



MASS WILDLIFE MONTHLY

February 2020

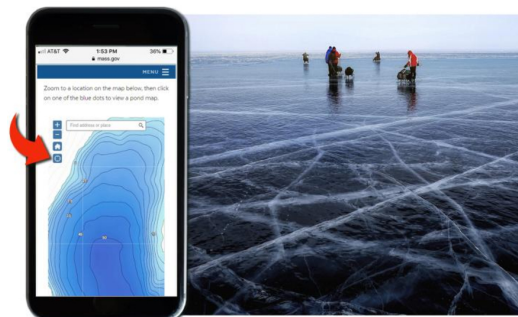


Filing your taxes? [Support rare species conservation by donating on Line 33A on your state income tax form.](#)

Anglers: New bathymetry tool

If you're ice fishing on 1 of the 168 ponds in Massachusetts with digital bathymetry information, you can now use your mobile device to access a pond map and see depth information in real time as you walk.

[Learn more...](#)



2019: Near-record year for deer

2019 was another near-record year for deer hunting in Massachusetts. The preliminary statewide deer harvest was 13,921—the second highest on record after 2018.

[Read more...](#)



Species Spotlight: Bald eagles

Thirty years ago there weren't any eagles nesting in Massachusetts. Now, there are over 70 territorial pairs

raising their young across the state! At this time of year, mated pairs are constructing their nests in preparation for egg laying in March and April.

[Read more...](#)



Illegal, harmful wildlife releases

Recent releases of live turtles, frogs, and fish into waters in the Greater Boston area have prompted wildlife officials to remind the public that these actions are illegal. Relocating aquatic wildlife can harm the released animals and the species already living in the water.

[Read more...](#)



New to turkey hunting? Join us for a free turkey calling workshop on February 29.

[Register now to reserve your spot.](#)

Hop Brook WMA expanded

MassWildlife recently added 103 acres to Hop Brook Wildlife Management Area in Lee. This land acquisition, including 8,500 feet of frontage on the Housatonic River, helps protect rare animals and plants.

[Read more...](#)



Junior Conservation Camp

It's not too early to start thinking about summer! Registration is now open for the MA Junior Conservation Camp. Teens will learn about nature, wildlife, and outdoor skills from August 2 to 14, 2020. Scholarships are available.

[Learn more...](#)



Thank you to volunteer hunters

Over the past few years, archery deer and game bird hunters have volunteered to record their hunting

activities and wildlife observations. Hunting logs help biologists better understand wildlife distribution and abundance. Three volunteers have been randomly selected to receive prizes.

[Find out who won and how to get involved...](#)

GRAND PRIZE: POLAR CAP 40-QT. EQUALIZER COOLER

Other prizes:
Two \$25 Cabela's/
Bass Pro gift cards

Donated by Cabela's



Know a great environmental program or educator that deserves recognition? Nominate them for an Excellence in Energy and Environmental Education Award! [Learn more.](#)

Upcoming events

Feb. 11 & 13: Beginner Fly Tying Class, Charlton

Feb. 13: Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Advisory Committee Meeting, Westborough

Feb. 18: Fisheries and Wildlife Board Meeting, Westborough

Feb. 19: Family Ice Fishing Clinic, Sudbury

Feb. 21–23: Springfield Sportsmen's Show, West Springfield

Feb. 25 & 27: Beginner Fly Tying Class, Belchertown

Feb. 29: MassWildlife at the MA Association of Conservation Commission Annual Conference

Feb. 29: Family Ice Fishing Festival, Chesterfield

Feb. 29: Turkey Calling Workshop, Westborough

[See Calendar of Events...](#)

MASSWILDLIFE

Who we are

The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife) is the state agency responsible for the conservation of all freshwater fish and wildlife in the Commonwealth, including endangered species. MassWildlife restores, protects, and manages land for wildlife to thrive and for people to enjoy.

Connect with us

Questions? Call us at (508) 389-6300 or [email us](#)

Press inquiry? Contact Marion Larson at (508) 389-6311 or marion.larson@mass.gov

Visit us at Mass.gov/MassWildlife

Find a [MassWildlife office](#) near you



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