well as the town of Needham. Follow the switchback trail to the bottom, and take a jog left through the woods to the lower open meadow.

Continue descending through the meadow and around Benzanson Pond, a favorite swimming hole for dogs as well as frogs and tadpoles. You will end your walk back at parking lot.



We hope you enjoyed our little walk today. We believe hikes help keep us healthy and happy.

Take a Hike!

Wellesley Trails Committee

[wellesleytrails.org](http://wellesleytrails.org)

September 2020