

Needham Free Public Library
1139 Highland Ave
781-455-7559 x 204

Nature Scavenger Hunt

Go to Redwing Bay Park, on Fisher Street in Needham. Walk the trails and look around. A trail map is included here to refer to. Be sure to check out the smaller paths near the river. See if you can find the items pictured here. Mark off as many as you can find. It's OK if you don't find them all. Return this page to the Needham Free Public Library's Children's Desk to claim a prize.



Bird Nesting Box



7 Trees on a hill



Queen Ann's Lace



Monarch Butterfly



Ferns



Waterlilies



Purple Loosestrife



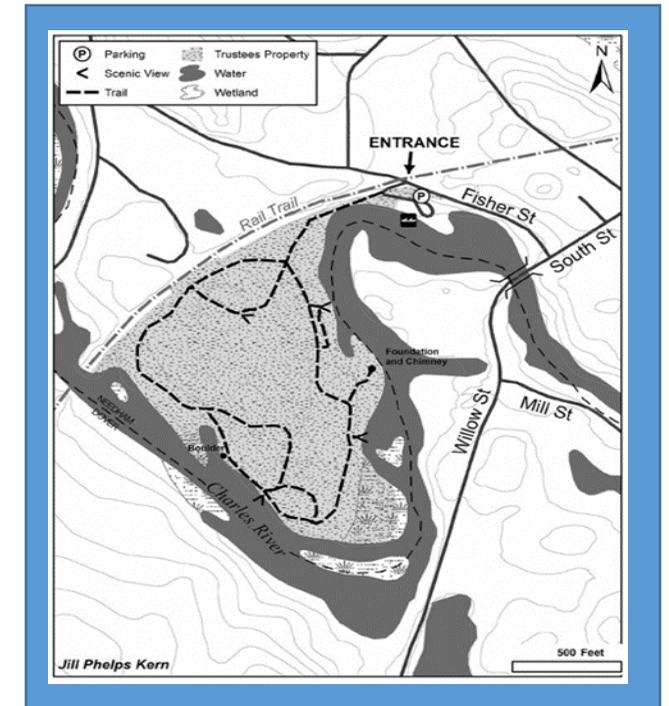
Dragonfly



Green Algae on River



Chipmunk Burrow



Did You Know??

Nesting Boxes – These nesting boxes provide a home in which Eastern Bluebirds, Swallows and Wrens can lay their eggs and raise their young.



Trees- Trees absorb carbon dioxide and produce oxygen. They provide shade and stop soil erosion.

Queen Ann's Lace – is also known as Wild Carrot and Bishop's Lace. It is found in fields, meadows, waste areas, roadsides and disturbed habitats. It is very hardy and thrives in a dry environment. It is high in sugar and used to be used to sweeten foods. It still provides food for some animals. The roots smell like carrot.



Monarch Butterfly- Each adult butterfly lives only about four to five weeks, but a female monarch can lay up to 500 eggs on milkweed plants throughout her lifetime. Monarch butterflies can flap their wings up to 12 times a second when flying at their fastest. They fly a long distance during fall migration, farther than any other tropical butterfly—up to 3,000 miles.

Ferns – Ferns are flowerless plants that reproduce using spores instead of seeds. There are about 12,000 different types of fern throughout the world. Some types first appeared on Earth more than 360 million years ago. Ferns grow in warm, moist places where there is plenty of shade.

Water Lilies – Water Lilies grow in still or slowly moving water. They have thick underwater stems buried in the mud. Long stalks reach up from the stems to support the round, waxy leaves. Some leaves grow to 6 feet across. Water lily plants also produce a fruit. It looks like a nut or a berry. Inside are seeds. When the fruit opens the seeds sink or float away to produce new plants.



Purple Loosestrife – A perennial wetland plant native to Europe and Asia that was unintentionally introduced by ballast (water) in ships. Once grown in gardens, it is now considered an invasive.

Dragonfly –Dragonflies live in most parts of the world near ponds, streams and rivers. They prey or dart about grabbing prey quickly. Dragonflies catch insects with their feet. A dragonfly can eat hundreds of mosquitoes in a single day. They can fly straight up and down and side to side.



There are over 3,600 kinds of dragonflies on the planet. They float over the water looking for prey or dart about grabbing prey quickly. Dragonflies catch insects with their feet. A dragonfly can eat hundreds of mosquitoes in a single day. They can fly straight up and down and side to side.

Algae on river –Blue-green algae grows in the summer in calm, warm, shallow water. There are many types of algae. Cyanobacteria is a toxic algae growing on the Charles River that is harmful to people and dogs. Phosphorus pollution that collects on roads and parking lots then drains into the river helps algae grow. One part of the solution is to prevent polluted stormwater from entering the Charles River. Rain gardens can filter and clean stormwater before filtering it into the ground.

Chipmunk Burrow – A chipmunk's burrow is a complex little home consisting of several entrances. The burrows also have "plunge holes," which are holes that lead to tunnels going straight down. Many pockets in the burrow allow chipmunks to store food, go potty, and give birth to baby chipmunks. These typically surround the larger nesting area where a chipmunk sleeps. The bottom of the burrow contains a few drainage tunnels that collect water, keeping the chipmunks dry and safe beneath the soil.

