

Concord River

Recreation Guide



	Access site		Hiking trail nearby
	Caution		Bicycle trail nearby
	Carry-in access		Boat rental nearby
	Boat ramp		Open space
	Landing		Bike trail/Hiking trail
	Dam		

0 1 Mile

NOTES

River sites 1-36 and lake sites A-T are on the Assabet River, Sudbury River, and online maps (www.oars3rivers.org). **River safety:** Although most of the river system flows gently, be aware that dams, high water (and low bridges), downed trees, and seasonal rapids can pose serious hazards to boaters. Please be careful and wear a life jacket. The Concord River in Lowell has Class II-IV rapids. **Multi-use trails:** Many of the trails indicated on the maps are multi-use; check for specific regulations with town conservation or trails groups.

THANK YOU PROJECT SPONSORS!



OARS - FOR THE RIVERS

OARS is the non-profit watershed association for the Assabet, Sudbury, and Concord Rivers, just 20 miles west of Boston, Mass. Our mission is to protect, preserve and enhance the natural and recreational features of these three rivers, their tributaries and watersheds. Founded in 1986, OARS uses science-based advocacy, education, and recreation to restore the health of the rivers. We have accomplished a great deal and we depend on your support to protect these important resources.

More details and additional access points: www.oars3rivers.org or (978) 369-3956

OARS

FOR THE ASSABET SUDBURY & CONCORD RIVERS
23 Bradford Street, Concord, MA 01742



OARS

FOR THE ASSABET SUDBURY & CONCORD RIVERS

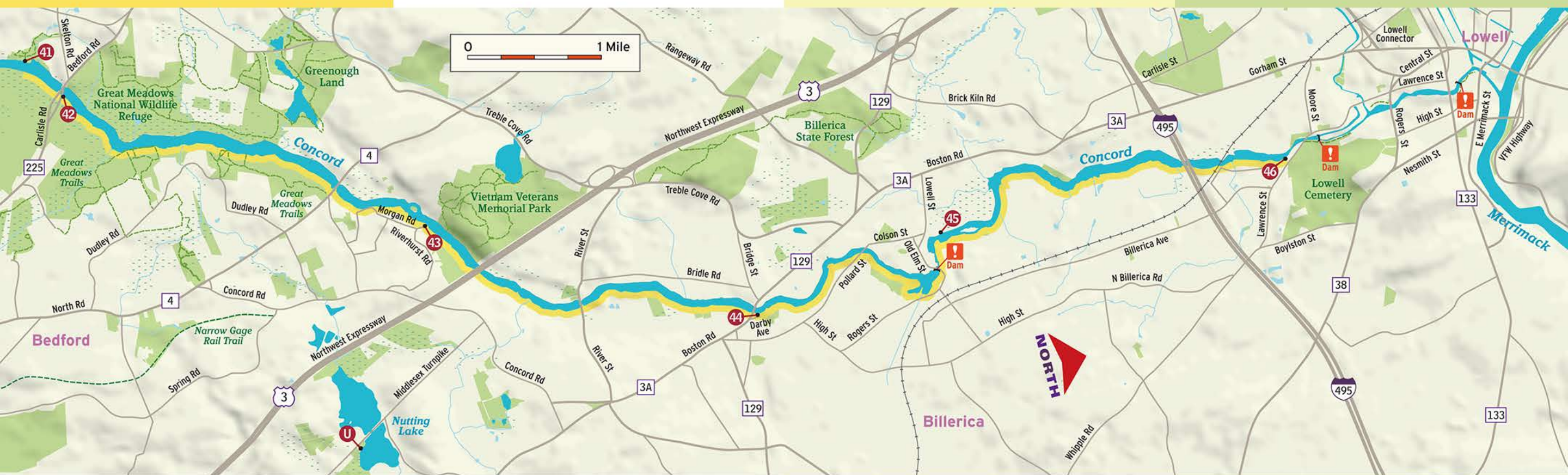
- 37 South Bridge Boat House, 496 Main Street, Concord**
Mile Sudbury 30.1
South Bridge Boat House (www.southbridgeboathouse.com) rents canoes and kayaks. No private boat access. Parking: roadside (check with the Boat House).
- 38 Lowell Road, Concord**
Mile Concord 0.1
Access: boat ramp off Lowell Road at the Old Calf Pasture. Parking: roadside parking. Just upstream, at the confluence of the river, Egg Rock is inscribed to commemorate the 250th anniversary of Concord.
- 39 North Bridge, Monument Road, Concord**
Mile Concord 0.5
No road access. Good landing just downstream of the bridge to explore the Minute Man National Historical Park. At higher flows, the Old Manse boathouse dock, just upstream of the bridge, is also a good landing to explore the area.
- 40 Concord Impoundments, Concord**
Mile Concord 1.6

Access: No road access. River access to the Concord Impoundments of Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge. Easy access to trails around the impoundments; great birding.

- 41 Elliott Concord River Preserve, Carlisle**
Mile Concord 4.4
Access: No road access. River access to the Elliott Concord River Preserve and walking trails. Trailhead parking is off Skelton Road.
- 42 Route 225, Bedford**
Mile Concord 4.8
Access: boat ramp, trailer accessible. Easy paddling along this wide section of the Concord River surrounded by the Great Meadows floodplains. Parking: along access road.

SUGGESTED TRIPS

- Trip 1 38 to 42 (4.7 miles)**
Lowell Road, Concord, to Route 225, Bedford
From Lowell Road, the Concord River passes under the historic North Bridge, by the Concord Impoundments, and through Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge.



- 43 Bartlett's Landing, Morgan Road, Billerica**
Mile: Concord 7.5
Parking: 3 cars in small lot. Sudbury Valley Trustees owns this small conservation area tucked behind a residential neighborhood. Abuts the Ralph Hill Conservation Area and, across the river, is the Vietnam Veterans Park.
- 44 Contribution Park, Darby Avenue, Billerica**
Mile: Concord 10.0
Parking: roadside 3-4 cars. Access from the Route 129 (Boston Road) end of Darby Avenue (aka Brown's Corner). Small park and carry-in access. About 1 mile downstream is the dam at Talbot Mills (no passage around the dam and no official access).
- 45 North Billerica Fire Station, Lowell Street, Billerica**
Mile: Concord 11.8
Parking: limited parking on dirt road behind Fire Station; do not block the gate. Inquire at the station to have the gate opened.
- 46 Muldoon Park, Billerica Street, Lowell**
Mile: Concord 14.5

Access near the corner of Billerica Avenue and Lawrence Street. Parking: 12 cars in lot. Good take-out for a paddle from North Billerica to Lowell. The Centennial Island dam is about 1/4 mile downstream.

- U Nutting Lake, Middlesex Turnpike, Billerica**

Parking: Micozzi Beach parking (fee). Billerica Recreation Department rents canoes and kayaks in season.



Photo credit: S. Flint

SUGGESTED TRIPS

- Trip 2 42 to 44 (5.2 miles)**
Route 225, Bedford to Contribution Park, Billerica
The Concord River is at its widest here, offering broad views of the river and flood plains.
- Trip 3 from 44 (3.0 miles, round-trip)**
Contribution Park to Talbot Mills Dam, Billerica
Although there is no public access at the Talbot Dam in North Billerica, this lovely trip can be done round-trip in moderate flows.
- Trip 4 45 to 46 (2.7 miles)**
North Billerica to Muldoon Park, Lowell
From access behind North Billerica Fire Station to Muldoon Park, Lowell, the Concord River is broad, and tree-lined as it winds into Lowell.
- Trip 5 Whitewater**
Concord River to Merrimack River, Lowell
Lowell Parks and Conservation Trust (LPCT) and Zoar Outdoor run whitewater rafting trips on the Concord River in the spring. Contact LPCT for more information: www.lowelllandtrust.org

THE CONCORD RIVER

The Concord River flows 15.8 miles from its headwaters at Egg Rock in Concord (where the Assabet and Sudbury Rivers join) to Lowell, where it joins the Merrimack River. Along the way, the river meanders through historic Concord, past The Old Manse, through Minute Man National Historical Park, and under the famous North Bridge. In Bedford, the Concord widens to a broad, gently flowing river surrounded by flood plains of the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge. Further downstream, in Billerica and Lowell, the river's industrial past is still visible in the series of old mill dams, mill buildings, and the Lowell canals.

MAP SERIES

The Concord River is the third in OARS' series of recreational maps. River sites 1-36 and lake sites A-T can be found on the Assabet and Sudbury maps and online at www.oars3rivers.org.