

April 26th, 2021

Boston Local Walks & Hikes

Trip Locations 2017-2021



Summary of Trips by Year & AMC Location

- The Local Walks & Hikes (LWH) group, within the AMC’s Boston Chapter, has led almost 550 trips over the last 4 years, averaging 160 walks/hikes a year, prior to the pandemic

Trips by Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Walks-Hikes-Snowshoes	177	165	147	54	543
Total	177	165	147	54	543

- Most of our trips have been in the Boston area but we also lead in NH

Trips by AMC Location	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
MA Boston Area	166	154	139	54	513
MA Central	0	0	1	0	1
MA Southeast	1	2	2	0	5
NH Merrimack Valley	7	5	3	0	15
NH Monadnock Region	2	3	1	0	6
Rhode Island	1	1	1	0	3
Total	177	165	147	54	543
<i>Leader #</i>	28	26	26	16	

- We have maintained a consistent leader group, although not everyone was able to lead in 2020



Analysis of Trips In Boston Area

- Focusing in on the AMC's Boston Area, the LWH group has led trips across all the surrounding geographies, including almost 40 urban walks in Downtown Boston

Trips in Boston Area ~	# Locations	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total	%
Boston	1	10	17	9	1	37	7%
Greater Boston	5	20	13	11	2	46	9%
North Shore	18	44	33	40	14	131	25%
South Shore	13	51	44	41	22	158	30%
West of Boston	16	42	49	41	15	147	28%
Total	53	167	156	142	54	519	

~ includes trips in MA Central/Southeast

- The most popular locations account for ~60% of all trips in the last 4 years

Top 10 Trips in Boston Area	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Blue Hills	28	20	20	14	82
Groton	10	13	11	6	40
Boston Downtown	10	17	9	1	37
Middlesex Fells	10	8	16	2	36
Lynn	8	6	7	4	25
Concord	5	9	7	2	23
Quincy	11	5	5	1	22
Hingham	7	7	5	3	22
Billerica	13	2	4	1	20
Lincoln	5	3	5	2	15



Trips by Location within Geography

- The most popular trips are spread across all geographies, reflecting leader location as well as interest

Trips by Location	Geography	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Boston Downtown	Boston	10	17	9	1	37
Cambridge	Greater Boston	4	2	2	1	9
Charlestown	Greater Boston	3	2	2	0	7
Emerald Necklace	Greater Boston	5	5	1	0	11
Milton	Greater Boston	4	2	2	0	8
South Boston	Greater Boston	4	2	4	1	11
Andover	North Shore	0	0	0	1	1
Billerica	North Shore	13	2	4	1	20
Boxford	North Shore	2	3	1	0	6
Burlington	North Shore	0	0	0	2	2
Georgetown	North Shore	2	0	1	0	3
Groveland	North Shore	0	1	2	0	3
Ipswich	North Shore	0	3	5	1	9
Lawrence	North Shore	0	0	0	1	1
Lynn	North Shore	8	6	7	4	25
Marblehead	North Shore	1	0	1	0	2
Middlesex Fells	North Shore	10	8	16	2	36
Nahant	North Shore	1	0	0	0	1
Newburyport	North Shore	0	0	1	1	2
Saugus	North Shore	4	4	1	0	9
Squantum	North Shore	1	0	0	0	1
Wakefield	North Shore	0	2	0	0	2
Wilmington	North Shore	0	1	0	0	1
Woburn	North Shore	2	3	1	1	7

Blue Hills	South Shore	28	20	20	14	82
Braintree	South Shore	1	1	1	1	4
Cohasset	South Shore	0	0	1	0	1
Duxbury	South Shore	1	1	1	0	3
Hanson	South Shore	1	1	1	0	3
Hingham	South Shore	7	7	5	3	22
Medfield	South Shore	0	1	1	0	2
Plymouth	South Shore	0	1	1	0	2
Quincy	South Shore	11	5	5	1	22
Rockland	South Shore	0	2	0	0	2
Sharon	South Shore	1	1	1	0	3
Weymouth	South Shore	0	2	2	1	5
Wrentham	South Shore	1	2	2	2	7
Acton	West of Boston	2	5	2	1	10
Arlington	West of Boston	0	1	0	0	1
Belmont	West of Boston	5	4	2	1	12
Concord	West of Boston	5	9	7	2	23
Dover	West of Boston	4	3	0	0	7
Fitchburg	West of Boston	1	1	1	0	3
Groton	West of Boston	10	13	11	6	40
Lexington	West of Boston	3	1	3	1	8
Lincoln	West of Boston	5	3	5	2	15
Natick	West of Boston	2	3	2	0	7
Needham	West of Boston	1	3	2	0	6
Newton	West of Boston	1	0	2	0	3
Subury	West of Boston	1	1	1	1	4
Wachussetts	West of Boston	0	0	1	0	1
Wellsley	West of Boston	0	1	0	0	1
Westwood	West of Boston	2	1	2	1	6



New Trip Location Opportunities

- We have compared our LWH during 2017-2020 with the AMC Boston hiking guide and found 31 potential new trip locations
- The LWH committee has also identified new places to visit, many explored during 2020

LOCAL WALKS - BOSTON AREA DAY HIKE ANALYSIS	
<i>Source : AMC 60 Best Day Hikes Around Boston Guide</i>	
Boston (3)	West of Boston (8)
Spectacle Island (Boston)	Wachusett river reservation (West Bolyston)
Wilson Mountain reservation (Dedham)	Mount Pisgah (Northborough)
Stony Brook reservation (Roxbury)	Oxbow national wildlife refuge (Harvard)
	Great Brook state farm (Carlisle)
North of Boston (10)	Nobscot Hill & Tippling Rock (Sudbury/Framingham)
Ward Hill reservation (Andover)	Rocky Narrows & Sherborn Forest (Sherborn)
Weir Hill reservation (North Andover)	Rocky Woods (Medfield)
Bald Hill reservation (Boxford)	Noon Hill (Medfield)
Ipswich river wildlife sanctuary (Topsfield)	
Bradley Palmer state park (Hamilton)	South of Boston (10)
Appleton Farms (Hamilton)	Moose Hill wildlife sanctuary
Parker river wildlife refuge (Newburyport)	Borderland state park (Easton)
Coolidge reservation (Manchester)	Ames Nowell state park (Abington)
Ravenswood park (Gloucester)	Great Esker state park (Weymouth)
Halibut point state park (Rockland)	Wheaton Farm (Easton)
	Massasoit state park (Taunton)
	Burrage Pond (Hanson)
	North Hill Marsh wildlife sanctuary (Duxbury)
	Myles Standish state forest (Plymouth)
	Ellisville harbor state park (Plymouth)

LWH COMMITTEE HIKE SUGGESTIONS

Bare Cover Park (Hingham); Bay Circuit trail; Cambridge literary walk; Concord (October Farm); Fitchburg (Coggshall Park); Foxborough (F Gilbert Hills State Forest); Hopkinton (Whitehall & Hopkinton State Parks); Hamilton (J Donovan Reservation and Sagamore Hill Conservation area); Holbrook Town Forest; Hull Gut/Village; Ipswich (Willowdale State Forest); MA Central Rail Trail; MWRA Aqueduct Trails; Lexington (Willards Woods); Twin/Beaver Ponds (Lincoln); Camp Sayre/Eutis Land (Milton); Natick (Pegan Hill); Peabody (Spring Pond); Plainville (Hawkins Woods Loop); Sharon (Beaver Brook Trail); The Boroughs Loop (Marlborough, Southborough, Westborough, Northborough); Wellsley Trails; Westborough (Little Chauncy Trail & Mill Pond); College Pond/Jericho Town Forest (Weston); Wrentham (Wollomonopoag Conservation Area)



Top Picks for 2021

- The LWH Committee has identified three criteria that can be used to determine a safe, comfortable hike for the leader and participants during these “new normal” times:
 - an abundance of free parking
 - less popular area (so not many people)
 - mostly wide paths and trails
- Mark Hurwitz, one of our most knowledgeable and experienced leaders, has identified the following 10 top locations:
 - Wompatuck, Hingham (starting from the transfer station, not the visitor center)
 - Blue Hills CCC Camp, Fox Hill, Little Dome (starting from Shea Rink)
 - Ames Nowell, Abington (starting from main lot)
 - Horn Pond, Woburn (starting from roadside parking along north edge)
 - Middlesex Fells, Medford (starting from Flynn Rink)
 - Lincoln Conservation Lands (starting from school or commuter station)
 - Lynn Woods (starting from Great Woods lot)
 - Wheaton Farm, Easton (starting from main lot)
 - Myles Standish, Plymouth (starting from any number of lots)
 - Noanet Woodlands, Dover (from Caryl Park lot)
- We are interested to hear hiking locations that our Leaders recommend?

