

Ranger Newsletter

ISSUE5: December, 2023



Welcome to the Ranger Newsletter!

In each issue, we will cover all things Prospect Hill Park. From events and programs, to stories on the trails and fun places to visit. Want to contribute a story or picture to feature in the newsletter?

Contact the Park Ranger,

Adam Green at

781-314-3452

E-Mail: agreen@city.waltham.ma.us

Welcome Winter!

Winter is here, colder weather and shorter days. The access road is currently closed for the season to motor vehicles. Please plan your trips to the park accordingly with regards to earlier sunsets.

Trail Reports

As the ground freezes it can adversely affect footing on the trails, please be mindful and wear appropriate footwear. Snow and ice can also cause slippery conditions.

Be mindful of your locations in the park as snow falls. As always do not venture off trail for your safety, and for the protection of habitat and wildlife.

- Winterberry holly is aptly named for the abundant shiny red berries that adorn the shrub throughout the winter.
- Look for it near wetlands and vernal pools
- The berries provide critical food for birds in the winter.
- Height 6-12ft
- Flowers: Small, white; June-July
- Fall Color: Yellow, golden-orange, brown.
- Sun: Full sun/moderate shade



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Dogs in Waltham

Ordinance No. 25945, 5-27-1986 : Sec 3-17

“No dog shall be permitted in any street or public place within the city unless it is effectively restrained by a chain or leash not exceeding 10ft in length.”

Ordinance No. 25945, 5-27-1986 : Sec 3-18

(B) “No person owning, harboring, keeping, or in charge of any dog shall cause, suffer or allow such dog to soil, defile or deposit excreta on any common thoroughfare, sidewalk, passageway, bypath, play area, park or any public place.” “The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any person who shall immediately remove all feces deposited by such dog in a sanitary manner”

Winterberry

Invasive Spot Light: Asiatic Bittersweet

- This fast growing vine growth encircles trees and girdles them, slowly killing the tree. Vines can completely cover other vegetation creating a carpet of vines over a large area. Birds and other wildlife eat the fruit, thus distributing the seeds.
- ORIGIN :Originally introduced as an ornamental in 1860s
- HABITAT : Fields, forests, forest edges, disturbed sites, ornamental



Looking to Volunteer?

Are you looking to get involved at Prospect Hill Park or any other parks within the City of Waltham? Contact the Park Ranger!

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