



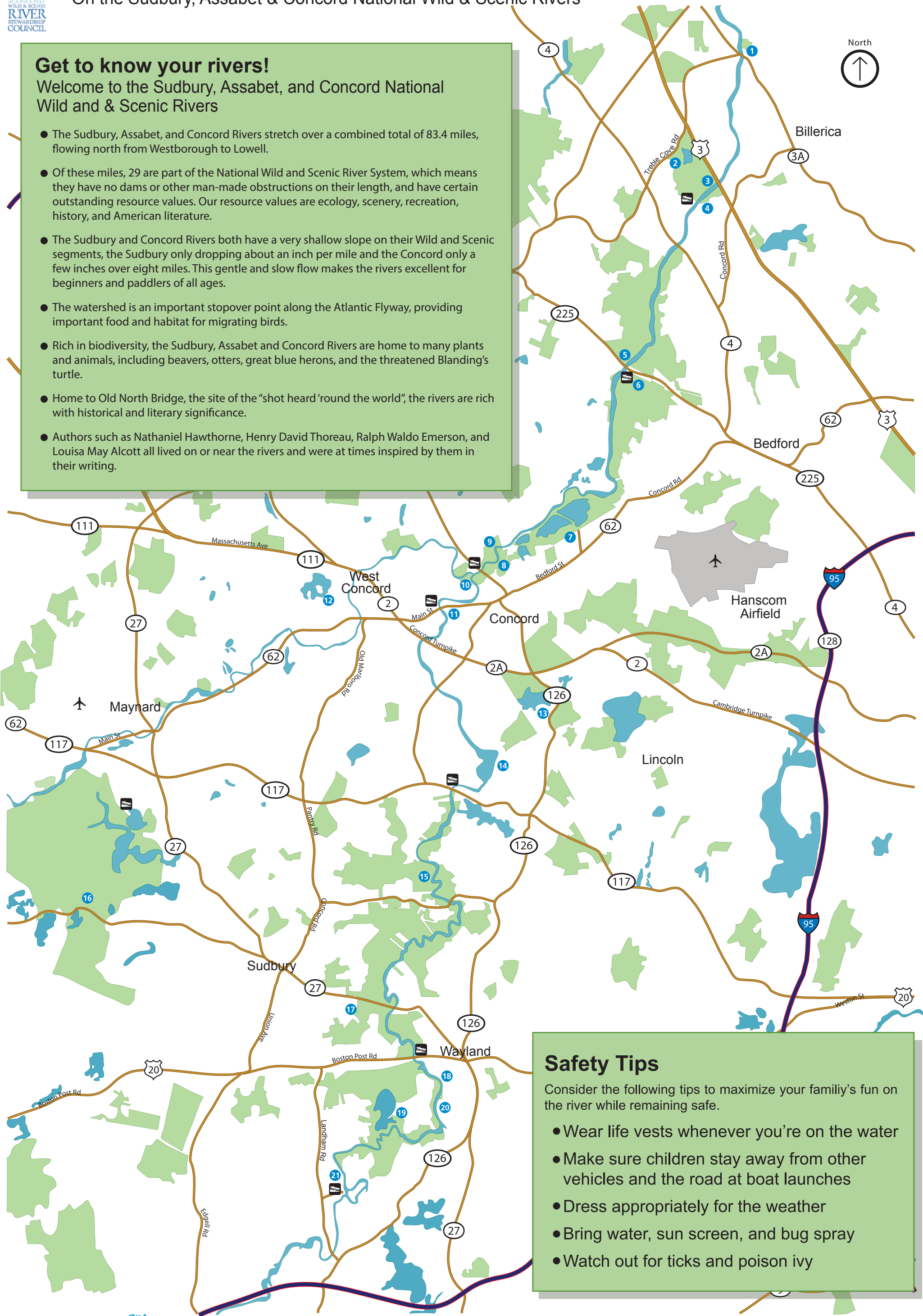
Family-Friendly River Fun

On the Sudbury, Assabet & Concord National Wild & Scenic Rivers

Get to know your rivers!

Welcome to the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord National Wild and Scenic Rivers

- The Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers stretch over a combined total of 83.4 miles, flowing north from Westborough to Lowell.
- Of these miles, 29 are part of the National Wild and Scenic River System, which means they have no dams or other man-made obstructions on their length, and have certain outstanding resource values. Our resource values are ecology, scenery, recreation, history, and American literature.
- The Sudbury and Concord Rivers both have a very shallow slope on their Wild and Scenic segments, the Sudbury only dropping about an inch per mile and the Concord only a few inches over eight miles. This gentle and slow flow makes the rivers excellent for beginners and paddlers of all ages.
- The watershed is an important stopover point along the Atlantic Flyway, providing important food and habitat for migrating birds.
- Rich in biodiversity, the Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Rivers are home to many plants and animals, including beavers, otters, great blue herons, and the threatened Blanding's turtle.
- Home to Old North Bridge, the site of the "shot heard 'round the world", the rivers are rich with historical and literary significance.
- Authors such as Nathaniel Hawthorne, Henry David Thoreau, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Louisa May Alcott all lived on or near the rivers and were at times inspired by them in their writing.



Safety Tips

Consider the following tips to maximize your family's fun on the river while remaining safe.

- Wear life vests whenever you're on the water
- Make sure children stay away from other vehicles and the road at boat launches
- Dress appropriately for the weather
- Bring water, sun screen, and bug spray
- Watch out for ticks and poison ivy



Did you enjoy your time on our rivers? Want to learn and do more? Check out our Junior River Ranger program or visit www.sudbury-assabet-concord.org for more information about our rivers!

CHOOSE YOUR OWN RIVER ADVENTURE! ON THE SUDBURY, ASSABET, AND CONCORD RIVERS

1 Middlesex Canal Museum 71 Faulkner Street, North Billerica



Open on weekend afternoons and weekdays by appointment, the Middlesex Canal Museum is a small museum to preserve and commemorate the history of Middlesex Canal. The museum is located in a portion of the old Faulkner Mills complex and contains maps and artifacts from the canal and mills.

2 Vietnam Veterans Park Treble Cove Road, Billerica



Located by Wining Pond, Billerica's Veterans Park offers playgrounds, soccer fields, plenty of walking trails, and opportunities for fishing*.

3 Ralph Hill Conservation Area Treble Cove Road, Billerica



Across the Concord River from Vietnam Veterans Park, the Ralph Hill Conservation area provides ample opportunity for nature walks and exploration along the Concord River. Beaver ponds and vernal pools are home to aquatic wildlife, and the white pine and oak forests are home to many birds. Enter the conservation land via the Vietnam Veterans Park entrance.

4 Bartlett's Landing 56 Morgan Road, Billerica



Bartlett's Landing Conservation site provides public access to the Concord River in Billerica. There is plenty of space for launching boats, parking, and wading along this segment of the National Wild and Scenic Concord River.

5 Foss Farm Route 225, Carlisle



Located on Route 225 (Bedford Rd.) between Skelton Road and River Road in Carlisle, Foss Farm is a 57-acre property that continues to be used for community gardens. Many walking trails meander through the property and the adjacent

Great Meadows NWR (no dogs) and Greenough Conservation Land provide ample opportunity for nature exploration.

6 Bedford Boat Launch Route 225, Bedford



Located off of Route 225 (Carlisle Rd.) in Bedford, this boat launch provides easy access to the Concord River. A small ramp on the west side of the river is suitable for canoes and kayaks. Fishing is also allowed at the boat launch*.

7 Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge - Concord Impoundments Monsen Road, Concord



Located on the Concord Unit of the Great Meadows NWR, the Concord Impoundments are two water-level controlled ponds just north of Concord Center. A level roadway around the ponds is an excellent walking trail for children of all ages, and there are several other trails through the woods. The ponds provide excellent opportunities for birding and other wildlife sightings, like frogs, turtles, and muskrats. It is a short walk to the Concord River where fishing is allowed* and kayakers and canoers can land. Dogs are not allowed on the Refuge.

8 The Old Manse 269 Monument Street, Concord



An historic house built in 1770 along the banks of the Concord River over looking Old North Bridge, the Old Manse served as home to such significant literary figures as Nathaniel Hawthorne and Ralph Waldo Emerson. The Old Manse and its surrounding grounds provide ample opportunity for easy walking, guided tours, picnicking, canoeing and kayaking, and bird watching.

9 Minuteman National Historical Park Liberty Street, Concord



Across the river from the Old Manse, the Park commemorates the beginning of the

Revolutionary War. There are wide open fields with easily walkable trails and beautiful views. Historic buildings and a visitor center offer many learning opportunities. The Old North Bridge crosses the Concord River and is a fun place to watch boats go by.

10 Old Calf Pasture/Egg Rock Lowell Road, Concord



Off of Lowell Road there is a boat launch and a short trail along the river ending at a point where the Assabet and Sudbury Rivers join to form the Concord River. Enjoy picnicking along the banks of the rivers. Across the river at the confluence of the rivers is Egg Rock, a local landmark with a plaque that commemorates the original inhabitants of the area. Old Calf Pasture is subject to flooding.

11 South Bridge Boat House 496 Main Street (Route 62), Concord



A small, family-owned boathouse on the Sudbury, South Bridge Boat House offers canoe and kayak rentals.

12 Park by Nashoba Brook Commonwealth Avenue, West Concord



At Warner's Pond dam there is a small pocket park. This is a fun place to watch the water flow over the spillway. Nashoba Brook Bakery is just across the street. The Brook passes right behind the bakery and is a good spot to watch for fish and look for snapping turtles.

13 Walden Pond State Reservation 915 Walden Street, Concord



Known for its natural and historic significance, Walden Pond offers swimming, trails for nature walks, and guided tours of the land and a replica of Henry David Thoreau's one-room cabin. In the spirit of Thoreau's experience of living on Walen Pond, the Reservation also provides ongoing educational programs.

14 Fairhaven Bay/Wright Woods Multiple entrances, Concord and Lincoln



Fairhaven Bay is a large embayment on the Sudbury River in Concord. It is accessible by boat by paddling about one half mile downstream from the Lincoln boat launch on Route 117. The river is very gentle and opens up into a beautiful bay. There is an island where you can disembark to stretch your legs. Visit the small stone boathouse across the bay.

15 Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge 73 Weir Hill Road, Sudbury



The headquarters of the Great Meadows Refuge is located on the Sudbury River in Sudbury. Two trails totalling one mile are located here - the Weir Hill Trail provides access to the river and then climbs a steep hill left by glaciers. The Red Maple Trail is flat but not suitable for strollers. There is canoe and kayak access at the headquarters office (0.25 mile walk from the river). Dogs are not allowed on the refuge.

16 Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge 680 Hudson Road, Sudbury



The Assabet River NWR is over 2,300 acres of woodland and wetland habitat with many trails suitable for all ages. The refuge is filled with local history and many opportunities for nature exploration. There is a small boat launch of Puffer Pond for canoes and kayaks and a separate fishing platform* on the Puffer Pond Trail. Some trails are suitable for strollers and bicycles. The refuge also has a visitor center with exhibits that is open Thursday through Sunday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Dogs are not allowed on the refuge.

17 Wolbach Farm 18 Wolbach Road, Sudbury



Home to the Sudbury Valley Trustees, Wolbach Farm is a 54-acre property along the Sudbury River. The Farm is a

great place to explore local history and naural areas, and the Nature Nook in the main building gives families an interactive way to learn about nature with crafts, displays, and children's books about wildlife found on the farm.

18 Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge Pelham Island Road, Wayland



The short Griscom Trail off Pelham Island Road walks through forests and looks out over the Sudbury River floodplain. There is some slight elevation change, but it is an easy walk. Parking for three cars on Pelham Island Road. Dogs are not allowed on the refuge.

19 Heard Pond Pelham Island Road, Wayland



An 85-acre pond in Wayland, Heard Pond provides opportunities for nature exploration, walking, and birding. A small pull-off on Pelham Island Road on the east side of the pond allows water access.

20 Greenways Conservation Area Wayland



The Greenways Conservation Area is owned by the Sudbury Valley Trustees and is an 87-acre parcel of wooded land, wetlands, and fields along the Sudbury River. Trails wind through the conservation area for wildlife viewing and nature exploration. There is a pet cemetery to visit and picnic tables by the river's edge.

21 Carol Getchell Trail Little Farms Road, Framingham



Running along the Sudbury River, the carol Getchell Trail is an easy walking trail with boardwalks over wetlands and lovely views of the river. The Trail stretches from Little Farms Road upstream to the Old Danforth Street Bridge. Parking and trail access point are also located at the end of Hillside Street. Trail is subject to flooding.

Icons Key

	Wildlife viewing		Staffed visitor center
	Walking trails		Museum
	Canoe and kayak access		Picnic area
	Trailer boat access		Dam
	Fishing		Playground
	Wading		Nearby food
	Stroller friendly		

Protecting our rivers.

It's a group effort. Want to learn more about the rivers or how you can get involved? Check out some of our partners below and the great work they do!

Massachusetts Audubon Society
massaudubon.org

Massachusetts Riverways Program
riffs.org

National Park Service
nps.gov/nero/rivers/sudbury.html

OARS
oars3rivers.org

SuAsCo CISMA
cisma-suasco.org

SuAsCo River Stewardship Council
sudbury-assabet-concord.org

SuAsCo Watershed Community Council
suasco.org

Sudbury Valley Trustees
sudburyvalleytrustees.org

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
fws.gov/refuge/assabet_river
fws.gov/refuge/great_meadows

* Fishing is catch and release only.