

## Shoe Pond Walkway, Beverly

**What is the best address to use to find your park, area, or trail?** McKay Street & Balch Street, Beverly, MA

**Website:** <https://www.beverlyma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/944/2019-Greens-Hill-Trail-Map-PDF>

**Is there parking available at this location?** Yes

**Is there a fee for parking?** No

**When is parking available?** Parking is available either at the Mckeown School or at the Cummings Center parking area nearest the pond.

**Is there lighting, such as street lamps, on this path?** Yes

**Is there clear signage marking the trails/paths?** Yes

**Are there benches along this path?** Yes

**Are public restrooms located near the trail or path?** Yes

**What type of setting is the path?** Public park

**Are multiple trails/paths available at this location?** No

**Are maps available? If yes, where can they be found?** No

**Approximate length of the walk:** 1.3 miles

**What type of terrain?** Paved

**What is the grade of the walk?** Flat

**Rate the walk for level of exertion (1 = easy, 5 = difficult):** 1

**Amount of activity at the site:** Moderate (frequently see people)

**What types of activities can be done at this location?** Walking, Running/jogging, Biking, Bird watching, Dog walking, Fitness Stations (set up along parts of the loop nearest the Cummings Center)

**Brief summary of the walk:** Classified as an urban walk the Shoe Pond Walkway has a variety of interesting features and parts of the walk are like a mini-oasis in the city. When starting the walk from the McKeown School on Balch Street (entrance is not well marked to the walkway but is found on the right side of the school building) the walk will curve along the pond passing through a quiet tree-lined area. You may see some turtles or birds in the pond. The walkway will curve along the pond with Cummings Center properties located on your left and benches interspersed along this section. Additionally, public fitness stations with guided exercises are also available throughout this area for those that would like to use them. This section of the walk leads to a small bridge that crosses the pond with a few stairs to climb. Those with mobility challenges may decide to turn around at this time and walk back the way they came. For those that can navigate this small section the stairs lead you to the sidewalk on McKay Street. Staying on the sidewalk take a right following along with Shoe Pond on your right. When you get to the intersection of McKay and Balch Street take a right onto Balch Street. This will lead you back to the McKeown School parking lot and walkway entrance.

**Are there any notable activities in the area that people might want to check out?** The Shoe Pond walkway borders the Cummings Center properties for much of the walk and several cafes can be found within the various buildings. Dairy Queen on Cabot Street is located a half-mile from the McKeown School parking lot.

This is a nice easy trail for beginners. We have never found this trail to be too crowded either. A hidden gem! The McKay Street section can be a little loud with the traffic going by and some sections of the sidewalk on this street are not as great as they could be.

*Listing updated 10/27/2021*