



Welcome to the Lexington Junior Ranger Program!

To become a Junior Ranger of the Lexington conservation lands, you will need to do the following:

- Visit three of Lexington's conservation lands from the list below
- Complete the activities within this guide – and get it signed by an adult
- Take the Lexington Ranger Pledge that you will keep our community conservation lands safe for plants, animals, and people

Larger Conservation Lands in Lexington

Chiesa Farm

Dunback Meadow

Hayden Woods

Joyce Miller's Meadow

Juniper Hill

Lower Vine Brook

Paint Mine

Parker Meadow

Shaker Glen

Upper Vine Brook

Whipple Hill

Willard's Woods

A complete list of Conservation Lands is available at:

www.lexingtonma.gov/conservation/conland.cfm

or

Pick up a copy of the Trail Guide to Lexington's Conservation Land
On sale for \$10.00 at the Community Development Office or the Cary Memorial Library (or
borrow one from the library with your library card!)

While visiting Lexington Conservation Lands...



Check if you saw:

- _____ a bird flying?
- _____ a bird in a tree?
- _____ a bird in the grass?
- _____ a bird feeding its young?
- _____ a bird carrying grass/twigs for its nest?
- _____ a nest with eggs?
- _____ a plant with large leaves?
- _____ a plant with narrow leaves?
- _____ a plant with thorns?
- _____ a stream?
- _____ a pond?
- _____ a rock wall left from long ago?
- _____ a mouse running to hide?
- _____ a squirrel in a tree?
- _____ a chipmunk crossing the path?
- _____ a frog? What was it doing? _____
- _____ a toad? What was it doing? _____
- _____ a snake? What was it doing? _____
- _____ a large animal such as a coyote or deer? Which one? _____
- _____ a birch tree?
- _____ an oak tree?
- _____ a pine tree?
- _____ mushrooms?
- _____ acorns?
- _____ pinecones?
- _____ a fern?

While visiting Lexington Conservation Lands...

Check if you heard:

- a breeze in the trees?
- an animal calling? Which animal? _____
- a bird singing?
- other sounds? What are they? _____

Check if you smelled:

- a flower?
- a pine tree?
- grass?
- dirt?
- other smells? What are they? _____

Check if you felt:

- a smooth rock?
- a rough rock?
- a blade of grass?
- some moss?
- something wet?
- something soft?

What other things did you notice while you were walking?



Draw pictures of something wild you saw on conservation lands

Small Plant	Tree
Bird	Mammal
Other	Other

Find these things - play WILD BINGO!!!

Find all the items in a line – across, up and down, or diagonal

Grass	Oak Tree	Pine Cone	Butterfly	Frog
Birch Tree	Bird Song	Maple Tree	Jewelweed	Bee
Bluejay	Water Bug	Free Space!	Milkweed	Ant
Boulder	Flower	Lichen	Wood-pecker	Crow
Water Bug	Stream	Pine Tree	Squirrel	Fern





Find the Hidden Words

L B U G N R S W K C I T W E E
W I T A K C O Y O T E I Z E K
I S C D F L P I N E L A N R A
L N P H L E B B G L V N H T N
L U R A E C J O A R Q T N K S
O J W E K N R R R D Q E T A P
W S L N F F D H C R I B A O A
V M W K I S K C A B N U D L T
L W O C W B N R K O J O S F H
C P O O J G O D F D R E D G P
I R O R W A V R E O X H D F A
R D O A R E A E X E U F Y U L
S F T C E A R G C V I F O M A
X E K B K P P C V P E V L I C
R X J Z S M N S Z N C W O Y E

ANT
BEE
BIRCH
BUG
COYOTE
DEER

DUNBACK
FERN
FLY
FROG
LICHEN
OAK TREE

OWL
PATH
PINE
ROBIN
ROCK
SNAKE

SPARROW
SWALLOW
TICK
WATER
WILLARD'S WOODS
WILLOW



Talk about YOUR favorite Lexington conservation land

Which conservation land did you like best? _____

What animal did you watch? _____

What behavior did you see? _____

Why do you think there are many different animals in the conservation
lands? _____

Did you introduce someone else to the “wild” places in Lexington? _____
Where? _____

What is your favorite plant on the conservation lands? _____

Which season do you like best for visiting conservation lands? _____

What do you see during that season that you especially like? _____

Plants and animals need each other in many ways.

Can you name an animal that needs a certain plant? Why?

Can you name a plant that needs a certain animal? Why?

What can you do at home that helps to conserve wildlife?

What did you do to keep conservation lands safe for wild animals and
plants? _____

Ways you can help nature in Lexington:

In the Conservation Lands

- Always walk on the paths.
- Don't cut, damage, or remove flowers, shrubs, trees, or rocks.
-  • If you bring a dog with you, keep your dog on a leash or on voice command and try to keep it on the paths. Pick up after your dog.
- Tell adults if you see something that needs to be repaired. Report the issue by calling the Community development Office at 781-698-4532 or emailing landstewards@lexingtonma.gov.
- Tell your friends how to protect and conserve our conservation lands.
- Take only pictures. Bring all of your trash home with you.
- Help on conservation projects such as picking up litter.
- Walk quietly to hear and see more animals as loud noises scare away the animals.
- Take time to find out what makes a particular conservation area special to you by looking, listening, smelling, and touching.
- Learn what poison ivy looks like so you can touch safely. Don't taste anything unless an adult tells you it is safe.
- Wear clothes that protect you from sun, mosquitoes, and ticks. Learn how to identify a tick. Tuck your pants into your socks in spring, summer, and fall. When you finish your visit check yourself for ticks.
- Wear sunscreen.



At Home:

- Consider keeping your cat inside so it doesn't eat small animals such as birds, mice, or rabbits.
 - Tell your friends how to protect our conservation lands. Bring them to your special conservation land and share some of your favorite places.
 - Encourage your parents to limit the use of pesticides and insecticides as these can hurt wildlife when they get into the water and soil.
 - Include in your yard plants that provide shelter and food for birds, butterflies, and other animals.
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Lexington Junior Ranger Pledge

I have completed the pages of this guide

I have visited at least three conservation lands

I have agreed to be a guardian of Lexington Conservation Lands

Signature: _____

Adult Witness: _____

Take your completed, signed Junior Ranger packet to the Community Development Office in Town Hall (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday) to receive your Lexington Junior Ranger Certificate!