

Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust



Interpretive Trail Guide:

Concord River Greenway, Lowell, Massachusetts

OVERVIEW (Lawrence Street Section)-

The Concord River Greenway is an impressive natural resource in the City of Lowell, Massachusetts. It is a trail available for public recreational use, whether it's riding a bike, fishing, walking a dog, or just relaxing. During the spring, the Concord River transforms into a class 3 /4 rapids, great for white water rafting, and includes a 50 foot drop over a mile stretch. The trail entrance is located off of Lawrence Street, past the Lawrence Street Bridge and before the Lowell cemetery. It is accessible through an adequately sized parking lot and also has a bike rack for alternative transportation.

Birds you may find soaring the pathway or the river alongside, are Red-Tailed Hawks, Mallard Ducks, and many others. The river is home to carp, crappie, large and small mouth bass, pumpkinseed (sunfish), freshwater mussels, crawfish, and a plethora of microorganisms. Other creatures that leave an impression are raccoons, Virginia opossums, and white-tailed deer. The plant life here is also abundant, with flowers ranging from goldenrod to the stunning cardinal flower, the pussy toe, milkweed, dandelions, bayberry, tree-of-heaven, marsh rose mallow, and plenty others. Some invasive species to look out for include the common buckthorn, common reed, and black swallow-wort, who create fierce competition for the local plants and wildlife.

Poison-Ivy

DANGER: DO NOT TOUCH THIS PLANT!!!

"Leaves of three leave it be." Poison-ivy contains a dangerous skin irritant; it (the leaves of the plant) can be somewhat reddish but only in younger or dying leaves. If confronted wash hands in soap and water right away.

Cardinal-Flower

The vibrant red of the cardinal flower; one of America's favorites can be found on the new river access trail appropriately named "The Cardinal-Flower Trail" that Spindle City Corps has created. Hummingbirds often visit this plant. Unfortunately over-picking has made it very rare

FISHING SPOTS-

Beginners

There are many fishing spots along the Concord River Greenway. The first site is right next to the sign near the gate. That cliff is where you can catch largemouth bass, crappie, sunfish and catfish. When you're at this mark, it is a guarantee catch. This is a nice spot for beginner fishermen the fish are about 6 to 10 inches long and it's not hard to reel them in. Recommended bait is worms.

Advanced

This spot is right after the sign were the beginner's mark is it's a little pathway that goes down to the river after the water fall. This is where you catch the big fish. You can catch trout, carp, and bigger catfish. This site you have to loosen your drag and be patient. The recommended bait is [wadded] oat meal.

**Please, be responsible and properly discard all fishing materials; throw away or recycle old fishing line, worm cups and cans, fishing lures, bobbers, weights, etc. Keep our rivers clean!*

This interpretive trail guide to the Concord River Greenway was created by youth in Spindle City Corps (by Lowell National Historical Park & Community Teamwork Incorporated), August 2010, through LP&CT's "Stewardship Through Leadership" environmental education program, led in partnership with the Mass Audubon Society. The accompanying trail map and concise interpretive trail guide were created by LP&CT, adapted from City of Lowell GIS with additional information by SCC. "This program is funded in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council's YouthReach Initiative."





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