



Mystic River Watershed Quest

Welcome to the Mystic River Watershed Quest!

The Quest is a fun way to explore and discover the wide variety of activities to enjoy in our 22 watershed communities!

The rules are easy: Take part in and log as many activities as possible in the Mystic River Watershed! (see a list of Mystic communities at <https://mysticriver.org/faqs>) The Quest closes October 1, 2017. Individuals and teams from 2 to 10 people (such as schools, families, Girl/Boy Scout Troops, clubs, etc.) can participate.

Please document your activities by marking off the date you completed the activity, including comments and/or photos. Share your experience via social media by tagging your activity with **#MysticQuest** – and we might feature you on our social media outlets! Quest winners will be recognized on our website and social media and at our 45th Annual Meeting on October 25, 2017.

Suggested activities are listed below, arranged by location and type of activity — Arts, History, Engagement, Nature/Wildlife, Landmarks and Recreation. Pick out some of these to enjoy, or add your own in the spaces provided! Just be sure to log the date on which you enjoyed each activity.

See you around the Mystic!

Have questions? Email MysticQuest@mysticriver.org or call Beth at 781-316-3438.



Tell us a bit about yourself to be eligible for Quest prizes!

Name: _____

Date Submitted: _____

Email: _____

Mailing Address:

Team Name (if applicable): _____

Team Members (if applicable):

Team Captain (if applicable; must be 18 or older): _____

How did you hear about the quest? _____



Experiencing Art

Date	City/Town	Venue	Activity	More information
	Arlington	Dallin Museum/Jefferson Cutter House	View Dallin sculptures or another art exhibit	www.dallin.org
	Arlington	Robbins Town Gardens	View “Menotomy Indian Hunter” statue by Cyrus Dallin	www.menotomytrail.com/x/id27.htm
	Chelsea	Mary O’Malley Park	Attend an Apollinaire Theatre Co. performance (English & Spanish)	www.apollinairetheatre.com
	Chelsea	Mary O’Malley Park	Visit the wind sculpture by William Wainwright next to the historic granite pier. The park was acquired from the federal government after the closing of the historic Chelsea Naval Hospital, and has striking views of the harbor and the Tobin Bridge over the Mystic River. Tennis courts and a large open lawn area for concerts and picnics are also available. The park is open year round, dawn to dusk	https://www.chelseama.gov/parks-playgrounds/pages/mary-omalley-park
	Medford	Condon Shell	Attend a festival, concert or outdoor movie night right along the Mystic River	www.yelp.com/biz/medford-condon-shell-medford
	Medford	City Hall	View portraits and military uniforms, as well as rotating art exhibits	www.medfordma.org
	Somerville	Sylvester Baxter Riverfront Park	Attend a summer movie on the riverfront	www.somervillerec.com/info/facilities/details.aspx?FacilityID=14364
	Somerville	Mystic Ave	View the Mystic Mural on Mystic Ave. in Somerville	http://www.somervilleartscouncil.org/node/1070
			<i>Add your art related Quest item here!</i>	



Do Your Part

Date	City/Town	Venue	Activity	More information
	Anywhere	Anywhere	Contact your elected officials, urging them to consider the local environment and water quality; and/or inviting them to local environmental events	
	Anywhere	Anywhere	Address stormwater runoff by installing a rain barrel or planting a rain garden in your yard	https://www.epa.gov/soakuptherain
	Arlington, Medford	Mystic Lakes dam/Virtual (mysticherring.org)	Volunteer to count fish during the Herring Run migration in person or via video	https://www.mysticherring.org/
	Various	Social media	Tell a friend or a thousand friends on your Facebook account about the Mystic River Watershed	
	Various	City or town hall	Attend a Conservation Commission meeting in your city or town.	
	Various	Various	Attend a meeting or event, such as a cleanup, of one of the many other watershed environmental organizations such as the Chelsea Collaborative, Friends of Alewife Reservation, Friends of the Malden River, Friends of the Mystic River, Friends of Spy Pond Park, Woburn Residents Environmental Network	
			<i>Add your stewardship related quest item here!</i>	



Get Active

Date	City/Town	Venue	Activity	More information
	Burlington, Woburn	Mary Cummings Park, Whispering Hills Conservation Area	Take a walk, find old stone walls, see a sunset across a meadow or meet up with others on the first Saturday of each month during the 10 a.m. walk that is offered	http://marycummingspark.org/nature-walks
	Cambridge	Fresh Pond Reservation	Take a walk on the 2.5 mile Loop Trail	https://www.alltrails.com/trail/us/massachusetts/fresh-pond-reservation-loop-trail
	Everett	bike path	Tour the Northern Strand Community Path and check out the rain gardens along the way!	https://www.trailink.com/trail/northern-strand-community-trail/
	Malden	Waitts Mountain	Hike up Waitts Mountain to get a view of Boston Harbor and the watershed	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waitt%27s_Mountain
	Malden, Medford, Melrose, Stoneham, & Winchester	Middlesex Fells Reservation (DCR) - largest open space in the Mystic!	The Fells has something for everyone: hikers, mountain bikers, horseback riders, rock climbers, cross-country skiers and picnickers as well as natural and cultural history buffs. There are a variety of public programs (Babes in the Woods, Senior Walk, Treasure Hunt, etc.)	http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-north/middlesex-fells-reservation.html
	Revere	Revere Beach	Take a stroll along Revere Beach	
	Somerville	Blessing of the Bay Boathouse/PaddleBoston	Rent a canoe, kayak or SUP for a Mystic River outing, or sign-up for a crew class with the Gentle Giant Rowing Club.	https://www.somervillerec.com/info/facilities/details.aspx?FacilityID=14318
	Various	Various	Walk or bike along the Minuteman Trail, a 10-mile paved bike path through Bedford, Lexington, Arlington and Cambridge.	http://minutemanbikeway.org/
	Winchester	Shannon Beach, Mystic River Reservation	Go for a swim at this public DCR beach. Explore the surrounding park	http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-boston/mystic-river-reservation.html
	Woburn	Horn Pond-Once a site for ice harvesting	Get a view of Boston from Horn Pond Mountain/Mount Towanda while you hike to site of now "lost" ski area and rare wildflowers in spring	https://tinyurl.com/yayfsje8
			<i>Add your activity related quest item here!</i>	



Get Wild With Wildlife

Date	City/Town	Venue	Activity	More information
	Anywhere	Various, but could include Medford's Brooks Estate, Torbert Macdonald Park.	Find bald eagles (especially at the Mystic Lakes), black-crowned night herons, geese, great blue herons, owls, painted turtles, red-tailed hawks, etc...	
	Arlington	Spy Pond/Elizabeth Island	Paddle the pond to view turtles, swans, geese, ducks, bald eagles, red-tailed hawks, great blue herons and more!	http://arlington.wickedlocal.com/article/20140808/news/140807516
	Arlington, Belmont, Cambridge	Alewife Brook Reservation	Take a walk, look for wildlife, attend a program, or explore the constructed wetland.	http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-boston/alewife-brook-reservation.html
	Belmont	Mass Audubon Habitat Wildlife Sanctuary	Explore the 88 acre sanctuary or attend one of the exciting programs to learn more about wildlife	http://www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/wildlife-sanctuaries/habitat
	East Boston	Belle Isle Marsh	Look for snowy egrets, great egrets and glossy ibises in breeding season	http://www.massaudubon.org/our-conservation-work/wildlife-research-conservation/statewide-bird-monitoring/massachusetts-important-bird-areas-iba/important-bird-area-sites/belle-isle-marsh
	Arlington, Lexington		Hidden just off the busy thoroughfare of Massachusetts Avenue is a natural area of over 185 acres in size.	http://www.foagm.org/
			<i>Add your wildlife activity related quest item here!</i>	



Discover History

Date	City/Town	Venue	Activity	More information
	Arlington	Old Schwamb Mill	Tour the living industrial museum and woodworking shop	www.oldschwambmill.org
	Charlestown	USS Constitution & Museum	Step aboard “Old Ironsides” then take a virtual voyage	https://ussconstitutionmuseum.org/
	Medford	Royall House and Slave Quarters	Tour the 18th century home of the largest slaveholding family in MA	www.royallhouse.org
	Medford	Shipbuilding District	Visit the Riverside Avenue and Pleasant Street area where clipper ships were built and shipbuilders lived	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Ship_Street_Historic_District www.medfordhistorical.org/medford-history/about-medford/medford-built-sailing-ships/
	Medford	Grandfather’s House (Paul Curtis House)	Visit the namesake from the poem “Over the river the through the woods...”	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grandfather%27s_House
	Medford	West Medford African-American Walking Tour	Take a self-guided tour of West Medford’s historic African-American neighborhood	www.brandeis.edu/projects/westmedford/
	Somerville	Ten Hills	Visit the site of Ten Hills Farm, summer retreat of the Massachusetts Bay Colony’s first governor, John Winthrop	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ten_Hills,_Somerville,_Massachusetts
	Wilmington	Middlesex Canal aqueduct	Find remnants of the aqueduct that carried the canal over the Shawsheen River on the Wilmington/Billerica town line	http://www.newenglandhistoricalsociety.com/middlesex-canal-americas-1st-superhighway/
			<i>Add your history related quest item here!</i>	



Visit Watershed Landmarks

Date	City/Town	Venue	Activity	More information
	Chelsea	Chelsea Creek, Port Park, Mystic River, Tobin Bridge	Walk around Chelsea Creek at Port Park and the lower Mystic River at Mary O'Malley Park	http://www.chelsearecord.com/2014/07/03/port-park-offers-stunning-views/
	Somerville	Amelia Earhart Dam	Observe boats and paddlers go through the locks	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amelia_Earhart_Dam
	Medford	Wright's Tower, Middlesex Fells Reservation	Visit Wright's Tower and enjoy views of Boston Harbor and Revere Beach	http://www.wickedcheapboston.com/wrights-tower-medford/
	Medford	DCR Torbert Macdonald Park	Climb to the top of the observation tower, take a walk on the park's miles of trails, enjoy the new river overlook	http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-boston/mystic-river-reservation.html
	Medford	Malden River	Take the T to Wellington Station and explore the Park at River's Edge along the Malden River. Check out the interpretive panels detailing the site's history and transformation!	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malden_River
	Winthrop	Deer Island Wastewater Treatment Plant	Tour the facility or walk around the public walkways and trails	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deer_Island_Waste_Water_Treatment_Plant
	Lexington & Winchester	Locke Farm Conservation Area/Whipple Hill 120 acres	Check out the birding and some glacial erratics	https://www.google.com/#q=locke+farm+conservation+area
			<i>Add your watershed landmark related quest item here!</i>	